

SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5th February

2025 at 7.00pm in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Swinton

Present: Iain Woolley (IW) (in the Chair), Bill Purvis (Sec.), Tim Morris(TM) , Michael Lawrence (ML), Meg Reid (MR), Kenneth Morton (KM), Fiona Wilson (Minutes), Councillors Donald Moffat and John Greenwell. One member of the public..

APOLOGIES: John Cochrane

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson **Next meeting:** 2nd April 2025

Welcome: The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 5th February were read and agreed.

Proposed: KM **Seconded:** ML

Matters Arising:

- Metal Tommy is £199. Purchase agreed. Potentially to be stored at School
- Secretary still awaiting planning guidance on solar panels
- It is likely village will lose BT service to phone box. Box must remain as it is listed.
- No response to the Chair's letter concerning the Community Amenity Land lease, so far, from Henry Birch, factor responsible for Ladykirk Estates.

Treasurer's Report:.

- Current balance £1454.58
- Only expenditure British Gas payment
- Query from SBC on SEG rant evaluation which has not been received by council. ML to take forward.

Police Report: No current report.

Planning Applications: None

Updates from Regional Councillors:

Community Action Team to be disbanded. Police Scotland will pick up that area of work. There will be some funding for School Liaison.

Piper Laidlaw Bronze Bust:

After the ASA (**Ancre Somme Association**) paid a site visit to the village, it has made an offer to the village based on locating the bust on the mound opposite the War Memorial, assuming a successful bid for Lottery funds. It is also looking at applying to SBC and setting up a fund raising page for residents who want to contribute in a

personal way. The bust will be mounted on a plinth, there will be two flagpoles flying the Union Jack and the Saltire, a Jubilee bench will be provided.

Access to the mound will be improved and chipped.

ASA to contact SBC regarding planning permission.

After some discussion, support for the project was agreed by a show of hands. This will be followed up by letters of support from S&LCC and Regional Councillors.

Swinton Hub/Church: The Group has been informed about the Scottish Land Fund event on 5th March

The Duns Road wall / Wood: The S&LCC has supported the matter as far as it can within its remit. Further steps will be required to be followed by external professionals and SBC officers.

Speeding: No response from SBC on meeting or raw data FOI request. Regional councillor suggested a different contact. MR to follow up.

Ash trees and questions posed to Ladykirk Estates on behalf of the S&LCC:

- Ash trees on Ladykirk Estates land which overhang the core path.
- Various questions concerning the new estate.
- Henry Birch is the contact as factor for Ladykirk Estates. Again no response.

New Initiatives and Public Engagement:

Following increased dog fouling in the village, with some dog owners bagging the waste then just leaving the bag, CC will put up the new SBC dog fouling poster with contact information. MR will contact Rose Hogg, the Dog Officer and also to deliver this to all households.

The Chair reminded the meeting that the Green is a Children's Play Area and Sports Field and as such, dogs are not permitted at any time.

.Correspondence as previously circulated:

A.O.C.B:

- Some stones have been placed on the South East corner of the Green without planning permission. These MUST be removed as they are a hazard for the new larger recycling waste lorry and could cause problems for grass cutting. There is also a potential tripping hazard to residents and a 'liability' responsibility to SBC .
- Following a second villager fall caused by poor road surface on The Green, MR arranged for an SBC inspection. Potholes must be 4inches deep to action a reactive repair. 42% of Borders roads need repair
- Issue about HGV overnight parking in residential areas of the village. It was felt that this type of vehicle should be in a secure yard and the HGV owners should be notified. A letter will be sent to them from the S&LCC.

- Marquees. We are unable to supply if the hirers cannot undertake to erect and take them down. This is due to lack of available suitable people within the CC's area. This is regrettable as it is income lost for the village.
- Member of the public spoke on the Local Heat Energy Efficiency Strategy. Now the Pilot Study has been completed, SBC is taking forward an expression of interest for Borderlands funding for a minimum investment of £1.5 million, focused on Swinton. Likely response by April/May. Symposium on Rural District Heating Systems on 2nd April.

All business concluded, the meeting closed at 8.20

Next meeting Wednesday 2th April at 7pm in the Wheatsheaf.