

## **Eskdalemuir Community Council Meeting**

### **July 18 2024 - The Hub**

PRESENT: John Furlonger, Barry Young, Liz McQueen, Stuart Green, Ian Warden, Denis Male

(D/G Council). Nick Jennings (Chairman) was unable to be present, so John Furlonger(Vice

Chairman) took the chair.

APOLOGIES: Nick Jennings

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: These were read and approved.

MATTERS ARISING: It had been proposed that the four wooden bus shelters which had been funded some years ago by SWESTRANS should be inspected and repaired where necessary. John spoke with Tom Warbeck who had built the shelters to get an estimate of the cost. Three of the shelters required some minor repairs to the woodwork, new roofing felt, and repainting. The fourth, at the foot of the road leading to Garwald, needed more extensive repair having been subject to abuse. The total cost would be in the region of £500-600. It was agreed that the work had to be done. Barry Young, the treasurer would finalise the funding with Nick Jennings. It was suggested that photographs might be published of the work in progress in order to back up the efforts to inform the community of some of the practical benefits achieved through the council.

POLICE REPORT: There had been no police incidents reported to the Council by the local police.

FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS: This remained a matter of some concern. There had been no interest shown in becoming candidates for election. Liz McQueen said that there were several committees operating in the parish, the Council only being one so there was more interest in Community development than might be thought. However, it was agreed that the Council did have the power through its official position to bring significant benefits to the Community and should not be allowed to die through lack of support. It needed to be better publicised, and more attention drawn to what it had been able to achieve. Members agreed to approach members of the community who might be interested in participating and emphasise the value of their accepting the responsibility of maintaining the continuity of the Community Council.

PLANNING NOTICES: The new septic tank was in the process of installation. Account had been taken of the need to ensure that it was large enough to cope with possible future new building. Continued concern was expressed over the range at Clerkhill. Barry Young had made enquiries with Robert Duncan at the D/G Council, and Nick

Jennings had written to George Birrell at Kronospan, but no replies had as yet been received. Was it intended for the development of the range to proceed? Denis Male said that he would follow the matter up with the D/G Council.

**RESILIENCE PLANNING:** There was a problem with the solar panel system which provided power for the Hub and was a vital part of the provision that would be necessary in the event of the Hub becoming an emergency centre. The inverter was not operating effectively, and the estimated cost of repair was £1650. Several thousand pounds had already been set aside in the Resilience plan.

**WIND FARM COMMUNITY BENEFITS:** There had been no requests for funding since the last meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The only relevant correspondence had been regarding the Community Council Elections. John Furlonger would ask for additional copies of the posters which could be circulated to give additional publicity to our efforts to encourage participation.

A. O.C.B. No further items were forthcoming, so the meeting was closed.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** This will be at 7pm at the Hub on Thursday September 19th

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