

Peebles & District Community Council

Chairman's Report

April 2023

1.0 Litter Pick

The writer considers that we had a good turnout and in collecting over 50 black bags of litter, waste, and dog poo, we must count the event as successful. My thanks to everyone who took part and particularly George Ramsay for organising, Anne for Admin and Robin for the briefing.

2.0 March Street Mill

Final call for feedback to the Chairman please.

3.0 Holistic Transport Review

No change

4.0 Peebles Town Action Plan (Place Planning)

The Peebles Placemaking HQ is set up in the Meeting Room at The School Brae Hub and is used to collate all the background material and feedback from community engagement events. An Open Forum event took place on 1st April in the MacFarlane Hall which was not well attended. However, it did generate many new ideas and was therefore judged a success. Three discussion roundtable events were also held in The School Brae Meeting Room. The writer provided support to Crick Carlton on all four events.

5.0 UCL Cycling World Championships.

An online meeting was held to inform communities of the size and implications of the event. Undoubtedly, it is a great honour for the area and should generate an expansion of tourism both in the short and long term. This writer considers that the organisers appear professional and with SBC and other agencies are trying to minimise disruption and effectively manage environmental and health and safety issues. However, as it is in effect a "Cycling Olympics" it will be extremely busy and the roads and parking in the town will almost certainly be congested, not to mention the number of bikes on the roads.

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6.0 Developing the Young Workforce

The writer has volunteered to assist in the DYM project and is helping interface with a group of PHS students at the end of April. Depending upon how this goes, I may continue. This program helps kids across the Borders who are close to leaving school for work or further education and particularly some who may feel disenfranchised. The project focusses on schools but reaches out to other organisations as well. There may be a useful interface to be had between this and our own youth initiatives and is worth considering.

7.0 Coronation Event

Anne has done prestigious work on pulling this together and we appear to have circa 50 guests lined up for the event at the Eastgate.

8.0 Volunteers Fair

The writer met on 28 March with Lorna McCulloch from the Bridge and Adrian Lucas, Deputy Lord-Lieutenant. Lorna has the organisation well in hand for 27 May and Adrian persuaded her/us to extend the event beyond the Burgh Hall to include marquees on Tweed green. All we will have to do is provide a table/stand in the Burgh Hall and show ourselves off in a good light! We will need some form of banners, etc which should be possible to source partly from PCT. We can also play host to small groups such as the Xmas lights. The event can be used for recruitment, advertising who we are and what we do and fund raising.

9.0 Tweeddale Area Partnership

A meeting of the TAP was held on 28 March. The following topics were covered.

- **Peebles Youth Voice** (Malcolm's initiative) – A Briefing was given by Iain Gibson
- **Climate Action Network** – provided a briefing.
- **Place Making** – Crick Carlton provided an update.
- **Funding**
 - St Ronan's Silver Band - £1,800 – To support with staffing costs.
 - St Ronan's Wells Garden Volunteers - £3,771 – to assist with garden maintenance.
 - Upper Tweed Community Enterprise Ltd - £6,577.06 – for help with their shop refurbishment.

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- Walkerburn and District Community Council - £4,160 – for village hall rental
- Nomad Beat - £3,841.20 – for salary costs and rent.
- Carlops Community Garden Group - £1,048 – for garden equipment
- Linton Hotspur Community Football Club - £7,500 - for modular units
- A **funding balance** of £8939 remains in this financial year.

Peter Maudsley
Chair
Peebles and District Community Council