

JED VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

A business meeting of the Jed Valley Community Council held on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at Glen Douglas Community Hall

Welcome:

The meeting was opened by the Chair who welcomed all present, thanked people for their attendance and invited declarations of interest.

Members present:

Peter Hincks; Sheila Wilson; Jenny Brown; Michael Barker; Anna Bradley and Matt Tile; together with SBC Cllr Scott Hamilton and representatives from Scottish Forestry and Messrs Amey.

Apologies:

SBC Cllrs Jim Brown and Sandy Scott.

Approval of Minutes (from previous meeting):

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.
Proposed: Michael Barker. Seconded: Anna Bradley.

Matters Arising:

- (a) Sheep & Trees – Wooplaw Woodlands Creation:
Following an application for a 26 hectare woodland plantation, a representative from Scottish Forestry and the applicants agents attended and gave a very informative talk around the proposal to create woodlands at Hophills and Arks West. This would consist of a mixture of native broadleaves, diverse conifers and sitka spruce in line with UK Forestry Standards. The formal consultation ends on 12th April 2019.
- (b) A68 Stabilisation Work South of Camptown:
Representatives from Amey attended to give a full and informative talk around the stabilisation and repairs on length of the A68 south of Camptown at Trotters Wood. This will involve complete closure of the road, with diversions, for a few nights and thereafter closure of southbound carriageway for duration of works, approximately 12 weeks. Traffic lights will be in operation at this time. It was felt this work should be delayed until after the summer season. Concern was raised around positioning of traffic lights on dangerous parts of the road. A suggestion was made around contacting Jedburgh Community Council and Scottish Borders Council around timing of planned events in the area. Funding still needs to be established from Transport Scotland. Messrs Amey were unable to indicate a definite start and completion date for the works but would keep the JVCC fully informed.

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Police Report:

Due to an oversight, CPO Chisholm was unable to forward the monthly Police Report until after the JVCC meeting. A copy of the report has since been passed to all community councillors for consideration.

SBC Councillor's Report:

- (a) In 2018 a request was approved by the Small Scheme funding to replace the plague attached to the beacon at Carter-Bar (now completed). The beacon was built at Gala Technical College and was lit in the presence of Cllr Myra Turnbull, Provost of Roxburgh District Council. Beacons were lit on hilltops to mark our entry into the European Single Market in 1993.
- (b) Stone Mason Robert Ogg has inspected the Richards Cleuch Bridge but is unable to undertake the necessary work. Cllr Brown feels remedial works are needed to be completed soon as this ancient bridge could be lost in a big storm.
- (c) Talks are continuing between Jed Leisure Facilities Trust and SBC concerning the management of Jedburgh Public Toilets. It is hoped this will be resolved soon.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary commented again on the number of external emails received, almost all of which have no bearing on local issues. It was pointed out that Community Council email addresses are in the public domain and therefore open to this abuse. It was suggested that any irrelevant emails, etc, be discarded and under no circumstances be answered.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance in account is £712.89. £15 to be deducted from this for payment to The Bridge which those present approved. Books will go for audit following this meeting, to be returned before AGM.

Any Other Matters:

- (a) Picnic Benches Update:
Cllr Barker updated on present situation. Awaiting costing from contractor. Funding should be forthcoming from SBC.
- (b) Litter Picking Update:
Last litter picking exercise to the A68 lay-bys went well with a reported 30 bags of rubbish having been collected. Once again exceptionally large items were discovered dumped in the woods, one of which was simply too large and heavy to move. SBC was contacted re litter picking equipment. Has been passed to area manager.

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- (c) Planning Applications:
No new applications at present. SBC were still awaiting information re change of use application for Glenacre at Camptown before making a final decision.
- (d) Localities Bid Fund:
- Defibrillator for Glen Douglas Hall – Advice from LBF is that funds could be sourced from elsewhere.
 - Funding may be available for replacement curtains for Glen Douglas Hall but results will not be known until public voting has taken place.
 - Cllr Hamilton advised of SBC website for public to cast vote. Alternatively paper copies can be requested from SBC. Postcode is all that is need to cast vote.
- (e) SBCCN Meeting Minutes & Next Agenda:
Next meeting planned for 22nd May. No-one present wishes to attend. The Chair commented on format of meetings and asked if there were any questions concerning the current published minutes. There were no comments.
- (f) SBC 'Fit for 2024':
Part of the budget process is looking at community funding. Cllr Hamilton indicated the possibility of having one single grouping of all grant funding applications to make a more efficient operation. Current funding levels to Community Councils would be maintained for the present. A consultation is planned for next year. Any questions on this matter can be emailed to Cllr Hamilton.
- (g) Any Other Local Matters:
- The question was raised around the possibility of Community Council enabling resources to remove stickers from signs on Carter Bar. This has become a problem over recent times. Also could the post on the beacon be repainted? Would grant funding be available? Should an application be made through the Localities Bid Fund? The Chair questioned the need for continued refurbishing of the beacon which turned out to be necessitated by various 'clubs' adhering their stickers to the beacon supports. There seemed no reasonable way to prevent the 'sticker fiends' actions. Costing will be requested and brought back for future consideration.
 - There was a suggestion that funds should be made available for paper and replacement printer cartridges for The Chair and Secretary - this to be discussed further at next meeting.
 - The road to Bairnkine and Ashtrees is in a very bad state of repair. Cllr Hamilton will take forward.
 - Cllr Hamilton asked for update on Distillery. The Chair indicated that a representative will be giving a talk on the Distillery progress at the 5th June meeting.

Meeting Close:

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

JVCC Members

Michael Barker; Anna Bradley; Jenny Brown (Treasurer); Peter Hincks (Chairman); Nichol Renwick; Matthew Tile(Vice Chairman); Sheila Wilson (Secretary).

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Date, Time & Place of next meeting:

- Annual General Meeting – 8th May at 7.30pm at Edgerston Village Hall
- Business Meeting - Wednesday 5th June at 7.30pm in Glen Douglas Community Hall.

Chairman's post meeting notes:

Notification of an A68 road closure at night north of Jedwater between 7th and 10th May has been received. Resurfacing works, etc, for approximately 1km.

Road closure for repairs and are to take place on the C31 Mervinslaw to Chesters road

A section of the D86/3 Glenacres will also be closed for broadband upgrade works.

Further information can be found on the JVCC website