

SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Date of Meeting 1/05/2024 **Venue:** Wheatsheaf Hotel

PRESENT

Iain Woolley (IW), Bill Purvis (BP), Michael Lawrence (ML), Meg Reid (MR)
Tim Morris (TM). Kenneth Morton (KM), John Cochrane (JC)
and Fiona Wilson (FW). Councillor Donald Moffat.

.APOLOGIES

None.

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson

Next AGM : 7/05/2025

Welcome:

The current Chair Iain Woolley welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of last AGM:

The minutes of the last AGM held on Monday 3/05/2023 were approved.

Proposed KM, seconded ML

Matters Arising:

None

Chairman's Report:

See attached

Treasurer's Report:

The Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which were examined by James Collin and previously circulated to members showed a closing balance of £217.36 (See attached).

Adoption proposed BP, seconded IW

It was noted that a new electricity supply contract supplier has been negotiated beginning 1st June 2024.

Election of office bearers:

It was proposed by BP that if current office bearers were willing, they should continue to stand for a further year.

All present agreed..

CC Members agree to abide by CC Code of Conduct:

All present agreed by show of hands.

A.O.C.B.

Meg Reid has agreed to continue as Resilience Co-ordinator.

All business concluded, AGM closed at 8.43

Next Meeting:

Our next AGM is scheduled for Monday 7 May 2025.

Chairman's Report – 1st May 2024

Dear residents of Swinton and Ladykirk,

It has been another very quick year for the Swinton and Ladykirk Community Council. But I think I said that last year too!

As Chair, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the councillors for their application and enthusiasm. Our meetings are lively and frank debate often ensues, and at times we do not all agree. That is always a healthy process and one to be encouraged. During the year we welcomed Meg Reid formally as a councillor. Meg brings a wealth of Swinton village knowledge and common sense to our discussions.

Much of the S and L Community Council's work is on regulatory matters, such as planning and transport issues and such like. Working with SBC's departments and external agencies can sometimes feel a long winded and slow process but we endeavour to always make progress.

It remains a pleasure to be part of a team that is continually trying to address community issues and to progress matters that pertain to our village life. Each councillor has taken responsibility following on from our meetings to identify issues, or to carry out their role and/or to take action swiftly and independently.

An issue that caused considerable concern was the official arrival of the law banning 'pavement parking'. As a community council we must promote and uphold the law at all times and we chose a 'soft' approach on this.

We were delighted that village residents on Main Street have embraced the change. The vast majority of cars are either parked on the owners' property or parked legally on the carriageway, leaving the pavement clear. So a big thank you to you all and please keep it up.

We arranged a meeting with SBC officials and the school as there was a concern about car parking near the school at pickup/drop off times. New street markings have been painted to improve the issue. Concerns about the state of the core path were also raised at the meeting.

Another time consuming issue that arose was the hiring of the village marquees. After considerable discussion, we came to the conclusion that there were just not enough councillors, fit and able, to construct the marquees. But we can offer advice on how to build them.

Therefore the marquees are always available for hire. But for c3arity this Community Council cannot guarantee to find a team of volunteers to transport and build them. Do please get in touch with us if you are willing to volunteer a couple of times during the year.

We are concerned at the number of drivers travelling through Main Street at speeds in excess of the limit of 20mph. Four of our councillors have volunteered to join the 'Speedwatch' initiative. They will be trained by Police Scotland to use a speed gun and will monitor speeds in a nearby village. Swinton will be monitored by a team from another community.

We accepted an offer of 'dragons teeth' and some new signage from SBC to help matters.

Other actions completed include:

Potholes on all major routes into Swinton have been repaired.
Road safety decals for children have been replaced.

The ownership of the steps at Carter's Wynd has been established and they have been repaired.

We are supporting the residents of Swintonhill in their action against a planned development.

Trying to reduce the noise effect of bird scarers and grain dryers on nearby farms and fields.

Actions still ongoing:

Accessing the developer's funding from SBC for improving the playpark.
Finding a use for the Community Amenity land next to the school.

The condition of the retaining wall and trees in the Wood next to the Duns Road.

Broken branches overhanging the south side pathway. Further paint repairs to the War memorial.

AirBnB licences in the future (and retrospective).

The electrical account for the Xmas lights.

We remain vigilant as a Community Council and all councillors will welcome any issues for us to discuss at our meetings. As a Community Council we have very little money to spend on community issues. The grant has risen a bit and should remain at that level for the next 3 years but, it is still well down on the "purchasing" value as it has stagnated for many years.

There are likely to be future community information meetings at the Kirk for you to find out more about the Kirk/ Hub/ Wellfield community development project. There are some very exciting developments being considered and I would encourage everyone to attend if they can.

There is an exciting opportunity here for the whole village and community to contribute to and be involved in.

Iain Woolley

Swinton & Ladykirk Community Council

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March 2024

For the Annual General Meeting on 1st May 2024

	£
Balance at the Bank brought forward 1 st April 2023	763.39
Income	
Scottish Borders Hall Hire Reimbursement or 21/22	60.00
Scottish Borders Council Grant	630.00
Swinton Horticultural Society	100.00
Scottish Borders Community Enhancement Fund	400.00

	1953.39
Expenditure	
Scottish Power – Electric	767.82
Berwickshire Community Fund	10.00
Batteries for Defib	38.48
2023 Liability Insurance	173.51
Swinton Enhancement Group	408.17
Newsletter and Xmas treats for kids etc	49.18
Wooden Poles for Xmas lights (Mens Shed Duns)	34.37
2024 Liability insurance	206.57
Marquis replacement parts	47.93

	1736.03
Balance at bank carried forward 31 st March 2024	<u>£217.36</u>

Signed Treasurer M. M .Lawrence—Date

MMLawrence 11/4/24

Community Finances Examined and found Correct

J Collin

Signature

J Collin

Date

25 April 2024