

Newcastleton & District Community Council
Minutes of ORDINARY MEETING
Tuesday 14th August 2018 @ 7:00 pm Village Hall

Present: Scott Wilson (Chair) Laura Paterson (Vice Chair), Joan Robson, Shaun Turnbull, Barbara Elborn (sec) Gary Cuthbert, Margaret Elliot, Adrian Downey, SBC Councillors Davie Patterson, Watson McAteer, George Turnbull, PC Allan Paterson & 4 members of the public.

Apologies: Gordon Steel, Lyndsay Patterson and Ian Nicol

POLICE REPORT: June Three alarm calls to Primary School, unknown reason for activations. Attempted theft at money box on toilet block, person was seen and filmed, however Police not contacted, reported by Council staff. Report that the rear door of a car parked in North Hermitage Street was dented overnight, there were no witnesses and to date the responsible person has not been traced. Report of a dog being left in a car during very hot weather, owner traced and spoken to. Music Festival weekend went without major hitches; report of a male trapped within his boat in Square, he had climbed inside and door closed behind him. Complaint about a group within the rear garden of a house being rowdy, they were spoken to and made aware of the complaint. Claim by male residing for weekend in Moss Place that on the Saturday night of Festival weekend his car had been opened and items removed, when spoken to on the Sunday he had found his items. **July** Several calls received regarding travellers parked on riverside, using the area as a toilet. Report of bogus caller at local farm. Reported theft of tractor spares from Clerkleap. **August** Single vehicle accident at Kershopefoot, vehicle reported to be on roof, no other damage or injury. Anonymous call to loud music from an address in Moss Place. Advice requested from Landlord of local house after his tenants left leaving damaged property. Call regarding another caravan encampment on Riverside, they were spoken to and appeared to be genuine holidaymakers.

Travellers – protocols for dealing with this in future were required. It had taken undue amount of time given lack of SBC officer dealing with Travellers and another SBC executive was on holiday. Once the landowner had been informed then actions happened relatively swiftly but not without impact locally; huge efforts required by local teams to clear up defecation and rubbish. Effectively it became a no-go area with footfall recorded at over a 50% drop for users crossing at Whithaugh Bridge. This in turn impacted local trades and marketing. CC requests SBC to provide a written protocol so members have the required process steps that need to be taken that and all effort to move them on can be applied from the moment they arrive. *This cannot be allowed to happen again as it has had such devastating impact on the community.*

Parking in Douglas Square for civic events – this would be reviewed considering the complete disrespect music festival caravanners parked in Douglas Square displayed to the community during the morning of the grand depart for the common riding; singing, playing music, hanging clothing in the square during the main ceremony and no effort to clear access on the pathway for members of the public to enter to/fro the square. Vans were parked blocking pathway access and generally intruding into what is now the major village event spoiling enjoyment. Other civic events are planned which necessitate that the square be unoccupied so that these can be conducted safely. The CC is keen to understand what powers the community has stopping unwanted vehicles and sellers' parking in the square for these occasions, the square needs to be a safe place where all can enjoy the entertainment not be bothered by cars, vans or inappropriate behaviours. Once this was understood this would be conveyed formally to NTMF so that they could implement a new policy for 2019.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting** - were presented and accepted, proposed by Joan, seconded by Laura.
2. **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Flooding update SEPA** –follow up comments received from SBC; The Lakes “We understand fully the concerns of the residents. I don’t believe there is a quick fix to this situation and we are continuing to develop options specifically for this area of Newcastleton which come in tandem with the wider flood risk management options being developed for flooding from the Liddel Water. **Flood prevention proposal** – We don’t have diary dates as of yet for any of our study

areas, but I have stipulated in our programme that these have to be completed by the end of October”

- b. **Speeding measures - road markings north/south village** work commenced but no signage yet appeared.
- c. **Meeting with Tracey Logan CESBC & Shona Haslam Leader SBC** no feedback
- d. **Public toilets update** – no further updates available

3. PLANNING

- a. 18/01039/FUL | Replacement windows (revision to planning permission 18/00211/FUL) | 41 North Hermitage Street *no objections*
- b. Disabled space Langholm Street *no objections*

4. PUBLIC FORUM/COMMUNITY ISSUES

- a. Community Capacity meeting feedback Meeting attended by CC, Health Centre, Church, Poly – talked about what can be provided but this was all for elderly! New initiatives would be included in the community consultation which was now open for feedback.
- b. Localities Bid Fund Round 2 open – no applications notified so far www.scotborders.gov.uk/localitiesbidfund
- c. North Liddle Street embankment repairs – planned from Sept but efforts to do this now needed as delays necessitated further erosion, longer left bigger the job bigger the cost.
- d. Kirndeane drainage works also need to be prioritised before road worsens during winter again.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

National Park positioning statement – previously circulated; main changes reported as a slim-line National Park Authority with two-thirds local representation; Community engagement embedded in every aspect of the design, management and operation; no additional bureaucracy, and no change to SBC dealing with ALL planning applications. *NDCC confirmed that they did not wish Newcastleton & District to be considered with inside park boundary.* There remain huge concerns about the consultation and lack of economic impact assessment. SBC have acknowledged that the NP will be included in the Main Issues Report for planning development. The CC and wider community can respond to this formally during the MIR consultation process.

Rural Economy & Connectivity Committee – The Committee has launched a [survey](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TransportScotlandBill2018/) and [call for views](#). This covers, low emission zones, **bus services**, smart ticketing and other ticketing arrangements, **prohibition of pavement and double parking, road works**, (miscellaneous and general) Regional Transport Partnerships: finance and The British Waterways Board. As parking, roadworks and buses feature heavily in most CC meetings members of the public are encouraged to respond to this survey to make their views heard.

Lynx –raised recently in the press again giving impression that the scheme had received wide spread support which is untrue; checked with parliamentarians and they say no change to previous position. Scot Gov written to Westminster expressing concerns about lack of detail. Further concerns expressed recently by Northumberland National Park Authority ref unanswered questions. Ongoing but no change.

6. AOB

Village signage – no progress made re requests for ‘services’ signage since opening of fuel, will be progressed

Bin collections – businesses advised that separate bin collections now coming to the village on Thu to collect waste. This is in addition to the normal household collections. The CC expressed

serious concern about waste of public money and sees no necessity for separate collections from business premises. Cllrs will investigate and report back.

Newcastleton marketing folder – NBF to be asked to fill these with relevant materials for dispersment around tourism businesses

Dogs mess on golf course – dog walkers are reminded that the golf course operates an open to all facility, but this does not give anyone the right to abuse this and not clear up after their dogs. The committee are considering issuing a request for all dogs to be walked on a lead if the situation does not improve. Please report and incidents of fouling to any golf committee member.

Play park – hedging is overgrown and looking neglected. SBC to investigate.

Edinburgh City deal budget - CC expressed huge disappointment that SBC's share of the Edinburgh City Deal budget was significantly less than anticipated and that all this investment was being spent in Tweedbank. This further reinforced the need for Borderlands and SoSEP agencies to invest budget in the south of Scotland.

Carlisle airport – CC had met recently with marketing team at Carlisle airport and 'sold' Newcastleton as a destination. They advised that no one from VisitScotland or SBC had been to see them.

Community Questionnaire in play till Aug 31st, very important everyone responds if they want positive change. Set very high standards last time with large respondent base, need EVERYONE to complete it.

Copshaw does Victory Day event – Sept 14th/15th weekend monies raised for local charities, many people giving up their time to put on a spectacular event for the whole community, please support them and dig deep

7. Date of next meetings

Sept 11 th	Area Partnership meeting Hawick, all welcome
Sept 18 th	CC ordinary meeting
Oct 16 th	CC ordinary meeting
Nov 13 th	CC ordinary meeting
Dec 11 th	CC ordinary meeting