UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 4 May 2020

Via Zoom due to Covid-19 Restrictions

**Present** Simon Edwards (Chairman), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Nick Shapowal, Andrew Beveridge, Chris Lewin and Rosalind Birchall

**01.05.20 Apologies**Emma Reid, Penny Wedderburn Scott, Kirsty Hughes, Councillors Heather Anderson and Eric Small

**02.05.20 Minutes from last Meeting (held 20th April 2020 via Zoom)**

The Minutes were agreed.

**03.05.20 Matters Arising from previous minutes (via Email)**No matters arising.

**04.05.20 Lockdown Update**The Chair opened the meeting welcoming those on-line to the Zoom meeting and giving an update on the current Resilient Communities situation: 4 more names added to the Shielding list, weekly phone calls to ensure all those shielding are managing alright, help provided with shopping, collection of prescription and pension. A discussion was had about the wider Covid-19 situation and then to its affect on the Community in particular the take up on the monies provided to help those more directly in need (initial £1000 has been given to the UTCC for this purpose). It was reported that there had been only 3 approaches so far for the £20 per week Broughton Shop Card and it was hoped more of those in need would come forward but it was appreciated folk felt it difficult to ask for help. The Chair reported that it was up to us as to how the money is distributed and should further funds be required we could go back to SBC and request additional support adding that we would be self auditing. He continued to express his concern for those who were not ‘on-line’ and may not be fully aware of what was available from the Communities Assistance Hub (CAH) and may not have even received Sheilding letters although they qualified. The Chair said he would keep an eye on the situation and provide updates as required via email and that we would discuss again at our next Zoom meeting in a fortnight.

**05.05.20 Planning Applications (via Email)**

There are no new Planning Applications.

**06.05.20 Microgrants (via Email)**

The Chair reported that there was one new application for a Microgrant from Broughton in Bloom in order that tubs round the village could be redone and he would be emailing the application out to the committee for them to see. He further advised that the 4 Microgrant applications previously submitted prior to ‘Lockdown’ had not been honoured as they were for physical activities and one for tutoring for 4 young people and these activities had been cancelled due to Covid-19. He will be asking that the applicants reapply. Whilst discussing financial matters, the Chair advised that he had received an email from the Bank to say that all was going well in terms of changing the Account details including those of the Treasurer (Nick Shapowal was confirmed as our new Treasurer at the last meeting), that he had also conducted a successful trial balance and that now he had an ‘incident number’ from the Bank he could ‘chase’ as necessary. After further discussion it was again agreed that we would have 3 x authorised signatories for the Account but that only 2 would be required at any one time this would help with holidays etc plus we could move to On-line Banking with the Account where one person ‘raises’ the action and the other ‘authorises’ it. The Committee were more than happy with this.

**07.05.20 Nominations for Council (AGM May 2020)**

The Chairman reported that the AGM currently tabled for 18 May would be postponed in accordance with advice from SBC. All Community Councils have been informed that as the AGM is very much a public meeting and whilst under the current restrictions of Covid-19 this is not possible, CCs are therefore to continue as they are until such time as a Public Meeting can be held. The Chair agreed to send a Note round about the AGM and also post information on social media (Facebook and the Website). The Chair also expressed a view that he felt in light of no AGM he would still like to publish his report on the activities of the CC over the last year if nothing more than to encourage interest and seek new members to the CC. This he will do via email.

**08.05.20 VE Day 8th May**

The Chair outlined how the Community would be recognising the 75th Anniversary of VE Day explaining that Neil Robinson would be responsible for videoing the small event on Friday taking place at the War Memorial with Alex Docker playing the Pipes at 1500hrs and he was also putting together the Commemorative On-line Service available from 1000hrs on 10th May on the Parish of Upper Tweed Church Services Website.

**09.05.20 Any Other Business**

**Fencing issue.** As discussed at the last meeting Nick again brought up the matter of the fencing at the back of the King George V Playing Fields advising the meeting that it would ‘tidy up’ very nicely. The Chair commented that SBC had issued drawings for the ground that they are responsible for plus the ground that they would be prepared to ‘loose’ if the CC had a use for it, one area referred to was the wooded area at the two sides. It was suggested that this could make a nice communal area suitable for picnic tables. Nick remarked other areas that the council are less prepared to maintain included the area round the War Memorial that Broughton in Bloom had been planting up. There was some discussion about the state of the fencing in the Playing Field, the general grassed area where there seemed to be confusion as to which parts were cut and which were not and it was also discussed about access in the area required for the January Dash runners. On the Chair’s suggestion Nick agreed to do some homework and see what costs might be involved for light ‘refurbishment’ of the area as perhaps a Windfarm grant could be applied for to address the situation.

**10.05.20 Date of next Meeting – Monday 18th May via Zoom**

The Chair will once again send out email invitations (please note his intent is to have three meetings lined up with 5 mins in between so we do not ‘time out’).