



**PRESENT:** Councillors James Boulton, Ian Brown, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, James McCombie, Colin McGrath, Harry Tomczyk, Dean Weatherston (Chair) and Scottish Borders Councillors Simon Mountford and Euan Robson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Tina Newton (Visit Kelso) and members of the public Dennis Fortune, Rhona Hastie and Hazel Woodsell,

**APOLOGIES** KCC Councillor John Bassett and Paul Roberts and SBC Councillor Tom Weatherston

- *Please note questions to either the Scottish Borders Councillors or Kelso Community Councillors need to be submitted in writing to the Secretary seven days prior to meeting.*
- *All Councillors to make a declaration of interest prior to discussion.*
- *All correspondence to be circulated via the Secretary.*
- *All Councillors and attendees to act in a courteous manner and direct question through the Chairperson.*

## **Welcome**

The Provost welcomed everyone to the January meeting being held by Zoom and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

## **Visit Kelso**

Tina Newton advised Visit Kelso had had a good Christmas campaign and had been successful in receiving a grant in the autumn of last year from the BIDS resilience fund. She advised this money has to be spent by March 2021 to promote the local High Street but they decided not to spend the money last year as the High Street is always more buoyant in the run up to Christmas and footfall decreases in January and February. The Provost commented the Christmas campaign had generated a lot of interest.

Tina advised Visit Kelso have started to formulate the campaign and more details will follow. She advised they are still working hard to promote the town and district and have asked businesses for feedback so we can share if they are open for business and if they are offering any more services such as click & collect.

The Provost commented several businesses were not acting in the spirit of the Covid guidance lock down rules and if they were unsure they should contact SBC. Tina advised Covid guidelines were available on the Visit Kelso web site and would be included in their next newsletter.

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2020**

The minutes held on Tuesday 8 December 2020 were approved. They were proposed by Councillor Harry Tomczyk and seconded by Councillor Gavin Horsburgh.

### **Matters arising**

#### **Cycle Racks**

The Provost advised there had been no progress but had passed on the Community Council's comments and once lock down was over additional cycle racks would be placed in the town in the areas supported by Kelso Community Council. The Provost agreed to circulate pictures of the proposed cycle racks.

#### **Rutherford Square**

The Provost advised a letter detailing concerns had been submitted to SBHA which had been acknowledged. He advised the issue with the automatic doors had been resolved. It was noted that due to the current lock down issues could not be addressed but the Community Council would keep an eye on matters.

### **Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from the public.

### **Police Matters**

The Provost advised Police Scotland were not allowed to join meetings by Zoom and advised the Multi Member Ward Plan for Kelso and District for December 2020 had previously been circulated and if there were any comments or concerns to feedback to ourselves or Police Scotland. Councillor Horsburgh commented he welcomed the report which was well laid out and informative.

### **Kelso in Bloom**

Councillor Horsburgh advised a few volunteers had turned up for the pre-Christmas community litter pick. He advised the recent Just Giving page had been extremely successful and over £430.00 donations had been received which had been paid into the KIB account.

### **Kelso Resilience group**

The Provost advised KRG had met before Christmas in preparation for the lockdown and the resilience mobile phoned had been activated. So far there had only been a couple of requests to collect prescriptions but the group would review on a weekly

basis. Councillor Horsburgh advised the Food Bank were receiving increased requests for donations but currently due to the generosity of donations and volunteers they were coping with demand. The Provost thanked everyone involved and commented that the Secretary had received an email from a relative of an individual who had benefitted from the services of the Food Bank during the first lock down and had made a donation to them.

Dennis Fortune commented KRG were working with both Boots and Lloyds to help deal with prescriptions but he had noticed people who needed assistance with prescription collections were now using family and neighbours to help them.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary gave the following update –

- Correspondence, consultations, planning, traffic regulations etc. had been circulated and captured and a summary would be attached to the minutes.
- The Local Development Plan – it was noted a response needed to be submitted in January 2021 and the Provost asked Councillors to feed back any comments by the weekend and he would collate and circulate a draft response before submission. Councillor Tomczyk commented it was imperative Kelso was linked into any proposed railway line extension and suggested a sub Committee be set up to progress matters. Councillor Tomczyk agreed to chair this group and Councillor Boulton and SBC Councillor Robson offered assistance. Councillor Tomczyk asked whether Visit Kelso would be interested in participating in the new committee and Tina Newton commented Visit Kelso would welcome and support this initiative. The Provost thanked Councillor Tomczyk for agreeing to chair this Committee to take work forward. SBC Councillor Robson commented this LDP would be in place for the next ten years.
- The secretary advised she had received the annual insurance renewal documentation which would be completed and returned. Councillor Tomczyk commented that although the Kelso Resilience Group was covered directly by the SBC insurance it was important to mention this group in our own renewal submission. The secretary undertook to clarify this on the submission.
- The secretary advised the application for the Local Community Council paths maintenance grant 2020-21 was successful and £450 had been paid to the Kelso Heritage Society.
- The secretary advised a letter had been received from John Lamont MP regarding the independent Union Connectivity Review. It was noted this was only received on the 19 December and the closing date was 30 December. The secretary was asked to request an extension. Councillor McGrath advised the Community Network Council had also been approached for comments and they had requested an extension.
- The secretary advised she had been approached by Roddy Martin, Manager - Unpaid Work by Offenders, Criminal Justice Team to ask if there was any work in Kelso which they could be of assistance with. This would be carried out by one of their staff and one service user and would be public work or work for any vulnerable individuals and need to be within walking distance of the town. The Provost advised he had spoken to people in Neighbourhood

Services and after a discussion it was agreed litter picking and removal of general rubbish from the wooded area by Rennie Bridge, from the old Kelso sign to Rennie Bridge, by Springwood Park and Wooden Anna, under Hunters Bridge. The bus stops and vennel (Market Close) at the business hub in Horsemarket/Woodmarket need a good scrub down. Jock The Box Entry, Bridge Street could do with a good wash out as well as the area at the other side in Abbey Row to remove moss. This vennel would benefit from being whitewashed. Oven Wynd from Bridge Street to the river would benefit from a litter pick, hard sweep and clearing of weeds. As it slopes down towards the river this area has not been maintained for several years and would benefit from being cut back and moss cleared down to the hardcore. Councillor Horsburgh asked for cleaning of the planters in the Square to be included. The Secretary undertook to pass this information onto Roddy Martin.

### **Provost's Report**

The Provost advised there had been no official events.

### **Scottish Borders Council Community Network (SBCCN)**

Councillor McGrath advised information regarding his discussion with Jenny Craig had been circulated with a view to forwarding a submission to the Scottish Government. Councillor McGrath commented that if it was adopted all five Area Partnerships would comply with the Community Empowerment Act. Councillor McGrath reminded Councillors that one of the main issues of the Act was Participating Budgeting which empowered the public to decide how public money was spent on projects within their area. Councillor McGrath advised each Area Partnership would be holding working parties over the next period to agree the way forward and the Cheviot Area Partnership was taking place on Thursday of this week.

Councillor McGrath advised he had circulated information regarding the appointment of Councillor Robin Tatler who has been appointed executive member for community development and localities and he is also responsible for the updating of the Community Council Scheme. Councillor McGrath advised a meeting was planned to discuss the Community Council Scheme on 21 January 2021 and he would report back.

The Provost raised concerns that the Cheviot Youth who applied for funding to provide services to young people with mental health had missed out on funding from the Community Fund and asked when they could apply again. SBC Councillor Mountford commented where the public in attendance can't reach an agreement on the funding of the applications and there is a division, voting on funding matters in those circumstances can only be made by SBC elected members. SBC Councillor Robson advised he had raised this issue with the SBC Convenor and they were looking at alternative funding streams.

### **Parking and traffic management**

Noted there was no update due to current lockdown.

### **Any Other Business**

The Provost advised the Scottish Water unplanned works in the Square were due to be completed by the end of the week and therefore the road could be open. The Provost advised the works on Jedburgh road by Scottish Power were also due to be completed by the weekend. Councillor Horsburgh asked if we knew how far up Jedburgh road the works would go and SBC Councillor Robson advised the SBC Works Department had advised it would be just where they were currently located. Councillor Robson advised that if a road had been resurfaced and a utility company wanted to dig part of it up within two years then SBC could insist the utility company relaid the whole of the road.

The Provost commented Bowmont House was up for sale by auction and hopefully if a buyer was forthcoming works could be completed and the scaffolding removed to enable Union Street to be re-opened.

Councillor Tomczyk asked who was responsible for the provision of care packages for elderly people in their own home as in his experience he felt it was not fit for purpose. The Provost suggested he spoke to SBC Councillor Weatherston who was responsible for the older people services portfolio.

### **Scottish Borders Council Report**

There was no update.

### **Consideration of Licenses**

The Secretary advised there had been an application for Variation of Premises Licence from the Kelso Rugby Club in respect of their Clubhouse and the proposed changes are within Board Policy. As feedback was due by 8 January this had been circulated to Councillors for comment and there were no objections. This had been fed back to SBC.

### **Consideration of Plans**

The Secretary advised there were no plans for consideration.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 February 2021

APPENDIX

KELSO COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE/EVENTS/CONSULTATIONS DEC 2020		
Date	Event/Correspondence	Venue and comments
09.12.20	KCC approved minutes submitted to the KCC and Visit Kelso FB pages for posting.	For information
10.12.20	SBC Advice for events organisers – Covid restrictions	For information
	B-Lines network for Scottish Borders pollinators	For information
	Teviot Bridge - A699 repairs	For information
	Scottish Water - Robertson Works - Jedburgh and Kelso areas	For information
	Electric Charging Points	For information
	SBHA presentation on Tweed court	For information
11.12.20	Planning application - 20/01518/FUL Ninewells Farms Ltd - Erection of industrial building, associated car parking and boundary Fence Plots 12 AND 13 Pinnaclehill Industrial Estate Kelso	For comments
	Member Briefing - Santa events under COVID restrictions	For information
	News Release: Proposed review of Council service delivery to be discussed	For information
	News Release: Event organisers encouraged to check guidance and get advice when making plans	For information
	20mph feedback – KCC Consultation response received - Response ID: ANON-FDSP-P36E-B	For information
15.12.20	News release: Inspiring young people recognised for their community efforts	For information
	Letter to SBHA regarding concerns raised by residents of Rutherford Square	For information
16.12.20	News Release: Service changes for Christmas and New Year	For information
	Festive Waste Collection Changes	For information
21.12.20	John Lamont MP independent union connectivity review	For comments
	Briefing - COVID-19 update	For information
	Progress update on the Scottish Borders Proposed Local Development Plan	For information
	Joint News Release from NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council	For information
	Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 - Application for Variation of 'Provisional' Premises Licence - Kelso	For comments

	Rugby Football Club - Clubhouse, Poynder Park, Poynder Place, Kelso	
03.01.21	Road closure - A699 Teviot Bridge	For information
05.01.21	Events - COSS Introduction to Community Asset Transfer webinars	For information
	News Release: Continued challenging conditions as further ice warning issued	For information
	News release: Scottish Borders set for new lockdown	For information
	Live Borders Creative Writing Project starts Wednesday 13 January	For information
	KCC papers for 12.01.21	For information
07.01.21	Railway Line in the Draft Local Development Plan	For information
	Community Council Insurance Renewal 2021	For information. Secretary to action
	News release: School and nursery enrolment to take place online between 18-22 January 2021	For information
09.01.21	Footway Closure - Bridge Street, Kelso	For information
	Road Closure - Albert Place, Kelso	For information
10.01.21	Submission from Councillor McGrath	For information and comments