

Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council

Annual General Meeting 14 March 2024

Draft Minutes

Location: The meeting was held at Hermitage Hall starting at 18:45

Those present were:

Community Councillors Geoffrey Kolbe (Chairman, GK), Ian Hunter (Secretary, IH), Martin Steed (Treasurer, MS)

There were also 10 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Ward Councillors Watson McAteer and Annette Smart, Community Councillor Rosie Webster.

2. Minutes of the AGM of 11 May 2023

MS moved that the minutes be agreed as a true and accurate account of the meeting. IH seconded the motion, which was carried.

3. Chairman's report of the previous year.

GK read out his report, which is appended.

4. Treasurer's Report.

MS spoke to his report, which is appended. GK moved that the report be accepted as a true and accurate statement of the accounts. IH seconded and the motion was carried.

5. Re-affirmation of Community Councillors to abide by the Community Councillors Code of Conduct

All Community Councillors have signed a statement, "We agree to abide by the Scottish Borders Council Code of Conduct for Community Councils", which is appended

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business

Chairman's report AGM

This has been a mixed year for the Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council.

On a positive note, we are making progress with our Community Plan and Place Plan, which will give direction to the efforts of this and future Community Councils for this area, and will be incorporated into the next Scottish Borders Council Local Development Plan, the creation of which is now underway.

The numbers of people attending Community Council meetings is generally increasing slowly, showing an increasing involvement and interest by the local community and this can only be seen as a good thing.

We are making progress with a number of projects which improve the resilience of the community such as resilience sheds and defibrillators.

On the negative side, we are now only four Community Councillors in this Community Council, whereas there were five last year. Despite much effort to co-opt or recruit new Community Councillors, these efforts have not been successful. This, of course, is not just a problem for this Community Council, but for all Community Councils. It is never-the-less frustrating that people are inhibited or do not feel up to the task of being a Community Councillor, even when it is recognised that if we do not take part in the processes that shape the landscape and socio-economics of our area - somebody else will do it for us who will not have our best interests at heart.

It is concerning too that despite community funds being available for projects to improve our local community through Pot 'A' and Pot 'B', there has been very little uptake from members of the community in coming forward with ideas and ways to spend this cash.

To end, I would like to thank the work that the Community Councillors have done on behalf of the community in the past year - and our Ward Councillors who have responded diligently and quickly to our pleas for advice and help.

Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council
Financial Report as at 14th March 2024

Bank Balance as at 31st March 2023
 Reported at AGM on 11th May 2023 £3,216.65

Income:

Scottish Borders Council Grant	£540
Hermitage Hall Hire Reimbursement	£144.97
Coronation Contribution from SBC	£500
	£1,184.97

£4,401.62

Expences:

Coronation Celebration	Chq 30	£594.91
Notice Boards	Chq 32	£895.99
Hire of Hermitage Hall 1	Chq 31	£55.88
Hire of Hermitage Hall 2	Chq 35	£65.40
2022/23 Insurance Premium	Chq 33	£84.00
2023/24 Insurance Premium	Chq 36	£179.20
First Aid Training	Chq 34	£75.00

Bank Balance as at 11th January 2024 £2,451.24

Ringfenced Funds:

1. ULHCC resolution 03 December 2018
 Formation of Community Trust £250
 Less expended £128.16 £121.84

2. ULHCC resolution 18 November 2019
 and 15 February 2021
 Interpretation Boards £750

3. ULHCC resolution 08 March 2022
 Resilience Equipment £250

4. SBC Resilience Support £1,000

Total £2,121.84

Unrestricted funds available for ULHCC activities: £329.40

Martin Steed
 Treasurer

Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council

"We agree to abide by the Scottish Borders Council Code of Conduct for Community Councils"

Geoffrey Kolbe *Geoffrey Kolbe*

Rosie Webster *Rosie Webster*

Ian Hunter *Ian Hunter*

Martin Steed *Martin Steed*

Annual General Meeting, Dated 14 March 2024