

# **FIRST MEETING OF NEW ESKDALEMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**7pm 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 - ESKDALEMUIR HUB**

**Initial Stages Chaired by Stuart Hamilton**

**PRESENT:** Stuart Hamilton, Denis Male (D/G Council), Barry Young, Stuart Green, Liz McQueen, John Wharton, Alan Green, Ian Warden, Patricia Wiles, Julie Macleod, Bernard Provost, John Furlonger.

There were no absentees.

## **Appointments:**

**Chair:** Stuart Green. (Prop Barry Young. Sec Ian Warden)

**Secretary:** Liz McQueen ( John Furlonger. Bernard Provost)

**Treasurer:** Barry Young (Stuart Green. Liz McQueen)

The scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Dumfries and Galloway was then acknowledged and signed.

The dates and times for Ordinary Meetings of the Council and the date for the AGM were then agreed. They will remain as before at 7pm on alternate months with the AGM being at the September date.

Stuart Hamilton then gave an account of the function and responsibilities of Community Councils and their members pointing out the support and guidance provided by the D/G Council.

John Furlonger, as vice-chairman and Secretary of the retiring Council then reminded members of the value of Community Councils, pointing to achievement's over the years made possible by our having a Council

The Discretionary Grant, given to the Community Councils for Administration purposes will be about £400.

The Independent Examiner of Accounts will be as before, dependent on his being prepared to continue. This, together with the possibility of co-opting or electing further members, the appointment of sub-groups if required, an assessment of our assets, and the question of Public Liability cover will be considered at our next meeting

The meeting was then handed over to the appointed Chair.



## **FURTHER BUSINESS:**

**Local Bus Shelters:** The work on these by Mr Warbeck had not yet begun because of his sickness. John Furlonger pointed out that it was not a matter of great urgency, but that if by our meeting in January there had been no progress, we would have to look elsewhere for the work to be done.

**Wind Farm Community Funds:** There is still a substantial sum available, much of which has been set aside for the Community Resilience Plan. However we might lose the residue unless we spent it in the reasonably near future. It was suggested that some might be spent on tidying the path running from the village to Samye Ling as it was now very overgrown. It might be possible to get personnel on the Community Payback scheme to do the work. However some photographs of the path would be helpful in deciding how extensive the work would need to be.

**Local Place Plan:** We had been advised that Amy would no longer be able to devote any time to the project. It appeared that this was no longer the case and she would take it forward. However more local interest needed to be aroused. Denis Male suggested that we should examine the Gretna plan should be examined and presented to the Community to stimulate interest.

**Defibrillators:** There was a presentation of our current situation by John Furlonger. The main point arising for Council consideration was the cost. A decision had to be made whether we should opt for a 5 year package at a cost of £870, or the Pay as you go option at a cost of £333. After some discussion the Council members opted for the latter option.

The meeting then closed and the Council will next meet on Jan 16<sup>th</sup> 2025.