



**Galashiels Community Council**  
**Burgh Chambers**  
**Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
**6.30pm**  
**Minutes**

**Present**

Judith Cleghorn, Tracey Alder, Rick Kenney, Tom Ingoldsby, Liz Jardine. Claire Howden, John Hazle Drew Tulley Eileen Frame Helen Calder Bill White

**In Attendance**

Cllr Anderson

Cllr Scott

Kevin Janiak – Southern Reporter

Ally McGilvray – Radio Borders

2 Members of the Public.

Jason Hedley and Craig Blackie - SBC

Pete Laing – Trails

Mike Gray – Energise Galashiels

**Meeting commenced 6,30pm**

Chair Judith Cleghorn opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**1. Apologies**

Tony Brown, Cllr Jardine

Celeste Di Vito Kevin Ryalls, Police Scotland Marion Romeril. Marion Romeril was informed earlier in the day that the lift at the Burgh Chambers had not been working properly for nearly a week. As a wheelchair user Marion was very annoyed that she was unable to attend the evening's meetings. Tracey also had to struggle to walk up the stairs. Cllr Scott said he will find out about the lift.

**2. Minutes Approval**

An accurate Minute of the Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May was approved by John Hazle and Second by Drew Tulley

**3. Matters Arising**

Meet up still to be arranged with Cllr Anderson, a member from SBC, Marion Romeril to look at dropped curbs.

Fly Tipping reported at last meeting, nothing as yet has been done about this.

Question raised at last meeting about if there will be toilets at Public Park – Judith will get in touch with Cllr Parker

**4. Police Update and Questions**

Apologies but report submitted – Cllr Scott will look into why there is no police presence at the meetings

**5. Speakers**

**Craig Blackie and Jason Hedley** – Gave overview of the recent changes in grass cutting and how it will impact on Galashiels.

The extended time between cuts will only be on Amenity Grass, the likes of Bank St and Old Gala House will remain the same. There is a set of plans available which specifies the areas that won't be cut and

They would like to arrange groups to bring forward discussions about public conveniences

Comment made – The state of the grass at Cemeteries, not just in Gala but all across the Borders. The one in Earlston is in a shocking state. They are a disgrace, the grass is long and wet and covering the graves.

Comment-The issue of Banners around town being taken down came up for brief discussion. If SBC are getting their workers to cut down the banners then can they please take away the cable ties and cords away instead of leaving them all over the floor?

Tracey added that she was overseeing the Weekend Walking Festival and one of their banners was taken down a day before the festival had finished.

**Mike Gray – Energise Gala**

Energise was started in 2014 to provide a focus for the community.

There are 4 sub sections Looking Good, Events, Innovation and Support.

It's not all positives for energise, £25, 000 raised for the Hydro at the Mill Lade but the plug was pulled on this.

Let down by the majority regarding the amount of empty shops in the area.

Banners, Displays in shops, Flying Scotsman which was Community Council led, Energise was support for this and the mural at the side of the Grapevine.

The Great Tapestry of Scotland is very much welcomed to Galashiels so Galashiels shops, streets etc need to look good for 2020 for visitors.

Gala Remembers is a huge event that a lot of planning has gone in to. Lots of organisations, groups and individuals are taking part to make this a spectacular event in November.

**Pete Laing – Trails**

Pete did overview of the trails that are planned from Langlee Woods to Stow.

It's a marvellous area with great potential

Consultation is still to do.

\*\*\*

Minutes are unfortunately limited from this point as the Secretary Tracey Alder taking the minutes was taken ill and had to leave the meeting.

QA – Is parking going to be a problem – Parking is being looked at in locations at Langlee and Ladhope. Cllr Scott said it's an area that really needs looked at as parking will be a main issue.

There will be a public meeting

**6. Galashiels Academy**

Apologies

**7. Sub Groups Update**

**Planning and Licensing Applications**

Rick went through planning reports that had been sent for approval

**Gala Waterways**

Meeting with Claire Penny is still to go ahead.

Waterways received £150 from the Angling club

**8. Chairs Update**

**9. Treasurers Update**

£669.00 is held in the Community Council Account .

**10. Secretary's Update**

**11. SBC Councillors Comments and Questions**

**Cllr Scott**

**Cllr Anderson**

**12. AOB** – Drew Tulley congratulated Cllr Jardine and Cllr Anderson for finally getting done what was asked to be done a good few years ago.

The recycling and Bottle banks at Netherdale can now be used properly by the public and they don't have to wade through water, The two Cllrs have done a job in a couple of weeks which previous Cllrs failed to do over a period of 8 years . Well Done

**Date of Next Meeting – July 4th – 6.30pm Burgh Chambers**