

Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held on Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 7:00 in Kelso Town Hall



**PRESENT:** Gavin Horsburgh (Provost), Councillors Owen Adams, James Boulton, Peter Cooper, Toni Oliver, Paul Roberts and Gail Watson; Scottish Borders Councillors Euan Robson and Tom Weatherston, Yvonne Oliver (Secretary)

**IN ATTENDANCE** Claire Fletcher (Visit Kelso); PC Luc Francois (Police Scotland); and Anne Woodcock (Tweed Foundation)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors James McCombie, Christine Hamilton, Colin McGrath, Toni Oliver, Shirley Redgrave, Gus Russell, and SBC Councillor Simon Mountford.

- *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 and members of the public to the meeting and also welcomed Yvonne Oliver, the new Community Council Secretary.

### **Police Matters**

The Police Report for July and August had been circulated.

Councillor Roberts drew attention to the incident which had taken place on 28 July 2023 whereby a male had been abusive and harassing a female in St Andrews Church. Councillor Roberts was very concerned that the male in question had only been given a Recorded Police Warning and felt that this was a totally inappropriate punishment.

SBC Councillor T Weatherston advised that the bus shelters in both Woodmarket and Horsemarket were regularly being vandalised and asked if monitoring could be stepped up? The Provost agreed to take this matter up with Sergeant Granger.

## **Visit Kelso**

The Provost welcomed Claire Fletcher to the meeting.

Claire reported that the hanging baskets had been kept up for the duration of the Walking Festival. She wished to convey Visit Kelso's grateful thanks to Kelso in Bloom for the payment towards extra watering.

It was noted that Visit Kelso's Annual General Meeting was being held on 20 September 2023. The Provost advised that any volunteers were welcome to attend.

## **Engagement and Involvement with Young People**

The Provost advised the meeting that Councillor C Hamilton had carried out a great deal of good work regarding this topic and would be reporting back to a future meeting of the Community Council.

## **Declarations of Interest**

There was a declaration of interest from Councillor O Adams in relation to item regarding Live Borders – however the item in question was not a conflict of interest.

## **Minute of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 June 2023**

The Minute of meeting of Tuesday 13 June 2023 had been circulated and approved. They were proposed by Councillor Watson and seconded by Councillor Boulton.

## **Matters arising from the minutes**

### **(i) Maxmill Park**

The Provost had written to Scottish Borders Council about Maxmill Park but had not received a reply. SBC Councillor E Robson advised that the matter was ongoing. He had asked the Council's Chief Executive to investigate and had been informed that a group of Service Officers would be looking into the issue in detail. The options were either to upgrade the properties at Maxmill Park or demolish them altogether. The problem was that, with either option, alternative accommodation would have to be found for the existing occupants and this was not readily available in the Borders.

SBC Councillor T Weatherston commented that it was no secret that the accommodation was "not fit for purpose" and that it held a mix of people. He also advised that any decent homeless accommodation in the Borders was fully occupied.

The Provost said he had spoken to Sergeant Granger about this matter and she had agreed that Maxmill Park was “not fit for purpose” in today’s society.

**(ii) Scottish Water Top-up Tap**

The Provost informed the meeting that Scottish Water had withdrawn their application to install a Top-up Tap in Kelso Square.

**Questions from the public**

**(i) Grovehill Parking**

The Provost welcomed Val Mitchell to the meeting. Ms Mitchell said she was concerned about the speed of vehicles going up and down Grovehill and also the lack of parking in the street. She asked if it was possible to utilise the space behind the wall at the top of Grovehill for parking, within the units at Edenside Workshops. The Provost queried whether a gate which is padlocked, could perhaps be opened at the corner of the wall for pedestrian access to assist with parking for this purpose? SBC Councillor E Robson said he was not sure but would take it up with SBC and ask what the options were. He said it may be that the businesses occupying the area behind the wall would have “first option” for parking. SBC Councillor T Weatherston advised that it was simply a case of too many cars requiring a parking space in Grovehill. The Provost asked if speed humps would be an option to reduce speeding but SBC Councillor T Weatherston replied there would be huge resistance from both the Police and the Emergency Services.

**(ii) Woodmarket/Horsemarket Bus Shelter**

The Provost had been contacted by Ms Jill Molyneux. Ms Molyneux advised that the bus shelters in Woodmarket and Horsemarket were very messy and smelly and really required attention. SBC Councillor E Robson said that a coat of paint might be an idea but he could not guarantee what colour would be used. The Provost commented that, ideally, it would be a colour which would blend in with the existing stonework. SBC have already attempted to power wash the area to no avail.

**(iii) Chalkheugh Terrace Litter**

The Provost advised the meeting that Verity Mutch had reported that the litter problem at Chalkheugh Terrace had been dealt with and things had been a lot better.

**(iv) Engagement and Involvement with Young People in Kelso**

An inquiry had been received from Ms J Colquhoun, asking what the Community Council was doing in connection with the Engagement and Involvement with Young People in Kelso? As previously advised at the meeting, the Provost reiterated that Councillor Hamilton was actively engaged with this topic. He had hoped that Ms Colquhoun would have attended the meeting and would contact her again. She was concerned at the lack of activities or “hangout” spaces for teenagers of the town. This item would remain on the Community Council’s Agenda.

**(v) SBHA-Owned Trees (Sydenham Court)**

A complaint had been received from Ms J Regulski regarding the trees at Sydenham Court which were very overgrown. The Provost advised he would contact SBHA by phone as all attempts via email have not been answered.

**(vi) Live Borders – Kelso Swimming Pool Maintenance**

The Provost had been contacted by Dean Weatherston, who advised that there had been an issue with Hawick Swimming Pool, whereby it had been forced to close unexpectedly due to a fault with their boilers and heating systems. Mr Weatherston was concerned that the same thing would happen to Kelso Swimming Pool due to the ongoing concerns re the current financial status of Live Borders.

**(vii) Speeding in Roxburgh Street**

The Provost welcomed Ms Erin Vieira to the meeting. Ms Vieira advised that she, and other residents of Roxburgh Street, were very concerned about cars speeding up Roxburgh Street. The Provost advised there had been talk of installing “Pop-up Bob” but ideally the situation needs the Roads Policing Department to be sitting at the top of Roxburgh Street. PC Francois advised he would speak to Roads Policing. The SBC Councillors agreed to look into the possibility of flashing road speed signs. SBC Councillor T Weatherston said he could ask for “clickers” to go down but he was always astonished at how low the figures were that came back from these. Councillor Oliver asked whether a speed camera could be put in but SBC Councillor T Weatherston said it would have to be demonstrated that there was a problem. The Provost advised he would request a survey be carried out.

### **(viii) Salmon Fishing Season**

The Provost welcomed Anne Woodcock, from The Tweed Foundation, to the meeting. Ms Woodcock advised the meeting that, following the very successful Salmon Fishing Season Opening Day this year, it had been decided to extend it into a 3-day Festival, from 1-3 February 2024. They were hoping to get young people involved. The Provost commented that this sounded wonderful and would be excellent for Kelso.

PC L Francois left the meeting at this point as did members of the public.

### **Kelso in Bloom**

The Provost advised:

- (i) The next litter pick will be on Thursday 21 September 2023 at 6.pm;
- (ii) A £5,000 Grant had been applied to, from the Cheviot Support Fund for enhancements to Bridge End, the War Memorial and other areas of the town. Two boards with the Town Crest had been ordered to be placed in the middle of the raised beds in the War Memorial. This would reduce the requirement for as many plants and allow for more sustainability. This would provide a focal point.
- (iii) Following the very successful Justgiving Campaign for the purchase of small trees in The Square, which will be sited in the tubs/planters around the square. Councillor Watson asked if there was any chance a few cobbles could be uplifted and some trees put in. The Provost advised this would likely not be possible due to various reasons – but would investigate this idea.

### **Placeplan – Cheviot Place Making Working Group**

The Minute of meeting of the Cheviot Place Making Working Group, held on Wednesday 10 May 2023, had been circulated.

The Provost advised that Councillors C Hamilton and A Russell were members of the Working Group and were feeding information back to him. An update from them would be given at the next meeting of Kelso Community Council.

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

There was no new update at this time.

### **Provost Report**

- Kelso Civic Week – On behalf of the Community Council, the Provost congratulated the Kelso Laddie, Andrew Thomson, on a job well done both in Kelso and at the other Border Festivals. It was noted that the Laddie had been

very well supported at all the events. Police Scotland had also commented on how well the stewarding of the Kelso ride-outs and events had been carried out.

- Time Capsule – The Provost advised there was no time limit for putting articles back into the Time Capsule. One of the items suggested was a set of coins with the late Queen’s head on them. The Provost had been given a contact by Walter Blair in connection with obtaining a medallion commemorating the King’s Coronation.
- Town Hall Window – The Provost advised it was hoped to put a TV screen in the Town Hall Window to advertise what is on in Kelso and places to visit. This would be done in conjunction with Visit Kelso.
- Councillor Boulton informed the meeting that he would be attending the celebration of the Kelso Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at Springwood Park on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023. It was noted that Charity Begins at Home had provided funds to buy a tent for the Scouts.

## **Secretary’s Report**

### **Events/Correspondence**

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

### **Application for Annual Grant**

The Provost advised the application for the Annual Grant was in process.

## **Consultations**

### **Joint Public Consultation – Kelso Pharmacy Roxburgh Street (Open for 90 Days)**

The Provost suggested that the proposed location was not the ideal location as the shop in question had lots of steps and access was not ideal.

## **Walking Festival 2023**

The Provost, on behalf of the Community Council, wished to thank Councillors Roberts, Graham, Redgrave and Rusell for the exceptionally hard work they had all put in to the Walking Festival. It had been a great success - a summary of thanks and feedback from Councillor Redgrave had been circulated and attached to the minutes.

## **Scottish Borders Council Report**

(a) **Bus Shelters – Horsemarket/Woodmarket Painting**

This had been discussed earlier in the meeting and would be kept on the Agenda for future meetings.

(b) **Bridge Street – Single Yellow to Double Yellow**

The Provost advised he had spoken to Sergeant Granger about this issue and she was very much in favour of the change from single yellow to double yellow lines. SBC Robson advised, however that, for this to take place, a Road Traffic Order would have to be implemented and this would cost in the region of £3,000-£4,000. The Provost said he would happily support two parking spaces at the cash machine with the rest of Bridge Street being double yellow lines.

(c) **CCTV (Kelso Town Hall)**

The Provost advised the meeting that, although he had enquired about the installation of CCTV at Kelso Town Hall in January, he had still not received a reply.

(d) **Pinnacle Woodlands (Common Good)**

It was noted that a lot of work was required to be carried out to maintain the Pinnacle Woodlands. The problem was that the Common Good Fund did not have the necessary finance for this. SBC Robson said he would make enquiries and report back to the Community Council.

(e) **Wooden Anna Woodlands**

Concern was expressed at the massive trees at the Wooden Anna Woodlands and whether they run under Kelso Bridge. SBC Robson advised they had originally been planted to deaden the noise downstream. He would check whether they were in private ownership.

(f) **The Glebe Wall**

Work has now begun to repair the wall at the Glebe Field, next to Rennie Bridge. There are no timescales for the work to be completed – there are a lot of repairs to be carried out.

(g) **Traffic Access – Poynder Apartments/Orchard Park**

Concern was raised at the lack of signage from the Poynder Apartments complex into Orchard Park. SBC Councillor E Robson to look into getting road markings and give way signage in place.

(h) Scaffolding in Union Street

Councillor Boulton expressed concern at the length of time the scaffolding was in place in Union Street. SBC Robson advised that it was likely to be in place for at least another year due to the extensive work requiring to be carried out to the building.

**Consideration of Licensing applications**

There were no licensing applications for consideration.

**Consideration of planning applications**

23/01283/CLPU/Extension to dwellinghouse/14 Hendersyde Park, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7TU – No objections

23/01263/FUL/Change of use from office and alterations to form flat/Office 34 Woodmarket, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7AX – No objections

23/01264/LBC/Alterations to office to form flat/Office 34 Woodmarket, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7AX – No objections

23/01223/TCA/Work to trees/30 Belmont Place, Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7JB – No objections

23/01155ADV/Erection of 2 no. illuminated totem signs (A699) Road Entrance to Springwood Caravan Park, Springwood Village, Kelso, Scottish Borders – Approved 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

23/01023/LBC/Alterations and new signage/Shop Greggs, 49 The Square Kelso, Scottish Borders, TD5 7HW – Approved 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Any other business**

- (1) The Provost reminded the Community Council that the Remembrance Parade would take place on Sunday 12 November 2023 – and all Community Councillors to meet at Kelso War Memorial at 10:45
- (2) SBC Councillor T Weatherston asked the Community Council if they would consider submitting the planning application for the installation of floodlighting at Kelso Skatepark? He advised it would be cheaper for the Community Council to apply for permission than if the Skatepark users applied themselves.

As it was considered that this would be a conflict of interest, it was unanimously agreed to abstain.

- (3) SBC Councillor E Robson raised the issue of the trampoline in Shedden Park having been vandalised and the Provost agreed this was disgraceful. It was



also noted that, as the trampoline has been damaged again, it will likely not be fixed but the ground will simply be filled in. The Provost had discussed this with Sergeant Grainger who advised there was no CCTV in the area. The meeting was also advised that the toilets would be getting locked earlier (currently 6pm).

**Date of next meeting**

The next Kelso Community Council meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10 October 2023 at the Town Hall.

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	<b>COMMUNITY COUNCIL INVITE TO CIVIC WEEK</b>	<b>For Information / Reply</b>
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
	<b>Community Council Consultation for application 23/00846/FUL</b>	<b>For Comments by 6th July</b>
	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

## August 2023 Police Report

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### **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils

Multi Member Ward Report for August 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.

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## Community Update - Kelso & District – PS Ali Granger

Travelling criminals are moving throughout the UK and there has been a noted uptake in the theft of tractor/farm machinery satellite navigation systems in recent months across the country

Our advice to help prevent these thefts is –

- Be sure to remove GPS systems, screens and other valuables when leaving vehicles and store them securely
- Park tractors and other agricultural vehicles in secure, alarmed buildings in well-lit areas covered by CCTV
- Activate PIN security on GPS systems, with your own unique number
- Permanently mark your postcode to deter thieves and trace property back to you
- Keep tractors and combines with GPS stored out of sight
- Record serial numbers and photograph your systems
- Check serial numbers of second hand systems offered for sale
- Report any suspicious activity to 101

Community Officers work in partnership with Registered Social Landlords and Scottish Borders Council Homeless Team to address Antisocial Behaviour in problem areas. We also work closely with SBC Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and meet with them monthly to discuss emerging issues.

We are aware that there are some areas of concern for local residents, and this includes homeless properties. Working with partner agencies is key in tackling these issues and local CAT officer PC Chisholm is carrying out regular visits to problem areas with local housing officers.

More information regarding antisocial behaviour can be found here.

[Antisocial behaviour | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

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 the Local Area Commander CI Vinnie Fisher.

### 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 August 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 187 mental health related calls, around 36 missing person enquiries and approximately 80 domestic related incidents. **OFFICIAL***

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*Kelso & District had 9 mental health related calls and 2 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 06/08/2023 report of male assaulting female. The Square, Kelso. Male issued an RPW.

On 14/08/2023 report of male assaulted by female. Maxmill Park, Kelso. Male charged and reports submitted.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

On 04/08/2023 report of male being verbally abusive, Roxburgh Street, Kelso. No criminality, advice given.

On 05/08/2023 report of teenagers causing a disturbance at Ednam House, Kelso. No problems ongoing on Police arrival, advice given.

On 07/08/2023 report of a group of youths causing disturbance at Masons Court, Kelso. RPW issued to male.

On 09/08/2023 report of youths climbing 15ft fence to get onto astro field at Kelso High School. This happens nightly. Police to patrol area.

On 11/08/2023 report of youths throwing stones at conservatory. Masons Court, Kelso, linked to previous incidents.

On 11/08/2023 report of youths causing a disturbance in WH Smith, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/08/2023 report of intoxicated male trying to fight with bar staff and causing a disturbance. Rutherfords Micro Pub, Kelso. Male issued RPW.

On 27/08/2023 report of a disturbance involving a male within a taxi in The Square, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

#### **Vandalism**

On 16/08/2023 report of substance poured on bonnet of car. Grovehill, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/08/2023 report of youths damaging garden fence. Masons Court, Kelso. Youths apprehended and charged by Police. **OFFICIAL**

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On 22/08/2023 report of a vehicle being vandalised whilst parked in Sprouston Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/08/2023 report of window being smashed at Station Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 29/08/2023 report of windows damaged at a property in Maxmill Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

### **Reducing acquisitive crime**

#### **Theft**

On 03/08/2023 report of theft of security camera from Maxmill Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 05/08/2023 report of theft of alcohol. Co-op, High Croft, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 10/08/2023 report of attempted shoplifting, damage to goods & threats made to staff. Original Factory Shop, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 13/08/2023 report of theft of personal items from home. Maxmill Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 14/08/2023 report of shoplifting at Klondyke Garden Centre, Kelso. Female charged and reported.

On 15/08/2023 report of shoplifting by male Co-op, High Croft, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 23/08/2023 report of theft of number plates from two vehicles parked in Main Street, Heiton. Enquiries ongoing.

On 25/08/2023 report of theft shoplifting by a female from The Factory Shop, Bowmont Street, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

### **Improving road safety**

On 28/07/2023 a driver was issued a fine for vehicle causing unnecessary obstruction in Kelso.

On 28/07/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Kelso.

On 11/08/2023 a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for careless/inconsiderate driving in Kelso.

### **Killed or Seriously Injured**

### **Tackling serious and organised crime**

Please see CAT update **OFFICIAL**

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## 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:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at Coldstream Civic Week, Lauder Common Riding and Eyemouth Herring Queen festival.

SBCAT also helped in the safe delivery of the UCI World Championships event at Glentress, Peebles conducting high visibility foot patrols at the event site as well as mobile patrols of Peebles and surrounding area. The event ran from 4th – 12th August with SBCAT officers involved each day of the event (approximately 8 hours a day per officer).

**ROAD SAFETY** – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 11 traffic tickets throughout the month.

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**PARKING TICKETS** – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 31 tickets have been issued.

**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. 41 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in August.

**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot, Hawick as well as near derelict sites in Hawick to address concerns at these locations. Galashiels Interchange continues to be patrolled regularly by officers. Further to that, officers have repeatedly attended at Moneynut windfarm, Berwickshire, to deter and detect off road motorbikes.

Reports being received by officers of youth ASB in Newtown St. Boswells, specifically at SBC HQ as well as near to Whitehill Farm. Regular patrols of the area being conducted by SBCAT officers and background work being undertaken by local CBO to establish a longer term solution.

A report was made to police of youths climbing on scaffolding at the abandoned St. Aidan's School in Gattonside. SBCAT officers attended and traced the youths involved resulting in 4 youths receiving Youth Warning Letters.

**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. These individuals are aware they are wanted and enquiries to trace them are continuing. Following a report of a recidivist violent offender breaching bail conditions, SBCAT officers traced the male and conveyed him to Hawick Police Station where he was charged accordingly and held for court the following day.

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT** – SBCAT took part in executing 1 drug search warrant in the area.

In Innerleithen, one male was reported to the Procurator Fiscal after a quantity of Class B drugs were found within his home address. A further male within the property was also reported for possession of an Offensive Weapon.

**Other** – After reports of a male in Hawick armed with a knife, SBCAT officers attended and arrested the male to be held for court the following day. After assisting with follow up enquiries, the male was successfully remanded to prison to await trial. SBCAT officers assisted with a further call of a male in possession of a knife in Jedburgh, tracing and arresting the male to be held for court the following day

#### **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](mailto:KelsoDistrict@scotland.pnn.police.uk) **OFFICIAL**

**OFFICIAL**

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.

July 2023 Police Report

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**Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils

Multi Member Ward Report for July 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.

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## **Community Update - Kelso & District**

Throughout July Community Policing Team officers and Community Action Team officers continued to police the numerous summer events throughout the Scottish Borders. These events included Duns Summer Festival, St Boswells Fair, Jethart Callant's festival, St Ronan's Festival, Kelso Civic Week, Eyemouth Herring Queen Festival, Burnfoot Carnival and Royal visits to Galashiels and Selkirk.

Kelso Civic week went well with a great effort from the foot marshals in particular. Police will continue to attend and support common ridings in the coming years, however the number of officers we are able to allocate to events has decreased. Kelso has a huge amount of volunteer foot marshals which helps ensure the safety and sustainability of these events without a heavy reliance on police. Kelso is often given as an example to other towns as to how effective foot marshals are – well done to all those involved.

Cavalcade leaving the town for Sprouston this year

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 the Local Area Commander CI Vinnie Fisher. **OFFICIAL**

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## **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 July 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 153 mental health related calls, around 15 missing person enquiries and approximately 74 domestic related incidents.*

*Kelso & District had 27 mental health related calls and 2 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 02/07/2023 report of an assault taking place in Brisbane Place, Crawford Street, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/07/2023 report of two females fighting in Croft Park, Kelso. Officers attended and after speaking to witnesses, one female has been charged with assault.

On 21/07/2023 report of a male having been assaulted whilst within a property in Jamiesons Court, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

On 07/07/2023 report of two males causing a disturbance outside a property in Maxmill Park, Kelso. Officers attended and two males were arrested for threatening and abusive behaviour and malicious mischief.

On 08/07/2023 report of a male causing a disturbance outside a property in Oakfield Court, Kelso. Officers attended male issued with Anti-Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notice for vandalism.

On 18/07/2023 report of a disturbance within a property in Oakfield Court, Kelso, one male traced and charged with threatening and abusive behaviour.

On 19/07/2023 report of a disturbance outside a property in Kersfield Court, Kelso. Officers attended and no disturbance evident, no criminality **OFFICIAL**

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On 21/07/2023 report of a disturbance outside a property in Woodside Gardens, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 23/07/2023 a male was issued with a Recorded Police Warning after urinating against a shop doorway in Woodmarket, Kelso.

On 26/07/2023 report of a group of youths being abusive at WH Smith, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/07/2023 report of male being abusive and harassing female in the church. St Andrews Church, Kelso. Male traced and given Recorded Police Warning.

### **Reducing acquisitive crime**

#### **Theft**

On 19/08/2023 a male from Sydenham Court, Kelso, reports theft of his wallet and bus pass. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/07/2023 report of theft of mobile phone that was accidentally left on a service bus. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/07/2023 report of theft of goods from Lidl, Shedden Park Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/07/2023 report of theft of consumables from Sainsburys, Pinnaclehill Industrial Estate, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

### **Tackling serious and organised crime**

Please see CAT update

### **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. **OFFICIAL**

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### **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 \(jammescotland.co.uk\)](http://jammescotland.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**

□ A new Zone has been set up in Eddleston covering 120 Houses – Road signs and house-packs have been provided.

□ Implementation work is ongoing with Bowden and Newtown St Boswells community councils for zones in these areas.

□ 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:**

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at St Boswells Fair (6 days) (10 hours per day, each officer), Burnfoot Carnival (8 hours each officer), Floors Rideout (each officer 7 hours), Kelso Fancy Dress Parade (each officer 9 hours), Borders Union show (each officer 10 hours) and Eyemouth Herring Queen fancy dress (3 hours, each officer).

**ROAD SAFETY** – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 18 traffic tickets throughout the month.

**PARKING TICKETS** – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 47 tickets have been issued.

**RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME** – Operation Checkpoint (10 hours each officer) was undertaken on Wednesday 12th July. During this Operation a number of vehicles were checked out at various points along the border to deter travelling criminals. No offences were detected.

SBCAT had a preventative rural crime stand at the Borders Union Show, Kelso, working with partner agencies providing advice and support not only for the farming community but other members of the public attending the show. **OFFICIAL**  
**OFFICIAL**



**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** – High visibility patrols have continued in all highlighted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns at these locations. During this month two dog fouling tickets were issued to members of the public.

Over the weekend of the 19th, 22nd and 23rd High visibility patrols were carried out in Peebles and surrounding area by SB CAT to dissuade antisocial behaviour.

During this time a number of groups of youths were spoken to. Whilst speaking with some of these groups, bottles of alcohol was on the ground nearby. No youths took ownership of the alcohol, which was then poured away in front of them. One 16 year old youth was found in possession of cans of lager, which were also poured away. A Youth ASB letter is being sent to his parents.

**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. These individuals are aware they are wanted and enquiries to trace them are continuing. One male who was particularly difficult to trace was eventually traced as a result of protracted enquiries and arrested.

Following a report of a recidivist domestic abuse offender re-offending, SB CAT officers traced the male and conveyed him to Hawick Police Station where he was charged accordingly and held for court the following day.

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT** – SBCAT took part in executing one drug search warrant in the Kelso area. No drugs were recovered. The occupier was arrested on another matter.

**Other** – Following a report of two males attending at a farm in the Scottish Borders looking for scrap metal and a subsequent theft from the farm, SB CAT officers assisted CID officers gather crucial evidence and traced two further witnesses. The enquiry is currently still ongoing and will require cross border cooperation with Northumbria Police.

#### **Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team**

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## **Kelso Walking Festival – report to Kelso Community Council meeting 12.09.23**

On behalf of the Walking Committee I would like to extend thanks to Kelso Community Council for allowing us to host the 28<sup>th</sup> Scottish Borders Walking Festival last week.

What a week we have had, there was such a buzz around the town and the weather showcased Kelso and the surrounding area – albeit making it challenging for the walkers. The immediate feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and we will be carrying out a full evaluation exercise over the coming weeks with all our walkers and volunteers.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to –

- Volunteers from The Coldstream and Eildon Ramblers and U3A walking groups for planning and leading the walks;
- Volunteer drivers and volunteer hub managers;
- Local venues for hosting social events - rugby and cricket clubs, churches and Royal British Legion;
- Local businesses and charities supporting and sponsoring the festival;
- Tina and Wendy at Visit Kelso for the fabulous social media campaign and all their input;
- Local groups and charities for providing afternoon refreshments for weary walkers and members of the public;
- Local traders and individuals for providing raffle prizes.

We organised four walks daily over the week with a fabulous programme of social events in the evenings to cater for all tastes. Approximately 200 individual walkers registered with us to do walks and we had approximately 50 volunteers.

The raffle rose an amazing £1,000 and this has been divided between the Kelso Scouts and Friends of Kelso Hospital and this money has been donated to them.

The committee will be working through accounts and evaluations over the coming weeks and will report back.

As well as our social media campaign the Walking Festival received national coverage on ITV Borders, BBC Radio Scotland and Go.Eat.Do.com.

Sadly at this stage no Community Council has come forward to host the 2024 Walking Festival. We have made a commitment to SBC to offer all our guidance and support to the incoming team.

**Shirley Redgrave**  
**Chair Kelso Walking Festival 2023**