

CRAILING, ECKFORD AND NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2024-2027

Minutes of General Meeting No 6

8-9.30pm

12th May 2025

Lothian Hall, Crailing

After the AGM

Chair Charlie Robertson

No	ITEM	ACTION
1	Charlie Robertson welcomed everyone to the Meeting and gave a special welcome to Councillor John Bathgate attending his first Meeting of our CC.	
2	<u>Attendance</u> Keith Bader KB, Virginia Burbridge VB, Richard Howes RH Katherine Pery KP, Charlie Robertson CR, <u>In Attendance</u> Councillor John Bathgate JB	
3	<u>Apologies</u> Chris Howden CH Councillors Sandy Scott SS, and Scott Hamilton	
4	<u>Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 10th March.</u> Proposed KP Seconded KB	
5	<u>Matters Arising</u> (not covered in the Agenda) i Nil	
6	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> Report submitted, discussed and approved at the earlier AGM. Treasurer confirmed that Grants of £70.00 would be available to each village to buy plants.	

7	<p><u>Community Updates</u></p> <p>1 SBC Councillors Councillor Bathgate commented on the recent review of facilities used by LiveBorders. These included Jed Town Hall and Library. There was also a discussion on progress with Jed Swimming Pool following the Town Meeting. A special report on the building was due out soon.</p> <p>2 Crailing A section of the wall which goes along the village road had collapsed. SBC are considering options for repair. JB had an e-mail of proposals from Stuart Moir, SBC Engineer. (Appendix 1) These included replacement with a wooden fence and partial restoration to half the original height. View from the village was that full restoration is required. CC to respond to Stuart Moir Crailling Rideout. Contact from the Callant's Club suggesting amendments to the format of the Crailling part of the Ride. (Appendix 2) Initial discussions with Crailling residents suggested that they preferred to Keep the format as close to previous years as possible. (Appendix 3) 3. Eckford Surface water. Problems with water and drainage in village now fully resolved. CR had written to thank SBC engineers for their work Road surface at Grahamslaw. Some of the worst pot holes had been filled. However, the surface of the road remains very rough. There were areas where the edge of the road was badly worn and there were some quite dangerous troughs in places. JB agreed to raise this with the Council. Distillery. The progress with the Distillery was noted and welcomed</p> <p>4. Nisbet River works in the Teviot by Lothian Estate. E-mail outlining the work attached as Appendix 4</p> <p>5. Ulston No report.</p>	<p>CR</p> <p>CR</p> <p>CR</p> <p>JB</p>
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8	<p><u>CENCC Ongoing Actions</u></p> <p><i>i President's Route.</i> Slow progress, good weather had intervened. Ernie Smail suggested as a good contact for background information on the estate.</p> <p><i>ii Resilience</i> No Report</p> <p><i>iii Cheviot Area Partnership.</i> Format now changed.</p> <p><i>iv Kalemouth Bridge.</i> A very positive Meeting had been held with John Curry, Director SBC Infrastructure & Environment. Currently awaiting a response from him to some of the points raised.</p> <p><i>v Community Place Plans.</i> Draft sheets now with SBC officers for feedback. Some funding will be available to support our work Appendix 5</p> <p><i>vi Fibre Optics Upgrade</i> Engineers still working on replacing lines with fibre optics. Impossible to get any answers as to dates of completion, but assurances that 'things are on track'.</p>	

9	<p><u>New Business</u></p> <p><i>i Meeting Dates 2025-26</i> Appendix 6 Dates agreed with one exception Monday 1st September changed to Tuesday 2nd. (Changed on Appendix)</p> <p><i>Ii Defibrillators</i> Malcolm MacGregor joined us for this item. (Appendix 7) Malcolm confirmed that the Defibrillators had a lifetime of between 10 and 15 years. Therefore, we did not need to replace them all next year. However, there was weathering on some of the cabinets and some pads would need to be replaced. It was agreed that we need to take a phased approach towards replacing the equipment. Malcolm agreed to prepare a replacement schedule and present it at a future meeting. CR thanked Malcolm and his team in each of the villages for the work that they do in checking and maintaining the equipment.</p> <p>We were still looking for sponsorship for the replacement costs. JB suggested that we contact Emtelle</p>	KB
10	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p> <p>Land NE of Grahamslaw. Erection of a house. This was a resubmission. No issues raised</p>	
11	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Nil</p>	
12	<p>DONM Meeting 7</p> <p>Tuesday 2 September 2025 7.00-9.00</p> <p>Eckford Village Hall</p>	

Appendix 1

Charlie

Do you want to go back to Stuart and copy in the councillors in.

Thanks

JohnB

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: charlie.loaning <charlie.loaning@btinternet.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 10:45:22 PM

To: Bathgate, John <John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk>

Subject: Fwd: Re: [OFFICIAL] Fw: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

CAUTION: External Email

FYI

----- Original Message -----

From: chris@cenc.org

To: charlie.loaning@btinternet.com Cc: John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk; chris@cenc.org

Sent: Wednesday, May 28th 2025, 22:43

Subject: Re: [OFFICIAL] Fw: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

Many thanks for the update.

Rebuilding of the wall to its full height (not wooden) would be the only option that residents would accept.

I will refrain from improving the verge until the wall has been rectified.

Kind Regards,

Chris Howden

Community Councillor for Crailing

On 28 May 2025, at 22:30, charlie.loaning <charlie.loaning@btinternet.com> wrote:

Hi John, I've had a look at this. SBC repointed other parts of the wall and it looks well. It is a key feature in the village. The villagers are currently working to improve the verge area beside the wall.

The area where it has collapsed is not very big and the wall at that point is not very high. Surely, consideration could be given to repairing it to its full height. The other two options would adversely affect the look of the rest of the wall as a whole.

Charlie

----- Original Message -----

From: John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk

To: charlie.loaning@btinternet.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 13th 2025, 08:06

Subject: [OFFICIAL] Fw: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

Hi Charlie

See below on the Crailing wall repairs. To pass on to Chris. I prefer the lower wall option, than a wooden fence.

JohnB

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Moir, Stuart <Stuart.Moir@scotborders.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 7:44 am

To: Bathgate, John <John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk>; Scott, Sandy

<sscott1@scotborders.gov.uk>; Hamilton, Scott <ScottHamilton@scotborders.gov.uk>

Cc: Williams, Iain <iwilliams@scotborders.gov.uk>; Murphy, David <DMurphy@scotborders.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

Good morning Cllr,

Although I haven't had these specific works 'priced' by a Contractor, I looked over previously submitted 'rates' from SBcContracts to get an idea of likely costs for the two options, these being roughly as follows:

- Take down of existing wall, dispose of arisings and erect a timber post and 4 rail fence: around £250/m.
- Take down and rebuild of the wall to full height : around £1,000/m. A re-built wall to lower level would incur 30 - 40% price reduction.

More than happy to discuss further.

Best regards,

Stuart

Stuart Moir

Road Structures Team Leader

Infrastructure & Environment

Scottish Borders Council

Tel: 01835 824000 Ext:8103

Email: Stuart.Moir@scotborders.gov.uk

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How are you playing #yourpart to help us keep the Borders thriving?

From: Bathgate, John <John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 April 2025 16:14

To: Moir, Stuart <Stuart.Moir@scotborders.gov.uk>; Scott, Sandy <sscott1@scotborders.gov.uk>; Hamilton, Scott <ScottHamilton@scotborders.gov.uk>

Cc: Williams, Iain <iwilliams@scotborders.gov.uk>; Murphy, David <DMurphy@scotborders.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

Hi Stuart

Thanks for the information on this, do you have a price comparison on the two options? And what would a low say less than a metre wall cost?

Thanks

JohnB

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Moir, Stuart <Stuart.Moir@scotborders.gov.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 2:42:11 PM

To: Bathgate, John <John.Bathgate@scotborders.gov.uk>; Scott, Sandy

<sscott1@scotborders.gov.uk>; Hamilton, Scott <ScottHamilton@scotborders.gov.uk>

Cc: Williams, Iain <iwilliams@scotborders.gov.uk>; Murphy, David <DMurphy@scotborders.gov.uk>

Subject: Historic masonry boundary wall - Crailing Village

Good afternoon Cllrs,

I write regarding the historic freestanding masonry boundary wall within Crailing Village centre, which partially collapsed in early February – please see some photo's attached. This is a Council owned wall, with the land purchased to facilitate the building of the historic road improvement scheme....

We are now planning works to tidy up the collapsed area and remove the temporary barriers put in place for public safety. As part of these plans, we have undertaken an inspection of the remaining sections of wall and this has revealed some fairly serious defects in the form of cracking, leaning, bulging and pointing deterioration over a fair section of the walls length – essentially this length of wall has come to the end of its serviceable life as the defects seen are beyond simple repointing...

We are keen to address these issues at the same time as addressing the current collapsed area. With this in mind, we propose to take down the poorest condition length of wall (approx. 30m length as indicated in the below plan), locally grade off and tidy the disturbed ground before constructing a new timber boundary fence in its place. I feel that this option is pragmatic and best value given the walls current condition, the purpose it serves and the Councils current budget backdrop.

I am keen to share the details with yourselves before sharing with the Community Council and public alike, as I appreciate this will be a change in view for a few properties within the village centre. More than happy to hear any thoughts you might have on the matter before I share further.

Looking forward to hearing from you and many thanks in advance.

Appendix 2

From: Lindsay S Wilson <lindsay.wilson9@btinternet.com>
Sent: 01 May 2025 14:10
To: cencomms@hotmail.co.uk <cencomms@hotmail.co.uk>
Subject: Jed Callant's Festival

Hello Chris

I understand that you are the best person to contact on this matter, if not then please be kind enough to let me know who I should contact.

As I'm sure you are aware each year our Callant comes to Crailing as part of the rideout to lay a wreath at the war memorial and then to attend a short ceremony. As a committee we feel that this is always very rushed and doesn't acknowledge the effort that the village put into the visit.

After discussion I was asked to write asking for the following alternative to be considered by the village – schedule a separate evening time for the Callant and his Henchmen to visit the village on foot, lay the wreath and then spend more quality time with you all. This is a format that works well with other country visits such as Edgerston and Glendouglas.

On the rideout evening the Callant and his cavalcade will still stop in the field at the rear of the village and sing before moving on.

Another reason for proposing the change is that safety is becoming more and more of a concern such that having even 4 horses grazing on a narrow verge next to a road that gets busier and busier isn't such a good idea.

If the option of an evening visit is considered suitable then perhaps you could suggest some suitable dates which don't have to be during the Festival proper.

I look forward to hearing back from you as soon as possible and if you need any further information/have questions then please don't hesitate to make contact.

Thank you for your help.

Best regards

Lindsay

Lindsay S Wilson

Hon. Secretary

Jethart Callant's Festival

Tel: 07818 654205

Villagers wish
to leave
Callant visit
as it is.

They do not
want a
different
date/time.

Sorry, no takers
for CEN CC

Nicola

Can all horses not
be left in field +
Callant + henchmen
walk are driven
to War Memorial?

#Appendix 4

Dear Charlie,

I trust that you are well. I wanted to write to you regarding some of the estate's planned work in case there are questions from the residents of Nisbet and other members of the community.

We will be undertaking riverbank reinstatement work and gravel extraction during May below the Nisbet Bridge and an area called the Hutches, which is located at Mounthooly. We have licences from SEPA and the River Tweed Commissioners have consented to the work. For once the river is in an ideal condition to be able to undertake the work. We will be starting the work below the bridge this week and it should last about two weeks. Then we will move to the Mounthooly area.

I am sorry for the short notice, but the contractor rearranged his workload to accommodate us and we need to utilise the river's current condition to undertake the work.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Ben

Appendix 5

Good afternoon

Following on from my email below, I have had confirmation that there is a small budget allocation to cover place plan engagement support requests (e.g. printing surveys).

Kindest regards

Jess

Jess Houghton

Community Place Planning and Regeneration Officer

Planning Policy

Corporate Governance (Directorate)

Scottish Borders Council

TD6 0SA

T: 01835 824000 Ext: +8805

jess.houghton@scotborders.gov.uk

<http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/>

From: Houghton, Jess

Sent: 02 May 2025 12:23

To: charlie.loaning@btinternet.com; keithcenc@gmail.com

Cc: Martin, Roddy <Roddy.Martin@scotborders.gov.uk>

Subject: Crailing, Eckford and Nisbet Local Place Plan

Good morning

We met back in October last year to discuss the creation of a local place plan for Crailing, Eckford and Nisbet, and at that point in time there was no financial support available. I have had confirmation that there will be additional funding available to support communities with their local place plans again this financial year, if you are still interested in producing a local place plan.

Some funding is available through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to support local place plans. This fund can be used to bring a consultant onboard to help support the local place plan process. We have a [Place Making Support Framework](#) which consists of pre-vetted consultants available to support communities with their local place plans. If you are interested in bringing in additional support, information can be found on the page linked above - you would qualify for support through Lot 1.

I am still waiting for confirmation if there will be any budget in our Community Engagement fund allocated to support smaller place plan requests such as printing costs, and I will let you know ASAP on this one. There is potential to draw on the SPF for these requests if no allocation is given within the Community Engagement fund for place plans, but I will keep you updated (hoping to have confirmation end of next week).

If you have any questions on this, please let me know.

Kindest regards

Jess

Jess Houghton

Community Place Planning and Regeneration Officer

Planning Policy

Corporate Governance (Directorate)

Scottish Borders Council

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T: 01835 824000 Ext: +8805

jess.houghton@scotborders.gov.uk

**CRAILING ECKFORD AND NISBET
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**PROPOSED MEETING DATES
2025-2026**

General Meeting	Tuesday 02 September 2025	Eckford Village Hall
General Meeting	Monday 03 November 2025	Lothian Hall, Crailing
General Meeting	Monday 12 January 2026	Eckford Village Hall
General Meeting	Monday 9 th March 2026	Lothian Hall, Crailing
General Meeting	Monday 11 May 2026	Eckford Village Hall
General Meeting & AGM	Monday 15 June 2026	Lothian Hall Crailing

Appendix 7

CEN Defibrillators : Status and Options for the Future. CC Meeting: 12th May 2025

Background:

Type: Cardiac Science Powerheart G5
Year commissioned: 2015
Estimated lifespan: 10 to 15 years.

2025/2026 Potential Issues:

The Ulston defib., is not in a sheltered location and the cabinet is in poor condition. Likewise, the Crailing defib., but in slightly better condition. Cost of an external cabinet = **£440.00** (excl. VAT)

Note: prices
exclude VAT.

Projected costs for 2026:		No.	Cost per item	Total	Replacement Date
Batteries		4	289.00	1156.00	15th September 2026
Pads		3	70.00	210.00	28th January 2026
Total				1366.00	

The Future:

Powerheart G5 replacement **1 1025.00**