

SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6th December

2023 at 7.00pm in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Swinton

PRESENT:

Iain Woolley (IW) (Chair), Tim Morris (TM) , Meg Reid (MR) Michael Lawrence (ML), and Fiona Wilson (FW). Councillor Donald Moffat and five members of the public

APOLOGIES: Bill Purvis, Kenneth Morton and John Cochrane. Councillors Greenwell and Rowley

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson

Next meeting: 7th February 2024

Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thanks to Meg Reid and Fiona Wilson for delivery of the newsletter and to David for his very professional design and set up. Thanks also to volunteers who helped put up the lights.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 1st November 2023 were read and agreed.

Proposed: ML **Seconded:** MR

Matters Arising:

- Carters Wynd steps. The status of the steps beside the un-adopted lane at the west side of Carters Wynd is unclear. Councillor Moffat told the meeting that on the transfer of social housing properties from Berwickshire District Council to Berwickshire Housing Association (BHA), many footpaths, garage forecourts and pavements were not adopted by SBC and e thus no organisation is responsible for their maintenance. ML suggested that the issue should be referred to the HSE as the steps are clearly dangerous
- Flag pole. MR provided additional information in that planning permission is required for a flag pole and there is an agreed protocol for flags displayed.

Treasurer's Report:

CC currently has £999 in the bank. There are outstanding invoices for £88 and £206 to be paid for our annual insurance, leaving only £700 to last until the new grant paid to us in summer of 2024. As the daily charge for electricity is £1.95, we can expect a bill of between £450 and £500 so no approved expenditure till 2024. It was agreed that the £40 collected at the Light Switch On should go direct to the Rotary Club of Duns who provided Santa.

Police Report: No recent report received.

Planning Applications: 23/01739/FUL was previously circulated

No issues

Update from Regional Councillors:

- Councillor Moffat gave an outline of the work of the Community Action Team which comprises 12 additional constables funded by SBC. It responds to issues brought to them by Councillors and communities, currently speeding, thefts of high value equipment from farms and quad bikers causing damage on the Lammermuirs. They are also available to support local events and festivals
- New bus service 32. Much better service for Swinton to Duns. CC asked that Councillor Moffat pass our thanks to Gordon Grant for his work on providing this.
- Questioned by MR on dangerous potholes, Councillor Moffat told the meeting that SBC will *eventually* have three Pothole Pro machines, currently it's one.

Update on Everley Meadow:

No movement on the development. We understand that all properties for sale are either under offer or sold.

Swinton Hub/Church:

The Chair reported that the Hub Group is progressing charitable status. No movement on Wellfield site

SEG/ Insurance for strimming/Website:

- It was confirmed that SEG is insured if CC notified in advance.
- It was agreed that SEG can have a tab on the website and can use the email address as contact. FW to contact Scott Spence to set this up.
- SEG members were to attend a meeting of other enhancement groups at Tweedbank next week. It has been postponed until February

Marquees:

- Parts ordered
- Call for volunteers for a Marquee Squad. Need at least seven on each occasion.
- Reminder that care must be taken when marquees are taken down and packed up for storage.

Parking – Proposed Meeting at School:

- There to be a meeting for parents and the Road Safety Officer at the School to which CC will be invited. Date to be confirmed
- FW asks that CC continues to press on the unsafe nature of the Core Path adjacent to the development and a Safe Route to School
- The blue rubber Stop Look and Listen mats at street junctions have been restored very speedily after it was brought to the attention of Phillipa Gilhooley

Speeding:

- Parking affects speed through the village. CC asks that Gary Haldane from SBC comes to advise how villagers can park, safely, legally and effectively. Under the new Transport Scotland Act now in force, a 1.5 metre clearance is required on pavements for wheelchairs and pushchairs. Police will enforce with discretion.

Noise:

This has been identified as a dryer at Kersfield. It will now be turned off at night.

New Initiatives and Public Engagement:

It was agreed that there would be regular reminders of the issues on which we want comments on the Facebook page.

Correspondence as previously circulated:

A.O.C.B.:

- TM reported that a raised manhole cover by the Swap Stop has been reported to Openreach.
- Telephone exchange surroundings in poor state with fence down. MR reports real problems in contacting anyone from the BT contractors who should be dealing with it.

.All business concluded, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Next meeting Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7pm in the Wheatsheaf.