



**ABBAY ST BATHAN'S, BONKYL AND PRESTON
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Abbey St Bathans Village
Hall**

23 February 2017 at 7pm

| Ref | Present: V Dobie (chair), P. Chandler, C Dobie, A Hart, D. Morrison, Iva Usalj, Observers:, Cllr D Moffat, Morag Lamont | Action |
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| 1. | Apologies: Hamish Goldie-Scot, Veronica Kerr, James Dobie | |
| 2. | Approval of Minutes: Minutes subject to minor amendment were proposed by VD and seconded by PC. Minutes to be circulated. | AH |
| 3. | Matters Arising: Preston bridge damage - no notification yet as to when these repairs will be completed. Cllr DM will follow up. CD is still pursuing information relating to repairs to the cundy at Abbey St Bathans. Resilient communities Abbey St Bathans to be taken forward. No feedback received from CHAS – VD will follow up. Invoice not yet received from David Stebbings for the excavation work in Abbey St Bathans. PC to arrange payment on receipt. | Cllr DM CD CD/HG -S VD |
| 4. | Reports from grants recipients: DM to pass details of grant recipients in last 12 months to AH. | DM |
| 5. | Resilient Communities: Preston has established a scheme and has the equipment; there is still the need to find a place for a salt bin and to put in place a call tree. Blackerstone - Sally Hart has agreed to be the coordinator and has met with the emergency planning officer. Abbey St Bathans - for future consideration. VD mentioned that smaller parts of the community could establish a scheme, there would be support from SBC and equipment would be available. Cllr DM mentioned that people engaged as members of the resilient community are covered by insurance when wearing the provided hi-vis vests. Agreed to remove from agenda can be AOB if necessary. | PC |

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| 6. | <p>Sub Groups:</p> <p>(a) Windfarms Penmanshiels agreement has been signed and the money will go to PACT but are insisting that there must be an application form, so that PACT will have to apply to PACT which is less than sensible. Work continues to find a solution. Quixwood Community Funding Committee has had their first meeting.</p> <p>(b) PACT DM reported that the next meeting is due but looking for more people to join, bank account established. AGM to be arranged. Need to devise a membership form for community representatives to apply.</p> | |
| 7. | <p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>Crystal Rig representative has finally made contact and confirmed the original agreement but is insisting that approval for grants will be in 28 days not the original 20 days. DM commented that you are unlikely to receive a response to say they have received applications. DM will attend Berwickshire Area Forum, agenda item for feedback. Berwickshire Community Council Forum (BCCF) has a lottery licence which is available for community councils holding lotteries and raffles. BCCF are asking for volunteer for office bearer roles.</p> | DM |
| 8. | <p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>Pony club requested that the invoice for the equipment should be paid but there was an extra delivery charge above the amount applied for, however the supplier has given a 5% discount. The difference amounts to £14. Chair proposes that a cheque is made out for the amount required - agreed. Number 2 account stands at £76,212.25. Number 1 account as previously. Grant received from SBC £750. Number 1 account is used for hall rental and miscellaneous expenses.</p> | PC |
| 9. | <p>Bank Forms:</p> <p>Form from bank to be completed in order to change signatories. Personal details required from all CC members. Forms distributed for completion. Cllr DM signed as the independent witness.</p> | |
| 10. | <p>Secretaries Report:</p> <p>Secretary to reply to the person who had asked about the siting of traffic signals at the bridge advising that SBC declined the request, stating the great expense involved and that the Community Council had asked Cllr DM to speak to SBC about the siting of priority signs at the bridge.</p> | AH Cllr DM |
| 11. | <p>Community Events</p> <p>VD proposed the holding of two community events to raise a number of issues. In particular the need to behave responsibly in the countryside with a link to wildlife crime prevention. VD also suggested that PACT may want to join the event to launch the Trust. DM to confer with PACT colleagues. Discussed the possibility of a mail drop to advertise the event and raise a number of developments such as the discounted swimming session. Friday 9 June and 16 June suggested event dates. 6.30pm – 9pm. Secretary to check the availability of village halls. PC to speak to Police representative regarding a wildlife presentation. Provision of Food – to be discussed next meeting.</p> | DM AH CD AH PC |

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| 12. | <p>Co-opted Members: James Robson, Primrosehill, Duns TD11 3TL Andrew Rosher, 4 West Blanterne, Duns TD11 3QB Proposed by VD, Seconded PC</p> | |
| 13 | <p>Funding applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Quoits League (ii) Swimming subscription proposal (iii) Dancing team support <p>Morag introduced her application for quoits, a BarBQ and a Marquee to support a number of events such as the Hogmanay Party, Quoits League, and Children's party.</p> <p>There has recently been a change to the original application now 12 sets of larger plus 6 sets of younger quoits.</p> <p>Chair lead discussion establishing that there are 4 sets of two kept by Morag that were previously purchased by CC. The idea is to move to a competitive league and then for people to have the opportunity to try the game. Chair asked who will own and hire the equipment. Morag confirms that there had been discussion with the village hall committee who may be able to take this role. The village hall committee will meet to ensure they are content to own and hire the equipment and that sufficient insurance is in place. Quoits, Bar B Q and Marquee could be used anywhere in the CC area.</p> <p>Swimming Pool subscription proposal discussed. Longformacus contributes 70% to annual membership or 100% for swimming lessons. Discussions followed with the possibility that the CC puts forward an agreed sum of money for the next 12 months. Proposal to be circulated with views to be returned. Invoices from the swimming pool to be sent to PC.</p> <p>iii) Three children from the community have succeeded to reach the national dance championships to be held in Glasgow in August, in addition the children auditioned for an international competition to be held at Disney in France. They were successful and the application is for support for the children, each child's accommodation, the entrance fee and travel amounts to £550 per child = £1650.</p> <p>ML left the meeting.</p> | |

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| <p>13.</p> | <p>Discussion of applications</p> <p>Members were concerned that the existing quoits were not being used and the league that used to exist is no longer in operation. The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) As 4 sets were purchased not many years ago, that these could still be used at the annual quoits match, perhaps for the 'Shield' side of the competition? b) To fund an adequate number of quoits to allow the annual quoits match to go ahead, this being 8 sets of new quoits, at whatever size the organisers would like to order. c) If a quoits league is organised, and plans for this to go ahead are presented to the CC, then the CC would consider an application for further quoits purchase as required. d) A further application for quoits for the quoits match could also be considered in the future, if a clear need for further sets could be demonstrated. Expected funds requested will be dependent on size of quoits ordered, but in the region of £1000. <p>Barbecue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The CC approved the application for the BBQ set and accompanying equipment on the application form, suggesting that two gas cylinders should be purchased. b) It was suggested that the receipts from the purchase of the gas cylinders be retained as these are required to get the deposit back when the cylinders are returned for replacements. c) It was suggested that event organisers should become qualified in basic food hygiene, for the protection of the community, and that the CC would consider approval of funding for one or more organisers to attend the Environmental Food and Hygiene one day course. Expected cost £464.78 <p>Marquee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The CC did not approve this application. b) The CC would like to consider an application for funding for a more robust marquee, and would be prepared to consider an application for a more expensive marquee which would be less likely to be damaged. c) The CC suggests that the applicants discuss this further with the Greenlaw Festival Committee (perhaps contact through Greenlaw CC) and Birgham CC, both of whom have apparently purchased more substantial marquees which are hired out to members of the community. It seemed likely to the committee that a specialist marquee manufacturer might need to be approached for advice. <p>Note: Funding for the successful parts of this application is dependent on the Village Hall committee reconvening and agreeing the ownership of these items. David Morrison agreed to support this. The CC would also like assurance that the Village Hall has the necessary insurance to cover these items. It was suggested a deposit scheme would be useful.</p> | <p>DM</p> |
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| 13 | <p>Swimming pool subsidies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The CC would like to support this initiative. b) The CC would like to see free ‘taster’ sessions to the pool included on the application. c) The CC is likely to consider approving an application up to the sum of £6000 in the first place, and would then consider further applications when the uptake on this can be assessed. <p>Disney dancing competition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The CC agreed to approve a funding application to support this venture. b) Due to the short time scale, the committee is able to approve £500, to be used for the three applicants. c) This application form must be submitted ASAP, in order that it can be circulated around the CC members for approval before the trip is made. d) The CC would like the recipients to perform for the community at some point, if possible. | |
| 14. | <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Crystal Rig amended application form, some minor amendments required and when completed to be added to the web site. b) Recycling bags no longer supplied at Monymut, which is causing difficulty. Approach made to SBC but no response received, Cllr DM asked to pursue. c) Weeding of paths in Preston, application to be submitted. Agreed Similar work needed in Abbey St Bathans. d) CD raised the difficulty of turning at the junction at bottom of hill out of Abbey to turn left to Duns because of private hedging that requires cutting back. Cllr DM will pursue the issue. e) CD has a contact in Cumbria who has been successful in raising lottery funding to support community activities. Details to be forwarded to AH. f) Hamish has asked for an update regarding any Broadband developments – to be an agenda item at the next meeting. | <p>AH DM</p> <p>Cllr DM</p> <p>PC</p> <p>Cllr DM</p> <p>CD</p> <p>AH</p> |
| 15. | <p>Planning and Licensing: No matters to be discussed</p> | |
| 16. | <p>Dates and Venues of future meetings:</p> <p>All dates are Thursday's</p> <p>23 March 7pm Preston</p> <p>25 May 7.30pm Abbey</p> <p>22 June 7.30pm Preston</p> <p>24 August 7.30pm Abbey</p> <p>28 September 7pm Preston</p> <p>26 October 7pm Abbey</p> <p>23 November 7pm Preston</p> <p>Date of AGM to be agreed</p> | |