

CRAILING, ECKFORD AND NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2024-2027

Minutes of General Meeting No 7

7-9pm

02 Sept 2025

Village Hall, Eckford

Chair Charlie Robertson

No	ITEM	ACTION
1	Charlie Robertson welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologised for the error of the date of the Meeting on the agenda sent out.	
2	<u>Attendance</u> Keith Bader KB, Virginia Burbridge VB, Richard Howes RH Katherine Pery KP, Charlie Robertson CR, <u>In Attendance</u> Malcolm McGregor MMG & Mike Seivwright, Nisbet Residents	
3	<u>Apologies</u> Chris Howden CH Councillors Sandy Scott SS, Scott Hamilton & John Bathgate JB	
4	<u>Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 10th March.</u> Proposed KB Seconded KP	
5	<u>Matters Arising</u> (not covered in the Agenda) i Defibrillators MMG indicated that he would prepare a report with a timetable for refurbishment & replacement of Defibrillator equipment in time for discussion at our next Meeting. CCR to ask JB for an update on progress on a funding application from Emtelle.	MMG CR
6	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> (Appendix 1) Report submitted, discussed & approved. Disappointment about the bank charge of £4.25 levied each month. KP agreed to look into the possibility of an interest-bearing account, still with HBOS, which would offset these costs.	KP

7	<p><u>Community Updates</u></p> <p>1 SBC Councillors</p> <p>SH sent information with his apologies, (Appendix 2) on the two topics that we requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LiveBorders Consultation • Jed Swimming Pool <p>2 Crailing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wall. SBC had indicated that they felt that the whole wall needed to be replaced. CH indicated that he had not heard anything further from SBC over the Summer. CR to contact Councillors • Crailing Rideout. Revised format used this year quite successfully. Agreed to set up a meeting with Lindsay Wilson and Villagers to discuss format for 2026. CR to contact Lindsay Wilson. <p>3. Eckford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorries at Grahamslaw. Lorries had moved from Grahamslaw to Wester Wooden. No problems reported there. • Grahamslaw Road. The road from Eckford Mill Bridge to Grahamslaw was becoming dangerously eroded in places and the carriageway was narrowing. Site visits had taken place but no action yet. CR to contact Councillors. • Potato Boxes at Wester Wooden. Still there. CR to make further enquiries. <p>4. Nisbet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Lighting, West Nisbet Steading Concern had been expressed by some residents about the brightness of streetlights in some parts of the development. Agreed to contact SBC to see if anything could be done. CR to contact Councillors <p>5. Ulston</p> <p>No report.</p>	<p>CR</p> <p>CR</p> <p>CR</p> <p>CR</p> <p>CR</p>
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8	<p><u>CENCC Ongoing Actions</u></p> <p><i>i President's Route.</i> Still slow progress, good weather had intervened.</p> <p><i>ii Resilience</i> No Report</p> <p><i>iii Kalemouth Bridge.</i> John Curry had responded to our queries (Appendix 3) Costs seemed to prohibit any further actions, other than what is proposed.</p> <p><i>v Community Place Plans.</i> Slow progress, good weather had intervened.</p> <p><i>iv Fibre Optics Upgrade</i> Engineers still working on replacing lines with fibre optics. Progress very slow. Unclear whether the project is on track or not. Still no clear answers to queries.</p>	
9	<p><u>New Business</u></p> <p><i>i Distillery Visit</i> CR to contact Distillery to discuss suitable times for a visit. Up to 20 could be accommodated. Each councillor to invite 2 guests.</p> <p><i>ii Community Beat Officer.</i> PC Carin Tait-Logan had e-mailed to introduce herself and to offer help & support. She had not been able to attend the Meeting.</p> <p><i>iii Street Furniture Refurbishment</i> CR had been in touch with the UPW Project concerning the repair, replacement and protective coating of the street furniturs in Eckford and the Jubilee Path. The estimate (for materials only) came to £540. (Appendix 4) This was too much for the CC at the moment. CR agreed to look into other sources of funding and UPW agreed to wait until grants had been received before payments made</p>	CR
10	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p> <p>Nil</p>	
11	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Nil</p>	
12	<p>DONM Meeting 8</p> <p>Monday 03 November 2025 7.00-9.00</p> <p>Lothian Hall, Crailing</p>	

CRAILING ECKFORD NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2025-2026

date	payee	item	amount	rent	defibs	IT	improvements	events	insurance	maintenance	admin
Opening balance in bank			<u>1181.49</u>								
15/04/2025	HBOS	Bank Charge	-4.25								-4.25
16/05/2025	HBOS	Bank Charge	-4.25								-4.25
30/05/2025	LVI	Hall rental	-30	-30							
16/06/2025	HBOS	Bank Charge	-4.25								-4.25
15/07/2025	HBOS	Bank Charge	-4.25								-4.25
28/07/2025	Katherine Perry	Quaich Engraving	-18					-18			
28/07/2025	Douglas Scowen	Eckford Flowers	-76.47				-76.47				
28/07/2025	Dinah Faulds	Quaich	-19.99				-19.99				
15/08/2025	HBOS	Bank Charge	-4.25								-4.25

Balance @31/08/25			<u>1015.78</u>	-30	0	0	-76.47	-37.99	0	0	-21.25
	notional	defib set aside after costs for 23-24	-305								
	notional	defib set aside after costs for 24-25	-348.41								
	Total defib set aside for 23-25		-653.41								

Balance 31/08/25 after setaside for defibs in 23-24 and 24-25

362.37

Appendix 2

Hi all,

Apologies, we had this in our diary for the 1st (that's our fault we should have spied the line at the bottom of your email). Sandy was planned to attend last night but unfortunately, we all have commitments tonight.

We are happy to take any enquires via email, but I see you are looking for an update specifically on the Live Borders review & Jed swimming pool.

- The public consultation for the future of Live Borders closed yesterday. The consultation has received over 1800 responses, these responses were collected via the online survey, the public meetings and also the key stake holder's engagement. The Council will now collate these and begin combining them with the review proposals, the first reports will come to Council in October.
- The Jedburgh Pool steering group have continued to refine their business plan. We have another meeting with them and SBC on the 19th of September. They are obviously working very hard to find a business model which is sustainable and we are supporting them as best we can.

Many thanks,

Scott

Cllr Scott Hamilton

Jedburgh & District

Depute Leader, Scottish Borders Council.

Executive Member for Economic Growth and Developing the Borders.

Appendix 3

Ray/ Charlie,

Further to our meeting on 3 April, I wanted to drop you a quick update on a few of the actions:

General Update.

We spent £15k last year in design and have £600k (HES) funding pencilled in for 26/27, assuming this funding is successful, construction works are planned for summer 2026.

Total estimated scheme costs as follows:

	2024/25	2025/26		2026/27	2026/27	Total
SBC Contribution (estimate)	£55,730	£20,000		£589,835	£9,420	£674,985
HES Grant Funding (estimate)		£4,000		£227,000	£3,015	£234,015
NLHF Grant Funding (estimate)		£2,000		£246,000	£2,000	£250,000
Total estimated costs	£55,730	£26,000		£1,062,835	£15,000	£1,159,565

The HES funding application has been submitted. The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) application to be submitted in near future. SBC contributions in 26/27 are currently identified but is subject to other capital priorities, needs and demands. This year we have had to adjust capital plans significantly due to pressures that have arisen in other services and projects.

The project team have completed the detailed design for the replacement deck and have begun developing contract documents and a specification which we will be asking SBc Contracts to review as part of early contract engagement. We have further work to complete in relation to environmental surveys; Listed Building Consent; landowner discussions; timber procurement etc.

2T Weight Restriction.

The Union Chain Bridge has 2T signage. However, a 2T Order is historic, not one that the current Traffic Signs Manuals (Chapter 3) defines as permissible for 'weak bridges'. The permissible loads under current legislation is 3t, 7.5t, 10t, 13t, 18t, 26t, 33t. These loads are considered 'easily identifiable' by drivers, whereas '2T' can apparently be abused inadvertently. I believe UCB refurbishment was designed to accommodate a 3T vehicle for this reason.

Our engineers view is that a 2T Order on Kalemouth would be a deviation from Standard which, given the high likelihood of abuse, we could not support due to public safety and risk of irreversible damage (or potential collapse) to the structure itself.

In addition, the wrought iron chains simply do not have the theoretical capacity to sustain such loading. Although we haven't specifically 'assessed' the bridge for 2T vehicle loading, when the Consultants checked for 3T loading the chains 'failed' so significantly that the bridge is simply not strong enough to take 2T loading.

Union Chain Bridge.

As promised, I have obtained a draft report that was prepared back in 2018 which set out the funding and the delivery plan for the Union Chain Bridge project, it is attached for your information. Worth noting that the estimated costs at that time were £6.7m. Whilst the project is complete, the financial position has not yet concluded and costs are significantly higher, nearer £11m.

This perhaps gives a sense of the complexity of funding/ works as well as a sense of timescales to progress such a project. Formal completion of Union Chain was April 2023.

I hope all of the above is useful, although I appreciate that I can't give you positive responses to all your questions so I understand there will be disappointment too.

Thanks,

John

John Curry

Director Infrastructure and Environment

Appendix 4 UPW estimate

Quote

Stuart Easingwood
Chief Social Work Officer

[illegible]