

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of Kelso Community Council
held in the Town Hall, Kelso on
Tuesday 12 May 2015, at 7.00 pm**

PRESENT: Provost John Bassett (Chair), Councillors Dean Weatherston, Harry Tomczyk, Peter Cooper, Colin McGrath, Tamzin Thomas, Betty Hodges and John King and Scottish Borders Councillors Alec Nicol, Tom Weatherston and Simon Mountford.

IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Redgrave (Secretary) and Alan Livingstone (Chamber of Trade)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Alan Hall and Fiona Scott and Suzanne Howgego

Minute

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2014 was approved on the proposal of Councillor Tomczyk and seconded by Councillor D Weatherston.

Provost's Report

“Fellow Councillors, Where has the time gone? Attending Royal visits, four openings, and over a hundred other meetings. In addition the pleasure of attending the NHS Borders Celebrating Excellence Awards. So many worthy people receiving recognition for all the hard work they do within the community and BGH. For me everyone of them were winners.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support. Special mention must go to Shirley for all the hard work she does in the background and Dean for his help and support and keeping our Facebook page updated.

Kelso has seen many changes over the last year. Thanks must go the Charlie Robertson and Harry Tomczyk for their major contribution and to everyone who worked to make the town look as beautiful as it does now.

The new High School is on hold at the moment but hopefully it will be back on track soon. Thank you to John King for his work trying to get a memorial wall at the town's new cemetery. We must now build on this for the future of the town and community. With the help of you all I know we will achieve everything we put our minds to.

Our Facebook page has been very positive and is still going from strength to strength, thank you Dean. We made more use of emails than ever before which has saved money on running costs, plus the communication between us has set new

standards in how we work within the community. Thank you again Shirley for helping to put this all in place.

I would also like to thank all Councillors for the work you have done for Kelso Community Council and the community at large.

We have been fortunate to attract three new councillors and we now have more women on the Council which is great. I would also like to see more young people get involved in local government.

Lastly I would like to say a special thank you to our three SBC Councillor's for all their help, guidance, and good council. They attend every meeting and take a lot of stick, but are always there if you need advice.

I would like to see more members of the public attend our meetings and have their say. We can only change things if you tell us what the problem is and help us make this town the best place to live in the Borders."

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented a Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2015. This showed a surplus on the General Fund of £46.23 which resulted in funds of £1,815.17 being carried forward.

The Floral Gateway Account showed the expenses of £467.64 being paid in representing compost and planting for floral display. This left funds of £445.36 in that account.

The Youth and Community Fund account has now been closed as agreed at the 2014 AGM and the balance of £65.88 has been paid to Cheviot Youth.

The CCTV Account showed expenses of £3,774.00 which is the amount paid to SPG Fire and Security for the installation of the new CCTV equipment in the new public toilet facilities. This left funds of £1,370.37 in that account.

The Kelso Memorial Account opened in this financial year with a grant of £1,350.00 from Scottish Borders Council and donations of £945.00. Expenses of £1,571.00 to Robertsons for the cost of the new Memorial, left funds of £724.00 in that account. The Provost reconfirmed the balance would be donated to Kelso High School to help fund pupils visiting the Battlefields.

The Accounts were approved on the motion of Councillor H Tomczyk seconded by Councillor McGrath.

Councillor McGrath asked for clarification regarding monies spent from the CCTV account. It was confirmed this was a one off payment used for the installation of the new CCTV equipment in the new public toilet facilities. The Provost confirmed SBC would be paying the annual maintenance account. Councillor D Weatherston asked whether the balance of the CCTV account could be used towards updating the existing CCTV equipment in the town. Councillor A Nicol agreed to invite appropriate SBC officers to a meeting of the Council to give a briefing on the condition and the future use of CCTV in Kelso.

Councillor T Weatherston stated that one of the conditions for the Kelpies coming to Kelso for the weekend was they needed to be covered by CCTV for insurance purposes and it was confirmed the camera in the Square was in working order. He advised funding for the project had come from the Quality of Life funds.