



Eddleston & District Community Council

Minutes

Meeting 24 February 2026 at 7.30pm in Eddleston Village Hall



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

Present Others: Cllr Eric Small, PC Gary Beaumont, JD, JMcC, DD, GW.

Apologies: AB, MA, AW-S, KK.

1. Welcome.

2. Reports and Correspondence

- a. Police. [December Report](#), [January Report](#). PC Gary Beaumont took questions and briefed us on recent house break-in, near Waterheads, at 4pm on a Saturday. It was noted that a vehicle had previously been seen and a person taking photos, possibly of the property. Gary encouraged residents to report any intelligence to the police. [Police Scotland Reporting Form](#) - for issues of a non-serious nature. If your enquiry is urgent or you wish to report an ongoing incident please telephone 101. Phone 999 if your matter requires an immediate or emergency response. He is very willing to provide security advice to any resident. CCTV is best, and ideally, it should be notified as present with a sign. It was suggested that it might be useful to have a community session to discuss. Initially, this may be at Bite & Blether at a date to be arranged. -JD, Gary Beaumont.
- b. Treasurer. £2000 in account. Including £1000 Windfarm grant for church awaiting receipts on completion.

3. Actions from last meeting.

- a. Tree fallen in Elibank Park. Still there. Reported again -GH
- b. Eddleston Water path benches. Signage should be up in May. Decisions still being made about benches.
- c. Tree down in wood opposite Horseshoe. Landowner notified and assessing.
- d. Orchard Bench fixing and Plaque. NTR.
- e. Trees overhanging footpath on A703 near bridge. Council appears to have cut back trees.
- f. Responses to planning issues outwith CC meetings. KK to follow up.
- g. Contacts and mailing lists update. Response rate, and how to implement? Decision pending.
- h. Website improvement. NTR.
- i. Formally inform SBC that the community is interested in investigating CAT. Done. -GH

4. Approval of Minutes. Minutes from 27 January 2026 meeting discussed and agreed.

5. Planning.

- a. Bowbank Close. SBC is not ensuring that the developer complies with conditions. Numerous emails have been exchanged but no enforcement action carried out. A complaint has been raised. -KK
- b. Cloich Forest Windfarm. A query was raised regarding private water supply contamination. The CC believe that this issue is now with the Scottish government but will contact planning to check that it is included as a condition of consent. -JO

6. Future of School Site.

- a. Current situation. SBC review complete 13 Feb 26. Workers on site to regarding library museum storage options. Oil delivered for heating system.
- b. H&S. Minor vandalism on site continues. Children observed sledging on roof during recent snow! Reported to SBC. There is a need for better monitoring/CCTV to avoid potential for injury.
- c. HM Inspectorate of Education in Scotland report on Scottish Borders Council's consultation. 3 week review ongoing. He visited Newlands and spoke to parents and requested contact with CC. GH discussed closure with inspector on 25 February. Emphasised loss to community of local school, severe mismanagement leading to loss of trust of parents, need for option of dual zoning Newland/Kingsland, lack of care/maintenance of facility during mothball period, waste of valuable resources that have been left in the building.
- d. GH contacted Community Energy Scotland regarding possible sustainability improvements in the event of any community asset transfer. Specifically, Solar panels, battery, heat pump costs and possible grants etc. This is information gathering only and does not presume any decision on the site.
- e. Ideas/contacts or possible actions are sought from any interested parties, specifically those who may wish to rent space in the future.

7. Windfarms.

- a. [Bowbeat Community Benefit MoU now signed](#). Please read if possible.
- b. Volunteers required for fund distribution panel. Volunteer Panel members will meet four times a year to help make decisions on funding applications. Formal recruiting shortly.
- c. Highland Unified Statement. This statement, which is trying to halt any new energy infrastructure until a holistic plan is in place, seems to be gaining traction in the Borders. The CC restated its decision not to support it without significant amendment.

8. Other Projects

- a. Need for EDCC secretary. NTR
- b. **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 please reply to this email if you have not already done so. *****ACTION REQUIRED*****

9. Open Floor / AoB

- a. Cllr Eric Small pointed out that council tax will increase by 8.5%. Lothian moving to a 3 week bin collection cycle – SBC observing!
- b. SBC are aware of road condition issues but are budget limited. More reporting will lead to a better chance of action. [Please report a pothole or other road and pavement issue here](#).

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

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