Minute of the meeting Innerleithen and District Community Council Meeting 3rd December 2018

Present – Marshall Douglas (Chairman), Jim Calder, Gordon Daly, Susan Meikle, George Brown, Councillors Stuart Bell, Robin Tatler, Peeblesshire News reporter.

Apologies from Jackie Couchman

The chairman welcomed everyone to meeting at 7.15 pm.

1 Public Forum: no members of the public present.

2 Minutes for November meeting: approved by Jim Calder, 2nd by Gordon Daly.

3 Items of AOCB: Yellow lines haven’t been reinstated.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes: Hall street car park still waiting for improvements to be funded through “small schemes”.

Gordon Daly had contacted the music festival organisers. The proposed dates are 16th to 18th August 2019.

Tweedlove dates are to be 7th to 9th June 2019.

Now that the resurfacing of the High Street has been completed some additional bollards are to be installed to prevent parking on the pavements.

Signage for the new footpath between Innerleithen and Walkerburn to be funded from the “Quality of life Scheme”. Councillors awaiting estimated costs.

5 Police report: No major incidents of note. There are ongoing issues with various scams; never give out your bank details to telephone callers.

6 SBC councillors report:
Councillor Tatler: The 2nd round of the Locality Bid Fund applications will close 7/1/2019. Applications can be made for new and existing for up to £15,000 for a constituted group and £5000 for an unconstituted group. Funding is available for staffing costs. Voting will be in April 2019 by paper ballot at a special event only or digitally on the SBC website.

Calls to the police101 line are monitored by the Community action team, this is one of the ways that their activity is directed.

The next Area Partnership meeting takes place on Wednesday 16th January 2019 in St Ronans Community Centre.
7 Planning Report: The Main Issues Report (the start of the next Local Development Plan) has identified the field next to St Ronans Health Centre for use as “mixed development”. The report also identifies a large field site at Eshiels for housing development. The report is out for consultation and community council are asked for a response.

8 Mountain Bike Innovation Centre: Ed Shoote from “Mountain Biking Scotland” gave a brief talk highlighting some ideas and opportunities for the town. He is working with the “Tweed Valley Stakeholders” to develop new sustainable business for the town.

Innerleithen would be the hub centred around Caerlee Mill for incubating existing and new business opportunities. Napier University are involved in research around mountain biking. He stated that there are requirements for office space, gym space, nursery provision, climbing wall, toilets and showers and better parking around the town.

Existing trails need investment for maintenance, and development of new trails requires proper funding. There is to be consultation early in 2019.

Emma Guy from “Tweeddale Tourism BID” talked about 18 month tourism development plan. She is helping promote walking, biking, arts and crafts and history.

The project is 5 year plan and funding will be awarded by majority vote. It is supported by Visit Scotland.

9 Community Council Website: The existing site is quite old and will be moved to a free server. The site is shared with The Community Trust and would, hopefully, only be down for a short period.

10 Correspondence: None.

11 Thanks and congratulations to:
✓ Kids Innerleithen Youth Theatre for Annie.
✓ Ride lines: Scottish Mountain Bike Awards 2018 MTB Provider winner
✓ Cheyne Group

12 AOCB: The recent resurfacing of the high street was completed quickly and with minimal disruption. Some yellow lines still to be reinstated.

Next meeting 7.15pm Monday 7th January 2019 Council Chambers