

Minute of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 7:00 in Kelso Town Hall



PRESENT: Gavin Horsburgh (Provost), Councillors James Boulton, Shirley Redgrave, Peter Cooper, Paul Roberts, Angus Russell, Colin McGrath, Toni Oliver, Gail Watson, James McCombie and Owen Adams; Scottish Borders Councillors Euan Robson, Tom Weatherston and Simon Mountford; Claire Fletcher (Visit Kelso) and Yvonne Oliver (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Christine Hamilton

- *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.*
- *Councillors to make a declaration of interest prior to discussion.*
- *All correspondence to be circulated via the Secretary.*
- *All Councillors and attendees to act in a courteous manner and direct questions through the Chairperson.*

Welcome

The Provost welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Police Matters

The Police Report for October 2023 had been circulated. There was no representative from Police Scotland.

Roxburgh Street – Speed

Councillor Christine Hamilton had asked that it be noted that ‘Pop-Up Bob’ was only in place for 1 day (not as stated in the Minute of the previous meeting). The Provost confirmed that he would ask for this exercise to be repeated.

The Provost advised the meeting that, contrary to there having been reports of an attack on a woman on Rennie Bridge, he had contacted Police Scotland who advised they had no record of any attack. Police Scotland had investigated the matter and it had been discovered that it was an argument which had been rather

loud. There was no physical or sexual attack involved. He was going to e-mail Sergeant Granger and ask for an update on the matter.

Visit Kelso

Claire Fletcher, Visit Kelso, advised the Committee that the banners had now been removed from Rennie Bridge. Visit Kelso had received 2,900 more followers on Social Media. They would keep the public updated as to which shops were going to be open on the 3 Sundays leading up to Christmas and an advert would also be placed in Kelso Life giving the public this information. The Visit Kelso website was being completely redesigned and there were two ladies currently providing a “blog” that work at Hume Outfitters.

The Provost commented on the fact that Timmy Mallett had been in the town and his photographs were good publicity for Kelso and the Scottish Borders.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Angus Russell declared an interest in Item 17 – 23/01572/FUL on the Agenda – a planning application pertaining to his property.

Minute of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 September 2023

The Minute of meeting of Tuesday 12 September 2023 had been circulated and, subject to 2 slight amendments, approved. The Minute was proposed by Councillor Paul Roberts and seconded by Councillor James Boulton.

Matters arising from the minutes

(i) Grovehill Parking/ Speeding

The Provost advised that he was still getting complaints from residents in Grovehill. SBC Councillor Tom Weatherston had visited the site and he said the No Parking sign is basically a “courtesy” sign. He has asked if double yellow lines could be put in place.

(ii) Christmas Lights Switch-on – Councillor T Oliver

Councillor Toni Oliver advised members that some of the Christmas lights had been put up that day (14 November) with the remainder going up on Sunday 19 November. Members of the Borders Water Rescue Team would be attending the Switch-On with Santa and his Sleigh; Beirhope Alpacas were also going to be in attendance as were the Guides and Brownies. There would be performances from M-Pulsive Dance and His Grace, the Duke of Roxburghe would be performing the Switch-On. The Galloping Gin Tin would be present and Pat Hirst had kindly offered to provide the ingredients and make soup, requesting a minimum donation of £1, the proceeds going to the Kelso Christmas Lights Committee Fund.

Questions From The Public

The Provost advised that he had received an enquiry from a Mr Ian Dagg, Broomlands regarding the roundabout at the top of the Pipewell Brae and also the roundabout at Angraflat Road and the bottom of Kelso Bypass. Mr Dagg felt that the roundabouts were too small for the size of some of the articulated lorries using them and requested that these either are removed and replaced with painted mini roundabouts or small. Councillor Weatherston said the size of the roundabout(s) was dependent upon the size of the road and that these roundabouts also assist to slow down the traffic.

Kelso in Bloom

The Provost advised:

- (i) The Provost advised that the War Memorial had now been fully planted. The addition of the Boards had received very positive feedback.
- (ii) There were now small trees in the tubs in The Square and the Provost asked if it would be possible to put some fairy lights on these trees? However, it was generally agreed that, unfortunately, this may lead to vandalism.
- (iii) The next stage of planting would be the Bridgend Triangle and this would take place in the New Year.
- (iv) The next litter pick would take place on Sunday 19 November 2023 at 1pm

Placeplan – Cheviot Place Making Working Group

Whilst it was noted that this item was still on the Agenda, there would be no movement until the New Year.

Scottish Borders Community Council Network

Councillor Colin McGrath provided an update to the meeting.

1) The Scottish Government Working Party on the appeals procedure schedule 3 Participation Requests the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act met by (teams) on 9 November 2023 of which the SBCCN form part .

The final report is due out beginning of 2024 the outcome using SCDC (Scottish Community Development Council) as their agent will have significant effect on how all the Emanations of the State including local Government in this case Scottish Borders Council, will operate in the future Empowering the local Community to participate as Participators (much more than engaging in public decision making). Taking part in these working party discussions was the Scottish Government Community Empowering Team. The consequential effect could be the re-naming of the Scottish Borders Community Engagement Officers to become Empowering Officers using the formal Participation Requests procedures under part3.

Note the Scottish Government has done this already using the phrase Community Empowerment Team.

One potential outcome is that all local decision making would have to be approved by the local Community Councils or similar often at their own initiative. This will mean a significant Culture change. And the act also provides that there is provision of funds for the Community to enable them to carry out Empowerment Duties in some form of payment which could be an Honorarium.

It must also not be forgotten that the Community uses most of the Emanations of the State (my term formerly used when in Europe for state control) such as the NHS, EDUCATION, FIRE and the POLICE. The Community will be Empowered and have responsibilities for participating in public decision making in these Public Services much wider than ever before using Participation Requests.

2) The future of the Community Council Network. (SBCCN)

On the same day 9th of November 2023 (coincidentally) p.m. the SBCCN core group met in a Face to Face meeting at Scottish Borders Headquarters St Boswell's. Chaired by Clare Malster Together with two Scottish Borders Councillors one being Caroline Cochrane Chair of the Community Planning Strategic Board on which I represent the SBCCN as a Board member together with the other Emanations of the State.

It was agreed after a constructive discussion that the Network (SBCCN) would continue to represent the collective Community Councils as per their Constitution.

It was raised by one of the Core Group that there is still a major "elephant in the room" in which the Network would play a major part that being the outcome of the discussions on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and there could be significant training requirements for the community in their new role of "empowerment" in which the Network would participate.

The network is still looking for a new Chairman, other officers and additional Core Group Members.

The secretarial work continues to be carried out by Scottish Borders Community Action formally the Bridge in Jedburgh.

Provost Report



The Provost advised members that he had planted a tree at the Border Union Showground, commemorating both the King's 75th birthday and also his Coronation.

He also advised that he had attended a Remembrance Service at Kelso High School the previous Friday, which had been entirely organised by 6th Year pupils.

Councillor Colin McGrath said, on behalf of everyone who had attended the recent Battlefields Tour, he would like to thank the Provost for his excellent organisation of the trip. It was noted that Kelso Heritage Society was giving a talk at Kelso Rugby Club in January on the trip.

Secretary's Report

Events/Correspondence

- (i) Correspondence, consultations, planning, traffic regulations etc. had been circulated and a summary was attached to the Minute.
- (ii) The Provost and Councillor Shirley Redgrave were dealing with the application for the Annual Grant.

Consultations

The Provost advised members that the Scottish Borders Community Council Scheme had been circulated and he suggested that a Sub-Group be set up to go through the various items and provide feedback.

Walking Festival 2023

Councillor Shirley Redgrave provided an update, thanking Councillor Gus Russell for the massive amount of work he had put in. After the repayment of grants to the Scottish Borders Council and Kelso Community Council, there was still a surplus of funds amounting to £4,300. She asked for suggestions as to what could be done with the surplus but she suggested some thought be given to the following:

- (i) Repay the amount of £1,000 to Charity Begins At Home;
This was unanimously agreed.
- (ii) Make sizeable donation (£500) to Borders Search and Rescue Team, who were present every day during the Walking Festival. The Provost suggested this donation be increased to £1,000.
- (iii) Councillor Redgrave said she would like a wooden bench to be situated either in The Square or another appropriate place to commemorate the Walking Festival. The Provost suggested a bench could be placed outside the Town Hall, or alternatively, at the new Play Park which had recently opened at Highcroft.

Councillor Paul Roberts suggested giving donations to each Walking Group in the Borders.

The Provost asked Councillor Redgrave to put all the suggestions in an email for consideration and also asked if she could provide a breakdown of the monies provided to the Walking Festival.

Scottish Borders Council Report

(a) Bus Shelters – Horsemarket/Woodmarket Painting

SBC Councillor Robson advised that SBC was trying to identify a non-graffiti paint and, once this had been done and costed, it will be trialled.

He also advised that the current situation of the Bus Stop at Woodmarket was being looked at. Following a site inspection, it had been generally agreed that the Bus Stop would be better situated further down Woodmarket, where the road was a little bit wider. There was also a safety issue involved with the current situation of the bus stop.

(b) Bridge Street – Single Yellow to Double Yellow

SBC Councillor T Weatherston said, whilst he was happy that Bridge Street was to get double yellow lines, he felt that all the yellow lines needed repainting.

It was noted that the traffic cones had been a great success.

(c) CCTV (Kelso Town Hall)

SBC Councillor Mountford advised that, with regard to the installation of CCTV on the side of Kelso Town Hall, this option and idea was opposed by the Heritage Officer. The Provost asked Councillor Mountford whether installing cameras behind the windows of Kelso Town Hall would be permitted, Councillor Mountford could foresee no reason why not.

(d) Signage Traffic from Poynder Apartments/Orchard Park

SBC Councillor Robson apologised for the delay in this matter – the meeting had had to be rescheduled.

(e) Ednam Road – Yellow ZigZag Lines

SBC Councillor Euan Robson advised that Council Officers are aware of the problem of parking around Broomlands Primary School, as well as the other schools in the town but it would be helpful if the Community Council could reiterate the safety issues.

(f) Any Other Issues

(a) The Provost advised that, at a previous meeting of the Community Council, a member of the public who had been present and who wears hearing aids, had great difficulty hearing what was being said. The Provost wondered if it was possible for a “Hearing Loop” to be installed in the meeting room: SBC Councillor Weatherston advised that SBC does have available funds for this type of installation and he would make enquiries with SBC Officers. The Provost also would contact SBC Property Officers.

- (b) Councillor Colin McGrath raised the issue of a low wall at C & R Tyres. SBC Councillor T Weatherston advised the Provost to contact Brian Young, advising that it was affecting visibility.

Consideration of Licensing applications

There were no licensing applications for consideration.

SBC COUNCILLOR SIMON MOUNTFORD LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

Consideration of planning applications

23/01504/FUL – Alterations to dwellinghouse and erection of boundary wall/Rosebank Cemetery Lodge, Shedden Park Road, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7BW -No objections

23/01572/FUL – Demolition of outbuilding, alterations to store leisure room, raising of existing boundary wall and erection of new boundary wall and access gate and provision of car parking spaces/Smithy House,8 Simon Square, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7AZ – No objections.

Any other business

- (a) 900 Year Anniversary – Kelso Abbey – SBC Councillor E Robson

Whilst SBC Councillor Euan Robson did not have an update at this time, he requested that this item be kept on the Agenda for future meetings.

- (b) Councillor Gus Russell addressed the Council, advising that he and his wife were relocating to Edinburgh which meant he was no longer allowed to be a member of Kelso Community Council. The Provost thanked Councillor Russell for all the hard work he had put into the Community Council and, in particular, to the Tweed Valley Railway; the Kelso Food Larder (with Mrs Russell) and, of course, to the Walking Festival. He wished them both all the very best for the future.

Date of next meeting

The next Kelso Community Council meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 12 December 2023 at the Town Hall.

KELSO COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE/EVENTS/CONSULTATIONS – OCT/NOV 23		
Date	Event/Correspondence	Venue and comments
20.10.23	Acknowledgement - planning application 23/01352/FUL	For information
	Acknowledgement – planning application 23/01430/C67	For information
	Acknowledgement – planning application 23/01413/FUL	For information
	Acknowledgement – planning application 23/01170/FUL	For information
	Acknowledgement – planning application 23/01350/FUL	For information
	Road closure - B6404 Mertoun Bridge, St Boswells - 6th November 2023	For information
	News Release: Residents urged to prepare for impact of heavy and persistent rain	For information
24.10.23	Kelso Remembrance Day Parade - 12th Nov 2023 - Traffic Order	For Information
	The EBDA Award 2023	For Information
26.10.23	Road Closures - Abbotseat, Kelso - 20th November 2023	For Information
	News release: Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support	For Information
	23/01504/FUL Alterations to dwellinghouse and erection of boundary wall Rosebank Cemetery Lodge Shedden Park Road Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7BW	Comments by 14th Nov
	23/01572/FUL Demolition of outbuilding, alterations to store leisure room, raising of existing boundary wall and erection of new boundary wall and access gate and provision of car parking spaces Smithy House 8 Simon Square Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7AZ	Comments by 14th Nov
27.10.23	Footway Parking Consultation	For Information / Own Comments
30.10.23	Request for a Public Representative - Community Hospital Medical Cover Review	For Information / Participation
31.10.23	Cheviot Community Newsletter	For information
01.11.23	Have your say in Cheviot You are invited to come along to our 'Time for Change' Conversations	For information

01.11.23	Advise of Planning Decision - Car Wash - Golf Course Road - Approved	For information
02.11.23	Scottish Borders Community Council Scheme	Comments by 12th January
02.11.23	Advise of Planning Decision - Bedsit Apartment - Poynder Apartments - Approve	For information
06.11.23	Borderers encouraged to recycle vapes at Community Recycling Centres to reduce risk of fires	For information
	06/11/23 Recycling Collections - Kelso - Breakdown of Vehicle	For information
	October MMWR - Police report	For information / Comment
	Carer's Mornings - QME Care	For information
	NHS Borders Time for Change conversation posters	For information
	Advise of Planning Decision - Barony Park - Approve	For information
07.11.23	Review of Financial Support to Community Councils Item No. 10 - Review of Financial Support to Community Councils.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)	For information

Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils

Multi Member Ward Report for October 2023

The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Kelso and District Multi Member Ward Policing Plan and the areas you have identified as priorities.

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents and the management of crime enquiries, there is likely to be differences between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. It would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in this report as official statistics.

Community Update - Kelso & District

PC Ryan Stewart is continuing his partnership work with British Army Youth Development team, working to organise a programme of events for children in S4-S6 in schools across the Scottish Borders. These events are designed to allow students to develop TRIPLOC (teamwork / resilience / problem-solving / leadership / organisational / communication) skills. This has included Kelso High School whose students participated in these activities along with PC Carin Tait-Logan and PC Stewart on 25th October.

PC Tait-Logan and British Army Youth Development Team working with Kelso High School. The day was really enjoyed by all who took part.

Local Community Officers were out on Halloween making sure everyone had a safe and enjoyable evening. They've also been busy last week carrying out patrols and delivering inputs to schools regarding firework and bonfire safety alongside our partners from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

The below link gives access to the latest Police document for the Scrutiny Panel for the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board, which sits every quarter at Scottish Borders Council.

<https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s75749/Item%20No.%205%20a%20-%20Scottish%20Borders%20Q4%20CI.pdf>

Once you click into this link, please scroll down to read the full report. It provides progress and updates on service matters from Police Scotland as presented by CI Vinnie Fisher. As of Monday 30th October, we welcomed our new Local Area Commander, Chief Inspector Stuart Fletcher, who is looking forward to working in the Scottish Borders. We wish CI Fisher all the best in his new role based in Dalkeith.

Local Policing Priorities

1. Protecting most vulnerable
2. Reducing violence and Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Reducing acquisitive crime
4. Improving road safety
5. Tackling serious and organised crime

Protecting most vulnerable

In October 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 170 mental health related calls, around 30 missing person enquiries and approximately 87 domestic related incidents.

Kelso & District had 22 mental health related calls and 5 missing person enquiry. Due to GDPR and protection of victims/subjects involved, we are unable to share any more specific information in relation to these type of call within this report.

Police Scotland work in collaboration with key partners to assist the most vulnerable within the communities and to provide support.

Reducing violence and ASB

Assault

On 01/10/2023 report of a male from Grafton Bank, Yetholm being assaulted. Male issued with Recorded Police Warning.

On 07/10/2023 report of a male being assaulted at Inchmyre, Kelso. Male youth charged and reports submitted.

On 12/10/2023 report of an assault in Roxburgh Street, Kelso. Officers attended and a male has been charged with minor assault and issued a Recorded Police Warning.

On 14/10/2023 report of a disturbance in Orchard Park, Kelso. Officers attended and a male has been charged with assault.

On 16/10/2023 report of assault at Heiton, Kelso. Male has been charged with assault.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 16/10/2023 report of a disturbance in Horsemarket, Kelso. Female charged with threatening and abusive behaviour and issued with Recorded police warning

On 17/10/2023 report of a disturbance in Farrier Court, Kelso involving youths. Officers attended, relevant paperwork submitted.

On 24/10/2023 report of youths causing a disturbance in Horsemarket, Kelso. Officers attended, no crimes detected.

On 29/10/2023 report of a disturbances at a property in Maxmill Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 30/10/2023 report of a female being approached by two males near to Rennie Bridge, Kelso making inappropriate comments. Enquiries ongoing.

Vandalism

On 11/10/2023 report of damage to a BT pole and cables situated on Edinburgh Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 17/10/2023 report of vandalism to playpark equipment at Shedden Park Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/10/2023 report of vandalism to a motor vehicle whilst parked in Mayfield Gardens, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/10/2023 report of window damaged to business premises in Roxburgh Street, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 26/10/2023 report of vandalism to public toilets in Shedden Park Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing acquisitive crime

Theft

On 07/10/2023 report of youths within WH Smith, Horsemarket, Kelso causing a disturbance stealing sweets. Youths charged and reports submitted.

On 16/10/2023 report of theft shoplifting from Co-op Store, High Croft, Kelso on two separate occasions by the same male. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/10/2023 report of theft shoplifting from Co-op Store, High Croft, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/10/2023 a female reporting theft of her mobile whilst shopping in Sainsbury's, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/10/2023 report of theft of defibrillator machine and first aid kit from Woodmarket, Kelso. The defibrillator machine and first aid kit were later recovered. Enquiries ongoing.

On 29/10/2023 report of theft shoplifting from Co-op Store, High Croft, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 29/10/2023 report of theft of a mobile phone from an address in Maxmill Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving road safety

On 17/10/2023 Roads Policing carried out a speed check on B6350 at Sprouston where one warning was issued

On 18/10/2023 Roads Policing carried out a speed check at Shedden Park Road where 3 warnings were given.

On 23/10/2023 - a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for driving with no insurance in Smailholm.

Tackling serious and organised crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement – October 2023

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 6 Drug Warrants across the command area during October, all were positive and a variety of MDA charges were proffered against 6 persons. This included a large scale Cannabis cultivation which

had a street value of £1,000,000, 2 males were traced within the Cultivation and are currently remanded in regards to this.

They have also been liaising with Northumbria Constabulary in regards to county lines offending. This resulting in 2 individuals being arrested and charged with multiple MDA offences. Enquires for other individuals involved in county lines are ongoing.

They also assisted reactive CID in our area with stolen property warrants for housebreakings across the Scottish Borders.

The CID Proactive Unit have a number of live inquiries in relation to Serious and Organised Crime which, once concluded, will be subject to media releases.

They would like to re-inforce the message to all wards that any drug related crime or organised criminality in the Scottish Borders can be anonymously reported via CrimeStoppers, who are an independent charity not connected to the Police. The public can of course still use 101 for this purpose too.

A number of bespoke business cards explaining the benefits of and reassuring any caller to CrimeStoppers have been produced and can be circulated amongst the Wards should this be deemed useful.

Campaigns

Scams

Victims of Phone / Internet / Doorstep Scams continue to be provided with an incident follow-up information pack containing advice intended to prevent repeat victimisation. This pack now includes a copy of the latest "Little Book of Big Scams" which covers a huge variety of common scams. [Little Book of Big Scams – Cyber Scotland](#)

High Value Bike Thefts from Vehicles Following a spate of bike thefts from visitors vehicles in the Peebles area, work is ongoing to place warning signage at hotspot areas in Peebles, Innerleithen and Glentress. Prevention advice leaflets are also to be distributed to local businesses such as cafes, hotels etc.

Keep Safe Initiative

Primarily aimed at disabled members of the community helping to tackle disability hate crime, Keep Safe is a national network of over 800 safe places (including shops, libraries, pubs etc.) for anyone who may feel lost, scared or vulnerable when out in the community. [About Keep Safe \(iammescotland.co.uk\)](http://iammescotland.co.uk)

All Scottish Borders Co-ops have signed up to the scheme with staff training, business packs and store signage being provided.

No Cold Calling Zones

Any community organisation interested in setting up a new zone or wishing to refresh an existing zone (those with the old Lothian and Borders Police signs) or should contact their local community policing team

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>

Rural Crime

Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) exhibited at the Border Union Show highlighting the latest rural crime prevention advice. The partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.

We continued to distribute free wireless perimeter security alarms and crime prevention advice to farmers and rural business. These can be requested by Farmers / Rural businesses using the [Contact Us Form](#) on the Police Scotland Website.

CAT Update:

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 21 traffic tickets throughout the month. Following concerns regarding antisocial driving at Tesco, Galashiels, regular checks were carried out during the month in line with direct CAT taskings and two drivers were issued with ASBO tickets in relation to their manor of driving.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Eyemouth, Duns, Selkirk, Galashiels, and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 122 tickets have been issued.

Passing attention was given to Traquare Road, Innerleithen (no issues) The War Memorial in Coldstream (no issues) Galashiels Town Centre and Bridge Street in Kelso were also regularly checked by officers, which was also carried out as a result of requests made at the previous meeting.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We continue to carry out static road checks in rural areas at all times of day to deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 42 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in October.

On Sunday 1st October, SBCAT officers worked alongside ELCAT at Monynut, Berwickshire re off road bikes. During the day, CAT officers used quad bikes and off-road police vehicles traced 8 vans parked within the area. The Quads were deployed and flushed the riders out. 4 tickets were issued and further enquiry to trace another 4 drivers/riders who did not return to the vans. One HORT1 issued with the likelihood a no insurance charge will result. Letters issued to the vans left on site warning re use of off road bikes in the area. Many of the vans are works vans and contact will be made with companies.

Contact was made with the gamekeeper, and farmers around the land who had called in re the bikes. They were delighted with Police attendance.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot, Hawick as well as near derelict sites in Hawick to address concerns at these locations. Further from the action taken in September an initiative undertaken CAT and CPT looking at ASB driving in Galashiels. A number of drivers spoken to and two ASBO tickets were issued as detailed above.

Further to that, officers have repeatedly attended at Monynut windfarm, Berwickshire, to deter and detect off road motorbikes.

4 youth warning letters were issued during the month of October. Two were in relation to youths entering and causing bother at the Cinema in Galashiels and two were in relation to youths repeatedly knocking on doors in Peebles.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant/missing person/and bail curfew checks. SBCAT have carried out regular checks on multiple individuals who are wanted on warrant. Two individuals of particular interest have been sought during the month, both prolific domestic abusers. One was traced and appeared at court and subsequently returned to prison.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT took part in executing 4 drug search warrants in the SBC area. During one of the searches no drugs were found, however £1500 was seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act. In interview the unemployed occupant declined to say where the money came from.

A second warrant was executed by Proactive CID and CAT in Hawick, where a large amount of cannabis was recovered. Two males were arrested and charged with drug supply charges and theft of electricity.

A third warrant was executed in the Hawick area, however no drugs were found. One male was arrested on the result of other substance analysis and charged with being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs and road traffic offences. His BMW motorcar was seized for having no insurance.

On top of this CAT officers attended an incident in Kelso where a vehicle was seized for having no insurance and the occupants were searched in terms of MDA 1971 and a personal amount of cannabis seized. A report has been sent to the PF for all offences.

On 31st October 2023 CAT officers were on youth patrol in Tweeddale for Halloween and engaged with a number of youth resulting in positive MDA searches.

Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team

Anyone with information relating to any criminal activity can contact Police Scotland by dialling 101 or alternatively anonymously by calling **CRIMESTOPPERS** on **0800 555111**.

Should the Community Council wish to discuss any matters highlighted in the report, please contact: KelsoDistrict@scotland.pnn.police.uk

We will endeavour to provide you with this information, however some information is sensitive and as an organisation we have to ensure compliance with GDPR.