



**Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held in the Town Hall,
Kelso on Tuesday 14 March 2017, at 7.00 pm**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Alan Livingston (Chamber of Trade, Friends of Kelso Museum (Derek Robeson and Hazel Woodsell) and Police Scotland Suzanne Howgego.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Dean Weatherston, Fiona Scott and Alan Hall, Police Scotland and Kathryn Wyle (Southern Reporter)

- 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.

Welcome

The Provost welcomed members to the meeting and representatives from Friends of Kelso Museum.

Police Matters

The Secretary advised there was no one available from Police Scotland to attend the meeting and the March 2017 Police Scotland report had previously been circulated based on the Kelso and District Multi Member Ward Policing Plan. There were no comments made.

Presentation by Friends of Kelso Museum

Derek Robeson (Chairman) and Hazel Woodsell (Secretary) attended to ask the Kelso Community Council to consider two proposals from the Friends of Kelso Museum.

The planting of an orchard of 20-40 fruit trees in one or both of the vacant green spaces at the foot of Mayfield Lane and to clear the scrub that is growing from the path, steps and walls of the area known as skimmers brae.

Chamber of Trade report / Visit Kelso

Alan Livingstone advised the Chamber of Trade AGM would be held on 6 March at 5.45pm at the Ednam House Hotel and all were welcome.

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2017 were approved. They were proposed by Councillor Gavin Horsburgh and seconded by Councillor Harry Tomczyk.

Matters arising

a) Memorial Garden

Councillor Tomczyk advised the questionnaire had been published in the March edition of Kelso Life and posted on the Kelso Community Council Facebook page. The questionnaire could be completed in paper form or completed on line via Survey Monkey, there would be a link on the Facebook page. It was noted it cost £26.00 per month to use Survey Monkey and the Community Council had ring fenced funds to pay for this. Browns Newsagents had agreed to accept the completed questionnaires. Councillor John King had agreed to undertake the analysis of the paper responses.

b) Kelso in Bloom – Floral Gateway Competition

Councillor Hodges advised

c) Mens Shed

The Provost advised he

d) NHS/Social Services integration

Councillor McGrath advised

e) Consultation on the future of the Scottish Planning process

It was noted a meeting was held on the 7 March which was attended by Councillors Bassett, Tomczyk, Hall, Weatherston and Cooper.

f) Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

Correspondence

The secretary advised correspondence had been circulated to Community Councillors and a summary schedule had been compiled. In addition the following documents had been received which were tabled

An invitation from the Kelso Ladies' Association to meet the 2017 Kelso Laddie when he is declared on Friday 21 April 2017. The Kelso Laddie will be introduced within the Town House at approximately 7pm and thereafter to the public at 7.30pm

Secretary's Report

Kelso Community Elections 2017

The Secretary advised she was prepared to act as the Returning Officer. This was proposed by Councillor xxxxx and seconded by Councillor xxx

She advised nominations are invited from members of the Community whose names are on the current Electoral Registers for Kelso. The Council, which will serve for 4 years, consists of 12 members and in the event of more than 12 nominees an election will be held on **Thursday, 25 May 2017**. Nomination forms may be obtained from Rennie Welch CA, Academy House, Shedden Park Road, Kelso TD5 7AL. Tel: 01573 224391 Email: mail@renniewelch.co.uk and completed forms returned by 12 noon, **Thursday, 27 April 2017** and any withdrawals by 12 noon **Thursday, 4 May 2017**.

The Secretary expressed her thanks to Rennie Welch for their assistance with the elections and an advertisement would be placed in the Southern Reporter on the 6 **April 2017**

In addition the Secretary advised the following:

CCTV an update had been received.

Letters had been sent to John Lamont and Calum Kerr regarding the Borders Railways extension which had been acknowledged.

Scottish Borders Council

The Provost advised statements would be given by SBC Councillors if there was an update. The Provost reminded Councillors that if they wished to raise specific questions with SBC these should be submitted to the Secretary 7 days in advance of the meeting.

Area Forum

Councillor T Weatherston advised the next meeting would take place on the 29 March in Kelso.

Parking / Traffic management

It was noted the recent report had highlighted Kelso had the worst record for parking issues and despite this Kelso would not be included in the trial. Councillor T Weatherston undertook to raise this issue at the next SBC meeting on 23 February and report back.

Trinity Church

Councillor A Nicol advised he had no progress to report.

Procurement from United Kingdom

First Bus Operation in the Borders

Councillor Nicol advised SBC were informed that West Coast Motors (trading as Perryman's) is in discussions with First Bus to purchase its operations in the Borders. Both companies have now advised their staff of the situation and First Bus have issued a press release confirming the proposed sale.

Having spoken to both operators we are confident that, should the purchase go ahead, the existing level of services for passengers will be maintained in the short term. The Council already works alongside Perryman's, with the company taking on a number of First services last year which they are successfully operating.

Questions to SBC Councillors

The Provost reported

Consideration of Licenses

An application for variation of premises licence had been received from The Queens Head Hotel. Councillor voiced no objections as the times were in line with other premises selling alcohol within the town.

Consideration of Plans

The Council considered the following plans –

- (a) Alterations to existing window openings and replacement windows and door to Castlegate Nursery, Sylaw Road, Kelso. The Council had no objections to the plans.
- (b) Erection of dwellinghouse, garden ground of Cairnbank Sprouston Road, Kelso. The Council had no objections to the plans.
- (c) Change of use of land to commercial storage and siting of storage containers at Yard North of Howdens Joinery, Pinnaclehill Estate, Kelso.

The next meeting of Kelso Community Council will be held in the Town Hall, Kelso on Tuesday 11 April 2017 at 7.00pm