

PRESS RELEASE

West Linton Community Council Demands Transparency on Graham Institute Report

West Linton Community Council has raised serious concerns about a recently released report on local public halls, including the Graham Institute, calling it superficial and lacking in factual and analytical depth.

The Council believes the report—commissioned by Scottish Borders Council—fails to provide a sound basis for decisions about vital community assets. “It appears to be little more than a desk-based exercise with no real assessment of the value these facilities bring to local people,” a spokesperson said.

In response, the Council is formally requesting:

- A detailed financial breakdown of costs and revenues associated with the Graham Institute.
- An independent building survey, with findings made public before any decisions.
- Clarification of legal ownership and any conditions tied to the original 1903 gift of the building.
- A clear and accessible consultation process, aligned with national standards.
- Full transparency in decision-making criteria, including how community value and usage trends will be considered.

The Council also calls for a senior representative from SBC or Live Borders to visit West Linton and engage directly with residents.

“The Graham Institute is more than a building—it’s a community cornerstone. Its future must be decided with honesty, evidence, and public input,” the spokesperson added.

Contact: Secretary WLCC

West Linton Community Council