



COMMUNITY COMPANY

GrantsHouse and District Newsletter

May / June 2022

Welcome to the First Edition of GrantsHouse and District Newsletter.

This newsletter is Your newsletter. It's a way of finding out what is happening in the community, anything from events, projects, resilience planning, funding that's available and lots more. For it to be a success it relies on you, the residents of the area to liaise with Jennie Sutton, the newly appointed Community Development Officer (CDO), for GrantsHouse Community Company. So please share news on a bi-monthly basis.

Dates for 2022 Newsletters are: July/August, September/October, November/December – please submit items and articles the month before the Newsletter is due to be published via email. *Thank you*

Jennie Sutton's role as Community Development Officer:

Jennie's remit is to:

- Check the relevance and direction of outstanding projects as part of the 2015 Community Action Plan (CAP).
- Actively engage with the community to encourage their involvement in projects, ideas and volunteering in the area for generations to come.
- Establish an engagement approach for different initiatives. i.e., gatherings, newsletters, questionnaires, and social media.
- Create alongside the community a new Community Action Plan for 2022.
- Assist in the development of the Community Shop from; liaising with stakeholders, partners, funders, contractors and to source funding to ensure the project comes to fruition.



You can see that you as a resident are at the heart of all activities in terms of being heard, sharing ideas and getting stuck in!

Please keep my contact details handy for all communication, ideas and news you want to share.

E: jenniesuttonghouse@gmail.com

T: 07799741765

New Scottish Borders Councillors following the Election on Thursday 5th May 2022:



From Left – Right

Carol Hamilton, Conservative
Aileen Orr, SNP
James Anderson, Independent

Congratulations to our new SBC Councillors. We look forward to getting to know them when they attend the Community Council meetings (every second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall).

Remember the SBC Councillor's role is to:

- To decide how SBC should carry out its various activities.
- To represent public interest as well as individuals living within the area in which they have been elected to serve a term of office.
- To have regular contact with the public through council meetings, telephone calls or face to face surgeries.
- Work voluntary although they do receive allowances.

They are contactable via SBC Website, email, and dedicated telephone number.



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Grantshouse Community Council Elections: Make a Difference

The timeframes are as follows:

1. **12th May** – start of nominations from residents that live in the area. Nomination forms available from www.grantshouse.info and to be returned using the post box at the Village Hall or email a photo to grantshousecc@gmail.com.
Guidelines on form completion is available on 'Election' page on www.grantshouse.info.
2. **26th May** – end of nomination stage. This date is followed by a cooling off period of 7 days.
3. **2nd June** – closure provided there are over 4 and under 8 nominations, plus Secretary and Treasurer.
4. **9th June** - SBC Councillor will act as the Returning Officer followed by the CC AGM.
5. The CC can also have co-opted, and specialist appointments based on expertise.

Joining your Community Council: There are three key steps:

1. Be on the electoral role and live in the area - over the age of 18 years
2. Become a Co-opted member to the Community Council for three meetings
3. Be an elected member at the Community Council election (happens once every three years)

What's in it for me? Being a member of the Community Council is hugely rewarding and a great chance of making a difference. Everyone has something to offer, interests and backgrounds. Training and support are available and it's a great way to offer your own knowledge, skill sets and influence your CV, Job, School and University prospects.

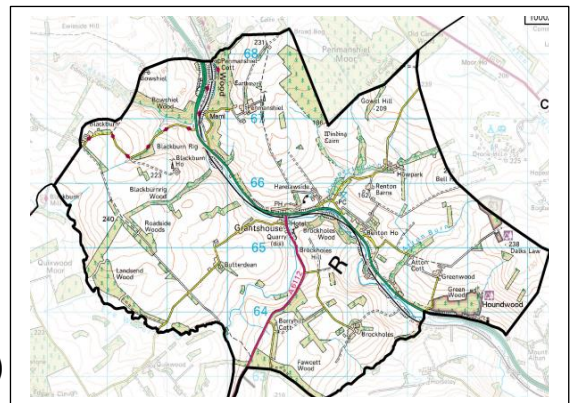
More about the CC role: Under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, all Local Authority Councils were legally obliged to establish Community Councils. These are recognised groups of local people with an interest in their community. The Community Councillors are volunteers. They give their time without any remuneration to represent, consult, enable initiatives to happen, and decisions to be made in the interest of all residents of the area. This may include passing on local views to the public sector organisations such SBC, NHS Borders, Police Scotland and the Scottish Government. Community Councils receive an annual grant from SBC. They can also apply for different grants to fulfil needs and projects.

The Community Council is an official body that are:

- statutory consultees on planning issues
- to be considered on local issues
- able to make representation to appropriate bodies

Standard items on the agenda include:

- Police Reports of traffic accidents, incidents, and vandalism.
- Community Action Plan - updates on activities
- Funding applications (Community Benefits Windfarm Monies)
- Area Community Councillors updates
- SBC Councillors updates on how local services are delivered, inform of any changes to services or any issue



Other News: Free Wood: There is still some wood in the Glade from the storm damage earlier this year. You are welcome to cut up and take away. Remember to have your own household resilience kit in place for any future storms: i.e., food, water, matches, torch, candles, blankets, camping stove if you have one.

Community Shop: Progress is being made, more updates to come in future Newsletters.

Grantshouse Website: Keep up to date with all things happening in the area: www.grantshouse.info

Lateral Flow Tests: There are kits available in the Village Hall. If you'd like to request one, please contact Jennie, T: **07799741765**, and pick up will be arranged.