

SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF TEAMS MEETING

Date of Meeting: 10/01/2022 700pm

Venue: TEAMS

PRESENT

Bill Purvis (Chair) BP, Jim Brown (JB),
Meg Reid (MR), Kenneth Morton (KM), Robert Sloan (RS)
and Fiona Wilson (FW). Councillors Donald Moffat, John Greenwell, and Mark Rowley.
One member of the public

APOLOGIES

Michael Lawrence

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson

Next meeting: 14/03/2022 7pm

MINUTE

ACTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies for Absence: Michael Lawrence

Minutes of last meeting 11/11/2021

Proposed by KM, seconded MR

Matters Arising: None

Treasurers Report:

Balance as at 08/11/2021		£292.49
Scottish Power DD's		£45.34
Lights switch on expenditure		£ £29.90
Skip hire – R.L.Smith		£200.00
Annual grant from SBC	£630.00	
Closing balance 10/11/2022		£640.25

Police Report:

Received 10th January. No issues of note.

Planning Applications:

21/01616/FUL No objections

21/01895/FUL. Objection sent on grounds of impact on conservation area. Awaiting planning process.

Everly Meadow:

JB has spoken to Jamie Hudson. Holdup on the start of Phase 2 is because of archaeological discoveries consisting of some medieval pottery fragments and remains of medieval agricultural systems. SBC must sign off report to allow progress to continue. Affordable houses are progressing slowly

Updates from Regional Councillors:

Councillor Moffat:

Decision that because of strong local opposition to the 30mph on Duns Road, it will revert to 20mph.

CC expressed its satisfaction with that result.

Councillor Greenwell:

- Asked CCs and the public to engage with the SBC online budget consultation
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee – up to £2,500 available to celebratory projects including events.
- Working on an Anti- Poverty Strategy and asked for CC's help in identifying those hidden just-about managing who are now slipping into poverty. Older people on the basic pension in settlements like Swinton are particularly at risk. Councillor Greenwell can be contacted for advice.

C.C. Scheme review proposed changes

- Ensure list of meetings is on website. JB to ensure with Scott Spence these are added
- BP was concerned re proposal to reduce the term of a CC from four years to three. Regional Councillors confirmed that this is voluntary and is a *minimum* of three years

2021 Christmas Lights:

A very pleasant event enjoyed by all even without mince pies. Light taken down by JB, FW and Ewan Knox on Thursday 6 in advance of contractors coming to start work on replacement fence on Monday 10th Jan. Electrical contractor needs 2/3 day's' notice to remove Christmas light sockets. Letter of thanks to be sent to Finlay Mitchell for the gift of a Christmas tree as part of the village lights display.

Update on Bus stop Swap stop:

Jonathan Jones was again contacted and assures us that the work will be undertaken before the end of this financial year.

Resident's complaint re waste at top of Carter's Wynd:

KM contacted by a resident re the build-up of waste at the rear of a house backing onto right of way. The owner attended the meeting to explain the reasons for what a temporary situation is. Skip soon to arrive for waste and the wall which was taken down as unsafe will be restored after consultation with planners. The owner was thanked for her attendance and JB reminded the meeting that any complaint to the CC must be taken forward.

Possible plantings to enhance Cath's Walk benches:

Positive comments on the new benches, which had been made by Duns Men's Shed which were made from old benches and boards supplied by Finlay Mitchell. The meeting agreed that plantings particularly bulbs around the benches would be a great idea. Further discussion is needed to say who will do this, do we need landowner's permission, and can we fund it?

Clear up of storm damage:

Lot of storm debris in the Leet. This is the landowner's responsibility but may be a way to mitigate flooding. Councillor Moffat said it will take many years to damaged areas and restore woodlands, with public safety a priority Unsafe tree taken down at the Kirk meaning road closed for a day, but stone wall is damaged.

Correspondence as previously circulated.

A.O.C.B:

- New Community Engagement Officer for SBC. Discussion on how grants for Platinum Jubilee should be used. KM to forward details of how grants can be used for events to Kelly Brown and Finlay Mitchell for Swinton Village Events. It was agreed that a tree would be planted at the east end of the village with the other commemorative tree. Louise Mckeogh at SBS is the contact for a plaque.
- We have received a quote from Steve Eggie for grass cutting for 2022. It was agreed that we were obliged to ask for other grass cutting services locally to submit quotes. This will be on Facebook and noticeboards. Councillor Rowley said this was very much within SBC's "Community Wealth Building" policy for spending monies within the community.
- MR stated that that condition of local roads was disgusting and dangerous – repairs are disintegrating, and potholes stretch into the middle of the road. Councillors Rowley and Greenwell responded saying that SBC's new machine will take a couple of years to make all the required repairs, but B roads are not a priority. SBC receive funding per head of population not by the miles of roads in the Borders. Vehicles are now bigger and heavier. Because of liability, councils must make a quick temporary repair which may be a waste of money. Councillor Rowley asks for a list of potholes within a 2/3-mile radius of village. If they are reported, councillors can follow up.
- Broadband in village. Everley Meadow has fibre to cabinet the same as rest of village.
- End of CC term in May 2022. BP to contact Jenny Wilkinson at SBC for procedure to elect a new community council.

All business concluded; the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Date of next meeting (possibly still online) Monday 15 March 2022 at 7pm.