



COLDINGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - Draft

19th December 2023, 7pm Coldingham Village Hall

Present

Coldingham Community Council:

Jack Eeley (JE)	Alice Fisher (AF)	Rhona Goldie (RG)
Krishna Ramcharran (KR)	Dawn Tait (DT)	Richard Thomas (RT)
Ethne Turnbull (ET)	Peter White (PW)	Norman Wood (NW)

Coldingham Police: Kris McLeod (KM) and Susie Jacobs (SJ)

Members of the Coldingham Community: 13

Apologies for absence

Phillipa Allen, Cllr Carol Hamilton, Cllr Aileen Orr.

Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes for 4th December 2023 were approved.

Matters Arising

Topic	Key Discussion Points
Mercat Cross	<p>NW confirmed £30,999.31 had been spent to date on the Mercat Cross, significantly below the original estimate of £70k. With the R.E.S wind farm funding now available, the area around the Cross can be completed. NW said Andrew Redden was supportive re the surrounding land and only asked for area to accommodate two parking spaces. NW said ideas from the Community were welcome, for example chairs, mosaic or an info board similar to that in the Priory and the community would be consulted.</p> <p>Questions were raised concerning the petrol pumps. It was confirmed that Andrew Redden had indicated they would be removed but this had to be done in compliance with Environmental regulations to seal off ground contamination. It was suggested Grants House could be contacted has they had dealt with a similar issue.</p>
Breviary	<p>Gilli Simmons - Head of The Coldingham Society - is actively seeking permission to reproduce the Breviary of Coldingham Priory illuminated the pages for inclusion on digital display. Responses to date to her enquiries have been positive.</p>

Topic	Key Discussion Points
Speeding (Dragons Teeth)	Concerns were raised with speeding at both ends of the village as well as the lack of street lighting and footpaths. A member of the community informed CCC that they had written to the CEO of SBC about the road situation following the impact of a car travelling at 80mph with their house. There were very few days when vehicles slowed to 20mph on entering the village. The effectiveness of painted dragons teeth and other traffic calming measures were discussed.
Flashing street lights	PW reported that 2 street lights were flashing by the Bogan but did not know how to report the issue. A member of the community indicated that the issues could be reported through the SBC website.

SBC Councilor's Report

No Councilor was available to attend the meeting. In response to a question, RG confirmed Councilor reports are provided verbally. RG agreed to get a Councilors update and append it to the minutes of the meeting.

Police Report

RG started by thanking the Police for their help and assistance with the Remembrance Day service.

KM and SJ confirmed an electronic copy of the Road Safety report, which covers 21 Community Councils was issued by email. The main points to report were – no incidents in November 2023 and the appointment of Stuart Fletcher as the new Chief Inspector. To help the Police prioritise their efforts, KM asked that the community report issues and concerns through the email address provided in the report and not the comments section of the Scottish Borders Police Facebook page which is not monitored.

Treasurers Report

NW circulated copies of the accounts for 2022-23 audited by Brenda Alexander (see appendix) and the unaudited accounts for 2023-24. NW confirmed that the balance as of the 23 June 2023 was £131,317.97. It was explained that Coldingham is one of five community councils that receive an annual fee based on a percentage profit from the R.E.S wind farm. Over the first eight years CCC has received an average of £13k-£14k/annum. RG confirmed a signed legal agreement between CCC and the R.E.S wind farm is in place.

AOCB

Topic	Key Discussion Points
Dog fouling	Reported that dog fouling in the Coldingham Church yard was on the rise again and becoming an annoyance with dog owners letting their dogs run loose. The signs that were attached had come down.

Topic	Key Discussion Points
	<p>Dog fouling on Coldingham beech was also raised. Suggestions including additional signage, but it was made known that SBC were reluctant to add more signage. It was confirmed that the Code of Conduct for beach users should be updated. A member of the community confirmed that a letter on the matter was being submitted by the Beach Management Community.</p> <p>It was agreed for RG to proceed with sourcing replacement signs for the Coldingham Church re keeping dogs on leads and fouling from SBC.</p>
Recent (ongoing) flooding issues	Concerns raised regarding flooding on the Coldingham road out to Eyemouth. Causes attributed to filled drains, filled subterranean well and a collapsed culvert in Mar/Apr 2023. SEPA know about the issues and SBC have visited but have done nothing even though they said they would.
Planning proposal of 10 properties SW of 23 Lawfield	Original planning application dated 2020-21. CCC raised concerns about the access but no response received from SBC according to ET. Community members raised concerns about two new access routes now proposed on to main road. Concerns around drainage associated with new planned properties also raised.
Pot Holes	CCC to ensure issue raised with SBC.
Cyber Attacks	Scamming was on the increase with Christmas approaching and therefore the need for extra vigilance. Examples included bogus emails from Amazon Prime, texts from Royal Mail and DPD asking for additional postage payments before delivery could occur, Banks and friend requests on social media asking for money. Clues to help identify scams include the use of poor grammar.
Bank Closures	Concerns were raised around the lack of clarity around mobile banking provisions since the closure of banks in Eyemouth. CCC had written to John Lamont for an update on banking hubs but had not received a reply.
Sustainable Selkirk	AF indicated she had been contacted by Sustainable Selkirk a charity focused on helping tenants and homeowners save energy to give a presentation at a CC meeting. RG agreed with the idea and suggested AF explore setting up a presentation for March 2024.
Graveyard Headstones	It was confirmed that headstone safety checks were underway.
CCC Constitution	RG confirmed that the constitution had to be filed by 4 th March 2024 with SBC.
Seagulls	Concerns were raised regarding the feeding of 40 seagulls. The matter has been reported once before to Environmental Health. A member of the community agreed to contact Environmental Health again about the matter.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16th January 2024, 7pm at the Coldingham Community Village Hall.

Key Agreements

1. On 21st November 2023 all Coldingham Community Council members signed their agreement to abide by the SBC Code of Conduct.
2. The unaudited accounts dated 31 March 2023 were accepted by all Community Council members.

Actions arising from the meeting

Action	Description	Owner	Due Date
1.	Obtain replacement signage re dog fouling and keeping dogs on leads from SBC for Coldingham Church.	RG	28/02/2024
2.	Consult Coldingham Community on ideas for finishing the paving around the Mercat Cross.	NW	28/02/2024
3.	Arrange for Hannah Park of Sustainable Selkirk's Home Energy Advice Service to present at the March 2024 CCC meeting	AF	28/02/2024
4.	Write to John Lamont requesting an update on the banking hub initiative	KR	31/01/2024
5.	Seek advice on how to make the cash in the bank work for the community	NW	28/02/2024
6.	Write to Phillipa Gilhooly, SBC Traffic and Road Management Safety, requesting SBC conducts a full traffic review of Coldingham village	RG	31/01/2024
7.	Resend Police Road Safety Report to RG	SJ	31/01/2024

Appendix – Coldingham Community Council – Audited Financial Statement 31 March 2023

Coldingham Community Council
Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2023

Income	£	£
Scottish Borders Council annual grant	£660.00	
Path maintenance grant	£450.00	
Berwickshire C Society for the Cross	£500.00	
Total income for the year		£1,610.00
Expenditure		
Path maintenance & strimming	£1,935.00	
Hire of village hall	£110.00	
Coldingham Society - Jubilee celebrations	£500.00	
Architect's fee re Cross restoration	£2,160.00	
PAT testing of Christmas lights	£45.60	
Coldingham Gala Committee - Xmas	£150.00	
Total expenditure for the year		<u>£4,900.60</u>
Excess income for the year		<u><u>-£3,290.60</u></u>
Opening balance 1st April 2022		£5,447.83
Excess income for the year		<u>-£3,290.60</u>
Closing balance 31st March 2023		<u><u>£2,157.23</u></u>
Represented by:		
Bank balance 31st March 2023		£2,202.83
Less unrepresented cheque		<u>£45.60</u>
Closing balance 31st March 2023		<u><u>£2,157.23</u></u>

I have examined the accounts of Coldingham Community Council for the year ended 31st March 2023, and from the books and vouchers provided have found them in order

Brenda Alexander
 Brenda Alexander MCIBS
 27th July 2023