

Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held in the Town Hall, Kelso on Tuesday 12 November 2019, at 7.00pm



PRESENT: Councillors James Boulton, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, Jim McCombie, Paul Roberts, Harry Tomczyk, Kerry Yule and Dean Weatherston (Chair) and Scottish Borders Councillors Simon Mountford, Euan Robson and Tom Weatherston.

IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Tina Newton (Visit Kelso), Kathryn Wyllie (Southern Reporter) and members of the public Rhona Hastie and Christine Hamilton and various members from the local Brownies group who had previously met with the Provost and SBC Councillor Euan to learn about the work of the Community Council.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Ian Brown, Betty Hodges and Colin McGrath and Police Scotland Rachel Stark

- *Please note questions to either the Scottish Borders Councillors or Kelso Community Councillors need to be submitted in writing to the Secretary seven days prior to meeting.*
- *All Councillors to make a declaration of interest prior to discussion.*
- *All correspondence to be circulated via the Secretary.*

Welcome

The Provost welcomed everyone to the November meeting including the local Brownies and members of the public.

Police Matters

The October 2019 Police Scotland Report had previously been circulated and PC Rachel Stark had offered apologies.

The Secretary advised she had circulated details regarding a “no cold calling” zone for residents from Jedburgh Road and asked whether the Community Council supported this. All Councillors welcomed and supported this proposal.

Councillor Tomczyk advised he had witnessed an event involving various Police on Bridge Street on the evening of 31 October but there was no mention of this in the

Police Scotland monthly report. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised this activity could have been undertaken by one of the CAT teams and therefore this would not be included in the local report. It was also noted that parking fines issued by the CAT teams did not appear in the local report. The Secretary was asked to contact Police Scotland to see if all Policing activities could be included in the local reports going forward.

Visit Kelso

Tina Newton advised Visit Kelso had received an email on 5 November regarding the Great British High Street Awards Ceremony due to take place on 21 November which had been postponed to 23 January 2020 to be held in Edinburgh due to rules surrounding Government campaigns in the pre-election period. Tina advised there was no more voting so it was just a waiting game to hear the results. Good luck to Visit Kelso from the Kelso Community Council.

Tina advised a subcommittee had been working hard on the Christmas leaflet and distributed copies hot off the press. These will be widely distributed in the town and beyond. The leaflet highlights festive shopping and events around the town over the festive period.

The Provost thanked Tina for attending the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2019

The minutes held on Tuesday 8 October 2019 were approved subject to one minor amendment. They were proposed by Councillor James Boulton and seconded by Councillor Gavin Horsburgh

Matters arising

Kelso in Bloom

Councillor Hodges had tendered her apologies and the Secretary gave the following update -

£200 had been received for winning the town entry in the Floral Gateway competition. In addition a very generous donation of £500 had been received from the Kelso Masons, which had been acknowledged.

The two raised beds and path at the War Memorial, Bridge End and Coldstream entrance had been planted up by volunteers and members of the Kelso Horticultural Society. These plants had been funded by Kelso in Bloom.

Staff from Mayfields had planted up the planters immediately in front of the Town Hall. Maintenance going forward would need to be addressed.

The Provost and Secretary had attended a very useful Blooming Borders network meeting on the 23 October at Lauder with future meetings to be held 3 times a year. The Provost advised this was a useful forum to exchange ideas.

Councillor Hodges is in discussion with SBC officers regarding designs for permanent planting at War Memorial, Tait Hall and Police Station beds.

The Secretary advised no volunteers had come forward to sit on the Committee and therefore KIB would need to consider its involvement out with its original remit to develop and maintain beds at the entrances to the town.

The Secretary advised a bag pack at Sainsbury's had been arranged for Sunday 29 December between 10.00 and 16.00 and she would contact Councillors closer to the date for assistance.

SBC Councillor Weatherston advised he and his colleagues were keen to ensure Kelso had a floral display within the town and suggested a meeting took place in the New Year with members from the KCC, KIB and Kelso Horticultural Society.

The Provost asked that his and the Council's best wishes and thanks were passed onto Councillor Hodges for all her endeavours despite being unwell.

Questions from the Public

There were no questions from the public.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary advised she had circulated details regarding the 2019 speed limit review and that the B350 near Wooden Mill had been considered. The location had been visited by Council officers and representatives from Police Scotland Roads and it was agreed the location met the criteria for the implementation of 40mph speed limit. It is proposed to ensure compliance that the existing 30mph speed limit is moved further into the town and the new 40mph is proposed to extend beyond the Wooden Farm junction.

Councillor Tomczyk raised concerns regarding this proposal and advised the bend coming into Kelso was a dangerous one. The Secretary was asked to find out the exact location of the proposed change of speed.

The Secretary was also asked to enquire whether any consideration had previously been given to introducing a 20mph speed limit within the town centre of Kelso, e.g. The Square, Wood Market, Horse Market and Roxburgh Street.

Councillor Tomczyk asked the Secretary to obtain more information regarding the advice and training available for Community Councils delivered by PAS as a result of the new Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. PAS is a charitable organisation and social enterprise, providing a free [advice service](#) on all planning matters for individuals and

community groups. In parallel, we also provide training and support to local authorities and public bodies to improve public participation in the planning system and support skills development within the sector.

Provost's Report

The Provost advised he had attended the local Remembrance service on Sunday and attended an Armistice Day service at Kelso High School on Monday. The Provost advised he was very impressed with the service which had been planned by the students who had done a lot of research and he congratulated them.

The Provost advised he had made contact with the new Duke of Roxburgh and he had been invited to meet him and had spent a very pleasant time with him discussing his plans for the town and how they could work together. The Provost had mentioned the proposed visit from Kelso USA and the Duke advised he would be very happy to give them a tour of Floors Castle.

Scottish Borders Council Community Network (SBCCN)

There was no update but Councillor Bassett advised the next SBCCN meeting scheduled for 4 December would now take place at the Kelso Mens Shed. The Provost advised Councillors Cooper and McGrath were our representatives but as the meeting was taking place in Kelso he urged Councillors to make an effort to attend.

Any Other Business

Councillor Horsburgh asked for an update on the missing lamp from Rennie Bridge which had been damaged on Kelso show night. It had been taken away but he thought it only needed to be screwed back on. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised the lamp was broken beyond repair and he was trying to source an alternative one.

Councillor Roberts asked whether the waste bin at the end of Inch Road could be replaced as it was split and had been damaged beyond repair. The Provost advised he had reported it to the Area Manager but had not received a response.

Councillor Boulton asked for an update on the proposed visit from Kelso USA. The Secretary advised she would follow up.

Councillor Horsburgh asked whether the local sewage system in the town could cope with the increase of houses being built in the area. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised part of any new development included contacting statutory bodies to ensure they could cope with the additional demands on their services.

Councillor Tomczyk asked whether there was an update on the provision of CCTV. SBC Councillor Weatherston commented a paper would go to the full Council but there was no timescale.

Scottish Borders Council Report

Cheviot Area Partnership

SBC Councillor Mountford advised future meetings had been postponed due to the impending Election.

Parking /Traffic management

SBC Councillor Robson distributed copies of the Kelso street map and asked Councillors to give consideration to where they would like to see changes to parking bays, loading bays, disabled bays, single and yellow lines, etc to improve traffic management within the town. He advised Councillors should consider this as a blank canvass and mark on the map any suggestions they had and return it to him. SBC Councillor Robson would then collate suggestions and discuss them with Brian Young at SBC before consultation with other stakeholders.

Councillor Bassett commented the disabled parking bay at Cross Street was ineffective as often there was a lorry parked close by which meant the space could not easily be accessed.

Councillors commented one of the biggest issues was ensuring the painted yellow lines remained in place.

SBC Councillor Robson mentioned the following suggestions – turning Bridge Street into a double yellow line zone with two bays near the auto teller, removing some of the loading bays, implementing a standard waiting time across the Borders, changing the location of the taxi rank.

Councillor Tomczyk suggested more parking spaces could be created if North Trinity Church was demolished and asked for an update on its sale. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised the property was privately owned and a listed building. The Provost commented if the church was demolished the Coaldale car park could be expanded into it.

Councillor Cooper recommended better signage for visitors and asked whether additional parking could be provided near the Mayfields area.

The Provost commented there was space for 2 buses in Woodmarket and wondered whether this was still required. SBC Councillor Weatherston commented it was important to Knowes to park up.

Councillor Roberts asked whether consideration had been given to introducing a 20 minutes parking zone in the town centre to keep traffic flowing.

Consideration of Licenses

There were no license applications for consideration.

Consideration of Plans

Erection of dwellinghouse (amendment to previous consent 06/02027/FUL) Phase 2 land at East Broomlands (Plot 20) Riverside Drive, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 December 2019.