

Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held in the Town Hall, Kelso on Tuesday 14 May 2019, at 7.00pm



PRESENT: Councillors John Bassett, James Boulton, Ian Brown, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, James McCombie, Colin McGrath, Harry Tomczyk, Dean Weatherston (Chair) and Kerry Yule and Scottish Borders Councillors Euan Robson and Tom Weatherston.

IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Robert McCulloch-Graham (Chief Officer Scottish Borders Health and Social Care), Tina Newton (Visit Kelso), Kirsty Smyth (Southern Reporter) and members of the public Dennis Fortune, Rhona Hastie, Hazel Woodsell, Jill Mooney and Paul Roberts

APOLOGIES: Councillors Betty Hodges, SBC Councillor Simon Mountford and Police Scotland.

- *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 our May meeting and in particular members of the public and Robert McCulloch-Graham, Chief Officer at Scottish Borders Health and Social Care.

Update on Integrated Joint Board

Robert introduced himself and thanked the Community Council for the opportunity to attend and give an update on the Integrated Joint Board (IJB).

As background Robert McCulloch-Graham advised the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 sets the framework for integrating adult health and social care, to ensure a consistent provision of quality, sustainable care services for the

increasing numbers of people in Scotland who need joined-up support and care, particularly people with multiple, complex, long-term conditions.

Robert advised 42 services, from primary care (GPs, dentists, pharmacies, opticians, etc), secondary care (acute hospitals), four community hospitals, home care, etc report to the IJB and it has an annual budget of £178m across the Borders. Of this £50m is provided by SBC and £120m from the NHS.

Robert advised the IJB faced enormous challenges as the growth in over 65s was due to increase by 60% by 2034 and over 75s by 100% and as people got older their health conditions become more complex. One of the main purposes of Integration is to move services into early intervention by moving funding from acute hospitals to community services.

Robert advised another challenge was dealing with delayed discharges from hospitals. When the IJB was set up the Borders performance was the 2nd worse area but now its performance has improved and is now placed in the top performing NHS area by being 6th. Robert advised a new scheme has been developed called "Hospital to Home" which is a service that helped support people coming home from an acute hospital. Health care support workers and nurses attended to people in their own home during the first six weeks of discharge to support their rehabilitation and address their needs and keep them out of hospital. The initial plan was to deal with 60 patients over a six week period but it has been so successful that 70 patients had been able to rehabilitate in their own homes over a 4 week period.

Robert also advised that additional respite beds had been provided at both Garden View (23 beds) and Waverley Care Home (16 beds) where patients could be assessed for their needs rather than remain in hospital and block beds.

Robert advised new contracts had been drawn up with GPs to help free up some of the time they spent on activities that Nurse Practitioners could now perform (eg. Vaccinations).

Robert advised a new Strategic Plan was launched in November 2018 with three main objectives –

- To improve the health of the population and reduce the number of hospital admissions.
- To improve the flow of patients into, through and out of hospital.
- To improve the capacity within the community for people who have been in receipt of health and social care services to better manage their own conditions and support those who care for them.

Robert advised on a negative side in that the current budget was over stretched and there was funding gap in the NHS Borders but they were currently working with the Scottish Government to address this.

SBC Councillor Robson advised there appeared to be a communications issue regarding e.g. information on the provision of flu vaccinations, particularly in rural communities. Councillor Robson also raised the issue regarding those patients

already receiving a care package who end up in hospital. Once they are ready to be discharged, often their package of care was no longer available to them thus causing more delayed discharges. Robert advised it was important to get the communications right for any campaign and he would feed this back to colleagues. Regarding the provision of care, currently there is a two week cut off once someone goes into hospital. Robert advised discharge hubs have been set up to give a better prediction on when a patient will be discharge and the level of care they would need and this helps avoid delayed discharges.

Councillor McGrath advised he attended meetings of the IJB and commented they should include the third and independent sectors on the Board.

Member of the public Paul Roberts advised he was a voluntary driver for various organisations and it was important funding was maintained for the services he helped provide as many vulnerable patients would be unable to attend their outpatient's appointments without the assistance of voluntary drivers. Robert acknowledged the work of the voluntary sector.

Robert advised they were investigating the introduction of short term package of care for the first 2/3 nights once a patient was discharged to keep them safe in their own home.

The Provost thanked Robert for attending and giving an update.

Police Matters

Police Scotland had tendered apologies and the April 2019 Police Scotland Report had previously been circulated, there were no questions.

The Provost advised the monthly Police report had previously been published on the KCC Facebook pages. However, this was stopped because sometimes things were taken out of context and gave a false impression of the level of crime in the town. The Provost advised he had been approached by several people who said they missed it and felt it was a good way to find out what was going on. The Provost suggested the Police report was made viewable on Facebook but comments would not be allowed. He would approach Police Scotland and report back at the next meeting for a decision.

Councillor McGrath advised there had been reference to properties being broken into and he said it would be useful to have more information.

Visit Kelso

Tina Newton was pleased to advise 77 hanging baskets had been ordered by the traders which would be put up on Friday 7 June and 17 other traders would provide their own and had requested the watering services.

Tina advised annual renewals at £50.00 each were from the 1 June and she anticipated a 65% uptake but hoped more would come on board. The Provost commented he felt the £50 subscription was good value for money and Visit Kelso's

web site hosts a lot of information on community groups, including Kelso Community Council, which is free of charge to them.

Councillor McGrath asked whether the location of the I Know centres had been issued. The Provost advised he had produced posters and they would be put on display soon.

The Provost thanked Tina for attending the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2019

The minutes held on Tuesday 9 April 2019 subject to minor amendments were approved. They were proposed by Councillor James McCombie and seconded by Councillor Ian Brown.

Matters arising

Borders Railway

Councillor Robson advised he would give an update at next month's meeting. Councillor Tomczyk offered to draft a letter of support to Transport Scotland.

Kelso in Bloom

Councillor Hodges had tendered apologies and the Secretary gave the following update.

Following the public meeting which had been well attended, the Provost, Councillor Hodges and the Secretary had met to analyse feedback. It was agreed the project was too big for KIB and the KCC would need to take on the responsibility.

The Provost and Secretary would be meeting officers from Neighbourhood Services to feedback comments and receive an indication of costs to plant the Square, Memorial Garden, Tait Hall and the Police Station. They would also be discussing grass cutting at the Cobby and Mayfield Walk and finding out what grants were available.

The Secretary advised KIB would be launching its own Facebook page and asked permission to use a blue bell as its logo. The Council unanimously agreed this.

The Provost and Secretary would be meeting with Gordon Dalziel – lead teacher Duke of Edinburgh, KHS to see how we could support their group of students undertaking voluntary work.

The Secretary advised KIB would also be arranging meetings over the summer with colleagues from Alwick in Bloom and Melrose in Bloom to share ideas

The Secretary confirmed over £660 had been raised at the latest Sainsbury's Bag pack and thanked those Councillors and volunteers who had offered assistance.

The Secretary reminded Councillors the first Community Litter pick would take place on Sunday 26 May.

Questions from the Public

Paul Roberts advised the signage at the Community Recycling Centre with the revised opening times had still not been replaced.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary advised she had no update to give this month.

Provost's Report

The Provost advised he would like assistance with managing the KCC Facebook pages, in particular scheduling posts for eg road works and events. He had no additional update to give this month.

Community Fridge

The Provost had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda following Eyemouth's determination to become a zero food waste town and its introduction of a community fridge. He advised the community fridge is based in the town's community centre and the fridge is stocked with food from local shops on a daily basis that might otherwise have been thrown away. A team of 15 volunteers pick up the food and anyone who has food they cannot use is being encouraged to bring it along to the fridge to share with others.

The Community Councillors applauded the project but after discussion it was agreed they could not take this on. Councillor McGrath said he would have a discussion with the people who ran the Food Bank to see if they would be interested in running the project.

Scottish Borders Council Community Network (SBCCN)

Councillor McGrath advised the AGM would be held on the 22 May at which the speakers would include a senior civil servant from the Scottish Government who wrote part of the Community Empowerment Act and particularly Participation Requests together with Clementine Hill-O'Connor (Glasgow Caledonian University) who is working on behalf of the Scottish Government to assess Participation Requests from all Scotland. Councillor McGrath advised the meeting would be held at the Kelso Men's Shed and he was delighted to be using the facilities.

Councillor McGrath advised he had attended a meeting recently where he had learnt about the E-Car scheme which is a SBC initiative whereby staff can book a pool car for work journeys. There are several E-Cars across the Borders including one located at Kelso community hospital. The cost is £5.50 per hour or £45 per day.

Any Other Business

Edenside school sign - Councillor Yule advised the sign by the school was not working. SBC Councillor Robson undertook to follow up.

Public Toilets - Councillor Yule advised she had received several complaints about the ladies public toilet not being able to open as the money box was full. SBC Councillor Weatherston advised he would follow up but confirmed the box was emptied on a very regular basis when the toilets were serviced and there shouldn't be a problem.

Southern Uplands Partnership - Councillor McGrath advised a meeting of Southern Uplands Partnership / South of Scotland Economic Partnership meeting is scheduled to be held at the Rugby Club on the 15 May and urged Councillors to attend. Councillors expressed concern that they had received no notification of the meeting. Post meeting this was cancelled due to lack of numbers.

Broomlands School - The Provost raised the issue of an incident happening at the school whereby a crash had happened due to bad parking and the person concerned had been subjected to verbal abuse. SBC Councillor Robson advised lines would be painted and the situation monitored.

Scottish Borders Council Report

Cheviot Area Partnership

No meetings had been held.

Parking /Traffic management

SBC Councillor Robson advised there was no update.

Councillor Tomczyk asked whether the size of the car parking spaces at the Knowes could be increased. Councillor McGrath advised there is a statutory size for parking spaces. SBC Councillor Robson commented that once the parking review had been approved there would be an opportunity to discuss and implement projects such as increasing spaces if necessary.

Community Recycling Centre opening hours

SBC Councillor Robson advised he had received a lot of complaints regarding lack of signage for the revised opening times. He advised he had been given assurances that the signs would be changed. SBC Councillor Robson advised he was not happy with the revised opening times and had asked for a review.

KCC Councillors wished to place on record their appreciation to the operatives at the CRC who were extremely helpful

Consultation on drinking alcohol in public places

SBC Councillor Weatherston advised it was important the Community Council feedback comments on the consultation on drinking alcohol in public places. The consultation runs until 30 June and the Secretary was asked to re-circulate this and ask for feedback.

Consideration of Licenses

There were no license applications for consideration.

Consideration of Plans

The Council considered the following plans –

(19/00568/FUL) and (19/00600/LBC) Part change of use to form restaurant and external re-decoration and internal and external alteration to 40 Bridge Street, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans and were happy to support these.

(19/00596/FUL) and (19/00599/LBC) Alteration to dwelling house (retrospective) and internal and external alterations (retrospective) to 9 Union Street, Kelso. The Community Council felt they could not support the plans. This is because it is in a conservation area and not in keeping with any other properties on the terrace with all having wooden sash and case windows in either four over four or six over six formation.

(19/00620/LBC) Installation of new signage, Dental Surgery Corn Exchange, 31 Woodmarket, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans and were happy to support this.

(19/00606/FUL) and (19/006040/LBC) Change of use to form office (Class 2) and alterations to form museum (Class 10) and internal and external alterations, Tourist Information Centre, The Town House, The Square, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans and were fully supportive of the plans given that the fabric of the building was not being touched and the original features remain intact.

(19/006230/FUL) Change of use of amenity land to form community garden and erection of boundary fence, Land East of 46 Broomlea, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans and were happy to support this.

(19/00664/FUL) Erection of garden shed, 8 Abbotsford Grove, Kelso. The Community Council had no objections to the plans and were happy to support this and wondered why they had been consulted on the plan. Post meeting we were notified as this is within the conservation area.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 June 2019.