



Meeting Minutes - Approved

18th November 2025, 7pm Coldingham Village Hall

1: Present/Apologies

Coldingham Community Council:

Krishna Ramcharran (KR)	Karen Thomson (KT)	Neil Renilson (NR)
Jack Eeley (JE)	Carol Hallows (CH)	Leah Stewart (LS)

Members of the Coldingham Community: 4

Councillors: Cllr James Anderson (Cllr.JA)

Apologies for absence

Philippa Allen (PA), Alice Fisher (AF), Christopher Anderson (CA)

Councillors: Cllr Carol Hamilton (Cllr.CH);

Before starting the meeting the Chair acknowledged and thanked organisers and participants of Remembrance Sunday. The War Memorial Garden looked fabulous and its award well deserved. The ceremony which was attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant and Pipers was very well organised and ran smoothly.

2: Agree Agenda and Items for AOCB

The agenda - previously circulated - was agreed with no objections (NR proposed, LS seconded).

A number of items for Any Other Council Business (AOCB) were raised. These were: concerns about the A1 Reston junction (darkness and safety), a consultation affecting Eyemouth Primary School, notice from Berwickshire Marine Reserve, reallocation of responsibility for maintenance of paths and bus shelters from the resilience group back to the appropriate team, and a resilience group offer of push salt spreaders for community groups.

3: Previous Minutes – Corrections/Approval

The minutes from the previous meeting (October) had been published and were confirmed as accurate with no corrections. A motion to approve the minutes was proposed and seconded (LS proposed, JE seconded).

4: Matters Arising / Actions from previous minutes

Kissing gate replacement: Cllr Hamilton had emailed confirming the blacksmith is making new kissing gates.

Additional bus service: On behalf of CA, the Chair reported that an additional bus service, running from Berwick Station to Reston Station had been added to the timetable. The service ran once daily Monday–Saturday service. It leave Berwick train station at 7:10pm and arrives at Reston train station at 7:50pm. It then leaves Reston at 8.00pm and returns to Berwick for 8.44pm – See Appendix A. Whilst a limited addition it was welcomed.

Christmas lights/tree: A tree has been earmarked and plans in place to erect it and the lights on the morning of Saturday 29th November. A Team are in place to help with lights and to transport the tree to the village. Cones are required to prevent parking adjacent to the hall the night before; PA previously organised cones and will be asked where they are stored (likely at the back of the village hall). Shona Easingwood has confirmed all required paperwork had been submitted to SBC and the event was ready to proceed.

5: SBC Councillors Report - JA

Budget consultation: JA encouraged residents to participate and state priorities on how limited funds should be allocated; the deadline for the budget consultation is 30 November 2025.

Eyemouth Primary consultation: JA informed the meeting that the consultation relating to Eyemouth Primary's proposed relocation to Eyemouth High School - (top floor of the Eyemouth High School building) was due to close on 8th December 2025. JA emphasised that although the proposal nominally concerns Eyemouth Primary, it affects the whole school catchment and all children who will attend the high school in future. He encouraged everyone to respond to the consultation.

Action: CH to draft response on behalf of Coldingham Community Council

6: Treasurers Report

KR informed the meeting that AF has confirmed that she will be stepping down from the Community Council and the Office Bearer position of Treasurer. Her last meeting will be 16 Dec 2025. CH indicated she would be happy to take on the role. KR indicated that she needed to be nominated and seconded.

KR summarised the key components of the Treasurers report Appendix B. The current balance of funds stood at approx. £231k. From 20 Oct–17 Nov there were income streams totaling £71k (mostly playpark contributions) and expenditure of £2,633 (contributions to Coldingham Society, recent microgrants to Brave Bears, Coldingham Sands, PFA, payment to David Hood for the website, and an electricity bill for the War Memorial connection).

7: Police Report

KR Summarised the Police Scotland report for October 2025 – See Appendix C.

8: Microgrant Application – NnG Community Fund

LS confirmed that there were no new microgrant applications to discuss and provided a Foundation Scotland update:

Drone Hill Fund (local windfarm fund) is active; the fund distributes £40k/year among four community areas. A new offshore wind project (NNG / EDF) will create an expanded funding pot covering five community areas (Coldingham, Cockburnspath, Fife & Cove, St Abbs, Burnmouth & Eyemouth). Each of the five community areas will be allocated £1,000 each towards microgrants; the remainder will go to a larger joint fund ~£27,500.

Foundation Scotland is managing these funds; Drone Hill and the new fund may pool into a single larger panel, with representatives selected from community areas to sit on funding panels. Each community can nominate up to four representatives, but only two representatives can vote at any one panel meeting, and panels will be held three times per year.

9: Wishlist

Playpark Update – JE reported that the playpark project was nearing its fund raising target of with two funding applications outstanding. Recent successful bids included Foundation Scotland, Highview Carvan Site, Edinburgh University, and Reston Community Council.

KOMPAN – the selected supplier - will draw up a new detailed plan reflecting recent stakeholder meetings with SBC (Scottish Borders Council) and the project team. The detailed drawings (architect-style) of the site will including exact locations of the apparatus and are due mid-to-late December. KR reminded JE that a key request from community at the Village Hall event was to see a 3D plan to understand the playpark and its layout within the context of its environment. It was agreed that the detailed plans will be presented to the Community Council to review and sign-off. KR advised that with the excellent stakeholder engagement undertaken to date it was vital that the final designs be shared with the community.

Members of the CC emphasised that the Community Council must remain closely involved in all aspects of the design, installation and approval process to protect community interests and ensure the installed equipment matches what was funded.

There was strong emphasis from Community Councillors that Jack and Robbie (the grassroots leads) must be present at procurement/delivery/acceptance meetings and that Community Council sign-off should be required for final acceptance. This was vital to protect the interests of the community. Community Councillors and JA offered to support and attend meetings to ensure the community's interests are protected.

Village Hall Event Outcome – KR reminded the everyone that the vote to approved the top nine projects – Appendix D - at the last meeting had been suspended. KR had agreed to provide more detail on the nature of the Playing Field category. KR explained that following a review of the paper and electronic survey responses the replies under 'Playing Field' could be summarised under three key headings Sports Equipment, Sport Area and Supporting Infrastructure:

Sports Equipment	Sports Areas	Supporting Infrastructure
Teenage facilities – multiple ages	Running Track	BBQ Area
New Football Goals	Outdoor Gym	Seating
Netball / Basketball	Ball Wall	Fencing
Bowling/Croquet	Skate Park	Floodlights

KR reminded the CCs that the community had already voted on the ideas, the CC were agreeing to this subset of ideas to being the first to progress to the scoping and feasibility stage. KR asked the CCs to vote to support to progress the identified projects. The CC vote 6-0 in favor of progressing the nine projects.

11: Xmas Lights – Switching On

AF had confirmed via email that the switching on event would take place on Saturday 29th November 2025 at 3.30pm. AF had circulated a draft poster for comment. The Luckenbooth had kindly offered to provide refreshments including mulled wine and mince pies.

12: Correspondence

A member of the community had raised concerns about the difficulty faced by less mobile members of the community in finding spaces in the village car park when needed. The disabled bays at times were occupied by vehicles without badges. It was also noted that the village car park was becoming a parking area for residents close by with no where to park their vehicles

It was noted that a number of underused spaces existed near the old doctor’s surgery and that there is little or no signage to direct drivers to the alternative car park; some people arrive early and still find the main car park full. Camper vans parking overnight was noted as a seasonal issue.

Some discussion was had regarding enforcement. JA indicated that enforcement was managed by the SBC. It was noted that individuals had the right to take photographs of illegally parked vehicles, i.e. vehicles parked in a disabled bay without a badge, and report the incident to SBC.

Community Council Meeting Dates 2026: KR informed the meeting that the dates for the CC meetings in 2026 had been set and the village hall bookings confirmed. The dates would be posted on the Coldingham Info website.

13: Any Other Competent Business (AOCB)]

Berwick Marine Research: New Research Officer Anna is undertaking feasibility for a permanent marine education facility in Berwickshire. Consultation events: Coldingham Village Hall (6 Dec, 11–14:00), St Abbs (10 Jan).

Warm hub: Carol reported progress and has prepared a business case. There is potential to access funding from a Scottish Government / council “warm hub” fund (large fund, funding

prospect for professional assessment and possible capital works). The assessment must be requested/submitted in December to access professional assessments by February (the funding round timeframe). The assessment can be done without match-funding and may unlock up to £150k in some cases. It was agreed that in order to proceed with the assessment permission had to be sought from Norman Wood (village hall owner/manager).

Action: CH to obtain permission from Norman Wood to proceed with the “warm hub” assessment.

Salt spreader: SBC offered a salt spreader for community use. To accept, the council required a delivery address, contact name and phone number. It was agreed that further consideration was needed for storage and volunteer availability to use it. It was discussed whether the resilience group could manage distribution/use and storage logistics (shelter behind the church as potential storage).

16: DONM

Tue 16/12/2025, 7pm in Hall.

Meeting closed.

Appendix A - Additional Bus Times

Mon – Sat

Berwick Station – 7.10pm

Eyemouth High Street - 7.32pm

Coldingham Crosslaw - 7.44pm

Reston Station 7.50pm

Reston Station – 8.00pm

Coldingham Crosslaw – 8.08pm

Eyemouth High Street – 8.20pm

Berwick Station – 8.44pm

Appendix C – Scottish Borders Area Command - October 2025 Summary

Community Update – PC Jacobs and PC McCleod due to meet with Junior Road Safety Officers at Coldingham Primary in November.

Protecting Vulnerable People

- Involved in 201 mental health related calls, 16 missing person enquiries, 97 domestic related incidents.
- East Berwickshire – 29 mental health calls and 0 missing person enquiry.

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour

- Assaults – 0 incidents in Coldingham. 1 male assault Co'Path, Male arrested and then released.
- Anti Social Behaviour – 0 incidents Coldingham. 11 incidents in Eyemouth. 3 incidents in Chirnside. 1 incident in Ayton.
- Vandalism/Vehicle Damage – 0 incidents in Coldingham, 1 incident in Eyemouth involving vehicle vandalism, 1 incident in Chirnside – window being smashed.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

- Theft – Zero incidents

Improving Road Safety

- Fine issued in Grantshouse and fine + penalty points in Ayton.

Series and Organised Crime Enforcement

- Six Drug and general Evidence Warrants resulting in seizures in Hawick and Galashiels of Class A and Class B controlled drugs and five figure sums of cash.
- 4 people reported for drug related offences.

Campaigns – Darker Nights – Housebreaking prevention advice.

Appendix D – Top Nine Community Projects to Progress

Project Idea	Number of mentions	Village Hall - 27 Sept 2025	Cumulative	Status
Memorial Garden	15	6	21	Open
Teenagers' Facilities	10	3	13	Open
Playing Field	9	4	13	Open
Use the Old Surgery Building for community venture	3	7	10	Open
Blindspot Mirrors/Speeding Measures	3	7	10	Open
Provision of Public Toilet		10	10	Open
Refurbish path from beach to Eyemouth	1	8	9	Open
Notice Board for War Memorial - To house story since inception		7	7	Open
Trim Trail/Community Gym		6	6	Open