



- PRESENT:** Councillors Owen Adams, James Boulton (Vice Chair), Peter Cooper, Christine Hamilton, Gavin Horsburgh (Provost), James McCombie, Shirley Redgrave, Paul Roberts, Gus Russell and Scottish Borders Councillors Euan Robson and Tommy Weatherston
- IN ATTENDANCE** Sharon Johnston (Secretary), Claire Fletcher (Visit Kelso) and PC Kirsty Chisholm (Police)
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Colin McGrath, Toni Oliver, Gail Watson 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 question through the Chairperson.

Welcome

The Provost welcomed Councillors and Visit Kelso to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to the public.

Police Matters

The Provost thanked PC Kirsty Chisholm for attending the meeting and for sending in the Police Report which had been circulated.

Councillor Hamilton asked if the police had seen any increase trends of incidents PC Chisholm informed the Council that there had been an increase in quad bike thefts and road traffic accidents (including three deaths), but unfortunately, this was usually the case in the winter months.

Councillor Roberts voiced his concerns over the speeding traffic up Roxburgh Street, along with drivers coming down the street the wrong way and asked if there was anything that the police could do to combat this. PC Chisholm advised that they have had police vehicles sit in Roxburgh Street and were not aware of either of these but did agree that the one-way traffic signage could be placed in a better position for drivers to see.

Visit Kelso

Claire Fletcher presented the report –

“Firstly Visit Kelso would like to thanks the Christmas Lights committee for a fantastic job this year – the Town Hall and the Square look fabulous.

The Christmas Advent campaign is well under way and the winners have been thrilled to take part in finding the voucher and redeeming their prizes.
The Christmas Market was another success with some stalls exceeding expectations and selling out early.

As if December wasn't busy enough we are in the process of upgrading the website making enhancements and improving the functionality.

Lastly, we would like to thank the Provost, the Community and SBC Councillors for a job well done this year and wish you all a very jolly Christmas and prosperous New Year.”

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2022

The minutes held on Tuesday 8 November 2022 subject to amendments were proposed by Councillor Boulton and seconded by Councillor Roberts and approved by the Council.

Kelso High School – Skate Park Presentation

Unfortunately, due to bad weather the presentation was unable to go ahead. However, Councillor Hamilton advised the council that she had attended one of the Skate Park Projects planning meetings which was very interesting and that the students had put a lot of work and research into the project. It was suggested that the presentation be re-scheduled to the February meeting. Councillor Hamilton agreed to check that the students would be available.

SBC Councillor Weatherston advised that he may have identified a funder for the project, but that the project must be ready to go to planning application before funds could be released.

Matters arising from the minutes

- Kelso Community Food Larder - Councillor Russell advised the Council that the Community Led Local Development fund grant decision to the Council was imminent. Councillor Russell informed the Council that The Bridge had advised that the operation of the larder should be through a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. If the Council was successful in securing the grant, the operation, lease and assets would be passed from the Council to the SCIO once it was set up. The initial trustees would be the Provost and Councillors McCombie and Roberts.

Councillor Redgrave asked how the grant money would be spent. Councillor Russell explained that it would be spent on the rent for the premises, the costs of fit-out and decoration, fridges, freezers, an IT system and a CCTV system.

The Provost thanked those involved in the Food Larder and congratulated them on the work that they had done so far.

- CCTV Shedden Park – The Provost advised that there had not been any more reports of vandalism.

- Citizen of the Year – the council agreed that a decision in the new year would need to be made as to how to take this forward.
- Riverside Drive Woodlands – the Provost welcomed Mr John Cummings to the meeting and advised Mr Cummings that the arboriculturist's report commissioned by M&J Ballantyne and forwarded by Mr Cummings had been circulated to the Councillors. Mr Cummings was pleased to report that communication with Mr Ballantyne had improved, and that Mr Ballantyne had acknowledged his responsibility of the woodlands with the expert's report identifying action required within one month, three months and one year. Mr Cummings thanked Councillor Russell for his support and advice.

Mr David Whittle informed the council that he had to challenge some members of the public who had taken it upon themselves to cut away overgrowth, and he had concerns over the harm that this may cause for the protected wildlife within the woodland. Mr Whittle expressed an interest in volunteering for the setting up of a community woodlands committee. The Provost advised Mr Whittle and Mr Cummings that it would be a good idea if the residents could find a way of working together for the good of the woodland and that he would look into the possibility of the council taking over the woodland. Councillor Russell advised the council that the woodland belonged to Mr Ballantyne and queried whether the council could purchase the woodland from him. The Provost agreed to review the situation and carried this agenda item into the new year.

Questions from the public

The proprietor of Evi Jane Fabrics raised concerns to the council about another business opening up in Spylaw Road who had not put in the correct planning application for a change of use. The Provost suggested that if the business had not applied for a change of use and was operating under the incorrect zone classification, SBC planning enforcement should be made aware.

Kelso in Bloom

A successful fundraising event took place where £652.00 was collected from a bag pack in Sainsburys. Councillor Redgrave thanked all those who volunteered on the day. Councillor Redgrave that a Just Giving page might be set up for future fundraising events as less and less money is being carried by the public.

Tweed Valley Railway Campaign and KCC Railway Committee

A report had been circulated by Councillor Boulton and there were no questions from the meeting.

Secretary's Report

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

- It was suggested that a Facebook post be put up to ask if there were any businesses who would be able to accommodate a “warm space” following correspondence from SCB. It was highlighted that the Men’s Shed, the Library and Evi Jane Fabrics offer this facility at the moment. The Provost agreed to put a post on Facebook.
- Scottish Water Top-up Tap – the council discussed that an appropriate place for the Water top-up Tap might be and agreed that in between the two benches at Greggs may be a suitable place.

Provost Report

The Provost attended the Christmas Light Switch-on and the over 60’s Lunch Club, which he enjoyed very much.

The idea of a Battlefields Tour from 16 – 20 October 2023, which was posted on KCC Facebook page, was met with a positive response. The pricing of the trip would be £479 pp with a £100 non- refundable deposit. If any councillors or members of the public would like to go they have been asked to get in touch with the Provost.

Walking Festival 2023

The Walking Festival Report and Draft Walking routes were circulated by Councillor Redgrave and are attached.

Kelso Community Cinema

Councillor Cooper advised the council that Kelso Community Cinema was in crisis as all three trustee members were stepping down and as it was a registered charity, three trustees were needed to make it viable. Councillor Cooper asked councillors to get in touch with him if they knew anyone who would be willing to take on these roles, otherwise the cinema was in danger of closing. The Provost agreed to put the request on social media.

Consultations

There were no consultations

Scottish Borders Community Council Network

Councillor Boulton passed on the council’s good wishes for Heather Batsch in her retirement and thanked her for all her hard work she has done for KCC and Scottish Borders Community Council Network.

Scottish Borders Council Report

Parking/Traffic management – SBC Councillor Robson reported back to the council that there had been more police presence over the past few weeks and more parking notices had been distributed. With regards to the speed limit on the Edinburgh Road, there had only been one recorded speeding accident and that the average speed of cars on that particular stretch of road was 30-40 mph. He advised the council that the request for a speed limit reduction was declined.

Shedden Park Toilets – still awaiting the findings of the report on the issue of toilet provisions.

Scaffolding/ Abbey and Glebe Wall - SBC Councillor Weatherston advised that it would be the middle of 2023 before the scaffolding at Bowmont Street would be removed. The likelihood of work being carried out on the Abbey in the near future is very slim, with other Abbeys throughout the Borders in the same position. SBC Councillor Weatherston also advised the council that the work on Glebe Wall was at a stand still while a dispute was underway.

Electric Charging Space – SBC Councillors were made aware that cars were parking in the disabled spaces for the double ended electric charging points and were asked if either the charging points could be moved to somewhere more central, or the disabled spaced moved. This request was taken forward and SBC Councillor Weatherston is still awaiting response for this request.

Roughcasting on library wall – it was agreed that this item would be carried forward to next month's meeting.

The issue of the state of the paths and lack of snow clearing around the town was discussed with SBC Councillors. Councillor Robson explained that a combination of extreme weather, a vehicle breakdown, lack of staff and the salt not being able to clear the paths had contributed to the state of the paths and roads.

Consideration of Licensing applications

There were no licensing applications.

Consideration of planning applications

Planning applications had been circulated to the council for consideration.

Any other business

Councillor Boulton asked if some members of the council should lobby their MSP's regarding the constant problem of dog fouling. SBC Councillor Weatherston informed KCC that this had been discussed at a SBC meeting and that it might be a good idea to write to the Government and MSP Rachel Hamilton asking them to make it illegal for owners to let their dogs foul on parks and sports fields.

The Provost advised that he had written to His Majesty King Charles III inviting him to attend the unearthing of the 1953 time capsule and the burying of the next time capsule, after the Coronation. He is awaiting a response.

The Provost has been in touch with the Falkirk council to enquire if the mini Kelpies could return to Kelso. This could happen, but KCC would need to pay for the transportation of them.

A member of the public had enquired about who to get in touch with regarding donating a number of electric meter vouchers to families in need. Councillor Roberts agreed to get in touch with them to help with their enquiry.

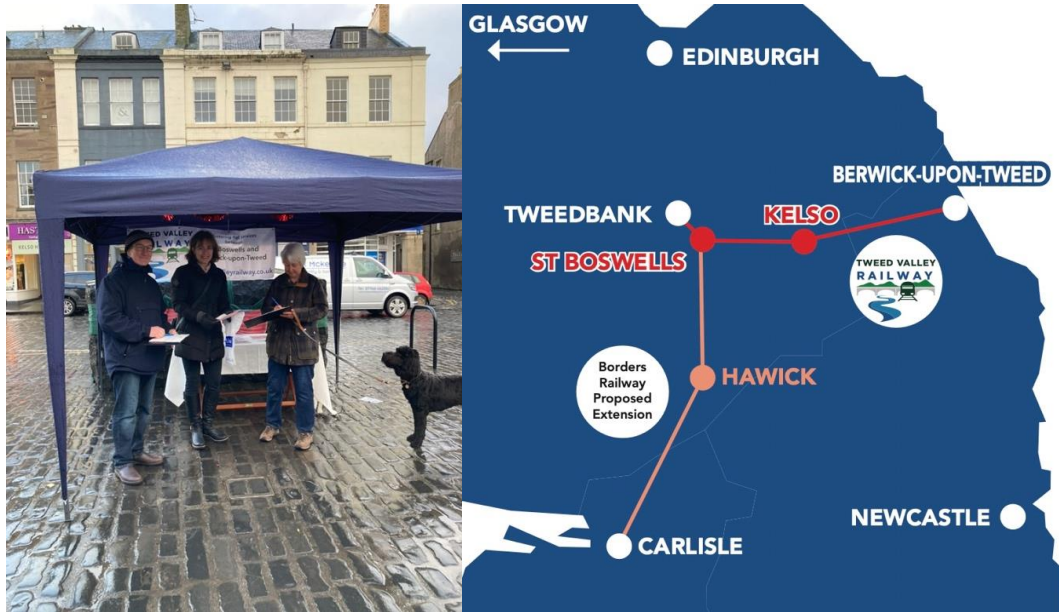
The Provost thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

Tweed Valley Railway Campaign
Update for Community Councils
December 2022

Reaching 200 supporters / members

Since the campaign was established a little over one year ago, we have now signed up our 201st supporter / member. At a productive, if damp, day at Kelso Christmas market, on 4 December, we enlisted 55 new supporters.



Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council

The railway would join the East Coast Mainline at or near Berwick-upon-Tweed so we are delighted to have been invited to present our campaign to the Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council on 19 December.

Scottish Government

The Scottish Government's Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) decision is still expected to be made public later this month.

MPs

We are making preparations to meet with Berwick-upon-Tweed MP (and former Secretary of State for Transport), The Rt. Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, early in the New Year.

St Boswells Parish Community Council

The campaign has been invited to set out its stall at the St Boswells Parish Community Council on 26 January.

Kelso Walking Festival – report to Kelso Community Council December 2022

Dates: Sunday 3 September to Saturday 9 September 2023

Committee consists of KCC Councillors Christine Hamilton, Gus Russell and Shirley Redgrave (Chair), Helen Rabour (Coldstream Ramblers), Sally Keen and Lorna Mackenzie (Eildon Ramblers), Jim Stone (U3A walking group), Keith Robeson (SBC Chief Ranger) and Visit Kelso (June Swan or Tina Newton).

Walks programme

This has been finalised (copy attached)

Transportation arranged

Ticket prices £10.00 if walking from hub or £12.00 with transport

First aid training to be arranged in spring 2023

No cancellation policy available from insurers

Social programme drafted, will be shared once firmed up.

Funding/Sponsorship

- Ticket sales via Evenbrite or alternative
- Sponsorship opportunities via local traders
- Cheviot Neighbourhood Area Partnership funding application – to be submitted 07.12.22
- Fallago Fund to be submitted
- Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing grant – submitted and unsuccessful
- Paul Mitchell of Rutherfords has offered to donate £500
- Alternative funding streams being considered.
- Roll over budget of £2,500 has been received from Galashiels CC.
- SBC Rangers have provided £1,000 funding

Web site

Agency engaged to develop web site

To launch as soon as possible

Marketing/branding/promotion

Priority to meet in January 2023 to develop a marketing strategy – working with Visit Kelso.

Venue

- Tebbutt Rooms for reception hub
- Coffee lounge in Abbey Row for afternoon tea – local groups to be invited to host.
- Kelso Town Hall for civic and welcoming ceremony on Saturday 2 September and handover ceremony on Saturday 9 September 2023).

Future meetings –

- Marketing strategy meeting arranged for 12.1.23
- Full committee meeting – to be arranged

Shirley Redgrave

07.12.22

KELSO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CORRESPONDENCE/EVENTS/CONSULTATIONS – DEC/NOV 22

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Correspondence</u>	<u>Venue and comments</u>
<u>12.11.22</u>	<u>Notification of BACS payment 75% for Kelso Food Larder</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>SBC Funding for Queens Jubilee – evaluation form</u>	<u>Submitted by Provost</u>
	<u>A letter to members of The Bridge</u>	<u>For information</u>
<u>13.12.22</u>	<u>Response to 22/01779/FUL – Mrs Alison Russell – external redecoration – 45A Woodmarket, Kelso TD5 7AT</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Electric Card Top-up Vouchers – request from member of public to make a donation</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Approved November minutes for posting</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Town Hall booking - Tweed Valley Railway committee: 6 February 2023 19:00h</u>	<u>For information</u>
<u>15.12.22</u>	<u>Council to hold consultation on proposals to reprovision night support service</u>	<u>For information and personal comments</u>
<u>19.12.22</u>	<u>Community Path Grant awarded for £450</u>	<u>Awaiting payment</u>
<u>20.12.22</u>	<u>Facebook – request for help to collect items for Food bank</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Traffic Regulations - Road Closure - B6461 Kelso to Ednam - 11th January 2023</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Traffic Regulations - Road Closure - B6401 Marlefield - 18th January 2023</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Member of public request regarding potential positioning of bull ring.</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Scottish Community Council Network Christmas Newsletter</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Planning application - 22/01927/ FUL Mr Jonathan Reddin - Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse - 3 Sutherland Gardens Kelso Scottish Borders TD5 7BF</u>	<u>Comments by 17.1.23</u>
	<u>Scottish Water Top up Tap - Kelso</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
	<u>SBC Festive Waste and Recycling Collections</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>River Tweed Salmon Season opening 1st February 2023</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Facebook comment – car abandoned at Floors entrance</u>	<u>For information</u>
<u>21.12.22</u>	<u>SBC confirmation of grant to Kelso in Bloom for £2,500</u>	<u>For information</u>

	<u>News Release: Borderers encouraged to complete survey and shape next Council budget and priorities</u>	<u>For comment</u>
	<u>Facebook – Rennie Bridge lights out</u>	<u>For information</u>
<u>26.12.22</u>	<u>Kelso Community Woodlands</u>	Agenda item
<u>29.12.22</u>	<u>Kelso Food Larder update</u>	Agenda item
<u>02.01.23</u>	<u>Vandalism in the Square</u>	Agenda item
	<u>Battlefields Trip - 16th- 20th October 2023</u>	Agenda item
	<u>Alzheimer's Scotland What's on Guide for January</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Scottish Borders Council Community Network meeting - 18 January 2023</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Park & Environment - Cheviot tree survey update</u>	<u>For information</u>
	<u>Lauder Public Hall (at the bottom of The Avenue carpark) on Wednesday 22nd Feb at 1pm for our informal In Bloom blether and cake with other In Bloom groups.</u>	<u>For information</u>