

Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 30 August 2023
Time: 6.30 pm
Location: Eyemouth Community Centre (Hall 1), Albert Road, Eyemouth, TD14 5DE

AGENDA

**Free ice-cream from Giacomazzi's is available for all attendees from 6.00 pm
 Meeting starts at 6.30 pm**

1.	Welcome
2.	Feedback from Meeting of 1 June 2023 (Pages 3 - 8) Consider Minute of the Meeting held on 1 June 2023 for signature by the Chair. (Copy attached.)
Section 1: Community Empowerment and Community Funding	
3.	Berwickshire Funding Table 2023-24 (Pages 9 - 10) Consider overview of funding available in Berwickshire. (Copy attached.)
4.	Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund (Pages 11 - 20) Consider report by the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund panel on recent activity and recommendations for funding. (Copy attached.)
Section 2: Local Priorities	
5.	Berwickshire Swap Consider presentation by Berwickshire Swap.
6.	Public and Community Transport Consider presentation by Gordon Grant, Scottish Borders Council Principal Transport Officer followed by a discussion on transport challenges and potential solutions.
7.	Place Making Update
Section 3: Service and Partner Updates and Consultations	
8.	Police Scotland Update Consider update by Community Sergeant Alison Grainger.

Section 4: Other

9.	Additional Information Document (Pages 21 - 24) (Copy attached.)
10.	Next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership Next meeting to be held on Thursday 30 November 2023.
11.	Any Other Business
12.	Meeting Evaluation

Please direct any enquiries to William Mohieddeen
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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP**

MINUTES of Meeting of the
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP
held in Volunteer Hall, Langtongate, Duns,
TD11 3AF on Thursday, 1 June 2023 at 6.30
pm

Present:- Councillors J. Anderson, J. Greenwell, D. Moffat, A. Orr and M. Rowley

Other organisations attendees: Ms L. Anderson (Eyemouth CC), Mr E. Chester (Eyemouth Community Centre), Ms T. Collin (Allanton, Whitsome and Edrom CC), Mr K. Dickinson (Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth CC); Ms M. Douglas and Ms H. Paxton (Greenlaw and Hume CC); Mr D. Fisher (Ability Borders/Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber), Mr L. Inglis (Reston and Auchencrow CC); Ms P. Hood (Cockburnspath and Cove CC); Ms B. Landon (Borders Community Action), Mr A. Lester; Ms A. McNeill and Mr Lindsay Wood (A Heart for Duns); Mr D. Morgan (Hutton and Paxton CC); Mr B. Purvis and I. Woolley (Swinton and Ladykirk CC); Ms M. Rodger (Lammermuir CC).

Apologies:- Councillor C. Hamilton

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator, Strategic Housing Development Officer (L. Renwick), Community Engagement Officer (J. Purves), Chief Inspector Vincent Fisher (Police Scotland), Mr J. Boulton (Tweed Valley Rail Campaign), Mr B. Payne (Berwickshire Civic Society), Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

1. **WELCOME**

The Chair introduced Andrew Lester, Chair of A Heart for Duns who welcomed attendees to the Volunteer Hall. Mr Lester delivered a presentation that gave a brief overview of the work of A Heart for Duns and their acquirement of the Volunteer Hall. A Heart for Duns delivered a programme of events for the benefit of the Duns community which were highlighted in a video presentation.

2. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING OF 30 MARCH 2023**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 30 March 2023.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute of the Meeting for signature by the Chair.

3. **LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2023-28 CONSULTATION**

The Chair introduced Lindsey Renwick, Housing Strategy Team, to deliver a presentation on progress of the 2023-28 Local Housing Strategy Consultation. Scottish Borders Council was statutorily obligated to produce a local housing strategy every five years to be submitted to the Scottish Government. It was a key strategy for Scottish Borders Council that set out priorities for housing based on local and national strategies, and also outlines areas for partnership working. Through surveys and local engagement exercises, the 2023-28 draft strategy had been prepared over a period of 18 months. The Housing Strategy Team were available for community groups to discuss support for engaging in the consultation. Ms Renwick advised that the Local Housing Strategy was part of a framework of related strategies and housing policies, and noted that the Local Housing

Strategy was key for housing and linked with the Local Development Plan. Ms Renwick agreed to circulate the presentation slides and Berwickshire data profile with the Area Partnership following the meeting.

DECISION

- (a) NOTED the update; and,**
- (b) AGREED that the presentation slides and Berwickshire data profile be circulated to attendees.**

4. REFRESHED COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITIES

4.1 The Chair introduced Chief Inspector Vincent Fisher to deliver an update on development of the Scottish Borders Community Plan and to ask for contributions to be made. The Community Plan was the process for Scottish Borders Council and other bodies such as Police Scotland to work with businesses and communities to improve services. The Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership were obligated by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to prepare and publish a Community Plan. Other agencies involved in Community Plan development included NHS, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and South of Scotland Enterprise. Five themes had been developed with 16 priorities that engagement and research was to be undertaken on. The five themes were:

- Enough Money to Live on
- Economy, Skills and Learning
- Enjoying Good Health and Wellbeing
- A Good Place to Live, Grow Up and Enjoy a Full Life
- Community Empowerment

4.2 The consultation on the Community Plan was to close on 16 July 2023. During discussion of the Community Plan consultation, it was advised that the development of the Community Plan was instructed by legislation, however the consultation and engagement exercise provided opportunities for community-led planning, alongside the work of Place Making.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

5. FLAG FOR BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

The Chair introduced Brian Payne, Chair of Berwickshire Civic Society who presented an update on the Flag for Berwickshire project. The project was delivered to be a community-led and community-designed project to develop a flag for the Berwickshire. It was noted that Berwickshire District ceased existing in 1996, but the name was still present in community institutions such as Berwickshire High School, housing associations and local newspapers. The competition had launched and full information could be found on the website www.flagforberwickshire.org and on the project's Facebook page. Development of the flag would be an open invitation for designs to be submitted with shortlisting to take place of the best designs to put forward for a public vote. Submissions were to open on 1 June 2023 and close on 30 July 2023, judging to take place in August 2023 and the public vote to take place from 5 September 2023. Judges were to be invited from the community and the competition was supported by the Court of the Lord Lyon. Designs were to be submitted electronically or paper-based using forms circulated by BAVS.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

6. **TWEED VALLEY RAIL CAMPAIGN**

- 6.1 There had been circulated copies of a presentation slide pack that summarised the aims of the Tweed Valley Rail Campaign. The Chair invited James Boulton to present to the Area Partnership about the campaign. The aim of the campaign was to re-establish a rail connection from Tweedbank Station through Kelso to Berwick. The campaign had a three-point plan which was:
- 1) Gauge support;
 - 2) Feasibility study; and,
 - 3) Build it.
- 6.2 Mr Boulton advised that reasons for pursuing the railway were to support tourism and leisure in the Borders, support active travel, provide access to work, education and healthcare, to attract investment by opening up other parts of the Borders, and encouraging more housing to be built. The campaign had received investment from the Cheviot Neighbourhood Support Fund to run for a second year and had received over 300 people signed as members or supporters of the campaign. Plexus and Schloss Roxburghe had supported the campaign and ongoing engagement was taking place with relevant MPs and MSPs. It was the position of the campaign that, alongside the feasibility study into the extension of the Borders Railway through Hawick to Carlisle, a feasibility study should take place to ascertain the benefits of opening the railway eastwards from Tweedbank to Berwick. During discussion of the presentation, it was advised that the Reston Station capacity for 14 charge points rather than 20. Attendees considered the potential for the railway to carry freight, supporting farmers and attracting tourists with steam locomotives.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

7. **BERWICKSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND**

- 7.1 There had been circulated copies of a report from the Neighbourhood Support Fund panel that provided attendees with an update of activity of the panel. The panel met on 10 May 2023 to consider matters relevant to the fund, which included:
- 1) Panel membership;
 - 2) Delivery of the Neighbourhood Support Fund in 2023-24; and,
 - 3) Funding stream opportunities.
- 7.2 After a resignation, there were now four community members of the panel. The panel decided to approach interested people personally rather than circulate emails to promote opportunities to become members. The panel further decided that Scottish Borders Council should identify individuals and community groups that may have an interest in joining the panel. Those interested were to submit an application form which was to be facilitated by Scottish Borders Council.
- 7.3 During 2022-23, there were 58 applications received which requested a total of £211,000. 31 applications were approved which received a total of £95,497.19. The budget for the 2023-24 Neighbourhood Support Fund was £50,185. The panel made recommendations to the Area Partnership which included that the application maximum should remain at £5,000, the criteria should remain the same, there should be two application rounds in the year, the fund should open at 2 June 2023 with the first funding round to be considered for the 31 August 2023 meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership and the second round of applications to be considered at the 8 February 2023 meeting.
- 7.4 The panel made further recommendations for supporting applicants to consider other funding opportunities. It had been noted by the panel that some applications were eligible for other funds. The panel recommended that officers support applicants to consider other funding opportunities so that funding could also be secured elsewhere.

Furthermore, it was recommended that the Scottish Borders Council would share with the Berwickshire Area Partnership information related to funding opportunities that were available to support community activities.

DECISION

(a) AGREED:

- (i) That the Neighbourhood Support Fund 2023-24 maximum application value remain at £5,000;**
- (ii) That the application criteria remain the same;**
- (iii) That there be two application rounds in 2023-24;**
- (iv) That the first application round open on 2 June 2023 and applications be determined on the 31 August 2023 meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership;**
- (v) That the second application round be determined at the 8 February 2024 meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership;**
- (vi) That officers support Neighbourhood Support Fund applicants by advising of other funding opportunities for applicants to consider;**
- (vii) That officers share with Berwickshire Area Partnership a summary of information of related funding opportunities available to support community activity; and,**

(b) NOTED the update.

8. BERWICKSHIRE FUNDING TABLE 2023-24

There had been circulated copies of the Berwickshire funding table which outlined available funds and grant opportunities in Berwickshire. The Community Engagement Officer presented the paper and advised that the opening balance for the Neighbourhood Support Fund was £50,185 with a £4,500 carry-over which totalled £54,685.00.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

9. PLACE MAKING UPDATE

9.1 There had been circulated copies of a report from the Berwickshire Area Partnership Place Making Working Group which reported on progress of the working group and made recommendations to support communities with development of plans. The Chair invited the chair of the working group, Mr Dickinson, to present the report who advised that one of the main concerns that communities had was with having capacity to take forward the work in engaging their communities to develop a plan and implement it. Areas of support identified were:

- Additional dedicated support to work with communities to develop plans;
- Funding to provide for training, expenses, materials and workshops; and,
- A peer group support network to establish a group of contacts, information sharing, developing skills and providing a forum for communities to seek help and advice.

9.2 This formed the basis for a successful application for funding through Borders Community Action (BCA) for £83,600 to fund a dedicated officer, based in BCA, for 2023-24 to support communities in the eastern Borders with a focus on development of community-led plans in Duns and district, and Coldstream and district. The funding was drawn from

Scottish Borders Council Community Engagement. The funding award included £35,000 to enable facilitation, training, materials and workshops.

- 9.3 A place making support framework was established by Scottish Borders Council to help communities access support to develop plans. There were two parts to the framework which included support for communities to develop plans and technical support for business cases and investment plans. In summarising work that the working group could continue with, Mr Dickinson advised that there should be further oversight and coordination of work taking place across Berwickshire which may be of use to the Area Partnership. Mr Dickinson recommended that the Area Partnership note the work of the working group, address the challenges of oversight and coordination of place planning work by either continuing with the working group with modified terms of reference or incorporating the activity of the working group into the core agenda of the Area Partnership, that the BCA Place Officer reports to the working group and the Area Partnership on place making progress in Berwickshire, and that the Area Partnership should recommend to Scottish Borders Council to include community stakeholder participation on the Place Partnership Advisory Panel. Conversations which regarded continuing the work of the working group were to take place and any recommendations were to be brought back to the area Partnership at a future meeting.

DECISION

(a) AGREED:

- (i) To invite the BCA Place Officer to report to the Berwickshire Area Partnership on place making progress;**
- (ii) To recommend to Scottish Borders Council to include community stakeholder participation on the Place Partnership Advisory Panel;**

(b) NOTED:

- (i) The progress made by the working group; and,**
- (ii) The update.**

10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The Chair advised that additional information was included in the agenda pack which contained information on current consultations and links to useful information.

11. NEXT MEETING OF THE BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership was scheduled to take place on 31 August 2023.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

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Berwickshire Funding 2023/24

30 August 2023

Neighbourhood Support Fund (NSF) 2023/24	
	£
Opening balance as of 01/04/2023	£ 50,185.00
Plus ring-fenced Horse Time carry forward from 2021/22	£ 4,500.00
Total available	£ 54,685.00
Less:	
NSF applications awarded since 01/04/2023	£ -
NSF applications that are assessed and await decision	£ 96,032.00
Sub-total	£ 96,032.00
Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful	-£ 41,347.00
NSF applications still to be assessed	£ -
Potential Overall Position	-£ 41,347.00

Other sources of grant funding - Berwickshire			
Grant Type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Local Festival Grants	£ 14,060.00	£ 2,750.00	£ 11,310.00
Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)	£ 13,680.00	£ 2,340.00	£ 11,340.00
SBC Small Schemes	£ -	£ -	£ -
SBC Enhancement Trust	£ 2,494.23	£ -	£ 2,494.23
SBC Welfare Trust	£ 13,057.65	£ -	£ 13,057.65
	£ 43,291.88	£ 5,090.00	£ 38,201.88

Summary of applications						
No.	Date	Fund	Organisation Name	Amount	Project	Status
1	23/07/2023	NSF	Berwickshire Swap	£ 3,132.00	Berwickshire Swap	Assessed
2	18/07/2023	NSF	Abundant Borders	£ 913.00	Berwickshire Garden Maintenance	Assessed
3	18/07/2023	NSF	ReTweed	£ 4,941.00	ReTweed Community Courses (Gavinton, Cranshaws & Coldstream)	Assessed
4	19/07/2023	NSF	Leitholm, Eccles & Birgham Community Council	£ 2,664.00	Connecting Leitholm	Assessed
5	21/07/2023	NSF	Swinton & Ladykirk Community Council	£ 400.00	Spring bulb planting & refurb of football goals on the Green	Assessed
6	23/07/2023	NSF	Allanbank Arts (A Heart For Duns)	£ 4,750.00	Creative Club	Assessed
7	23/07/2023	NSF	Cockburnspath After School Club	£ 5,000.00	Cockburnspath After School Club	Assessed
8	18/07/2023	NSF	Foulden Mordington Lamberton CC	£ 2,100.00	AED for Lamberton in adopted phone box	Assessed
9	24/07/2023	NSF	Eyemouth Museum Trust Ltd	£ 5,000.00	Maintenance of Eyemouth Museum's historic windows	Assessed
10	20/07/2023	NSF	Eyemouth Harbour Trust	£ 5,000.00	Sea Garden Project & Art Wall	Assessed
11	26/07/2023	NSF	Paxton House Trust	£ 4,401.00	Paxton House Community Garden	Assessed
12	21/07/2023	NSF	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	£ 5,000.00	Celebrating Community-Led Conservation (Eyemouth & St Abbs)	Assessed
13	14/06/2023	NSF	Border Links	£ 5,000.00	Disability Hub	Assessed
14	23/07/2023	NSF	A Heart for Duns	£ 4,897.00	Duns Warm Hub (Volunteer Hall Duns)	Assessed
15	24/07/2023	NSF	BAVS	£ 5,000.00	Borders Wheels	Assessed
16	16/07/2023	NSF	Duns Tennis Club	£ 5,000.00	Netting	Assessed
17	17/06/2023	NSF	Eyemouth Enhancement Group	£ 4,115.00	Beautiful Eyemouth	Assessed
18	24/07/2023	NSF	Duns Newsletter (A Heart For Duns)	£ 2,768.00	Duns and District Community Newsletter	Assessed
19	25/07/2023	NSF	Greenlaw Festival Trust	£ 3,100.00	Greenlaw Floral Gateway Breakthrough Project	Assessed
20	17/07/2023	NSF	Outside The Box	£ 4,980.00	LINKS Eyemouth (Eyemouth Community Centre)	Assessed
21	23/07/2023	NSF	Duns PlayFest	£ 5,000.00	DunsPlayFest 6	Assessed
22	14/06/2023	NSF	Scottish Surfing Federation	£ 5,000.00	Gathering of the Clans (Pease Bay)	Assessed
23	22/07/2023	NSF	Eyemouth Fishermen's Choir	£ 1,095.00	Replacement electric piano	Assessed
24	23/07/2023	NSF	Ayton Heritage	£ 1,776.00	Information boards at St Dionysius Church	Assessed
25	25/07/2023	NSF	Longfields Residents Association (Duns)	£ 5,000.00	Longfields Residents Mini Bus	Assessed
Total				£ 96,032.00		

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Report of Neighbourhood Support Fund Assessment Panel BAP Meeting on Wednesday 30th August 2023

Introduction

This paper outlines the recent work undertaken by the Assessment Panel for the Berwickshire Area Partnership, Neighbourhood Support Fund. It gives a brief description of various activities and a review of recent applications. It goes on to make recommendations for consideration by the BAP.

Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund 2023/24

Berwickshire Area Partnership, Neighbourhood Support Fund, Assessment Panel (NSF AP) met for the first full meeting of the financial year, between 11am and 1pm on Thursday 10th August 2023. Approximately £50k was available for distribution through the Neighbourhood Support Fund during the 2023/2024 financial year. It should be recorded that this is half of the £100k NSF allocated last year.

Initially there were 27 applications to this round, however during the process two were withdrawn. The panel were faced with assessing 25 applications, to a value of circa £118k. Significantly more than the funding available for the whole year. After some discussion the Assessment Panel decided to base their discussions on the assumption that about £35k might be allocated during this round. This should ensure that about £15k funding will be available for a second round of applications later in the year.

It is good to know that more communities have become more aware of the NSF and have made applications. But again worrying that many deserving applicants will be disappointed that their strong applications did not receive support. It is a concern that future application rates may decline as the success rate of worthy applications continues to fall, largely due to financial constraints.

Panel Membership and

We are pleased that two new members have joined the Assessment Panel this year: Nicky Seed and Bob Hope.

During the last meeting the Chair initiated a discussion on the make-up of the Assessment Panel membership especially the question of the spread of Assessment Panel membership. There was specific discussion around the need to avoid a

perception of impartiality, should there be several members of the panel from one community council area. It was agreed that, although every effort should be made to recruit as widely as possible, it was important not to have arbitrary geographical or demographic barriers to prevent people applying to become members of the assessment panel.

There are still two vacancies on the panel and future applications are welcome from all members of the Berwickshire community. The Panel believe that further recruitment of panel members would be beneficial and allow for some succession planning. Should more than two additional panel members be identified consideration could be given to additional responsibilities for those additional panel members. An example could be the undertaking of evaluations of outcome of past awarded grants. The Panel therefore request that BAP agrees to the appointment of up to two additional Assessment panel members to operate in a some backup roles where appropriate.

Anyone interested in joining the panel should contact Gillian Jardine GJardine@scotborders.gov.uk for further information.

Attaining full delegated powers for the Assessment Panel

At its meeting on 4th March 2021 the BAP agreed to the following recommendation: “We recommend the creation of a sub-subcommittee of the BAP with full delegated powers to undertake the assessment of applications and subsequently make awards.” At the BAP meeting 9th June 2022 our recommendation that “the Neighbourhood Support Fund – Assessment Panel receives full delegated powers to make and communicate its decisions to applicants” was again endorsed by the BAP. A review of Area Partnerships by SBC was paused last year, due to the local elections, but discussions to plan for the review of the Area Partnership, including our delegated powers request, are underway. The endorsement by the BAP for devolved powers has been shared with SBC.

Assessment of Applications

I have outlined below the assessment process:

- The Assessment Panel members involved were Keith Dickinson (Chair), Andrew Mitchell, Kathy Huffman, Jim Hettrick, Nicky Seed, Bob Hope, John Greenwell and Mark Rowley.
- Recognising the need for transparency, panel members made declarations of interest related to a number of applications.

- Prior to the meeting SBC officers checked that applications complied with the published Eligibility Criteria.
- In view of the record number of applications, each was initially scored and ranked by three panel members.
- Where there was an identified difference between the initial three rankings, a fourth member assessed and ranked the application.
- Applications were blind marked, according to the published criteria and SBC officers tabulated and circulated all marks and rankings prior to our meeting.
- Initially a group of applications, that were highly supported by all who had assessed them, were considered. After due consideration all were considered worthy of support and of high priority.
- A second group of applications, that were broadly supported, were considered and provisional recommendations made.
- Before final recommendations were made panel members were given the opportunity to consider in detail any of the remaining applications.
- There were clearly applications that were considered fundable but considered to be of a lower priority and they could not be supported due to the funding constraints.
- The volume of applications, this funding round, tested the process and the panel. However, although the assessment task was demanding, we moved relatively smoothly to a consensus and agreement on our recommendations.

The minutes of the assessment panel meeting can be seen in **Appendix 1** below, which includes a brief description of applications supported and some individual feedback from our deliberations. Our recommendations are summarised in **Appendix 2**.

Summary of Recommendations

- 1. It is recommended that BAP approve the awards detailed in Appendix 2**

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
BERWICKSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL**

MINUTES of Meeting of BERWICKSHIRE
COMMUNITY FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL held
via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 10th August at
11.00.

Present:- K Dickinson (Chair), Andrew Mitchell, Jim Hettrick, Kathy Huffman,
Nicky Seed, Bob Hope and Cllr M Rowley.

Apologies:- Cllrs J Greenwell and J Anderson

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator G Jardine and Community Engagement Officer
James Purves

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone and introduced Bob Hope and Nicky Seed as the two new members the assessment panel.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSESSMENT PANEL

The Chair initiated a discussion on the make-up of the Assessment Panel membership especially the question of Berwickshire community perception.

There was then a discussion among those in attendance as to the future recruitment of new members to the panel.

There was specific discussion around potentially how “community perception” of impartiality may be compromised if there were several members of the panel all from one community council area.

All the members understand that they can, if necessary, make a Declaration of Interest, regarding any application.

After a thorough discussion it was agreed that, although every effort should be made to recruit as widely as possible, it was important not to have barriers to prevent people applying to become members of the assessment panel. There are still two vacancies on the panel and future applications are welcome from all members of the Berwickshire community.

3. PROJECT ASSESSMENTS

BERWICKSHIRE SWAP

An application from Berwickshire Swap requesting £3131.72 was received for storage, shelving and laundering equipment at their new premises. The panel noted all the good work that Berwickshire Swap is involved in and the application scored highly.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£3131.72**

ABUNDANT BORDERS

An application requesting £913.00 was received for additional, portable sustainable grass cutting equipment for garden maintenance in Duns, Eyemouth, Foulden and Ayton and to maintain primary school beds at Cockburnspath. The panel felt strongly that this was a very worthwhile project to support given its modest cost for a high community impact.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area

Partnership award a grant of **£913.00**

RETWEED

An application requesting £4,941.00 was received for their Community Courses at Gavinton, Cranshaws and Coldstream. The panel are all aware of the good work that ReTweed has already been involved in and the application scored highly among panel members.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£4,941.00**

LEITHOLM, ECCLES AND BIRGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

An application requesting £2,664.00 was received for their Connecting Leitholm project. The panel's comments were supportive of the project, highlighting how well the community council had engaged with their community re the aims of the project so that it had the community behind it.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£2,664.00**

SWINTON AND LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

An application requesting £400.00 was received for Spring bulb planting & refurbishment of football goals on the Green. The Assessment Panel were very supportive of this project in that it was very cheap, cost effective and would make a highly visible difference. Some panel members also commented that these small, low cost funding applications allowed scarce community funding grants to be spread out over a wider number of applications.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£400.00**

ALLANBANK ARTS VIA UMBRELLA GROUP AHFD

An application requesting £4,750 was received for their Creative Club project. The Assessment panel discussed this application at length and whilst it was generally supportive of the aim of the project, they were not supportive of recommending approval of £2,500 staff costs and questioned how the success of the project would be measured. It was agreed to recommend funding for the items of expenditure excluding the staff costs element.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a Partial grant of **£2,250.00**

COCKBURNSPATH AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

An application requesting £5,000.00 was received for the development of the Cockburnspath After School Club. This application scored highly with assessment panel members who felt that supporting the After School Club was also supporting the future and viability of the primary school itself. The panel stated that many after school clubs were finding it difficult to be financially sustainable. The panel was strongly supportive of this project.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£5,000.00**

FOULDEN, MORDINGTON AND LAMBERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

An application requesting £2,100.00 was received for their Automated External Defibrillator (AED) project for the Adopted phone box in Lamberton. The panel felt that the location of the phone box meant that the AED would protect a lot of people as it was also in close proximity to Eat Sleep Ride's premises where there was a large number of people.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£2,100.00**

EYEMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

An application requesting £5,000.00 was received for repainting and maintenance of Eyemouth Museum's historic windows. The panel were generally supportive of this project which they felt would keep the museum building safe which was a high priority, they felt, given its central location in Eyemouth.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£5,000.00**

EYEMOUTH HARBOUR TRUST

An application requesting £5,000.00 was received for their Sea Garden & Art Wall project. The panel were generally supportive of this project given its central location in Eyemouth and its clear aims and ambitions. The panel were supportive of its multi-generational appeal with the significant involvement of school students in delivering the project.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£5,000.00**

PAXTON HOUSE TRUST

An application requesting £4,401.00 was received for their Community Garden project. The panel had varying views of this project but through discussion agreed that it would be sustainable for the environment and educational with many groups of school children currently visiting Paxton House.

Decision NOTED that:- It was agreed to recommend that the Berwickshire Area Partnership award a grant of **£5,000.00**

APPLICATIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.

Note that it was stated at the Assessment Panel meeting that, due to a large fall in funding available from the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund that some strong applications could not be recommended for funding.

The applications below will all be checked for suitability for other funding options that may be available.

BERWICKSHIRE MARINE RESERVE

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their "Celebrating Community Led Conservation, Eyemouth & St Abbs" project. The panel felt that this was not a strong enough application to recommend it for approval at the Area Partnership meeting.

Decision NOTED that: - the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

BORDER LINKS

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their Disability Hub project. The assessment panel discussed this application at length and had questions re the suitability of the application for the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund given that their premises are in Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland.

Decision NOTED that: - after discussion the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

A HEART FOR DUNS

An application was made requesting £4,897.00 for their Duns Warm Hub, Volunteer Hall, Duns project. The panel discussed this application and felt that a high part of the application was for venue hire and staff costs and the panel felt that other funding opportunities may be more appropriate than the Neighbourhood Support Fund. The panel were supportive of the good work that AHFD does and did consider part funding the project.

Decision NOTED that: - after discussion the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

BAVS

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their "Border Wheels" project. The panel

discussed this application at length and there were a range of contrasting views. The panel could not agree that this Borders-wide restructuring was appropriate for the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund whilst the high staffing costs making up most of the request was not well supported.

Decision NOTED that: - after discussion the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

DUNS TENNIS CLUB

An application was made requesting £5,000 for replacement netting around the tennis courts. The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

EYEMOUTH ENHANCEMENT GROUP

An application was made requesting £4,115.00 for their “Beautiful Eyemouth” project. The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

DUNS NEWSLETTER VIA UMBRELLA GROUP AHFD

An application was made requesting £2,768.00 for their “Duns and District Community Newsletter.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

GREENLAW FESTIVAL TRUST

An application was made requesting £3,100 for their “Greenlaw Floral Gateway Breakthrough Project”.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

OUTSIDE THE BOX DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT LTD

An application was made requesting £4,980 for their “LINKS Eyemouth” project.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

DUNS PLAYFEST

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their “Duns Play Fest 6” project. The panel stated that they had previously advised Duns PlayFest that the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund was not appropriate for future applications for funding their productions.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

SCOTTISH SURFING FEDERATION

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their “Gathering of the Clans, Pease Bay” project.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

EYEMOUTH FISHERMAN’S CHOIR

An application was made requesting £1,095 for their “Replacement Electric Piano” project.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

AYTON HERITAGE

An application was made requesting £1,776.00 for their “ St Dionysius Church” project. The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

LONGFIELDS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, DUNS

An application was made requesting £5,000 for their “Longfields Residents Mini Bus” project.

The panel did not award this application enough scores to put it forward for discussion given the limited funds available.

Decision NOTED that:-the panel agreed NOT to recommend the project for funding.

4. FUNDING AVAILABLE

As there is significantly less funding available from the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund than last year the panel was informed that SBC’s Communities and Partnership’s team will also explore other sources of funding that may be appropriate for applicants.

5. DECISIONS AND REPORT TO AREA PARTNERSHIP

It was agreed that the above 11 applications would be recommended to the BAP for funding.

6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TO BE CONFIRMED

The meeting concluded at 13:15pm.

Appendix 2 - BAP Assessment Panel Recommendations

Ref number	Sum Requested	Organisation or Group	Project title	Recommended for approval
NSF2324-BER-18	£3,132	Berwickshire Swap	TBC	£3,132
NSF2324-BER-06	£913	Abundant Borders	Berwickshire Garden Maintenance	£913
NSF2324-BER-07	£4,941	ReTweed	ReTweed Community Courses – Gavinton, Cranshaws & Coldstream	£4,941
NSF2324-BER-09	£2,664	Leitholm Eccles Birgham CC	Connecting Leitholm	£2,664
NSF2324-BER-12	£400	Swinton & Ladykirk CC	Spring bulb planting & refurbishment of football goals on the Green	£400
NSF2324-BER-15	£4,750	Allanbank Arts via umbrella group AHFD	Creative Club - Part fund recommended	£2,250
NSF2324-BER-19	£5,000	Cockburnspath After School Club	Cockburnspath After School Club	£5,000
NSF2324-BER-08	£2,100	Foulden Mordington Lamberton CC	AED for Lamberton in adopted phone box	£2,100
NSF2324-BER-21	£5,000	Eyemouth Museum Trust Ltd	Maintenance of Eyemouth Museum’s historic windows.	£5,000
NSF2324-BER-10	£5,000	Eyemouth Harbour Trust	Sea Garden Project & Art Wall	£5,000
NSF2324-BER-27	£4,401	Paxton House Trust	Paxton House Community Garden	£4,401
Total Recommended for Approval				£35,801

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Additional Information

SBC Current Consultations

Shared Access Network 2023

Linking to the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships that are due to take place in the Scottish Borders and throughout Scotland in August, we are asking communities and members of the public to tell us where new shared access routes should be developed in the Scottish Borders and which routes should be given priority.

Read more: [Shared Access Network 2023 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Scottish Government Current Consultations

A Human Rights Bill for Scotland: Consultation

Embedding international human rights in Scotland will further emphasise the importance of all people being treated with dignity and ensure that human rights play an even more central role in our strategies, policies and decision-making processes across all areas of government and the wider public sector. This consultation on the proposals for a Human Rights Bill to be introduced within this session of the Scottish Parliament seeks the views of everyone on that vision.

Read more: [A Human Rights Bill for Scotland: Consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Salmon fishing: proposed river gradings for 2024 season

We are seeking views on the proposed river gradings for the 2024 salmon fishing season, which have been calculated from the annual assessment of the conservation status of wild Atlantic salmon populations in rivers across Scotland.

Read more: [Salmon fishing: proposed river gradings for 2024 season - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#)

Building Warrant Fees: consultation

This consultation seeks to obtain the views on proposed increases to the building warrant fees required to deliver change to strengthen the building standards system and the development of a new building warrant fees model in Scotland.

Read more: [Building Warrant Fees: consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Effective community engagement in local development planning guidance: consultation

This consultation is about guidance on effective community engagement in the local development planning process. It is for planning authorities and communities. The guidance forms part of the

Government's work on reform of the planning system and implementation of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. It supports the new approach to local development planning on which further new regulations and guidance are available.

Read more: [Effective community engagement in local development planning guidance: consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Food Conversations

Food Conversation on 23rd June 2023 had presentations on the Cash-First approach adopted by Scottish Government, supported by Citizens Advice Bureau, Good Food Nation Act and data gathering and evaluation techniques. The group agreed to a refresh of food flyers displaying food provision around the borders, as well as the development of a borders-wide consultation to address need.

The next Food Conversation meeting will take place on Friday the 8th of September 2023. If you are interested in joining these meetings, please let us know.

Community Choices

There are no updates for Community Choices. Should this change, an update on the latest meeting will be provided at the Area Partnership.

Community Empowerment

Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests being considered within the Berwickshire area. SBC is currently working with and advising groups for 5 asset transfer requests.

For information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Place Making

A place-based approach is about understanding the potential of a place and coordinating action to improve outcomes, with community participation at the heart of the process. For information, tools and resources on place-based approaches visit [Our Place](#)

Area Partnerships' Information Pack

[Berwickshire Area Partnership | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[Community engagement, planning and ownership | Area Partnership information pack | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Community Councils:

Scottish Community Councils Latest News, including information about funding opportunities and national consultations:

[Community Council News](#)

Scottish Borders Council Meetings

[Browse meetings - Scottish Borders Council - Scottish Borders Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Cost of Living Support

[Financial support and advice | Cost of Living Crisis support | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Debt Advice:

[Citizens Advice Bureau](#)



Download the NHS
Borders Money Worries
App here

NHS Money Worries App – download from Google Play or the App Store

Covid-19 vaccination programme

<https://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/covid-19-vaccination-programme/>

NHS Borders website for current updates:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/coronavirus/>

Business support

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business>

<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/>

General Funding:

<https://fundingscotland.com/>

[Grants Online](#)

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/>

[Community grants and funding | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[Neighbourhood Support Fund | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

NHS Borders Wellbeing Service:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/wellbeing-service/>

NHS Borders Wellbeing Point:

www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint

<https://www.rcot.co.uk/conserving-energy>

This includes pacing, fatigue management and some ideas about restarting gentle exercise

<https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk/>

This covers most aspects, including information from physiotherapy and occupational therapy websites

<https://www.chss.org.uk/advice-line-nurses/>

Phone or email to access their support/advice