



Galashiels Community Council
Burgh Chambers
Wednesday 6th February 2019
6.30pm

Minutes

Present

Judith Cleghorn, Tracey Alder, Rick Kenney Tom Ingoldsby, Eileen Frame, Bill Jeffrey, Marion Romeril, Liz Jardine, Drew Tulley, Tony Brown
Bill White 7.20pm

In Attendance

Cllr Scott Cllr Jardine
PC James Harrison
Kevin Janiak –Southern Reporter, Callum Hodgson Border Telegraph. Ally McGilvray – Radio Borders
4 Members of public

Meeting commenced 6.30pm

1. Welcome and Apologies.

Chair Judith Cleghorn opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
Celeste Di Vito, Cllr Aitchison, Cllr Anderson

2. Minutes Approval

An accurate Minute of the Meeting January 9th was approved by Tom Ingoldsby and Seconded by Liz Jardine

3. Matters Arising

Tracey mentioned that Cllr Anderson had said at the last meeting that he had been at an Event on Sustainable Housing and that he would report on it. Chair requested that Tracey contact Cllr Anderson to ask him to add it to his next report.

4. Police Update and Questions

PC Harrison went through the police report for January.
On January 18th and 19th the police instigated Operation Crawl which targeted Anti social Drivers. 39 warnings were given. Dog fouling is still an issue but PC Harrison is working on this.
QA – Is there any update on the issue at Langlee Drive? Petition ongoing, there is possibly going to be another monitor done.

5. Speakers

Martin Joyce – Director of Assets and Infrastructure SBC – Tweedbank Master-plan

Currently 2 master-plans Galashiels and Tweedbank
Tweedbank development focuses around the train station, hopes that 4 developments will come to fruition.
2 private sectors and 2 public sectors – Residential, Dementia Care 20 Bed unit, Business, Open public access.
Quarry site –office building for CGI to go at front of train station – possibly 100 new jobs over a 13 year contract.
QA – has the application for the Hotel gone through as its already being advertised –MJ – it's not scheduled until March.
QA– re Roundabout at junction of C77– planning team are starting to draw the money from Persimmon– hope to get roundabout in a fairly short time.

Sasan Seyf – Scott Gallagher – Amey – Galafoot Bridge

Amey look at and deal with all bridge and structural defects in SE Scotland.
Gala foot Bridge had severe defects.

This new section of work started on 4th Feb and will take 12 weeks with both night and day closures.

There will be a Robot system used at night to separate the concrete layers.

The bridge was not constructed as it was designed so this has caused the defects, however this next 12 weeks will cause far less disruption.

There will be a Hydro Demolition phase, there will be a police presence monitoring the system.

QA – what Community benefit there will be? There will be updated and extended parapets. Amey are in talks with NHS, Emergency Services and Transport Scotland to help prevent people from climbing and putting themselves in danger.

Comment made– There doesn't seem to be the amount of work activity going on as we are being told about here as no one sees anyone working on this bridge. It's taking far too long and jeopardising peoples travel to and from work and causing so much congestion on the roads and frustration with the public.

Cllr Scott added that he is sick of people moaning and it makes sense to plan your journey. It is not hard to just add a 5 minute detour on to your journey by following the diversion whilst these important works are going on.

Information will be forwarded from Amey to the Community Council Secretary Tracey as and when there are updates.

Tracey will send out presentation from tonight's meeting once it has been received. This will allow CC members to see the structural damage to the bridge and how work is progressing.

6. Sub Groups Update

Gala in Bloom

Judith will attend SBC with John Gray on 14th March to find out what the situation is with the planting for the future.

Comment made – to get what is said in writing from SBC

Gala Waterways

Liz Jardine read out the monthly report for Gala in Bloom and voiced that 2 otters have been seen in the Douglas Bridge area.

6th April there will be a big town clean up in conjunction with Daily Mail and Community Council. We need people to pinpoint areas that need cleaned up.

Christmas Event and Lights

First meeting was a really good one and a lot was covered.

Funding, Marketing, Achievable areas, Code of Conduct.

Met with Blachere Illuminations.

Next meeting 19th Feb

7. Chairs Comments

Judith thanked everyone for taking the groups forward.

Licence for the Ability Centre has now been granted

8. Treasurers Update

The total funds that is now available to the CC of £989.17

9. Secretary's Update

n/a

10. Vice Chairs update / Planning and Licensing

Rick read out the proposed applications and a brief discussion ensued about the potential of Lidl store moving to the retail outlet.

Bill White spoke about the Trails

Residents, Golf Course and Landowners have been met with.

A Facebook page is being put up.

Public meeting end of April

11. SBC Councillors Comments and questions

Cllr Jardine

Issues dealing with:

Bins – These are causing a major upset that needs a solution to.

Old Douglas Hotel

Sporting Memories – Gala Rugby Club

Looking at getting a bus up Windyknowe – Riddle Dumble – Mossilee But still in talks at the moment

Cllr Scott

Road signs at Langlee are being looked at.

Spoke to SBC re the charge that Live Borders charge the local Community Centres. Its gone up from £5000 to £9900

12. AOB

Some new roads to be named – these to be looked at and ideas forwarded.

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 6th March 2019 – 6.30pm – Focus Centre