Duns Community Council

Chairman: Alex Johnson
Vice Chairman: David Adams
Secretary: Jim Carnie
Treasurer: Andrew Mitchell

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME

Dear Caroline,

Here are comments on the Scheme and Ancillary Documents from Duns Community Council:

Doc 1:
1) all pages are numbered but should be 1 of 24, 2 of 24 etc.
2) text error in 5th sentence.

Doc 2:
1) all pages numbered but should be 1 of 25, 2 of 25 etc
2) Page 22 - put full name of candidate above top middle column instead of inside each row,

Doc 3:
1) part 10 Meetings - no mention of online and/or in person. Is this deliberate? Online is mentioned in Doc 4 step 4.3.
2) part 10.2 - states the next meeting agenda is to be sent to the Director of Corporate Governance, an e-mail address would be useful or if you mean paper copy an address is required.
3) part 16 Financial Provisions, step 16.4 - states a copy of the approved accounts is to be sent to the Director of Resilient Communities, an e-mail address would be useful or if you mean paper copy an address is required. Why is it necessary to use two different persons, why can't one person with one address be used or a common web address?
4) no version number is indicated on the document.

Doc 4:
1) steps 5.2, 5.3 & 5.4 - the term 'shall' is used, this is a mandatory word and therefore gives no leeway to change the order of business. I would suggest a change too 'shall include'.
2) is this really necessary? I do not know of any organisations which plan their AGM dates a year in advance, who knows what dates are suitable or not in a year's time.
3) all pages are numbered but should be 1 of 4, 2 of 4 etc.

Doc 5:
1) no version number on pages

Doc 6:
1) no page number, should be 1 of 1
2) no version number
3) 1st section you only mention gender reassignment, depending on where one looks there are countless genders, if you generalise this statement it will not require updating in the future or upset anyone.
4) 3rd section, suggest change to 'raise awareness of equality and diversity issues'.
5) 4th section, what does 'protected characteristics' mean? Change 'staff' to 'members'.
6) 5th section, what are 'protected groups'?

Doc 7:
1) no page numbers or version number

Doc 8:
1) no page numbers or version number

Doc 9:
1) no page numbers our version number

Doc 10:
1) no version number on pages

Doc 11:
1) no page numbers or version number

General:
1) Is it not possible for SBC to set up and administrate a general Community Council website which every CC minutes and agendas are posted so that anyone can access.
2) Neither Duns CC or anyone else I have spoken to have any idea what 'protected groups' or 'protected characteristics' mean. Why do you use such language which no-one understands? If you insist then a definition is required.

Jim Carnie,
Secretary,
Duns Community Council.