

EDDLESTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL – ELECTIONS 2008

EVER WANTED TO HAVE MORE INFLUENCE ON HOW YOUR VILLAGE IS RUN? – NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!

At its AGM to be held on Wednesday 26th June, (8 pm village hall) elections will be held for the three available places on EDCC this year. Although current members can stand again, vacancies do occur and new blood is always very welcome.

The standard term of office is for three years and Community Councillors are expected to attend most of the nine meetings each year. These take place on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 8 pm in the village hall, September to June with the exception of December. At meetings the agenda generally cover village plans, planning matters and correspondence as well as other issues of the day – at present the main issue under consideration is the proposal for development of a 5-turbine wind cluster at Spurlens Rig just south of Leadburn. Our three SBC councillors – Catriona Bhatia, Neil Calvert and Willie Archibald – often attend meetings and provide useful advice on a range of topics and can facilitate action when appropriate.

In addition the CC is a statutory consultee in many matters involving the community and members are given the opportunity to comment on the various consultation documents received from time to time from Scottish Borders Council as well as other bodies. The CC itself often identifies areas where it feels it can have a beneficial input from time to time and has a small budget with which to act where it sees fit – for example it provides the mulled wine for recent village hall Christmas fundraisers. For larger projects there are a range of grants available which we can apply for in specific circumstances, such as the purchase of the Christmas Lights two years ago.

Apart from the office holders (chairman, secretary, treasurer and planning officer, webmaster (or mistress?), apart from providing input to meetings, members have a great deal of choice as to how they contribute to the workings of the council and to a degree can choose which projects to get involved with and there is rarely, if ever, a need for someone to do more than they feel able to do.

If you would like more details please contact Margot Porter, Secretary, on 01721 730216 or margot@procrest.co.uk or any community councillor. Also why not visit the village's own website www.eddleston.org. If you would like to stand, please complete a nomination form, get it countersigned by a proposer, and hand into Ian Ross, returning officer, at 2 Burnside Eddleston, by Wednesday 18th June (although it may be possible to accommodate late entries depending on numbers). Not long to go, so act now when you think of it!