

Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 6 February 2019
Time: 7.00 pm
Location: Church Hall, Leithen Road, Innerleithen

AGENDA

Doors open 6.30 pm for tea and coffee – meeting starts at 7.00 pm

1.	Welcome and Introductions
2.	Feedback from Meeting on 7 November 2018 (Pages 3 - 8) Copy Minute from meeting on 7 November 2018 . (Copy attached.)
3.	Draft Tweeddale Locality Plan (Pages 9 - 20) A facilitated discussion on the Locality Plan for Tweeddale. (Copy draft Plan attached.) Discussion to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whether you agree with the priorities you have raised through Area Partnership meetings? Has anything been missed?• What would success look like?• How can we work in partnership together to achieve this?• How do I get involved? Further information on local data and statistics .
4.	Locality Bid Fund Update
5.	Small Schemes/Quality of Life Consider Schemes.
6.	Other Business
7.	Open Forum Opportunity to raise local matters.
8.	Date of Next Meeting 27 March 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in West Linton Primary School.

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
TWEEDDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP**

MINUTES of Meeting of the TWEEDDALE
AREA PARTNERSHIP held in the Burgh
Hall, Peebles on Wednesday, 7 November
2018 at 7.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chairman), H. Anderson, K. Chapman, S. Haslam, E. Small, together with 17 representatives from Partner Organisations, Community Councils and members of the public.

Apologies:- Councillors S. Bell

In Attendance:- Chief Financial Officer , Communities and Partnerships Manager, Locality Development Co-ordinator, Neighbourhood Area Manager, Democratic Services Team Leader.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the fifth meeting of the Tweeddale Area Partnership and outlined the programme for the evening.

2. FEEDBACK FROM MEETING ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2018

The Minute of the meeting of the Tweeddale Area Partnership held on 5 September 2018 had been circulated along with a summary of the discussion. With reference to paragraph 5.1 it was noted that the 12 week consultation on the Main Issues Report had now commenced and there were events in the Burgh hall on 26 November and the Village Centre, West Linton on 28 November. The Chairman highlighted the main points which had been raised at the previous meeting.

3. THEME: COUNCIL BUDGET - ENGAGEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES 2019/20

3.1 The Chairman welcomed David Robertson, Chief Financial Officer and Suzi Douglas, Financial Services Manager who gave a presentation on the Scottish Borders Council Budget for 2019/2024. The 5 year plan 2013/14 to 2017/18 had delivered permanent recurrent savings of over £35m and further in year savings of £8.8m. The existing planned savings in 2019/20 included contract efficiencies, energy efficiency measures, procurement savings and service reviews eg day services, waste and teacher allocations. The easy reductions had already been made and future savings would rely on greater use of technology to reduce costs and redesign services. The Council could not continue to deliver everything they did now in the same way and might need to reduce the scope and scale of service delivery. 2019/20 was the 2nd year of the 5 year plan agreed in 2018/19 which required savings of £32m. The Council had planned for reductions over the longer term, invested in transformation, and avoided the need for the levels of cuts seen elsewhere but there was lots still to do with greater challenges ahead. The council had to remain financially sustainable and over the next 5 years it was estimated that £32m would need to be saved from the projected spend of £1.3 billion. Meeting this challenge required forward thinking, innovative and focus on delivering an ambitious change programme. There were a number of challenges facing the Council. There was less money to fund public services and income was not keeping pace with real increases in prices and meanwhile demands on services were growing – e.g. increasing numbers of older people. The infrastructure of the region required significant investment. There were still significant pockets of deprivation across the region and hidden poverty in communities and the Council needed to increase opportunity and reduce inequality for all in the Borders. Mr Robertson outlined where the Council's funding came from and how it was allocated across Council services in terms of both capital and revenue. In order to modernise the Council needed to make significant savings in what the Council bought, invest in new digital technology to reduce costs, ensure that assets were used as

efficiently as possible, ensure that the Council had a capable, motivated workforce that adopted new ways of working and that was flexible enough to deliver savings when and where they were required 7 days a week, 365 days a year, invest in prevention strategies, grow the economy of the Borders and support all people to live well. Over the next five year the Council planned to implement the following:-

- Design and deliver as many Council services online as possible to maximise the use of digital technology
- Build the digital skills of Borders communities and staff
- Develop customer advice and support
- Drive out waste and inefficiency, cut red tape and provide better value for money
- Explore different models of service delivery
- Reduce the amount of property the Council owned and operated
- Invest in the roads infrastructure in a planned, sustainable way
- Redesign waste services

Mr Robertson also outlined the plans to support the aims of independent achieving people, a thriving economy with opportunities for everyone and empowered vibrant communities.

3.2 Having been given the background the Groups then had 20 minutes facilitated discussion to provide their views on the proposed approach to the budget. Sheets were supplied which providing additional information on council services together with a short series of questions on which views were sought on how the Council could modernise and operate and invest more efficiently in the future.

3.3 Following the discussion each table gave feedback and the points raised included:-

- Better aids and adaptations to keep people at home
- Waste recycling efficiencies
- Sell land for commercial development
- Communities doing more in the longer term
- No service reductions or cost increases
- Increase the level of council tax
- More housing in small communities to increase sustainability e.g. education provision
- More economic development and support for small businesses
- Innovations in roads maintenance e.g. pothole repair
- Use of digital meetings – e.g. replace need to travel to Galashiels to sign on
- Have specific staff available in local offices at set times to allow face to face meetings
- More services available on-line
- Opportunities for property consolidation
- Bin collection efficiencies
- Replace mobile libraries with e-readers
- More cross boundary working with other local authorities
- Increase planning fees

The Chairman thanked Mr Robertson and Mrs Douglas for attending the meeting and it was agreed that a copy of the presentation would be circulated with the Minute of the Meeting.

4. **LOCALITIES BID FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL**

In response to the decision by Council to appoint additional Members to serve on the Assessment Panel, Councillor Tatler, seconded by Councillor Haslam, moved that Councillor Anderson be appointed and this was approved.

5. **LOCALITIES BID FUND – UPDATE ON CURRENT FUNDING ROUND**

Ms. Shona Smith, SBC Communities and Partnership Manager, advised that following the first round of the fund 15 projects costing £206,000 had been successful. 1 Bid was subsequently withdrawn as the project could not go ahead. The second round had been launched with amended criteria. However, there were insufficient bids to allow a public vote so a report would be considered by Council on 29 November 2018. The Assessment Panel were to meet to look at new criteria with a planned re-launch in January 2019 followed by voting in April. All 29 applicants would be advised and would be given the opportunity to re-submit their application.

6. **OPEN FORUM**

No Items were raised.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 **Centenary Fields**

The Neighbourhood Area Manager explained the aims of the Centenary Fields initiative to commemorate World War 1 and advised that 3 sites in the Borders were being recommended for nomination as a Centenary Field and this included Lower Green, West Linton. Centenary Fields (CF) was a partnership programme led by Fields in Trust and the Royal British Legion to commemorate World War 1 through protecting green spaces. It was launched by HRH The Earl of Strathearn in 2014 to mark the centenary of World War 1 and would close in 2018. CF aimed to protect at least one site (containing WW1 war memorial(s), and used for active recreation/sport/play) in each local authority area across the UK which met specific criteria relating to ownership, accessibility, land use, management and wartime heritage. This was aimed at a creating a long-lasting legacy of WW1, protecting and promoting green space for recreation, increasing physical activity, promoting social cohesion and improving the environment. Upon a successful application to Fields in Trust for Centenary Field status, sites were subject to a Minute of Agreement, similar to those currently in place on all King George V Playing Fields. This safeguarded the sites for recreational use as protected green space. Upon designation, a commemorative plaque (supplied by CF) was installed. The site name would not change and there were no funds associated with CF status. Designation as a Centenary Field would not only protect the historic and conservation value of these sites, but would also strengthen the case to attract external funding. The management of these sites would be retained by the local authority. This proposal had been approved by the Council's Executive Committee yesterday subject to consultation with the Area Partnership. Councillor Anderson advised that this was supported by the local Community. Mr Hedley undertook to report back on the outcome of the application.

7.2 **Small Schemes**

The Neighbourhood Area Manager proposed the following schemes:-

Location	Proposal	Estimated cost	Budget
Innerleithen	To Install pedestrian bollards on the north side of the High Street	£1,250	Small Scheme
West Linton	Purchase and installation of WW1 Commemorative Seat	£1,000	Quality of Life
West Linton	Reconstruction of wall and creation of footway @ junction of A702 & B7059	£8,000	Small Scheme

The Members present agreed to approve the Schemes listed above.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Tweeddale Area Partnership was scheduled for Wednesday, 16 January 2019 (Note: subsequently changed to 6 February 2019). The venue would be in Innerleithen. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting concluded at 8.55 p.m.

Scottish Borders Council Budget			
Question/Issue/Challenge	Proposed Solution (opportunities for area partnerships/communities?)	Consequence/Impact (positive and negative)	Priority rating
<p>Efficiencies Can we do things in a more streamlined way?</p>	<p>Digital innovation- remote in to meetings with the council. Make use of existing technology. Have staff available at certain times of the day/week to make contacting services easier. Text reminders for GP, dentist appointments are good. Better way to fill in pot holes- 3 lorries? Invest in equipment being the best & most efficient it can be. Recycling/ different options Country wide solution to recycling? Increasing aids + adaption + providing info on local services after hospital discharge</p>	<p>Recycling targets- can more be done? If recycling often sent to landfill or to other countries? Difficult to sort good plastic from bad, zero waste Scotland should be placed</p>	
<p>Identifying priorities Are there services, which in your view, should be prioritised?</p>	<p>Education spend a priority- keeping rural schools are a issue, need more business & housing to keep small schools sustainable. Schools Reduce opening hours of libraries/kindles? Other digital solutions?? Increase the provision of online books Can people be negotiated/ rebalanced Halls- occupancy rates? Reduction of library services</p>		
<p>Different models of delivering services Are there services which we could deliver differently, or that communities could take responsibility for to maintain them in the long term?</p>	<p>Economic development- Business going to Edinburgh from Tweedbank Need national innovation for improved road maintenance. Don't put your bins out if they are only a quarter full? Increase volunteering opportunities nut don't know how to do this locally? Example of grass cutting- communities cd</p>		
<p>Increased charges to service users Should we be charging more for some services?</p>	<p>Charging for elderly- dental care Higher council tax Small rises have to be sustainable</p>	<p>Needs good PR</p>	

Tweeddale Area Partnership

Other funding options What services in your area do you value most which could be retained, expanded or enhanced through the use of additional funds?	Sections of community spaces by businesses, groups. (ie flowers at roundabouts etc) Spend the welfare fund – SBC is lowest in Scotland	Council culture? Why? Staff training	

Scottish Borders

Tweeddale Locality Plan

January 2019 *Draft*

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Introduction

Welcome to the Tweeddale Locality Plan. This plan builds on the Scottish Borders Community Plan and sets out:

- The priorities for improving the area over the next five years
- The actions that will be carried out
- The commitment to work in partnership and use our shared resourcesⁱ in the most effective way to reduce inequality

ⁱ **Resources** – this could be: funding (e.g. budget or grants), people (e.g. staff of volunteers) or assets (e.g. land, buildings or equipment)

This plan will help those who are in greatest need, and focuses on what action can be taken to improve the quality of life for those who live in Tweeddale.

In bringing together this plan we have asked, and will continue to ask, local people across Tweeddale what would make the area better.

This plan is structured around four themes:

- Economy, Skills & Learning
- Health, Care & Wellbeing
- Safer Communities
- Environment & Place

ⁱ **Area Partnership** – bringing together organisations, groups, individuals and businesses from across the locality to collectively work together

Community planning partners – those organisations who are taking forward the Scottish Borders Community Plan

Local service providers – those organisations who are providing services locally (e.g. GPs, Community Nurses, Business Advisors, etc.)

From the Area Partnershipⁱ meetings to date we have gathered all the comments and feedback which you gave and prioritised what you told us is important to you and what will make a difference to the lives of people in the Tweeddale area.

Communities, community planning partnersⁱ and local service providersⁱ will need to work together in partnership to plan and deliver better services that meet the needs of the people who use them.

At a Borders-wide level this is done through the Scottish Borders Community Plan and the Community Planning Partnership. The key actions are detailed at the end of this plan.

At a Locality level this is done through the Tweeddale Locality Plan and the Tweeddale Area Partnership.

At a local level, services and communities continue to respond to their local community needs. Local plans, including local community action plans, are referenced at the end of this plan.

Tweeddale Locality Area Profile 2018

>two pages to be inserted<

Engaging with our communities

In developing this plan, we have spoken with a number of people at the Tweeddale Area Partnership meetings over the past year. Going forward, our aim is to reach out to a wider range of people within the community as we recognise the importance of engaging with everyone in our community.

We will continue to build on this draft plan, and gain further understanding of the needs and ambitions of our communities.

A vital part of this will be ongoing engagement and communication with the people of Tweeddale, and to create further opportunities for people to talk to us in person, to take part in surveys or online. We want as many people as possible to be involved.

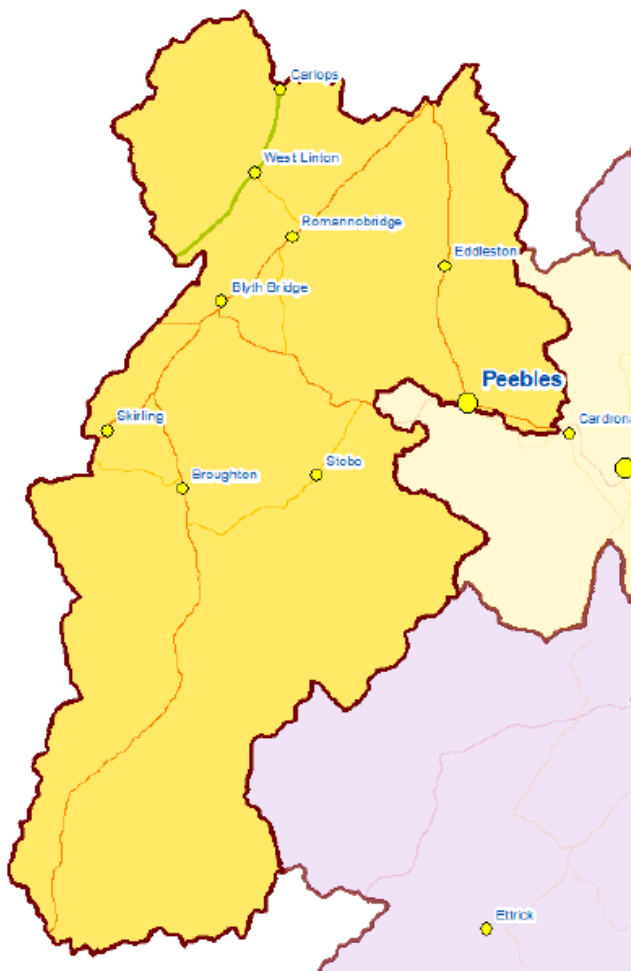
We have gathered the feedback that you gave us to help shape this plan, and it is really important that you continue to give us your views and thoughts as this plan will have an impact on the community that you live in.

We want the people in Tweeddale to get involved and help us deliver the actions in this plan, and we welcome your views on how we do this.

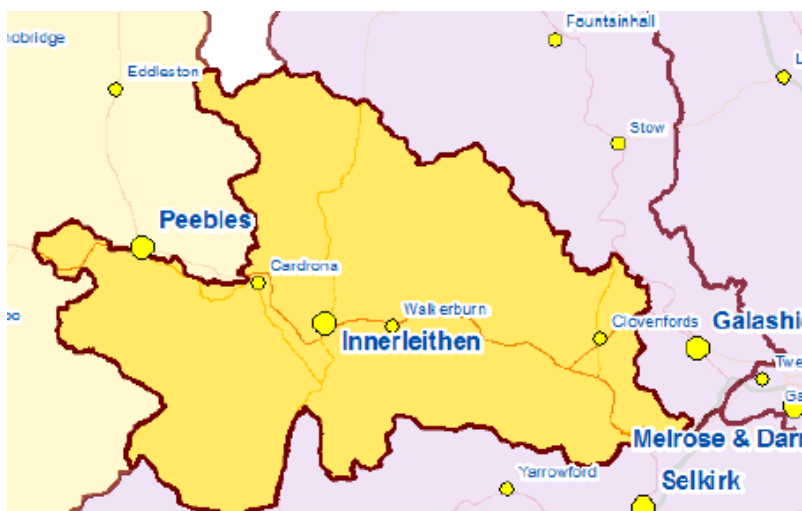
What contribution could you make to your community to make it a better place?

For information on how to get involved, join a local community group or community council, take part in local volunteering opportunities, please contact XXXXXX.

Tweeddale Wards



Tweeddale West
 Population – 10,408
 Peebles – 8,535
 West Linton – 1,766



Tweeddale East
 Population – 10,918
 Peebles – 8,535
 Innerleithen – 3,141
 Cardrona – 896
 Walkerburn - 695

Economy, Skills & Learning

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Tweeddale is:

- **To improve transport networks and connections within Tweeddale**

Other priorities that are important to the Tweeddale community:

- Review the availability and suitability of business premises
- Develop commercial / industrial sites and premises to encourage new business to the area
- To provide an “Enterprise Hub” for start-ups and growth of businesses
- Enhance marketing and promotion of the Tweeddale tourism offer
- Improve broadband and mobile coverage
- Develop stronger links with colleges, schools and businesses to create a joint approach to education and upskilling the workforce
- Increase practical skills and knowledge for primary and early secondary school children & young people
- Create a mentoring model within the community to build knowledge, skills and confidence
- Increase training opportunities for local trades

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Health, Care & Wellbeing

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Tweeddale is:

- **To improve the availability, accessibility and connections to services for people living in rural areas and towns across the Tweeddale area to reduce loneliness and social isolation**

Other priorities that are important to the Tweeddale community:

- Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services
- Increase the range of care and support options available (across the locality) to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities
- Increase the range of housing options available across the locality and plan for future housing needs
- Improve support for unpaid carers
- Improve transport networks and connections to allow access to services
- Develop intergenerational community hubs

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Safer Communities

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Tweeddale is:

- **Community connections need to be further developed to share information and activities across the Tweeddale Area**

Other priorities that are important to the Tweeddale community:

- Increase support to individuals to help them be active members of their community
- Reduce anti-social behaviour
- Have stronger links to the SBC Community Action Team with a particular focus on road safety

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Environment & Place

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Tweeddale is:

- **Ensure that Tweeddale residents have access to appropriate housing, and the environment is clean and safe**

Other priorities that are important to the Tweeddale community:

- Improve the provision of suitable housing (sheltered, extra care, young people with disabilities) by developing a range of flexible accommodation for communities at every age and stage of life
- Tackle fuel poverty
- Identify opportunities where green space can be improved and local access to growing projects can be developed
- De-cluttering and environmental improvement campaigns are undertaken in key streets/areas within Tweeddale locality

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

How we will measure success

The Tweeddale Area Partnership will feedback every year on the progress made in delivering the priorities within this plan. By monitoring the progress we make, we can measure the difference made to local people and communities. Progress and achievements will be shared with the Community Planning Partnership and other public bodies as well as being shared and celebrated with the wider community.

We will continue to ask the community their views and encourage more people to participate in the Area Partnership. As the needs of the locality change, we will ensure the priorities and actions within the plan reflect these changes.

Local Plans for Tweeddale

Local Community Action Plans

- Innerleithen
- Newlands
- Peebles
- Tweedsmuir
- Walkerburn

Learning Community Partnership Plans

- Tweeddale Learning Community Partnership Plan

Strategic Action Plans

The key strategic action plans that have an impact on Tweeddale are:

- >list to be drafted<

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