

Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council on
Tuesday 13 June 2023 at 7:00 in Kelso Town Hall



PRESENT: Councillors Owen Adams, James Boulton, Christine Hamilton, Gavin Horsburgh (Provost), Sharon Johnston (Secretary), Colin McGrath, Shirley Redgrave, Gus Russell and Gail Watson, and Scottish Borders Councillors Simon Mountford and Tom Weatherston

IN ATTENDANCE Adrian Clarkson (Visit Kelso)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Peter Cooper, James McCombie, Toni Oliver and SBC Councillor Euan Robson

- *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 Councillors to the meeting.

Police Matters

The Police Report had been circulated.

Councillor Roberts advised Kelso Community Council that there had been recent anti-social incidents in Jamieson Court, something which is becoming more frequent.

A discussion took place about the Housing Association's allocation of clients and how this is managed. Councillor Roberts advised that clients are housed by social services and there is no specific allocation for Kelso residents. Councillor Redgrave advised that Julie Maljoy had previously attended a Council meeting to explain how the point system works. Both SBC Councillor Mountford and Weatherston explained that there was very little that could be done in this situation especially with regards to the homeless clientele. Councillor Roberts explained that the accommodation at Maxmill Park were self-contained flats but were not very suitable for residents at present, however, they could be with the correct resources.

Visit Kelso

The Provost welcomed Adrian Clarkson to the meeting. Adrian advised the meeting that there were now 81 hanging baskets in Kelso town centre and watering was due to start imminently. Membership of Visit Kelso was still strong, however, it was noted Live Borders had pulled out due to financial constraints. Adrian advised that a new map of Kelso was in print and should be available next week - it details Kelso centre and wider areas including those towards Edinburgh and the Coast. Kelso window displays had been busy and the next ones would be for Kelso Civic Week and then the Walking Festival. With regards to the Walking Festival, Adrian advised that there would be a pair of giant boots, that would be planted with flowers supplied by Border Blooms and compost provided by Country Corner and they would be situated in the Square to give walkers and visitors the opportunity for photos. The watering of flowers would continue throughout September in the hope that they would last a bit longer during the Walking Festival.

Adrian informed the meeting that a Visit Kelso member had approached a coach driver asking why the coach companies didn't usually visit Kelso. The driver suggested that parking in Kelso, specifically The Knowes car park, was an issue. Councillor Roberts asked if there were any plans for this in the new PlacePlan. The Provost agreed that this should be brought forward to the Place Planning committee. Councillor Russell suggested that the PlacePlan should be an item on the agenda going forward.

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 May 2023

The Minutes had been circulated and subject to amendments they were approved, proposed by Councillor McGrath and seconded by Councillor Redgrave.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the May Minutes.

Questions from the public

The Provost welcomed Mrs Ruth McGrath to the meeting. Mrs McGrath asked when the Knowes car parking spaces were being repainted. The Provost advised that this would be taking place on Sunday 18 June.

Kelso Community Larder

Councillor Roberts informed the meeting that the Larder was continuing to be very popular but the lack of available food was sometimes a drawback. He hoped that with the school holidays coming up there would be the potential for more food pick-up slots becoming available. He advised that they were looking to supplement their volunteers and that training was on-going. Councillor Russell explained that the Larder currently sits within Kelso Community Council but that the assignation to the charity Kelso

Community Larder SCIO, as previously approved by the Community Council, was expected to take place prior to the next meeting. This would be signed by the Provost and Councillor Oliver and would transfer all the larder's assets and liabilities to the charity.

Kelso in Bloom

The Provost informed Kelso Community Council that the beds at The Linn had been planted and that they had received positive feedback from the public. The War Memorial had also been planted, but as there was a shortage of bedding plants. The Square would hopefully be planted the following week with plants donated from Mayfield Garden Centre.

The next litter pick will be on Wednesday 12th July at 6pm in conjunction with the Kelso Laddies Association and all were welcome to participate.

Tweed Valley Railway Campaign and KCC Railway Committee

The report (appended to the Minutes) had been circulated. Councillor Boulton informed the meeting that they would be presenting to Norham Parish Council on 17th July. He also advised that the committee needed new blood and asked if suitable posts could be put onto the Facebook page. The Provost agreed to do this.

Scottish Borders Community Council Network

Councillor McGrath informed Kelso Community Council that the SBCCN update would be circulated. He went on to advise that the Strategic Planning Board had not been fully merged with the NHS resulting in communication being inadequate. He advised that this was being discussed. Councillor Russell asked what Kelso Community Council would be asking for at the next meeting. Councillor McGrath explained that at the moment the Borders has very little marketing and advertising compared to the rest of Scotland and this is one of the things that they would be asking the Ministers for. Adrian Clarkson from Visit Kelso explained that Visit Kelso had previously met with Scottish Borders Community Council Network, however, Covid and staff shortages had prevented them attending. He agreed that Visit Kelso would meet them again to discuss these issues.

Provost Report

- Tree Planting Ceremony - The Provost thanked all attendees of the Tree Planting Ceremony in Bridge End Park, which was attended by the Duke of Roxburgh
- Time Capsule - A discussion took place regarding the Time Capsule and the Provost put forward an idea of asking Kelso High School pupils to create a replica medallion in the same casing as the previous one. Kelso Community Council agreed that this was a good idea
- Skate park litter - the Provost advised that he had been at the Skatepark and spoke with the young people who were using it at the time, asking them to

ensure the litter went into the bin. He also advised that the gentleman who cut the grass around the skatepark was withdrawing his service because most of his time was spent picking up litter. The Provost advised that he was in discussion with Ali Hay, the owner of the skate park to see what could be done to ensure a tidy site.

- Diary - The Provost informed the meeting that he would be attending the Morebattle Rideout, the M-Pulsive Dance School show and the King's Garden Party at Holyrood Palace with his wife Lorna which he was very much looking forward to.

Secretary's Report

Correspondence, consultations, planning, traffic regulations etc. had been circulated and a summary is attached to the minutes.

23/00739/FUL | Single storey extension to dwellinghouse | 5 Springwood Terrace Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 8JQ
Comments in by 14 July

23/00740/FUL | Extensions to dwellinghouse and formation of off-street parking | 4 Springwood Terrace Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 8JQ
Comments in by 14 July

Councillor Hamilton asked who was responsible for allocating land for housing in Kelso. SBC Councillor Mountford replied that Kelso Community Council feeds into the Scottish Borders Council consultations, which are then submitted to the Scottish Government who will then ultimately decide. Councillor Mountford went on to say that if planning is granted and the land is developed, 25% must be affordable housing. Councillor Hamilton asked for clarification as to what constitutes affordable housing. SBC Councillor Mountford replied that housing should either be low rent or if for mid-market housing the rent should be reduced.

Consultations

20mph consultation - Councillor Hamilton asked how the wider community could become more involved in the consultation. The Provost advised that a poll could be posted on the Facebook page and also an advert in Kelso Life. Councillor Adams asked if the Sat Nav in cars could be updated with the new speed limit. The Provost agreed to take this forward. SBC Councillor Mountford advised that SBC were open to putting up more signage for speed limit reminders.

Walking Festival 2023

Councillor Redgrave informed the meeting that the Walking Festival Committee had met with the walk leaders in an open meeting and that there would be another meeting in August, before the festival in September. She advised that ticket sales had been very successful with 400 out of 625 tickets already sold. A leaflet has been distributed to the Community and interested parties. Councillor Redgrave advised tickets for the

social events were now on sale and that all were welcome to come along. She also advised that the Explore Borders digital magazine had approached her and the Walking Festival would feature in an article in the next edition.

Scottish Borders Council Report

SBC Councillor Weatherston reported his disappointment at the amount of vandalism in the town. The Provost informed the meeting that the Police were aware of this and knew who the perpetrators were.

SBC Councillor Mountford advised that the Shedden Park toilets would be reopening, they were due to be cleaned and awaiting a date for the coin machine to be installed.

The Provost reported that the old playpark at Shedden Park was closed due to damage and was awaiting repairs.

SBC Councillor Robson advised Kelso Community Council that the wear on the wall of Pipewell Brae was still ongoing.

Secretary Johnston tabled an email from a member of the public, Harriet Swift, asking if the footprint of the play park at Highcroft could be increased. SBC Councillor Mountford commented that there were no plans to increase the footprint of the park due to budget constraints, but the rest of the adjoining open space was available to be used by the community.

Consideration of Licensing applications

There were no licensing applications for consideration.

Consideration of planning applications

All planning applications had been distributed with no objections.

Any other business

Top-up-tap – The Provost explained that following the Facebook consultation about the proposed location of the tap, it appeared that most people were in favour of the location in the Square and it would now be difficult to go back to Scottish Water, who were proposing to apply for consent, with a different view. Councillor Russell explained that he was confused as to what had originally been agreed. Following a discussion and short site visit to the Square some members of the Community Council felt that the tap was inappropriate and would be an eyesore in front of the Town Hall, whilst others felt that it wouldn't be noticed amongst the other street furniture. It was agreed that a further Facebook post would be made asking for a simple yes or no as to whether the location would be acceptable, with the majority view being accepted.

Councillor McGrath informed Kelso Community Council that the No.54 bus to Edinburgh had stopped running and asked if any member had been informed. The

Provost advised that Kelso Community Council had not been informed and that he would make enquiries about this.

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

Tweed Valley Railway Campaign
Update for Councils – June 2023

National and local media recognise campaign to restore rail link

The campaign to restore a rail link between Berwick-upon-Tweed and the Borders Railway has attracted unprecedented national and local media attention, with articles appearing in: [The National](#), *Northumberland Gazette*, *Border Telegraph*, *Hawick Paper* and *Southern Reporter*

Department for Transport supports review of Tweed Valley Railway potential

A senior official at the UK Department for Transport has acknowledged the merit in the upcoming feasibility study on the extension of the Borders Railway considering the benefits of extensions of the network both to Carlisle, via Hawick, and to Berwick-upon-Tweed, via Kelso.

SBC Convenor applauds the Tweed Valley Railway campaign

SBC Convenor, Councillor Watson McAteer has confirmed that the Tweed Valley Railway campaign will not create a risk to the extension of the Borders Railway from Tweedbank to Hawick and on to Carlisle. Rather, he states that the campaign “*simply reinforces the public desire to see more extensive train service across the Borders. ... finding alternative, more sustainable transport opportunities in the Borders is well worth examining*”

Overwhelming support from Berwickshire and Cheviot Area Partnerships

The campaign's three-point goal of gauging support, conducting a feasibility study and building a railway received clear support from both Area Partnerships.

Border Union Show (28 and 29 July, Kelso)

Come and see us at our stand at the Border Union Show, where we aim to sign up hundreds more supporters.

New blood

The campaign has been active for only 18 months and the take-off of the campaign has exceeded all our expectations, having already received fabulous media coverage, strong political engagement and widespread community support. We need to keep up this incredible momentum and are looking for highly-motivated people with a strong sense of community purpose who have the energy and time to lead and advance the campaign through this critical and exciting phase. Please can you spread the word inviting anyone interested to contact us at info@tweedvalleyrailway.co.uk ?

info@tweedvalleyrailway.co.uk

www.tweedvalleyrailway.co.uk

<https://www.instagram.com/thetweedvalleyrailwaycampaign/> - for photographs

KELSO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CORRESPONDENCE/EVENTS/CONSULTATIONS – MAY / JUNE 23

Date	Event/Correspondence	Venue and comments
09.05.23	Approved April KCC minutes and AGM 2022 approve minutes to be posted	For information
	The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Scotland) Order 1997	For information
11.05.23	News Release: Five Scottish Borders High School Teams race at East Fortune for top place at Greenpower Event	For Information
	Traffic Regulations - Pines Burn Wind Farm - Abnormal Load Movements	For Information
11.05.23	Five Scottish Borders High School Teams race at East Fortune for top place at Greenpower Event	For Information
	Fwd: Scaffold in Union street	For Information
12.05.23	Visit Kelso Newsletter - May 2023	For Information
	Kelso Civic Week - Fancy Dress Procession	For Information
	Scotland Matters News Brief - 12/05/23	For Information
15.05.23	Yousaf 'abandoning' north-east GPs, Glasgow LEZ to have 'devastating' impact, 2/3rd's of teachers now use own money to help pupils, £33m 'missing' from Scots agricultural budget.	For Information
16.05.23	EDF Renewables: Dunside wind farm update May 2023	For Information
	[OFFICIAL] News release: Broomlands Primary School receives positive report from Education Scotland	For Information
16.05.23	[OFFICIAL] Fwd: Announcement: Are you interested in supporting children and older...	For Information
16.05.23	23/00684/FUL Change of use from amenity land to garden ground Land South Of 58 Waldie Griffiths Drive Kelso Scottish Borders	Comments by 31st May
	23/00740/FUL Extensions to dwellinghouse and formation of off-street parking 4 Springwood Terrace Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 8JQ	Comments by 14th July
	23/00739/FUL Single storey extension to dwellinghouse 5 Springwood Terrace Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 8JQ	Comments by 14th July
	FW: Minutes of AGM Held 10:30 16th May 2023. - Kelso Mens Shed	For Information
17.05.23	Local People Leading - Scottish Community Alliance	For Information
	Boundaries Scotland - Scottish Parliament consultation on provisional proposals for constituencies	For Information / Consultation
	News Release: Scottish Border Council P5s at annual BUAS Schools Countryside Day	For Information

	Scotland Matters News Brief - 17/05/23	For Information
18.05.23	C80 Stodrig, Kelso - Road Closure - 5th June 2023	For Information
18.05.23	Road closure - C68 Pirnie Hall, Kelso - 8th June 2023	For Information
19.05.23	Road Closure - D103/4 Roxburgh Newtown, Kelso - 12th June 2023	For Information
	Accounts Commission Recruitment	For Information
	Scotland Matters News Brief - 19/05/23	For Information
22.05.23	Scot Gov debate 23 May at 9.30am - Community Empowerment and Community Planning	For Information
	New date for next SBCCN meeting - 21 June 2023 - 7pm	For Information
23.05.23	UCI Cycling World Championships - Business Engagement drop in session provisional date 30th May 2023 pm - Venue	For Information
	News release: Joint Inspection of Children at Risk of Harm, Scottish Borders Partnership	For Information
24.05.23	Joint News Release: Engagement events to take place for businesses and communities as 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships near	For Information
	Draft Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028 – Formal Consultation	For Information
25.05.23	New portal - members of the public can now submit questions to SBC Council	For Information
	Public encouraged to have their say on Borders-wide Community Plan	For Information
	Complimentary conference places for community councils - Scotland's infrastructure and capital investment in challenging times: what happens next?	For Information
26.05.23	Kelso Heritage Society - Tree Planting Ceremony in Bridgend Park on Tuesday 6th June 2023	For Information
29.05.23	News release: Council shows support for Dementia Awareness Week	For Information
	Invitation to His Majesty The King	For Information
	ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND - WHAT'S ON GUIDE JUNE 2023 - SCOTTISH BORDERS	For Information
30.05.23	Scottish Borders Housing Association - Replacement windows and door - 48 Woodmarket Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7AX	For Comment 27 June
31.05.23	Cheviot Community Councils	For Information
01.06.23	Yetholm Festival - 14th June 2023	For Information
	Community Council update from South of Scotland Enterprise: 2023 summer tour	For Information
	RNID Near You	For Information
02.06.23	Kelso Civic Week - Morebattle Rideout - 18th June 2023	For Information
	Appeal Letter - Salt n Fire	For Information

	20mph additional measures - your views	For Information / Comment
	News Release: Hundreds of primary and secondary pupils from the Scottish Borders attend the Inspiring Learning Festival	For Information
	Thursday Evening Opening - Kelso Mens Shed	For Information
	Broomlands Summer Fair	For Information
03.06.23	COMMUNITY COUNCIL INVITE TO CIVIC WEEK	For Information / Reply
06.06.23	News release: Council to undertake pathfinder pilot of night support service in Duns area	For Information
	Kelso Civic Meeting- 2023 - Road Traffic Orders	For information
	Media release from the Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Partnership Carers Week	For Information
	MMWR for May + Update re community policing restructure + SBPARC event	For Information
07.06.23	[OFFICIAL] News release: Borders Schools Respectful Relationships and Anti-bullying Policy updated	For Information
08.06.23	Road Closure - Hermitage Lane, Kelso - 28th July 2023	For Information
	Community Council Consultation for application 23/00846/FUL	For Comments by 6th July
	News Release: First grant awarded from Community Cycling Fund	For Information
	Scottish Government: Planning Phase 3 of Permitted Development Rights Review - Public Consultation Paper - [OFFICIAL]	For Information
	Free Community Councils webinars in June	For Information
	ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND - BORDERS NEW WALKING GROUP	For Information
	News Release: Residents invited to join Cheviot Community Fund Assessment Panel	For Information
	Car Park Closure - The Knowes car park, Kelso - 18th June 2023	For Information
09.06.23	Our Transmission Net Zero Fund is now live!	For information
12.06.23	News Release from Scottish Borders Local Action Group: Scottish Borders Local Action Group launches new fund for communities	For Information
13.06.23	News Release: Executive approves a review of the Local Festival Grant Scheme	For Information