



**PRESENT:** Councillors Owen Adams, James Boulton, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, James McCombie, Colin McGrath, Toni Oliver, Gus Russell, Gail Watson and Scottish Borders Councillors Simon Mountford, Euan Robson and Tom Weatherston.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Tina Newton (Visit Kelso), Dean Weatherston (outgoing Provost) and members of the public Isabel Cove and Katie Scott-Aiton.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Paul Roberts

- *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.*
- *All Councillors and attendees to act in a courteous manner and direct question through the Chairperson.*

## **Welcome**

Outgoing Chairman Dean Weatherston welcomed everyone to the October meeting of the Kelso Community Council and handed over to SBC Councillor Tommy Weatherston (Returning Officer).

SBC Councillor Weatherston welcomed all to the newly elected Kelso Community Council and advised ten candidates had been elected to the Community Council –

Councillors Owen Adams, James Boulton, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, James McCombie, Colin McGrath, Toni Oliver, Paul Roberts, Gus Russell and Gail Watson.

SBC Councillor Weatherston on behalf of SBC congratulated the Councillors on their successful nominations and commented that he and his fellow SBC Councillors were looking forward to working with the new Community Council and gave thanks to the previous Councillors who had stood down.

## **Appointment of Chairman**

SBC Councillor Weatherston as presiding officer called for nomination for Chair. Councillor Gavin Horsburgh was proposed by Councillor Boulton, seconded by Councillor Oliver and duly elected the new Kelso Town Provost and Chairperson of Kelso Community Council. Councillor Horsburgh took over chair of the meeting.

### **Appointment of Vice Chair**

The Provost called for nominations for Vice Chair. Councillor James Boulton was proposed by the Provost, seconded by Councillor McGrath and duly elected the new Vice Chair of Kelso Community Council.

### **Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer**

The Provost called for nominations for Secretary and Treasurer. Shirley Redgrave was proposed by the Provost, seconded by Councillor Oliver and duly elected the Secretary and Treasurer.

### **Appointment of subgroups and administration**

#### **Kelso in Bloom**

It was noted the committee comprises the Provost, Councillor Gail Watson, Shirley Redgrave, Rhona Hastie, Elaine Kilpatrick and Wattie Young.

#### **Kelso Resilience Group**

It was noted the new Co-ordinators would be The Provost and Councillor Roberts.

#### **Kelso Railway Committee**

It was noted the committee comprises Councillor James Boulton (chair), Councillor Angus Russell (secretary), Councillors Peter Cooper and Owen Adams. A treasurer is still to be appointed.

#### **Cheviot Area Partnership**

It was noted the representative would be the Provost and Councillor James McCombie.

#### **Scottish Borders Council Community Council Network**

It was noted Councillor McGrath had been re-elected to Chair this committee and there was one vacancy which would be filled from a rural area.

#### **Facebook Administrators**

The following members offered to administer the Kelso Community Council Facebook pages – the Provost and Councillor Adams.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Paul Roberts and Police Scotland

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2021**

The minutes held on Tuesday 14 September 2021 were approved. They were proposed by Councillor James Boulton and seconded by Councillor Peter Cooper.

### **Visit Kelso**

Tina Newton on behalf of Visit Kelso congratulated the new Community Council and thanked the outgoing Community Council for all their hard work. Tina advised the Visit Kelso elves have been working hard over the last few months and Christmas is nearly sorted. She advised the Christmas Light Switch on will be held on 27 November 2021 and for the whole of December Visit Kelso are running the 24 days advent, same as last year, with free gift vouchers hidden around the town

On Sunday 12 December 2021 Visit Kelso members will be invited to hire a stall for a Christmas Market in the Square with Borders Water Rescue sending a Santa and Sleigh.

On the 19 December 2021 Noon funfair will be in the Square along with Borders Water Rescue Santa and Sleigh.

Tina advised Visit Kelso would be placing adverts in Kelso Life and social media and all information will be available on the Visit Kelso calendar.

The Provost thanked Tina for this update.

### **Police Matters**

The Provost advised the Multi Member Ward Plan for Kelso and District for October 2021 had previously been circulated. There were no comments to the report.

SBC Councillor Weatherston commented the issue of antisocial behaviour was still ongoing and he and his colleagues were working hard to find a resolution. SBC Councillor Mountford commented he had met with the Community Action Team and relayed all the concerns from the community. He advised special focus was being given to Kelso and the Police had issued several ASBOs.

The Provost commented there had been many issues with the reopening of the Vibe nightclub, particularly with underage people trying to get in and antisocial behaviour and noise levels at closing time. Member of the public Katie Scott-Aiton was in attendance to express her concerns around the antisocial behaviour, particularly at the weekend. She advised she lived just off the Square and witnessed antisocial behaviour most weekends. She advised her landlord was willing to pay for a standalone CCTV because he had received numerous complaints from his Airbnb guests. She commented that since the Vibe had re-opened there had been a lot of antisocial behaviour, particularly at closing time. She advised she had spoken on numerous occasions to the Community Police officer and the Head of Licensing at SBC. She had been advised by SBC that it might be useful to capture the noise level to see if there was an environmental issue. She also advised that on numerous occasions when she had gone to her car in the morning there was a lot of broken glass in the area. In conclusion she said that things were so bad that she spent her

weekends away from the town and felt she couldn't stay in Kelso and was thinking of moving away.

SBC Councillor Weatherston advised he sat on the Licensing Board and the issue of antisocial behaviour and intoxication was a difficult area which had come been raised on numerous occasions in the past and it was the individuals who were responsible for their actions and not the Landlord, who of course was duty bound to refuse to sell alcohol to any intoxicated person.

The Provost commented these issues had been reported to Gillian Forbes (office of MSP Rachel Hamilton) who has contacted SBC and Police Scotland for feedback.

### **Kelso in Bloom**

The Provost advised the beds had been planted up with winter bedding and thanked Kelso Horticultural Society and volunteers for undertaking this task. He advised Mayfield Garden Centre had generously agreed to provide the bedding plants for the Square and these would be planted up next week.

The Provost thanked individuals and organisations for their generous donations towards the cost of the bedding plants.

### **Railway Committee**

Councillor Boulton advised the Railway Committee had been making good progress and highlighted the following –

- They were consulting with Heather Batsch at The Bridge for guidance
- The Constitution has been drafted for the unincorporated association (same form as used by the Campaign for Borders Rail)
- The proposal is that it be called the *Tweed Valley Railway Campaign*
- Agreed an association is necessary to broaden membership to attract interest along the line and both sides of the border
- The first meeting will follow the KCC Railway Committee meeting on 25 October
- Northumberland County Councillor Isabel Hunter has already expressed interest in NCC / Northumberland representatives being involved in the association
- The Campaign for Borders Rail (through Simon Walton) have also expressed their interest – which would be a huge benefit given their recent and ongoing experiences
- The Provost, as photographer, has kindly offered to capture the historic moment of the creation of the Association for posterity!
- The aim is to approve and adopt the Constitution, appoint the Management Committee and attend to other set-up formalities
- There will be a minimum of six (maximum 12) Management Committee members

- Subject to agreement Councillor Boulton had been appointed chair, Councillor Russell appointed secretary and they were actively looking for nominations for a treasurer.
- First two priorities will be to set up a bank account and to apply to the Cheviot Community Fund for start-up costs for up to £2,500, including a 10% contribution-in-kind or cash contribution, to cover costs such as setting up a website, social media presence, initial newsletter, press release and content management software
- The set-up budget will be considered at the inaugural Tweed Valley Railway Campaign meeting
- Issues affecting Kelso will be discussed at the KCC Railway Committee meetings
- Kelso CC Railway Committee meetings will be scheduled to coincide with and prepare for the Association meetings – expected to be around six times per year with an AGM for members in October each year
- The expectation is that all Railway Committee members will also sit on the Tweed Valley Railway Campaign's first Management Committee

The Provost thanked Councillor Boulton for this update.

### **CCTV**

The Provost advised he and SBC Councillor Euan Robson had visited Kelso Police Station on the 4 October to look at the CCTV system (a report had been circulated to Councillors). It was noted that the equipment was out of date and in a poor state with only two cameras currently working. It was agreed that it would be useful to have an expert inspect the equipment to see whether the faults could be rectified and also have the cameras cleaned. Once feedback had been received, estimates for necessary repairs would need to be costed and grant funding investigated.

SBC Councillor Robson advised a member of the public had offered to provide a stand-alone camera at Mill Wynd.

### **Scottish Borders Council Community Network (SBCCN)**

Councillor McGrath advised the SBCCN had held its AGM on the 29 September 2021 and he had been re-elected as the Chair. He advised his vice chair would be James Anderson from Eyemouth Community Council. He advised Community Councils from each of the five Localities elect two Core Group members who should be from two different Community Councils in their Area.

The next SBCCN core group meeting would be held on Wednesday 27 October 2021 at 7pm at the Kelso Men's Shed and all were invited to attend either in person or via Teams. The main topics on the agenda are - proposed training programme for Community Councillors, budget and potential project for grant application, Area Partnerships - SBCCN response to consultation, Community Empowerment - update on correspondence with Scottish Government, Place Planning update and Community Council Scheme Review – update.

Councillor McGrath advised over the next year there would be a lot of activity the Community Councils would be involved with as a result of the introduction of the Community Empowerment Act, once it is fully enacted.

The Scottish Government together with COSLA (the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities) have launched a programme called “No One Will Be Left Behind – An Update” referring to communities throughout Scotland.

Councillor McGrath advised once the Community Empowerment Act is enacted this would meet the aspirations of the Scottish Government that No One Will Be Left Behind.

### **Scottish Borders Council**

#### Kelso Ambulance provision

SBC Councillor Robson advised he was still in discussions with officers and would report back.

#### Rosebank Cemetery Wall/Fence

SBC Councillor Robson advised the new fencing had been installed, which was a great improvement and going forward he hoped funding could be secured to install a permanent wall.

#### Parking and traffic management

SBC Councillor Mountford commented he would share the feedback from Napier on the 20mph speed trial in due course. The Provost advised he had received positive comments on Facebook regarding extending the 30mph limit along the Coldstream road into the town and the 40mph limit on the bypass was safer for pedestrians and cyclists crossing to use the Kelso / Sprouston path. SBC Councillor Weatherston commented that feedback from the public was essential to ensure the correct speed limits were implemented.

Councillor Cooper commented that in the latest Police report it was noted 35 parking tickets had been issued from the Sheriffs Court at Jedburgh and wondered how many of them related to the Kelso area. SBC Councillor Mountford advised the area of jurisdiction of the Jedburgh Sheriffs court covered a large area and he was unsure how many related specifically to Kelso.

The Provost raised the issue of the mobile Covid testing unit being based in the Tait Hall carpark and therefore the carpark was closed to the public and wondered whether there was another area where this unit could be based as it was putting a strain on parking in Edenside Road.

The Provost commented that parking in the town was still problematic and asked if the shop owners could use the public carparks rather than parking outside their premises. Tina Newton on behalf of Visit Kelso commented she would ask for this to be put in the next newsletter.

Councillor Oliver commented the CAT need to be more proactive with monitoring parking and SBC Councillor Mountford advised the CAT attempt to monitor times but when they were patrolling the town they focussed their attention on vehicles parked on yellow lines and blocking the highway. Councillor McGrath raised the issue of using Police Specials to assist with illegal parking and Councillor Boulton asked how they could be engaged. The Provost advised we would need to approach our Community Beat officer which he undertook to do.

#### Mill Wynd scheme

SBC Councillor Robson advised a Traffic Order had been put in place to carry out repairs to this area at the end of October.

#### Open Water Safety

SBC Councillor Robson gave an update and advised currently there were three lifebuoys - one situated at the Cobby, one to be situated at the bend in the Teviot opposite the Castle and one by the Gillies hut. He commented that the plan was to have seven in total. He advised there is much to be done in the months ahead including fundraising (the Kelso Community Council would be responsible for collecting any donations ) for further lifebuoys and lifebelts, obtaining planning permission for their location, sorting out insurance and other activities. He commented that he would welcome feedback regarding their location.

SBC Councillor Robson commented he was grateful to the Moriarty family for starting this initiative and it was noted that the Kelso Angling Association had generously donated a lifebuoy.

In response to a question from Councillor Boulton on the cost of lifebuoys SBC Councillor Robson advised the price ranged from £30 - £200 plus VAT and there would be additional costs for fittings and cabinets.

SBC Councillor Robson advised regarding the location of the additional lifebuoys currently the thinking was they should be located at Bridge End park, Mayfield and opposite the Showground but he would welcome suggestions from walkers, dog walkers, swimmers to their location. Councillor McGrath suggested the Mens Shed be approached to make the cabinets.

SBC Councillor Robson advised the intention was to produce leaflets and arrange awareness at the local schools and involve local groups.

#### Questions to Councillors

Councillor Oliver raised the issue of broken glass and rubbish outside the Vibe nightclub and asked who was responsible for clearing it up.

Councillor Oliver raised the issue of both youths parking and congregating in the cemetery and asked whether the gate could be closed at night and the issue of people walking their dogs in the area and not picking up the mess. SBC Councillor Weatherston undertook to ask the question regarding closing the gate at night.

Councillor Oliver asked whether the information plaque relating to the Kelsea Stane in the Square could be displayed in a more prominent way as its current position was not obvious.

Councillor Watson raised the issue of traders attending the Farmers Market and parking in the disabled spaces on the side of the Square for the duration of the market. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised he would look into this as the current situation was that traders could use these spaces to offload their goods but then they needed to remove their vehicles to a public carpark.

Councillor McGrath advised the bin in Bridge End park had disappeared and SBC Councillor Mountford undertook to make enquiries.

Councillor Oliver asked if an additional bin could be located along the racecourse road. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised the Council would not locate bins in a 40mph area. The Provost advised there were over 70 bins located in the Kelso area and SBC were reluctant to provide more bins but were happy to relocate them if the public wishes.

Councillor Boulton asked whether there would be a Remembrance Sunday parade and service this year. The Provost advised this would be going ahead and would be held on Sunday 14 November and full details would be available at the next Community Council meeting.

Councillor McGrath asked for more details regarding the "On Demand Buses" taking place in the Hawick and Galashiels areas. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised this service was put in place where a bus service had been stopped or removed. Councillor McGrath commented that this service needs to be better publicised.

The Provost wished to place on record his thanks to SBC for installing the new lighting along Shedden Park and commented he had received many positive messages of thanks from the public for its installation. SBC Councillor Weatherston commented this would greatly benefit particularly for the residents of Kerfield Court and SBC were planning to paint 100m distant markers around the path to assist the running club.

The Provost asked whether it would be possible to install better lighting from the Mayfield carpark to the ramp up to the old bridge.

SBC Councillor Weatherston advised the Secretary had contacted him regarding an enquiry from a member of the public in relation to the opening times at the Library. He advised the opening hours of the Library were dictated by the opening hours of the Contact Centre.

The Provost commented that the netting on the Town Hall window ledges was broken and asked if it could be attended to.

Councillor McGrath asked whether retrospective comments could be made on a planning application. In particular he wanted to know more about the conditions around the planning application for the caravan park at the Showground. This is in



relation to 21/01441/FUL – Douglas Elliot – Removal of condition A of planning permission 424/72 to allow for 12 months occupancy of static caravans – Springwood Caravan Park, Springwood Village, Kelso TD5 8LS. The Secretary undertook to ask the question. Councillor Boulton commented this was to bring into line with the majority of the other caravans on the site, a minority of caravans that were consented under a much earlier application, so the affect this would have would be negligible.

### **Consideration of Licenses**

One application had been received in respect of the Co-operative Group Food Limited, Roxburgh Street, Kelso TD5 7DH. Details had been circulated to the Councillors whilst the Community Council was in abeyance and this was approved.

### **Consideration of Plans**

The Secretary advised the following plans had been considered –

21/01501/FUL and 21/01398/LBC - Mr Scot Kennedy Replacement window, alterations to garage and external redecoration - Lyme Cottage Shedden Park Road Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7AW – The Community Council in abeyance were unable to support the plans based on the following comments - whilst we applaud the fact that the applicant has sought Listed Building Consent for the change from single glazed sash and case windows to double glazed sash and case windows, we are unable to agree with the installation of plastic windows in a listed building, which are to be installed at the rear. The change from single glazed sash and case to double glazed sash and case is acceptable, but should be in wood both front and rear. There was a brief detail for the garage to be clad in composite material, rather than wood and again we cannot agree with that, without understanding more about the final appearance, and would prefer this to be in wood.

21/01520/FUL – Caygill Associates Limited – Change of use from former store and alterations to form two dwellinghouses and associated work – 10 Albert Place, Kelso TD5 7JL. The Community Council supported this application.

21/01515/FUL – Erection of 16 dwellinghouses and associated parking, Former Kelso High School (Phase 2) Bowmont Street, Kelso TD5. The Community Council supported this application with comments.

21/01599/PPP – Erection of dwellinghouses – garden ground of Mansefield, Inch Road, Kelso TD5 7JT. The Community Council supported this application with comments.

The Provost thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised the new Councillors that in between meetings any issues could be shared via email and if anyone was approach by the media to make a comment then this should be directed to the Secretary. SBC Councillor Weatherston commented that if there were issues that needed to be raised these should also be directed to the three elected members in between meetings.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 November 2021

KELSO COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE/EVENTS/CONSULTATIONS SEP/OCT 2021		
Date	Event/Correspondence	Venue and comments
14.09.21	Approved minutes June 21 posted	For information
	Planning application submitted	For information
16.09.21	Community Council Consultation for application 21/01398/LBC – Lyme cottage replacement window	For comments - unsupported
	Community Council Consultation for application 21/01501/FUL	For comments - unsupported
	News Release: Millions of viewers worldwide see pro cyclists experience the exceptional cycling destination that is the Scottish Borders	For information
	News Release: Significant numbers of affordable homes anticipated to be delivered in current financial year	For information
	News release: Borderers encouraged to help shape new Scotrail timetables	For information
	Free webinar and drop in session - Scottish Borders - 23rd September	For information
	20mph Community Council Information EMAIL 9 update, survey 2 reminder and dashboard info	For information
	Scotland's People	For comments
	Fallago Environment Fund = Path Repair grant - LAST CALL FOR APPLICATIONS	For information
20.09.21	<a href="#">British National Ploughing Championships &amp; Country Festival Mindrum Mill, TD12 4QL on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021</a>	For information and publicising
21.09.21	Planning Application - Caygill Associates Ltd: Change of use from former builder store and alterations to form two dwellinghouses and associated work : 10 Albert Place Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7JL	For comments - supported
	News release: First Tweedbank development nears completion	For information
	QME Press release	For information
	Variation of Premises Licence - Co-operative Group Food Ltd, Kelso	For comments - approved

	21/01515/FUL - Erection of 16 no dwellinghouses and associated parking : Former Kelso High School (Phase 2) Bowmont Street Kelso Scottish Borders	For comments
24.09.21	News release: Council approves annual Chief Social Work Officer report	For information
	News release: First digital tool launched to help Borderers recycle more	For information
	Letter from Chair of SBCCN update on Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015	For information
25.09.21	Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network AGM Wednesday 29th September 2021 papers	For information
	News release: Scottish Borders Council nominated for national Living Wage award	For information
27.09.21	Emma Harper MSP contact details	For information
	News release: Winter opening hours for community recycling centres	For information
29.09.21	Maxwellheugh- temporary traffic lights	For information
	Scottish Water Newsletter - September Edition	For information
06.10.21	Kelso town CCTV report	For information
	Road Closure - Havannah Court, Kelso	For information
	Kelso and District Police Report	For comment
	News Release: Borderers urged to be prepared for winter as Council publishes its plan to tackle adverse weather	For information
	Learning event: The Way Forward for PB in Scotland	For information
09.10.11	Planning application – 21/01599/PPP – Erection of dwelling house – ground of Mansefield Inch Road, Kelso	For comments
	Listening to our Customers - Scottish Water ACM Online Update	For information
13.10.21	Road Closure - Mill Wynd Kelso	For information