



# BURNing Issues



[www.walkerburn.com](http://www.walkerburn.com)

[walkerburnnews@hotmail.com](mailto:walkerburnnews@hotmail.com)

Published by the Walkerburn News Group      ISSUE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FIVE – OCTOBER 2017

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2017

Walkerburn Community Council will organise the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.45 am on Sunday 12th November followed by a reception at the Public Hall.

### Parade and Act of Remembrance

Following the success of previous years' Parades, and the interest shown in keeping this tradition, there will again be a Parade of Service and ex-Service men and women this year. The Public Hall will be open before the Parade from 10.00am for warmth and shelter, and seats will be provided at the War Memorial for those who may find it difficult to march to or stand for the ceremony.

Service and Ex-Service personnel are invited to gather at the Public Hall to march to the Memorial, stepping off no later than 10.35hrs for the Act of Remembrance.

(Colonel John Purves will be writing to all the Service and ex-Service folks that he knows about with full details, but please pass the word round so that no-one is inadvertently left out, and if you're Service or ex-Service and not already on John's mailing list please give him a call on 870447).

### Reception

There will be a reception in the Hall following the wreath-laying, sponsored by Walkerburn Community Council. EVERYONE is welcome to come along for refreshments and a 'blether'. Hot

soup will be on the menu in case it's a cold morning. There will again be a display of photographs of 100 years of Walkerburn men and women in Uniform.

### Photographic Archive

The village archive of Walkerburn men and women in uniform, which John Purves is compiling, now has about 500 photographs. If you have any photographs which could be added (there must still be hundreds around!) there is still time. If you would like your family's, yours or any of your old friends' military contribution included in the Remembrance Sunday exhibition and the village archive, please contact John Purves on 870447 and he will personally collect, copy and return your precious photographs safely, within 48 hours.

Summary of timings on Remembrance Sunday:

**10.00am** Public Hall opens for warmth and shelter prior to the Parade.

**10.35am** Ex-Service parade steps off for War Memorial

**10.45am** Act of Remembrance at War Memorial

**11.15-onwards** Reception at Public Hall.

Everyone welcome.

## Notice of Meeting to Discuss Proposed Tree Planting in Jubilee Park

Following the suggestion by Walkerburn Community Development Trust to use money from the Tesco 'Bags of Help' scheme to plant trees to commemorate the village's former residents who died in the First World War

It has been decided that the Community Council should hold an open meeting to enable residents (especially those in Tweedholm Avenue) to put forward their views on this important matter.

A Public Meeting will therefore be held at 6.30pm on Wednesday 18th October in the Walkerburn Village Hall. The meeting will be chaired by Dr Henderson and all Walkerburn residents are welcome to attend and put forward their suggestions and points of view before any decision is made regarding the matter.

## Walkerburn Public Hall

A huge 'thank you' from the Walkerburn Hall Committee to everyone who supported our "Evening with Ian Landles" on 4th October. The fantastic sum of £400 was raised for our Hall fundraising appeal! Thank you to Walkerburn Post Office and Border Events for selling tickets, to all who donated generous raffle prizes, and to everyone who came out on a cold wet night to support us. Most of all, a special thank you to Ian Landles himself, who enthralled the audience with his tales of the Borders (and Hawick!) and beyond, without whom this would not have been possible.



### CABARET EVENING WITH TWILITE DUO

WALKERBURN PUBLIC HALL

FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER, 7PM

(Denise Ashwood)

In Aid of Hall Funds

Tickets £10 (conc £8) incl Booking Fee.

From: Walkerburn Post Office, and [www.borderevents.com](http://www.borderevents.com), or tel 01750 725480

Light supper included in ticket price BYOB

### St Kilda – An Illustrated Talk

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – 7.00pm

Village Hall - (In Aid of Hall Funds)

Tickets £5 from Walkerburn P.O. or [www.borderevents.com](http://www.borderevents.com), or tel. 01750725482

*"Refreshments will be served"*



**WILLIAM KENYON  
PAINTER & DECORATOR**

All interior, exterior and floor tiling work undertaken to the highest standard.

**Telephone/Fax  
01896 870757**

break

**Walkerburn Rugby Club**



Open for Birthdays and other Social events.

For bookings please contact the Secretary at [secretary@walkerburnrugby.org.uk](mailto:secretary@walkerburnrugby.org.uk)  
Latest news on Facebook: Walkerburn RFC

**"Would You Like To Improve The Way You Feel?"**

**TWEED THERAPY CENTRE**

(Est. 1994)

(Free Consultation)



**HYPNOTHERAPY | MASSAGE  
REFLEXOLOGY**

Sue Tickner MNSPH.; Dip TM  
Walkerburn EH43 6AF  
01896-870440 or 07771934965  
[tweedtherapy@aol.com](mailto:tweedtherapy@aol.com)

**Walkerburn Bowling Club**

**The Bowls and Petanque leagues are now ended.**

While the bowlers take a Winter break, apart from those who play in Indoor leagues, the Petanque players can take advantage of any dry Autumn and Winter afternoons to practice and to play friendly games - thanks to the excellent resurfacing completed last week by Glendinning Groundworks! Anyone wishing to join will be made most welcome. We also have junior sets of boules for younger players to use.

The eagerly awaited news of our grant applications has now been announced and we are most grateful for the generous grants given to us by both the National Lottery 'Awards for All' fund and the **SBC Community Grant Scheme**.

We will be working hard over the closed season to complete the schedule of clubhouse rebuilding and refurbishment, and to carry out necessary fencing and goundworks as we prepare for a grand opening at the start of our 120<sup>th</sup> year next Spring!

We will announce full details of the Duck Race winners and the club competitions victors in next month's Burning Issues. The committee want everyone to know how very indebted we are to everyone who supported us in any way and who took part in events. Thank you all so much.

(Anyone wanting more details can contact us on 01896-870251 or e-mail [geoles2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:geoles2@tiscali.co.uk)

**October Wild Side**

**Summer's over (did you blink and miss it?) and the glory of Autumn is with us again.**

The deciduous trees will really change this next month. They've started their colour change but some still have a way to go and the Tweed valley can be quite spectacular at this time of year. As light levels drop in Autumn and most plants can't efficiently photosynthesise to make 'food', the need to not waste water or stored energy kicks in. They've made their fruit and seeds, their energy store is up and they are ready for a rest! A corky layer of cells forms at the base of the leaf stalk and eventually the leaves drop. Essentially, the plants batten down the hatches and sit tight until Spring. So, enjoy the colours of Autumn this month!

This will be a busy time for you if you're a keen gardener or, perhaps, a home made jam, pickle or wine maker. This appears to be another good year for hedgerow fruits so, hopefully, a good winter for the birds and small mammals that depend on them too. Hawthorn berries or 'haws' seem to be particularly a-plenty, with some hawthorn bushes appearing more red than their usual green. On a cool, bright, dewy morning, the hedges are sparkling as the dew hangs in spiders' webs. It's quite amazing

to realise how many spiders there are all around us. Perhaps you don't like to imagine!

In the garden, we welcome back coal tits to the feeders. The late flowering sedums are still buzzing with bees and there are still some butterflies on the wing. We've had quite a few red admirals and the odd peacock fluttering about. They, along with the bees and hoverflies, seem to really appreciate the few English marigolds we grow each year.. Another fantastic plant for insects is an Erysimum sp or perennial wallflower. Not only has it flowered just about all year and provided us with some colour it is great for insects looking for nectar at any time but particularly so late in the season when things are 'shutting up shop' for the winter ahead. There are still lots of insects about. In a shaft of sunlight you can see 'clouds' of tiny beasties dancing in the air. As the swallows etc are away, I think this is when all those spiders' webs make the difference to 'clearing the air'. Bats are still quite active in the latter part of the day too and must still be getting a good feed. Spiders and bats - well, it will soon be Hallowe'en!

**HAPPY DAYS CHILD-MINDING  
SERVICES WALKERBURN**



Registered with the Care Inspectorate and SCMA Member. Child care experience & Study in Child Developmental Stages  
Tel 01896 870512 or 07966584076  
[Sjmclaulan46@gmail.com](mailto:Sjmclaulan46@gmail.com)



**Sheila Bertolino  
OIL PAINTINGS RESTORATION &  
CONSERVATION**

I am based in Walkerburn and specialise in the Restoration and Conservation of Oil Paintings on Canvas and Panel.  
Contact me for professional advice and help.  
Estimates Free  
Phone: 01896-870492 Mobile: 07817064050  
E-Mail: [sheilabertolino17@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sheilabertolino17@yahoo.co.uk)

**The Little Secretarial  
Company**

*For secretarial  
& admin services*

Please call  
Hilary Little  
Phone  
**01896 870 655**  
Mobile  
**07412 388 993**

## Walkerburn Old Age Pensioners Association

Now that October is here and the summer fades, it is time to think about our winter activities.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, in the H B Club in Walkerburn, starting at 2.30. All pensioners in Walkerburn are eligible to join and it would be good to have some new faces at our meetings. The meetings normally include Dominoes or cards, followed by tea and biscuits and a good

blether. If you would like to come along but have difficulty in getting there, just give Anne a ring to arrange a lift. For any other information please contact President Mary Baillie on 01896 870246 or Treasurer Anne Kenyon on 01896 870

## Rural Roundup

At September's meeting we welcomed Jean and Stuart from Velvethall Alpacas who gave a very interesting and passionate talk about their business and a detailed insight into the life of an alpaca.

As an extra treat the couple had brought with them two super cute alpaca babies! There was no meeting this month due to another booking in the alpacas for us to stroke and feed carrots to! Competition winners: Hall but next month we will welcome Ailsa Corbishley from on the night were: Muffins - 1st M Millar, 2nd L McDonald; Macamoon who specialises in French macarons. Competitions will be 3x meringue shells and an attractive cake stand.

Heather Shepherd

## School Report

### News from Nursery

It's been a busy time for all the children exploring all the different activities we have in our Nursery. We have been taking part in Book Buddies with the rest of the School and we have started going to St. Ronan's Nursery on a Friday to join in the outdoor learning that takes place there and we had lots of fun exploring the woods and collecting sticks, cones and leaves. We are in the process of setting up a 'mud kitchen' for the children and would like to say thank you to everybody who has donated their old pots, pans and kitchen utensils – we now have plenty of items for the children to use and learn from. If anybody has any small wooden crates or wicker baskets that are no longer required we would gratefully receive those in order to develop a more 'natural' environment for the children.

### News from P1-4

Our topic this term has been 'My Senses' and we have already taken part in a sensory walk around our School Garden to discover what we can see, hear, taste, smell and touch. Lots of sketches and photographs were gathered too! We have had a new addition to our classroom - we have got our very own wormery! This will help us learn about looking after our garden and helping to 'grow our own'. It will also teach about how we can reduce our carbon footprint by keeping waste food to a minimum and feeding it to our new little pals!

### News from P5-7

Our current topic on 'The Romans' got off to a great start when we visited the Trimontium Museum in Melrose. The Museum is named after the Roman fort 'Trimontium' at Newstead, and the children as part of their trip marched from Leaderfoot to Newstead with the Museum curator, Donald Gordon, just as the

Romans would have done. They learnt 'The Trimontium Song' and sang it during their march holding signs and banners in Latin. After their march they spent time at the Museum finding out lots of useful information for their topic. Peebles Museum have loaned the class a resource box containing lots of Roman artefacts such as a centurion's helmet, Roman coins and writing styluses, which is providing the class with lots of things to see and touch. During Art on Thursdays they have transformed their classroom into a Roman fort using lots of old cardboard boxes. Our JRSOs (Junior Road Safety Officers) represented our school at the annual JRSO Conference where they took part in a variety of different road safety workshops.

### School Decoration

Following the painting of the Nursery and P1-4 Classroom, we are delighted to have been able to re-decorate the main corridor and Hall. This has refreshed these areas up and provides a better environment for learning. We plan to paint the P5-7 Classroom soon. These improvements are in line with requests from pupils, parents and staff.

### Parent Council

Our next meeting of our Parent Council will take place on Wednesday 18 October at 6.30pm – 8pm. All welcome.

### Fundraising

The latest collection of our textile recycling point generated £84.40. Thank you to everyone who has donated textiles.

### Genes for Jeans Day

Thank you to all the pupils, staff, parents and members of our community who wore jeans on Friday 22 September and donated money – we raised £36.00 to help transform the lives of children affected by life-altering genetic conditions.



## Home Basics - your local furniture reuse charity.

We collect good quality furniture and working electrical white goods free of charge, or you can deliver to our depot.

Open to all Monday-Friday 10-4, Saturday 10-1.

Unit 7, Tweedvale Mills East, Walkerburn

**01896 870455**    [www.homebasics.org.uk](http://www.homebasics.org.uk)



Company Ltd by Guarantee 234746 : Registered Scottish Charity SC 033827

## WALKERBURN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 20th September 2017

(Full Minutes are also on the Community website)

**Present:** Miss M. McIntosh MBE (Chairman), Mr I. McVean, Mrs I. Ogilvie-Wilson (Treasurer), Mr. D. Thomson, G. Thornton (Minutes), Mrs L. Thornton (Secretary) **Ex Officio:** Cllr. R. Tatler.

### Apologies and Notices.

Apologies for absence received from Dr S. Henderson, Ms M. Daykin, Mr P. Waller, P.C. Burnside, Cllr. Haslam, and Cllr. S. Bell.

### Open Questions.

A question was raised about legal Rights of Way around the village. It was clarified that there is only one Right of Way in the village, which is the path from Caberston Steading to Priesthope. There is also a Designated Pathway along the River Tweed. These paths are shown on the Council maps. Clarification was sought regarding access from Peebles Road and up and down the steps on either side of Pink Bank Cottages. It was pointed out that when the mills were operating most of the properties and their inhabitants were associated with the mill and had common use of the various pathways in the village. However, with the demise of the mill and the consequent private ownership of all the mill properties, boundaries were designated on the Land Registry titles and excluded the public from accessing all of these former routes as they now cross private garden areas. There is no public right of way through people's gardens or along private paths.

### Police Report.

PC Chris Burnside report, covering period 14th June 2017 to 18th September 2017, stated that there have been 45 calls to the area.

During this period there has been a damage only vehicle accident.

Other Incidents of note include a call to Police on 5th August regarding a male having been stabbed. This resulted in a female being cautioned and charged with Assault to injury.

On 13th August, having received information from a member of the public, Police stopped a vehicle which resulted in the driver being cautioned and charged with driving with no licence or insurance. Vehicle recovered with driver now having to pay £130 to recover when all documentation is in order. (Insurance etc.).

On 4th September, Police were made aware of a vehicle accident. This resulted in the driver being cautioned and charged with careless driving.

The report also included the following reminders:

**Dog Control** – It is an offence to not have your dog under control, particularly when around livestock. The owner can shoot any dog worrying livestock. This is basic countryside etiquette (law). Please be considerate when walking your dog.

**Fraudulent Telephone calls** - there have been numerous reports of persons receiving calls on their telephone landlines with culprits attempting to gain personal information under various guises. Do not give this information to anyone either by phone or e-mail

**Personal Safety** - When posting items on Social media sites be careful when identifying items of high value - ie mountain bikes, and sale or purchase of such items, identifying home addresses and vehicles.

**Home Safety** - There have been a number of Housebreakings within the Peeblesshire area over the past 12 months. Members of the public are reminded to remain vigilant and contact Police by **'phone on 101'** if they have any suspicions regarding person(s) or vehicles.

Please e-mail any feedback to: - christopher.burnside@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

### Approval of the Draft Minutes of May's Meeting.

Acceptance of these minutes was proposed by Mrs I. Ogilvie-Wilson, seconded by Mr. D. Thomson and passed by members.

### Matters Arising from the July Minutes.

a). Further to the previously discussed car parking issue in High Cottages, the Community Council has made a formal request and this will be considered SBC Roads Department on behalf of WDCC.

b). Mr Thornton reported that he had completed a survey on behalf of WDCC in reply to a consultation request from Jacobs Ltd regarding a proposed extension southwards of the Borders Railway. He passed on members views that this

could only be a good thing for the whole of this area, even though Walkerburn is on the periphery.

c). Most of the members had attended the Forestry Commission Open Day in the village hall publicising their proposed Land Management Scheme for the Tweed Valley Forest Park. The Community Council will be informed of the outcome of any proposals and plans.

d). Mrs Thornton reported that the request for an article in Burning Issues to publicise Green Dog Walkers information had been published in the August issue.

e). Members had been asked to discuss a complaint about a late-night fireworks display that had caused distress to pets and small children. It was hoped that PC Burnside would inform members about the regulations that pertain to this matter. As he was unable to attend, Mrs Thornton will write to him to get a written reply.

f). Similarly, Mrs Thornton will write to PC Burnside to find out where to access '30 mph' stickers to put on wheelie bins along the A72, as has been done in Stow and some other villages.

g). Mrs Thornton confirmed that the annual 'Village Clean up' will be held on Saturday 7th October. She had arranged for coffee and scones to be available afterwards in the Caberston Café to thank volunteers for helping. Members agreed that this should be paid for by the Community Council. Black bags, gloves, litter picks and high-viz vests will be supplied by the Resilience Committee and SB Local will collect the bags of litter afterwards.

h). The proposal to plant trees in Jubilee Park was publicised in Burning Issues. As this is likely to result in a number of opposing views, it has been put on hold until a public consultation can take place in the village hall. This will be held at 6.30pm and chaired by Dr Henderson and be open for all to attend before the next WDCC meeting on Wednesday 18th October, at 7.00pm. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance, so that everyone can express their point of view.

### Correspondence List.

Mrs Thornton provided members with the List covering August and September. (All emails had been already distributed to members):

1. Email from Damian Hosker answering our queries regarding the proposed base station at Glendinning's yard.
2. Email re: Hall Street/Tweedholm Avenue regarding the parking problem.
3. Email regarding Transport Scotland's case for an extension to Borders Railway and improvements to A1 A7 and A68.
4. Email regarding the Consultation on the role of the Scottish Health Council – strengthening people's voices in health and social care. Closing date for responses is 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017.
5. Email regarding the Walkerburn War Memorial Fund which has a balance of £1,086.
6. Minutes of the SBCCN ;Meeting held on 12th July 2017.
7. Email from The Communities and Partnership Team on behalf of Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership regarding the draft Community Plan.
8. Email from Stuart Bell regarding the proposed planting of trees in Jubilee Park by WCDDT.
9. Email regarding a Variation of Premises Licence – Henry Ballantyne Memorial Institute.
10. Email from The Southern Uplands Partnership with an invite to a networking event on 1st September run by the Borders Energy Agency.
11. Email regarding The Scottish Communities Climate Action Network workshop on 14th September.
12. Letter from Charles Johnson, SBC, regarding the Local Development Plan 2 – Drop in Sessions and Workshop. Our local one is on Thursday 28th Sept in the Burgh Hall, Peebles.

13. Email from Colin Kerr regarding drainage problems in Caberston Road.

14. Email from SP Energy Networks inviting us to explore ways of working together.

15. Letter from Andrea Beavon, VAW Co-ordinator, Safer Communities regarding "InsideOutside Scottish Borders". (2 posters enclosed).

16. Email regarding the Patrick Geddes Learning Festival to be held on 28th to 29th Sept in the Patrick Geddes Centre, Riddles Court, Edinburgh.

17. Email regarding Building Scotland's Low Emission Zones – online until 28th November 2017.

18. Email informing us that PC Richard Toward is the new Engaging Communities Portfolio holder. (Link on Police Scotland's website to "Your View Counts").

19. Email regarding the NHS Golden Jubilee foundation annual review on 23rd October.

20. Police Report from PC Burnside.

#### **Planning and Notices.**

a). Proposed erection of G4 Radio Mast queries in Glendinnings yard, Station Road, Walkerburn.

Following a previous information-only notice of this proposal, a formal application has now been made for erection of this structure. Consequently, members have been made aware of queries from residents regarding the safety and suitability of this project.

Various concerns were discussed:

Firstly, an assertion about it only benefitting O2 and Vodafone customers. Dr Henderson, who was unable to attend personally, had studied the proposal in detail and written to members to point out that this is not correct as other providers also use O2 network BT, (Tesco, Giff Gaff etc.) If these companies and others are factored in, it will probably increase the percentage in the village to well over 50%. Also, changing provider may be costly if you are on a contract.

Despite apparent confusion over the broadband v's mobile data issue, access to a good 4G signal is highly desirable for any sort of mobile streaming service.

Regarding an assertion that it will pose a health hazard to the village, especially as it is not far from the Primary School, this will not be an issue as there will not be any radiation and the site will be closely monitored.

Although it would be close to an SSI area, it will stand within Glendinnings works yard and not encroach on adjacent land. The site was carefully chosen so as to enable a good signal to avoid dead spots and cover both the East and the West of the village.

The mast may not be aesthetically pleasing to everyone but it will not extend above the background of Plora Hill and, on balance, residents should consider supporting this as it can be seen as generally benefitting the village.

Members did not raise objections to this proposal, but pointed out that all residents could express an opinion or raise an objection by accessing the SBC Planning website. The reference for this is **17/01060/FUL**

b). Henry Ballantyne Memorial Institute application regarding Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – have submitted an application to change On-Sale Core Hours to 11.00am – 12.00midnight Sunday to Thursday (currently 11.00am - 11.00pm Sunday to Thursday)

Further details available from Scottish Borders Licensing Board, Licensing Unit, Council Offices, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells TD6 0SA

Tel: 01835 826662

E-mail: [liquorandlicensing@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:liquorandlicensing@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk)

3). Proposed development sites:

The new SBC Local Development Plan is being prepared and Community Councils have been invited to submit details of any possible development sites and planning issues. Mr and Mrs Thornton will attend an open day session at Peebles

Borough Hall to obtain more detailed information and will report back to WDCC.

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

Walkerburn has traditionally hosted a gathering of ex-servicemen and villagers for a Remembrance Day ceremony at the War memorial, followed by an open invitation for everyone to come to the village hall for light refreshments and the opportunity to view the exceptionally comprehensive and poignant display of photographs and documents in tribute to those who had fought in conflicts throughout the last century and in more recent times.

It was recognised that not everyone feels that this is a worthwhile tradition and that the grant given each year by the Community Council may not be an appropriate use of public funds. Consequently, the Community Council discussed whether to continue funding the event, as in past years. However, the strong feeling among the majority of members present was that this was very important to the community as a whole. It is recognised as such by Scottish Borders Council, the Lord Lieutenant, Armed Forces bodies and many other groups. The emphasis is always on 'Remembrance' and members voted that this should continue.

As in past years, Mr Thornton will therefore liaise with Col. And Mrs Purves and with other participants to carry out the necessary arrangements and to be sure of the same high standards as before.

#### **Reports by Members.**

a). Mr Waller reported by e-mail on the following matters mentioned to him

\* He had attended the Forestry Commission presentation on the 5th September and found it very interesting. (See report under item 'C' of 'Matters Arising')

\* The seat on the back road at Glenbenna is dirty and surrounded by uncut grass, making it unpleasant and difficult to use.

Cllr Tatler noted this and will inform SB Local.

\* The proposed mast installation at Station Yard is likely to be unsightly and is unnecessary given the present adequate reception in Walkerburn.

(See report under item 'a' in 'Planning').

\* Has any progress been made to get the path from Caberston Road into Alexandra Park repaired?

Mrs Thornton replied that there is now a Footpaths Grant available for Community Councils to access. She will submit a list of local contractors and costs so that that this work can be carried out.

\* When construction resumes of the Multi-use Path between Innerleithen and Walkerburn will there be fencing to keep livestock off it?

Although the path from the new wooden gates to the fishing hut could not be fenced because Peebles Road residents need to have vehicular access and because sheep need to be able to graze in the field by the rugby pitch, a resident has expressed concern that the entire two mile path would be unfenced and the inevitable accumulation of sheep and cattle droppings may deter people from using the path.

Cllr Tatler said that he would look into the matter and report back.

\* A complaint had been made regarding vegetation behind the parking area at the foot of High Cottages hanging over the salt bin, and also making it harder to park there. In the past, this was occasionally cut back by a local resident. As this is no longer happening, it is requested that this be cut back.

Members noted that that this has since been done.

b). Mrs Ogilvie-Wilson reported on the following matters:

\* As requested at the July meeting, to commemorate "Navy Day", a Red Ensign was flown on her house on the relevant day and will remain in place until the end of September as a mark of respect.

\* She had received requests by local residents for people to take more care not to obstruct pavements with parked cars or carelessly placed rubbish bins. Also, to take more care not to intrude upon Disabled Parking areas, and to make more effort to pick up dog messes.

Members thanked Mrs Ogilvie-Wilson for mentioning these matters, acknowledging that the latter complaints were a constant problem, but will still be made to address them.

c). She had noted that some very prominent yellow lines been recently painted on some of the Galashiels roads. She hoped that the junction of Hall Street and Tweedholm Avenue would also benefit from a similar request.

Cllr Tatler pointed out that this matter was dealt with by the Roads Department at designated meeting times. The Caberston Avenue-High Cottages request had been brought up at a recent meeting. Mr Thornton mentioned that a similar request had been made regarding Hall Street and he would re-submit that request as the matter needs to be resolved in the near future.

c). Mr Thompson reported on the following matters:

\* He had received complaints about the speed of vehicles travelling along Tweedholm Avenue and was concerned about the danger to children as many families live along the Avenue and children play on the footpaths. He was aware that both children and pets occasionally run across the road and were at risk.

Members discussed the idea that Cllr Bell had raised at a previous meeting whereby the street would be turned into a joint vehicle and pedestrian area by using a series of chicanes to reduce traffic speeds. They agreed that this was an excellent idea and will discuss it again with Cllr Bell at a future date.

\* He also reported that the steps leading down towards the river at the East end of the Jubilee Park walkway were too steep for most users and posed an accident risk.

Cllr Tatler noted this and will inform SB Local.

d). Mr McVean reported that he had attended two meetings earlier in the month on behalf of WDCC.

#### \* Borders Energy Agency

The Borders Energy agency was set up by the Borders regional Council and is administered by Pip Tabor (email: [piptabor@sup.org.uk](mailto:piptabor@sup.org.uk))

**Trevor Jackson** described the work of the Charlesfield Anaerobic Digester. This plant converts organic matter into biogas, which can be fed into the gas mains.

A by-product of the digestion process is heat which is piped, as hot water, to the council offices at Newton St. Boswells. The raw material for the digester is rye, barley and grass (in summer) and beet (in winter).

The residue after the digestion process is agricultural fertilizer which is sold to local farmers. There is also a generator on site, powered by methane, to provide power for site equipment.

**Stan Johnston** is a director of Water Engine Technologies; whose offices occupy the old school at Caddonfoot.

Water Engine Technologies are developing a water engine which is very efficient. It works on a hydraulic ram principle which means that it will operate at very low pressure and low water flow rates. The engine is used to generate electricity. Plans are to install one on the lade at Galashiels.

One big advantage of this technology is, unlike other hydro-electric schemes it is fish friendly

**Ian Dunsmore** spoke about the work of Scottish Water Horizons.

They are at present developing heat recovery systems from waste water; namely sewage. They are working with SHARK, an international organization, who have developed ways of recovering heat from sewage in Canada and elsewhere. Both Borders College, at Netherdale, Galashiels and Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick are heated using this

technology and they report a 26 percent reduction in their gas consumption, for heating.

The main stumbling block is overcoming resistance to change and the idea that the heat comes from sewage.

**John Bain** is resources director of Berwickshire Housing Association.

He spoke about Hoprigshiels windfarm, Near Torness power station. This was built as a way of combating fuel poverty amongst their tenants. The wind farm provides electricity for 5500 houses.

Berwickshire Housing Association has also installed PV panels (producing electricity) on its properties with south facing roofs.

#### \* SCCAN (Scottish Communities Climate Action Network) workshop.

This workshop was organized in response to the Scottish Governments bill on climate change.

There has been a net reduction in CO2 in Scotland, since 1990, but it was pointed out that this probably follows a reduction in heavy industry.

It was thought that local initiatives to combat climate change could include the following.

1) Plant more trees 2) Local abattoirs 3) Buses and trains more responsive to local demand

4) Walking and cycling instead of using the car 5) Home offices 6) Increased home insulation

One contributor stated that we spend £80 per month of our income on heating and £19 per month on travel. Older houses were difficult to heat and insulate.

It was thought that *personal carbon allowances* would be a good idea. These could be high enough to ensure that everyone had an agreed quality of life, but those who exceeded their personal carbon allowance would pay more for their food, energy, travel etc...

It was suggested that sustainable carbon objectives should be directed by the local authority. These objectives were variously seen as too ambitious or not ambitious enough.

There was some discussion about whether Scotland could feed its population without importing most of its food. Most of Scotland has poor soil supporting only the cultivation of barley (oats in the past) for the whisky industry and grazing for sheep.

Travel in the Scottish Borders was acknowledged to be a problem. Separated centres of population make car driving the only effective method of transport. The new railway was popular.

Many people felt that setting carbon objectives was unproductive. Carbon capture was talked about as were employment opportunities in a zero-carbon economy.

Giving up eating meat was a way of reducing methane. Lower overall food consumption was talked about - comparing our food consumption now with that during WW2; resulting in lower obesity and less incidence of diabetes.

Community allotments for young people were discussed. It was stated that young people are the future and they need to be encouraged to think sustainably.

Everyone agreed that the locally sourced and prepared food served, was excellent.

#### **Reports by SBC Councillor(s).**

\* *Cllr Tatler* apologised for not being able to attend the last meeting.

He reported that it was important for the WDCC to note that the 'Tweeddale Area Forum' had been replaced by the Tweeddale Locality Committee. It will meet once every second month in different venues and will be more pro-active than the Forum. It will welcome more debate, look to raise local issues and air local viewpoints. It will include any work already done.

The Council will meet to set out next year's dates, decide who to invite and other relevant matters. Importantly, £91,000 has been allocated for distribution to local

Tweeddale Communities for improving wellbeing in Tweeddale and this should be approved in the near future.. Bids will be invited from any local groups and the public will then be invited to vote on accepted bids. In answer to a query from WDCC member, he stressed that allocation will be strictly per capita and not weighted according to the size of the community applying. This will be repeated annually.

Details will be sent out in the near future and Burning Issues will be asked to publicise details to keep Walkerburn fully informed. Mr Thornton will ensure that this is done.

\* In his absence, Cllr Bell wrote to point out a number of issues relevant to Walkerburn:

1 As regards items in the minutes of the last meeting, the issue (Item 6c) about erosion of the embankment on station road, this has been followed up by Neighbourhood Services who considered it to be a landowner issue. They assured me that the landowner has undertaken to fill in the hole and obviate any subsidence on the road

As regards the call for sites for the Local Plan (Item 7g) I am of the personal view that the community of Walkerburn would benefit from a sensitive amount of new housing, not least as that could protect our Primary school. There has been no progress on currently identified sites and the CC might consider making relevant input to the consultation on Main Issues for the forthcoming Local Development Plan

I see that vegetation is still overhanging the salt bin at the foot of High Cottages (Item 9e) and I have raised this again with Neighbourhood Services

2 The Locality Committee at its meeting last week approved the expenditure on making the wooden walkway in the park less slippery through nailing down relevant non-slip strips as discussed at a previous meeting.

3 There is now a completed feasibility study for the prospective Walkerburn-to-Clovenfords multi-use path extension. As W&D Community Development Trust are the lead on this the feasibility study is now with them. In summary, there is a feasible, but very expensive, route. I have discussed with the relevant officer (Graeme Johnston) how this might best be progressed and he suggested a discussion on issues and the identified options with the local communities. For Clovenfords, I am trying to organise a small number of copies to be circulated amongst the CC members as the report is too long to e-mail. I am suggesting that the CC then invite Graeme to discuss issues and options at a CC meeting after the members have had a chance to read the report. It might be useful for WDCC to do something similar.

4 As regards the 30 mph limit to the West of the village and the prospective extension,. I have copied you into all the correspondence and I am personally of the view that the bigger challenge will be persuade the Council Roads officers of the case. The police do have a view and an input – but I have the distinct impression that the substantive defenders of the status-quo are the Roads officers. It will be incumbent on WDCC to pursue this further.

The core of the Officer's defence is as outlined in Gary Haldane's e-mail of 10 August – which states:-

*"The criteria for speed limits is identified in the following*

*document which I would have hyperlinked, although this does not work on this email, a simple google search will direct you to the Scottish Government website for the information -. (Setting Local Speed Limits: Guidance for Local Authorities: ETLCD Circular 1/2006).*

*You will notice that Annex C clearly outlines the criteria for urban speed limits and as there is no development in the form of properties in this area, it would not meet the criteria for extension of the 30mph speed limit. I understand the points made regarding the pedestrian movements and vehicle movements but speed limits are usually associated with the last property and not footpaths. Moving the signs to the proposed location will likely dilute the effectiveness of the speed limit as the driver will see no reason to slow down upon entry.*

*I understand that this will not be the response hoped for regarding this proposal but we will keep the comments raised on file for future reference."*

I think we can go back to Gary and argue that in respect of his "Annex C" references there may not be some properties directly on the road – but there are a significant number of pedestrians accessing the road and buses from the path up from Tweedholm Avenue. Those bus-stops are to my observation the most used stops in the village. Perhaps he did not see this when he visited; but his rule/procedures are for guidance and interpretation not dogmatic implementation. Please let me know if the Community Council wants to pursue this matter.

The Community Council agreed that Cllr Bells should be asked to pursue this.

## **12. Any Other Business.**

a). Mrs Thornton confirmed that the village clean-up will take place on Saturday 7th October, starting from the village hall, and that all the necessary equipment will be provided. SB Local will uplift all bags of litter gathered. She has arranged for volunteers to have light refreshments afterwards at the Caberston café, and asked if the Community Council would pay for this. Members agreed that this was acceptable.

b). The problems with frequent power cuts and telephone usage cuts were discussed. It was noted that the relevant authorities are aware of this and are taking steps to resolve loss of service. It was agreed that it would be helpful to publish details help-line telephone numbers in Burning Issues and on the Walkerburn website.

c). Mrs Thornton reported that we were not successful in our 'Village of the Year' application, but we hope to apply again next year.

## **Date of the Next WDCC Meeting.**

The next meeting will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18th October

Members were also reminded that Dr Henderson will chair an open meeting for a discussion to elicit views regarding a suggestion by the Development Trust that several trees be planted alongside footpaths in Jubilee Park. As there is a possibility that this may not be universally acceptable, all villagers are invited to attend and put forward their points of view so that an informed and majority decision can be made .

## **WALKERBURN COMMUNITY CRAFT CENTRE 'CRAFTS4U'**

Walkerburn Old Mill Car Park

**Tuesday:** 1.00pm- 4.00pm (Quilting). **Wednesday:** (Your Choice) 7.00pm-9.00pm.

**Thursday:** Class in knitting and crochet for beginners and more experienced people 2.00pm-4.00pm.

**Friday:** 1.00 pm – 4.00pm (Craft-for-Club)

Newcomers always given a warm welcome. Any queries, please contact Jenni Brown on 01896 833883.

## **Walkerburn Guild Coffee Morning**

Village Hall

Saturday 18th November from 10.00-11.30am

Various stalls. Tickets £1



**Gym Bag**  
 Personal Training & Fitness  
 Call Hilary Little  
**07412 388 993**  
 for individual & group training



**Mike Little Plumber**  
 mike little  
**PLUMBER**  
 07927 344 184  
 Phone: 01896 870 655 or 07927 344 184

**WHAT'S ON IN THE HALL: OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**

Date	Event	Time
<b>October</b>		
Sunday 15th	Church Service	10.00am
Tuesday 17th	Lunch Club	12 noon
Wednesday 18th	Public Meeting re: WCDDT's Proposal to plant trees in Jubilee Park" Walkerburn and District Community Council	6.30pm 7.00pm
Friday 27th	Cabaret Evening with Twilite Duo	7/00pm
<b>November</b>		
Wednesday 1st	Rural	7.30pm
Friday 10th	St Kilda Talk (for Hall funds)	7.00pm
Sunday 12th	Remembrance Day	10.00am
Saturday 18th	Guild Coffee Morning	10.00-11.30am
Sunday 19th	Church Service	10.00am

**REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS IN WALKERBURN VILLAGE HALL**

Sundays	Table Tennis	6.00 – 9.00pm
Mondays	MindfulYoga	7.00 – 8.45pm
Wednesdays	Tai Chi	10.15 – 11.45am
Thursdays	Youth Club	6.30-8.30pm

Anyone interested in booking the hall, please contact Win Pennel on 01896 870236

*Note: Hall Rental charge for up to three hours use is £18*



**Colin Wilson IT Services**  
 Making your IT work for you  
 Peebles  
 m: 07548 152919  
 e: cwilson.itservices@gmail.com  
 Windows PC and laptop service & repairs,  
 Replacement laptop screens.  
 Windows reinstallations, Upgrade, Virus removal.  
 Home collection and delivery.  
 Qualified Hardware Service Technician

**MD MOWERS**  
 "Garden Tools and Machinery Service and Repair"  
 A reliable and experienced Walkerburn based  
 business  
 Mob: 07517-154 868  
 e-mail: mjdee1982@gmail.com



**Walkerburn Community Website**

If you want to know "What's On" at the village hall, who to contact about a particular local group, or want a number for a local tradesman, the community website is the place to go.

If your group is not on the local contacts list, please send details to [mail@walkerburn.com](mailto:mail@walkerburn.com).

Note: If you want to advertise an event in the village you don't have to wait for the next issue of Burning Issues, but can send information direct to [mail@walkerburn.com](mailto:mail@walkerburn.com) for posting onto the "what's on" page.

**Burning Issues Contributors**

Please remember to submit any articles, letters or other material for the November 2017 issue by the last day of October.

**Contact BURNing Issues at [walkerburnnews@hotmail.com](mailto:walkerburnnews@hotmail.com)**