

CRAILING, ECKFORD & NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
ECKFORD VILLAGE HALL  
23rd SEPTEMBER 7PM

Welcome by the Chair

The meeting was opened by Chair Malcolm McGregor who thanked those present for their attendance.

In attendance.. Malcolm McGregor, Peter Jeary, Linda Coles , Charlie Robertson, Douglas Scowen, Elliot Lewis, Marie Hogg, Cllr Sandy Scott. One member of the public.

1. Apologies: Caroline Cook, Dinah Faulds, Scott Hamilton, Jim Brown.

2) Minutes of previous meeting: These were proposed to be accepted as a true record by DS and seconded by PJ.

3) Matters Arising:

a) Stables development.. MM reported on the correspondence received from Ewen Calvert, which was positive and referred to a site meeting with the owner, EC and Mr Green, Enforcement Officer. The CC's concerns had been followed up. Works had started on the replacement boundary wall. Mr Calvert maintained that it was not SBC's responsibility to monitor a given development, but the owner/developer to comply with the consent. However, research of the Scottish Government website relating to planning indicated it is a Council's responsibility to monitor planning conditions, but because of the large number of consents, they are not expected to monitor all of them. There appears an expectation that members of the public will assist and report to a given Authority any concerns. As a CC working on behalf of residents it was considered by members that we did everything appropriately and it is disappointing that action by Officers to ensure the development complied with the consent, was slow and took an inordinate period of time. CR expressed gratitude to MM for all his work on the matter. MM will arrange for this issue to be discussed at a future SBC CC Network meeting and report back.

b)LC is hoping to get Sarah in Oct to do the Defib Training and will advertise the date when arranged.

c) The grit bin still hasn't been replaced outside Lothian Hall. Cllr. Scott will again enquire.

d) previous minute 8a: CC had asked about road works at Crailing, this is being followed up.

e) Eckford Planters: DS informed the meeting that the Jed Shed had been approached but what they had suggested had not been satisfactory, so he had resolved the problem by using an alternative supplier and this will be discussed in item 8.

f) Repositioning Nisbet bridge sign and replacement NISBET sign on B6400 approach to the village: Malcolm is awaiting a result of our enquiry.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT: PJ distributed a balance sheet and went through the accounts. MM reported that Nisbet wished to purchase replacement flower bed sleepers with the plant money. This was acceptable. SBC Grant not claimed yet for paths, PJ is waiting for an invoice from CR.

5) POLICE REPORT: No report has yet been received. PC Chisholm was sent an email of the date of meeting and minutes. MM will follow up and distribute later to members.

6) Road signs at Crailing: There has been a site meeting and a series of emails between SBC Roads and a local resident, John Pearson, which had been copied to CEN CC for consideration. SBC suggested we could buy our own signs, (WELCOME TO CRAILING, PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY), at an approximate cost of £1000 to the CC, including installation. It was considered by the meeting that this was not affordable and also there was no indication as to whether such signage would be effective in resolving the problem. A recent traffic count survey for this section of the A698 road as it approached Crailing, had also been received and this was discussed. Members concluded that its validity was highly suspect because it included the speed of passing cars, HGVs and vans, all under the same grouping. However, HGVs should be limiting themselves to a maximum of 40mph and vans, a maximum of 50mph. It was suggested by a member of the public that we do our own traffic count over a week with sample numbers of cars, vans ect. Brian Young, at SBC is the man to talk to and Cll Scott will do this and enquire on behalf of CEN CC about the installation of other signage, such as the Police speed camera sign and Police warning signs, that, for example are in use in the approach to Denholm on the main road from Hawick. We also need numbers of speeding cars from the police. Sandy Scott also suggested we check the Community Empowerment Act.

7) Campaign for a Scottish Borders National Park: The approach of CEN CC to the Campaign for a SB National Park, still required some clarification. The issue for CEN CC was whether we would wish to support this initiative, oppose it, or remain neutral? CR suggested that we should continue to monitor events, keep our options open and for the time being adopt a neutral position. This was agreed. SBC Officer Charles Johnson is preparing a comprehensive analysis of the MIR, with respect to this issue and a statement for SBC members to consider.

8) SBC Dog Education Officer: Correspondence had been received from the new SBC Dog Education Officer. We will contact her and raise the point of Mounthooley poo bin.

#### 9) COMMUNITY UPDATES:

a) Crailing: Just the matter of A698 signs and speed, which had been discussed.

b) Eckford: The justice team have given prices for 2 planters of £181.66 and the CC agreed to fund this. CR brought up the Jed marathon wheelchair point at the junction being potentially dangerous with the potholes. We should ask SBC to tidy it up. Malcolm/Charlie will contact Lenny Wise. November Eckford Remembrance Sunday event: there was discussion on whether to hold this annual event on Sunday 10th Nov. or on Monday 11th Nov., and the pros and cons for each were considered. Chair of CEN CC, will lay the wreath after a service by CR .

a) Nisbet: Locality funding was successful for the churchyard, but Sandy was asked to check whether there is a time limit for the money to be spent.

10) SBC updates: Cllr. Scott outlined how the educational initiative involving student ipads and classroom learning software will inspire learning and have a positive impact on the SBC school student community. Kelso High School will receive their equipment in October and Galashiels, Earlston, Peebles and Jedburgh will receive them in 2020. They will be an additional learning tool for students. On the 19th July the new walk at Monteviot opened. With

respect to wider planning matters, Ladyrig farm had received a ruling of not having a right of way on the property. South of the A68 from Sept 23 will have road closure for 12wks, as road improvements are carried out. There is a new shop improvement scheme for Jedburgh, Hawick and Galashiels. From the allocated town centre fund 128 shops will be regenerated. There was a recent employee strike outside the Newtown St Boswells offices at SBC, associated with a protest about pay grades.

11) PLANNING Applications.: 1 application for Ulston at West Ulston plot c. Community Cllr. MH will consult with local residents for their observations and MM will thereafter send in CEN CC's reply.

12) CORRESPONDENCE: This had been previously sent out to members.

13) AOB.: Sheila Campbell's report has been sent to the CC. Business entries on the website are 27 in total. It is Oil boiler service time again and Border heat and Scott Douglas are giving the same offer as last year. DS asked if we need a website and various comments were made. CR asked Malcolm if he was going to the Resilience meeting on Oct 24th, which would consider how other villages carry out co-ordination. Both Charlie and Malcolm could attend.

14) Date of next meeting: 9th Dec 2019, Lothian Hall, 7pm.