

Creich Community Council Response

To KoSDT board and management

Thank you for your email of 17th October and attached letter regarding an item read out under correspondence concerning your Articles of Association. Namely removal of postcodes and additions of other wording/clauses.

On the 9th of September the Creich Community Council received this letter, a week before the meeting and anonymity was requested. (Apologises for the mistake of saying it was a month before at the meeting)

At this meeting there were also two other items read out, one regarding the Bonar Bridge Hotel and one regarding speeding. Neither of these issues drew any protest from the floor and the Community Council members were able to have a discussion around them. The letter began to be read out and therein became a lot of shouting from the floor, the letter continued to be read out whilst the shouting continued, there is nothing included in the minutes that was not read out at the meeting. The Community Council members were not able to have any discussion around this issue due to the raised voices of a few people.

Prior to the meeting some due diligence was carried out on the Bonar Bridge Hotel correspondence and the KoSDT correspondence to fact check in the time available and both appeared to be factually correct, the Bonar Bridge Hotel was being used as an Airbnb and KoSDT had submitted a changed Articles of Association in 2024, different to the only other submission in 2012 without the required Special Resolution.

As a Community Council we feel that the KoSDT could have addressed the concerns raised without the aggressive shouting and the following accusation that Creich Community Council members were not meeting their obligations to have representation on the KoSDT board.

The Creich Community Council exists to represent it's community, this includes expressing the views and concerns of the local people on a wide range of issues including but not exclusively services and facilities. The KoSDT is a local service that receives high levels of funding support, and it is therefore agreed by a majority of the Creich Community Council members that the governance of a local service is competent Community Council business, and as stated the letter was factually correct. The letter was raised with the Community Council, not the KoSDT and it is not for the Community Council to provide preferential treatment of correspondence to some organisations and not others. This would lack transparency and damage community confidence.

At the start of the Community Council meeting on the 14th of October the Community Council read out an Expected Code of Conduct for our meetings following the uncomfortable experience endured at the 16th of September meeting. I have attached this Expected Code of Conduct document and must reiterate that whilst we may raise issues that have been raised with us we do not always agree with them BUT do have a duty to be open and fair in our discussions and with matters brought to us.

The minutes of the meeting on the 16th of September have been approved by a majority of CC members as a true and accurate record and we will not be adjusting them.

In addition, Creich Community Council minute secretary has forwarded your email of 18th Oct to me as is proper requesting the removal of a specific word from the approved minutes. Please note that this person is employed by Creich Community Council as minutes secretary and is not a member of the Council. Any questions on the content of the minutes should be addressed to the Chair or Secretary of Creich CC. It is unethical to approach this person directly.

As far as the Creich Community Council is concerned this matter is now closed and we look forward to moving on and continuing to support the work you do as we have done with the Local Place Plan and approval of the Helping Hand fund. If you would like to provide an update on the Articles of Association administration errors, you may do so at the next Creich Community Council meeting under KoSDT updates.

We will include your letter and our reply as attachments to our next minutes from the November 18th Creich Community Council meeting.

Best Regards

Scott Veters
Chairperson
On behalf of Creich Community Council