

Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council – The last 50 years



Over the last 50 years, the Community Council (CC) has held meetings every month other than a summer break in July including online meetings during lockdown.

It has updated the CC by using social media, having both a Facebook and website page

Uses WhatsApp and other social media to communicate with members alongside Zoom and Teams

Has a quarterly newsletter delivered to all households in the electoral ward, either electronically or physically.

Has run many public meetings for the whole community to ascertain community views on proposals / projects.

With village hall has negotiated community buy out of football field to retain it as a green space for the community.

Negotiated with various windfarms for community benefits, before the windfarm convention was created, and obtained contracts. Represented CCCC and other CCs at Reporter hearings in respect of various windfarm developments.

Assisted with the purchase of Allotment land from Transport Scotland and through community benefit funding has helped the Allotment Association to develop community composting, etc and liaison with local Primary School over gardening and food sustainability.

Supported annual gala and flower shows

Employed community development officer and administrator and paid for and helped develop an online community engagement system to develop a community action plan / place plan which is updated annually.

Supported village hall, bowling club and other local organisations with applications for funding

Managed community benefits from renewable energy and carried out due diligence in respect of all applications

Supported the set up and running of the community shop, after the commercial shop in the village closed

Set up a community caretaker project and managed participation agreement with SBC regarding maintenance within the community (verges, grass cutting etc)

Supported the primary school and nursery parents though attempted closures

Established an assistance system for vulnerable people within the community

Supported the establishment of a food bank during Covid

Supported community and negotiated with medical surgery over closure of village surgery.

Is currently consulting over changes to the village hall to create a community hub and include the shop within it

Currently consulting over a multi sports area within the football field

Represented community views through the planning system

Supported those views at Public Inquiry sessions and through court action



Bought community storage, community tractor and maintenance machinery

Negotiated with Foundation Scotland who now run most community benefit fund applications and established a local Funding Panel for final decision making

Supported the community during COVID through the use of social media and online meetings, open to the public

Assists physically and financially with a weekly community café, run by volunteers

Gained “Wellness Funding” through D>SI (prior to SOSE/Borders TSI) and established wellness events (Drop-in clinics, physical activities, crafting, bereavement support, book club, badminton, walking football etc) which have all continued with community benefit funding since Wellness funding ended.



Set up post covid recovery programme

Currently looking into conservation of our Market Cross

Supported through community benefits, individual “green grants” for homeowners wishing to improve their home via insulation, EV charging etc

Funded EV charging points at our village hall and community shop

Alongside Police Scotland, set up “no cold calling zones” and in the past ran a neighbourhood watch system

Advised and assisted with funding revamp of children’s playpark in association with Playpark Association

Co-opted various members at different times, for their expertise and experience to assist with specific local issues

Run elections

Fought against the loss of our local Post Office services and represented the community in this.

