

DENHOLM FEUARS' AND HOUSEHOLDERS' COUNCIL
A REGISTERED SCOTTISH CHARITY: CHARITY NO SC042692
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN CHURCH HALL, DENHOLM ON
MONDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER 2023 at 6.00pm

PRESENT:

Council members: Scott Tait (Chair), Chris Ryde (Vice Chair), Doreen Biggar (Secretary/Treasurer), Rae Cleghorn & George Thom.

INVITES: Community Council Chair – Gwen Crew

APOLOGIES: None

MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 4th JULY 2023 & 21st AUGUST 2023:

Meeting 4th July 2023 were approved by Chris Ryde, seconded by Rae Cleghorn

Meeting 21st August 2023 were approved by Rae Cleghorn, seconded by George Thom

MATTERS ARISING:

Plot 1: Thanks to George for organising the Justice Team who, over a 4 week period tidied up the area around Plot 1, Bottle Bank and relative areas. Also Charlie McCrerie for collecting and disposing of debris.

Suggestion that SBC be contacted to see if they would also cut area under Trees at Fishermans' Car Park so that perhaps another Picnic Table could be placed there.

Discussed the Bottle Bank and who is responsible for maintaining. SBC to be contacted.

Plot 3: As there was only one interested party for the tenancy of using this ground as a garden. They were approved and agreed by Council.

SIGNAGE ON GREEN: Scott stated that sign in need of repair had been erected with help from "Awards for All". It was suggested that Old Sign be removed and a New Sign be erected. D&DCC to be approached regarding funding of this.

LEYDEN MONUMENT AND RAILINGS: Chris and contacted Regional Archaeology and was awaiting an answer from them. He had also contacted Historic Environment Scotland who would not comment on ownership. Would money be available from Wind Farm to help with costs related to this? Also, South Bridge Tower to be investigated.

TREES: On Chris's advice Secretary contacted 3 companies regarding inspection of Trees round the Green, wee Green, Quoting Haugh and Fishermans' Car Park. The outcome of this was that SBC are responsible for inspection on a 5-year basis. It was brought by this that a survey had been undertaken by SBC and discussion with them concluded that they take responsibility. Any issues with the trees should be reported to SBC Parks Department. Secretary to ask for a copy of Survey.

SCIO: As meeting with Fiona Benton was cancelled by her. Council members to meet with Frances Stuart to discuss specifics on the way forward.

BONFIRE: As there were insufficient helpers available the decision was made that there would be NO BONFIRE this year. There are others for local people to attend.

CAR BOOT SALES: These raised £350 for the 2 we held with donations of £75 from Guthrie Run and £50 from Hizzy Run received from organisers of these events. Dates for 2024 to be discussed in detail at future meetings.

EV CHARGERS: George to contact Dale Ploughman from D&DCC to get contact so that our Proof of Ownership can be forwarded to them.

Minutes of Meeting held on 25th September 2023 cont'd:

Gwen Crew joined the meeting on behalf of D&DCC at 7.00pm

Issues were raised regarding ownership of the path round Green on South Side. It would appear that when the pavement was upgraded SBC adopted this. Part of the ongoing problem was whether or not the residents on Main Street had the right to park on pavement. We have agreed to be pro-active with Community Council in finding a solution with SBC regarding Speed Calming Measures.

Also, there is a problem with Collet Lorries diverting through village. Please report any sightings and if possible take Registration Number and note times and date.

Gwen also mentioned that regarding EV Charging Points it would be helpful if proof of ownership could be produced. See above.

It was discussed that we should contact Stuart Marshall, Council representative for area regarding Bottle Bank.

Gwen before she left at 7.45pm thanked the Feuars for allowing her to attend the meeting.

The meeting continued:

RENTALS AND COURT CASE:

The outcome of Court Case still awaited. Plot 3 now has tenant. Discussion on Plot 1 to continue.

COMMUNITY GARDEN:

As to date there has been no interest shown so the Feuars Council are taking no further action.

DEAN UPDATE:

Chris reported that Cameras (Squirrel Traps) will be placed in the Dean. A presentation of this could be given to the School by Graeme Wilson. Also signage for the Dean could be 3 signs, placed 1 on the Green, 2 the same placed just inside the gate, 3 after the first bridge sign highlighting the various woodland species found in the Dean. Quotes are being sought. Funding could be through Community Council and could include costs for benches.

Borders Forest Trust has offered help from their volunteers to help with some clearing work required. We should also find out from School regarding their current use.

Date of next meet to be confirmed.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.