



# Eddleston & District Community Council

## Minutes

### Meeting 27 January 2026 at 7.30pm in Eddleston Village Hall



Present CC: GH (Chair/sec), JO (Treasurer), CMcD, MA, RT.

Present Others: Cllr Drummond Begg, CD, JD, DW-S, DD, GW.

Apologies: AB, AW-S, KK.

#### 1. Welcome.

#### 2. Reports and Correspondence

- a. Police. [November Report](#), [December Report](#). PC Gary Beaumont joined by Phone.
  - i. There was a break-in on the Belfield estate in December. Not relevant in this case but, PC Beaumont made some safety suggestions. Beware allowing access to your social media that may show you are on holiday. Put a chain around patio door handles when away.
  - ii. Data marking is available for cars and large machinery. It allows vehicle to be identified by transponder at about 40 meters. Cost £100 per car.
  - iii. Free bike security marking is available in Peebles outside Eastgate Theatre on 7 February, 10-12am
- b. Treasurer. Balance £1328 including £1000 from Leithenwater for church upgrade. £500 from footpath grant spend still to be recovered.

#### 3. Actions from last meeting.

- a. Tree fallen in Elibank Park. NTR.
- b. Website improvement. NTR.
- c. Orchard Bench Plaque. Plaque available. Waiting for bench to be fixed down. NTR -JO
- d. Trees overhanging footpath on A703 near bridge. Work party delayed till better weather. -GH

#### 4. Approval of Minutes. Minutes from 25 November 2025 meeting discussed and agreed.

#### 5. Planning Applications.

- a. Bowbank. Still issues outstanding and no enforcement by SBC. Enquiries in progress. -KK
- b. Process required to enable reply outwith CC meetings. KK and JO to discuss and report back to CC. Option for KK to access EDCC email (or set up new one) for send/receive to avoid private email address.

#### 6. Community Survey.

- a. [Results of survey](#) available. 34% of the adult population responded. I feel that it is disappointing that we didn't get more engagement, however, by survey standards it is good! This is a representative sample that can be used in any future grant applications etc.
- b. SBC will be sent a copy but no other action required at present.
- c. There was a lack of response to contact list survey. It was suggested that people did not realise that they needed to fill it in if they were on the old list. I will re-advertise the need for all residents to complete it if they still wish to receive information from the CC.

**ACTION REQUIRED** click <https://tinyurl.com/EddlestonContact>

## 7. Future of School Site.

- a. There was a Closure process consultation meeting 21 January in the Village Hall. It was well attended and covered timescales and rezoning of school catchment areas. The CC made clear its concern regarding the lack of maintenance being done on the school building, and the detrimental effect that this is having on the building and its contents. It appears that, since the meeting, oil has been delivered for the school heating system.
- b. The SBC consultation period ends on 13 February. The Council decision will probably be made in May 2026.
- c. The school will possibly be used for storage during renovation of Peebles Chambers Institute. This could delay any possible decision on its future use for a further 18 months.
- d. 70% of Eddlestone survey respondents (97 respondents) agreed that the Community Council should attempt to take community ownership/ lease of the school. Only 12% of respondents did not think this should occur.
- e. We will now formally inform SBC that the community is interested in investigating Community Asset Transfer and need to be kept informed of all council actions regarding the site. -GH
- f. MAPA are still very interested in using part of the school and have submitted some information on what they may consider. [MAPA letter](#), [MAPA community events](#)

## 8. Windfarms.

- a. Bowbeat. Foundation Scotland still working on fund set-up. Meeting planned for 10 February to hopefully sign MoUs and start recruiting fund panel members.
- b. Leithenwater. MoUs expected soon for community signing. Awaiting invoices from church for renovation using the £1000 provided.
- c. Cloich community ownership consultation 11 February 2026 in Village Hall at 1845. [Flyers](#) have been distributed and it is advertised on FB.
- d. 79% of Eddlestone survey respondents support the Community Council in investigating shared ownership opportunities of local windfarms. Only 7% of respondents do not support this.

## 9. Other Projects

- a. Need for EDCC secretary. NTR
- b. Village Website maintenance. NTR
- c. **Contacts and mailing lists.** The current mailing list will eventually be scrapped as it is very out-of-date. If you wish to continue to get information from the CC then you must sign up here.

**\*\*\*ACTION REQUIRED\*\*\* [Update Your Contact Details](#) \*\*\*ACTION REQUIRED\*\*\***

## 10. Open Floor / AoB

- a. There is a tree down in the woodland opposite the Horseshoe. JD to contact Walkers.
- b. Eddlestone Water path benches have not appeared yet. RT to investigate.
- c. [Highland Unified Statement](#). On 17 January, a meeting was held for reps from Scottish Borders CCs to discuss support for the Highland Unified statement. They asked for it to be discussed at a CC meeting to decide if the community would sign up to it. We discussed it on 27 January at the meeting. Whilst we agree with aspects of the statement, we feel that pausing all projects is unrealistic and would severely hamper Scotland's ability to meet climate targets. We feel that it would be extremely beneficial to have an overall national plan, especially for grid capacity and connections, and also encourage close involvement with CCs. A majority of our community are supportive of local windfarm development. We are content with the consultation regarding local projects. We feel that we cannot sign up to the statement in its current form. We would require significant amendment, which we believe is not an option that is being considered at this time!

## 11. Date of next meetings. Fourth Tuesday of Month at 7.30pm in Village Hall.

- **Tuesday 24 February 2026.**
- **Tuesday 24 March 2026.**
- **Tuesday 28 April 2026.**
- **Tuesday 26 May 2026.**
- **Tuesday 23 June 2026.**