

Ettrick & Yarrow Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 5th August 2024 in St Marys Hall, Cappercleuch

Present: Kirsty Irving (KI) (Secretary), Alison Renwick (AR) (Chair), John Wildish (JW) (Vice-Chair), Jane Telfer (JT), John Davidson (JD), Jonathon Rowley (JR), Councillor Leah Douglas (LD), Councillor Caroline Cochrane (CC) and 15 members of the public

1. Apologies

Miranda Alcock (MA) (Treasurer), Elizabeth Williamson (EW), Karen O'Brien-Barret (KO), Paul Scott (PS), Councillor Elaine Thornton-Nicol (ET), PC John Murray

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3rd June 2024 were proposed by JW and seconded by JD.

3. Matters arising (Not on agenda)

Nether Phawhope Woodland Creation – KI has contacted Andrew Dixon from RDS Forestry who has now confirmed he will be contacting local residents directly.

4. Police Report

No report through for July as yet, June report only showed 1 item within the valleys in Ettrickbridge.

AR stated it was very disappointing that there again was no police presence, CC stated this is the same for other Community Council meetings and is down to lack of resources.

One resident highlighted that a professional photographer has been advertising and taking pictures of motorbikes just above Cappercleuch. This is encouraging speeding and escalates noise pollution.

Action: KI to again invite police presence at next meeting

5. Councillors Reports - ET-N

CC - New bus service for Valleys, Lilliesleaf etc, uptake for usage has been slow, CC encouraged anyone to use the service to ensure it remains. BGH may be added to route.

Quarterly Selkirk newsletter in process of pulling together next issue.

6. Financial Report

Balance as at 1st August 2024 was £13,507.74

Expenditure over the last 3 months include;

£580.05 has been used to maintain local paths (St Marys Ring of The Loch, Ettrickbridge & Yarrow)

£1475 was granted to EYCDC to re print James Hogg booklets and replacement pads were purchased for defibrillator which was £142.99

Invoice from Boston Hall for last meeting to be paid.

7. Selkirk and the Valleys presentation & update

AR asked Councillor CC to update the meeting on Selkirk and Valleys Placemaking progress.

£7.3m was awarded to Hawick, Jedburgh, Eyemouth & Galashiels through the Borderlands growth deal to come up with ways to regenerate the towns. This has now been rolled out to all towns within SBC area.

Consultations have taken place in Selkirk which were very well supported, with a lot of suggestions as to how to improve the town.

5 categories;

- People & well being
- Tourism
- Business development
- Natural built environment
- Arts, culture & heritage

Suggestions have been submitted, eg. Developing more along the riverside, more housing, leisure facilities, bus services for valleys etc.

More information can be found on Selkirk Community Council website
[Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council | Background \(selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk\)](https://selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk)

8. Scottish Borders Climate Action Network – Caitlin Hume

Caitlin explained that there are 23 Climate Action networks in Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government and has the aim of supporting community-led projects.

SBCAN will facilitate learning and development through the provisions of training and support where needed, ensuring a joined up approach to tackling climate change at a regional level.

If you have any question, queries or projects you would like to explore please contact sbcan@sup.org.uk

Also please visit the website: [SBCAN](https://sbcan.org.uk)

9. Tour O' The Borders

AR confirmed a closed road event will take place in 2025 along the same route, Peebles – Moffat- Gordon Arms – Peebles.

Work is ongoing supporting residents and businesses along the route.

£1000 promised to EYCC still has not appeared. **Action: CC to follow up**

10. Ettrick Flooding

AR spoke to Jamie Stewart (Director of River Tweed Commission) who is waiting on a meeting with SEPA.

SBC hoping to complete environmental survey, in mean time hoping to complete permanent repairs to water banking in next 2-3 weeks.

Funding is limited but hoping to complete as much as possible.

River Tweed Commision are keen to understand why the river is getting blocked before any work undertaken to ensure long term result.

Action: JD to update on progress

11. St Marys Loch update

AR hoping to pull together a separate meeting to include all businesses and residents affected by the camping issues, SBC to be invited to attend also.

Action: AR to follow up and update

12. Update from EYCDC

Monthly newsletter is now distributed, if anyone does not receive a copy of this and wishes to please do get in touch.

13. EYCC Website

[Ettrick & Yarrow Community Council \(ettrickandyarrowcc.scot\)](http://ettrickandyarrowcc.scot)

JW is up and running but experiencing some technical issues which is work in progress. JW has had some training with the web designer to allow us to upload documents but this has proved more difficult than than first thought.

AR asked if anyone has any experience of using Word Press to please get in touch.

14. Planning Applications

East Lodge at Generals Bridge, Selkirk undertaking major works.

All applications can be viewed at the following web address:

[Weekly List \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](http://scotborders.gov.uk)

Search by Ettrick & Yarrow Community Council and by date.

15. Correspondence

- Update received from SSE Renewable re proposed Brown Rig Wind Farm, still in early development stage, continuing to collate data from the MET mast and will re-engage with the community in late 2025 at the earliest.

- Update from Muir Hall Energy re Teviot Head Wind farm to invite EYCC and EYCDC to collaborative meeting to discuss funds that may be available to communities and how to ensure best practise in managing this rather than using Foundation Scotland. – **Action: AR to update**
- Email received from Fred Olsen who are developing Scawd Law Wind Farm (NE of Innerleithen) with an invitation to EYCC to attend a Community Liaison Group meeting to discuss further changes to the proposed development. Meetings will be online. **Action: KI to circulate to Community Councillors**

16. AOCB

Signage around St Marys Loch need to be more clear, particularly around Cappercleuch to ensure pedestrian safety. Also some signage is hidden due to overgrown foliage.

Dates of future meetings, all at 7pm;

Monday 7th October 2024, Kirkhope Parish Hall

Monday 2nd December 2024, Yarrowford Hall

Monday 3rd February 2025, Kirkhope Parish Hall

Monday 7th April 2025, Yarrow Feus Hall

Monday 2nd June 2025, St Marys Hall, Cappercleuch (AGM & Meeting to follow)