

## SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024

at 7.00pm in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Swinton

### PRESENT:

Iain Woolley (IW) (Chair), Bill Purvis (BP), Tim Morris (TM) , Meg Reid (MR), Kenneth Morton (ML) , John Cochrane (JC) , Michael Lawrence (ML) Treasurer, Fiona Wilson (FW). Councillor Donald Moffat and one member of the public

### APOLOGIES: None

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson

Next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 were read and agreed.

**Proposed:** JC    **Seconded:** ML

### Matters Arising:

- Clarification on parking of vehicles on Main Street at the east end junction with the Green.

### Treasurer's Report:

- After final payment for electricity balance will be £399. Supplier changed to British Gas Light.
- 100 Club to support electricity payments
- CC will receive £600 for marquee hire in June.

**Police Report:** Recent report not yet received.

### Planning Applications:

- 24/00338/FUL Demolition of pre-fabs and erection of two dwellings at Milnegraden. No objections.
- Horndean. Changes to 2018 application. Unclear if new permission is required.
- Pittlesheugh Farm. 340MV Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) 1.75 km north of Eccles and 8.5km west of Coldstream to be operational for 40 years. There would be a loss of agricultural land with implications for food security. It was agreed that CC's criteria for objecting to the application would be applied (loss of agriculture land and not being an essential part of the National Grid infrastructure). S and L CC would support Leitholm CC's objections. Show of hands to confirm. Unanimous.

**Update from Regional Councillors:** Nothing further

**Swinton Hub Group:**

The vote at the public meeting was overwhelmingly in favour of trying to buy the Kirk now, and with that as a base for community engagement, progressing a new build option in the future.

**SEG:**

- SEG to continue as very informal group of volunteers, but can still be covered by CC insurance
- Two benches have been removed for cleaning by Unpaid Work Team
- High Vis vests to be labelled as Community Council not SEG but paid for from SEG grant.

**Speeding:**

- 50% of vehicles not adhering to limits. Lack of police presence a factor.
- SBC looking at changing some 20mph limits where not appropriate
- It was agreed to campaign for additional speed measures at west end of village.
- Vehicles leaving the village should have priority on the Duns Road bridge which should slow traffic
- Secretary to contact Phillipa Gilhooley

**Trees in Wood and Duns Road wall:**

- The issue now in the hands of SBC Enforcement Officer.
- Contractor appointed to do the work
- Heras fencing erected
- Now bird nesting season so tree work delayed

**Initiatives and Public Engagement:**

No new initiatives

**Correspondence as previously circulated:**

- District Heating System. Villagers have an opportunity to take part in an SBC project to explore how a typical Borders community might begin to decarbonise houses by moving away from fossil fuels. There would be a small survey of homes in the community. Those interested should contact James Collin [jamesacollin@hotmail.com](mailto:jamesacollin@hotmail.com)

**A.O.C.B.:**

- Grass cutting. Why is grass not collected after cutting the Green, which is a playpark and sports field. CC keen to improve this to allow residents, visitors and pupils to utilise area recreationally.
- CC happy with new policy of leaving uncut the edges around the Green. This will encourage nature diversity.

- Wheatsheaf to host cyclists on London to St Andrews Ride in aid of Cancer Charities.
- It was agreed to continue with monthly meetings but with a July/August break
- Agreed to continue to demand action on Community Amenity Land within Everly Meadow development. Chair is not receiving any responses from the School. Chair will write to the School Estates team. SBC planners can take many weeks to respond.
- Councillor Moffat says extra funding available for play parks. CC to investigate this.
- Ash with die-back overhanging Core Path at west end. To be reported to Simon Wilkinson (Tree Officer)

.All business concluded, the meeting closed at 8.20m.

Next meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7pm in the Wheatsheaf.