

ESKDALEMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING AND A.G.M

7pm November 16th 2021 - Community Hub

Those Present: Nick Jennings (Chairman), John Furlonger (Vice Chairman/Secretary), Beatrice Furlonger, Lisa McQueen, Barry Young, Archie Dryburgh (D/G Council)

Apologies: Clare Carr-Saunders,

The Minutes of 2019 AGM: These were read and approved

Matters arising: As the meeting had been entirely concerned with the appointment of officers and procedural details relating to the organisation and constitution of the Council, there were no matters arising, this being the first meeting of the newly re-elected Council.

Election of Officers 2021:

Chair. Nick Jennings

Vice-Chair: John Furlonger

Secretary: John Furlonger (Minutes)

Treasurer: Bernard Provost.

Examiner of Accounts: Mr. P Johnson Shaw House Eskdalemuir

Minutes of Previous Meeting (16th Sept 2021): These minutes were read and approved.

Matters arising: The issue of the rifle ranges in Eskdalemuir was still far from being resolved. Although the plan was perceived as a Major application, no public consultation had as yet been arranged, nor did such consultation appear likely. Action from D/G Council would seem to be delayed by the very large number of objections registered. The activity on the ranges was proceeding regardless with scant regard for the views of local residents. It is imperative that a definitive conclusion is reached.

Nick Jennings reported that the Range Developers has appealed the D&G Decision not to determine the application and that the appeal was lodged with Scottish Government. It was agreed that Nick should make a representation setting out the concerns discussed.

Defibrillators: We are very grateful to the support in this matter that we continue to receive from Ian Donald .We have the necessary funds to maintain the machines for which we have accepted responsibility.

Crossdykes Directors: Members were asked to consider putting themselves forwards in these roles. The Chairman is already a founding director and stressed the probability of very increased sums of money for Local Communities becoming available as the scheme progresses. The useful, but comparatively small sums generated at present will become really significant in the coming years spread over 5 local councils. This could enable much more vital projects to be undertaken in due course. Liz McQueen and Barry Young both expressed an interest. Liz McQueen was appointed along with Nick Jennings

Other Windfarm Community Benefits: Both Minska and Clyde Valley would provide us with £4000 each for distribution locally and arrangements would be made for people to put in their applications through the usual channels.

The Eskdalemuir Footpath: Pheasant feeding is encouraging birds to gather along the sides of the road resulting in many falling victim to local traffic. Gardner's Guns are responsible for some part of this problem though the D/G Council has some responsibility for mowing along the footpath. Archie Dryburgh will consult a colleague on the D/G Council to see what can be done. Concern was also expressed about the speed of traffic on the road adjoining the footpath. Would it be possible for flashing signs (30mph) to be installed?

A.O.B.: Nick Jennings thanked the Vice Chairman for arranging the Armistice Day Ceremony at the War Memorial in the village. It had been very well attended/

The Vice-Chairman in turn expressed his appreciation for the work done by the Chairman for sustaining the operation of the Community Council over so many years and to Archie Dryburgh for his loyal support, rarely missing a meeting and taking a very active interest in the affairs of the Community. Eskdalemuir is an unusual community, large in area, small in population few of whom take an active interest in local issues. Thus those who are strongly committed are of particular value.

The meeting was then closed with the next meeting scheduled for the third Thursday in January