

# MINUTE OF MELROSE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

7.30 PM, WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2022, THE ORMISTON INSTITUTE UPPER LOUNGE

## 1. Attendance and Apologies

<b>Present:</b>	Martin Baird (CC)	Willie Kerr (CC)
	Jane Bell (CC)	Michael Sherlock (CC)
	Mary Douglas (CC)	Douglas Stewart (CC)
	Simon Harris (CC)	Lynda Wilks (CC)
	Bruce Jackson (CC)	Bruce Wilson (CC)
	Cllr Jenny Linehan (SBC)	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Lorna Paterson (CC)	Cllr John Paton Day (SBC)
	Cllr David Parker (SBC)	Ian Porter (Police Scotland)

2. **Declaration of interests:** No interests of relevance were noted.

3. **High school welcome:** Mr Campbell Lightly-West, pupil of Earlston High school was welcomed to the meeting, introduced, and invited to contribute.

4. **Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 19 October 2022:** These were approved with one correction.

5. **Matters arising from meeting of Wednesday 19 October 2022:**  
Police reports had been received by the chair but not others; and will be forwarded. The insurance policy for the Christmas lights is held by SBC, and a copy had been received. The electricians' certificates had been received, and he would do the work required.

6. **Additional item: timing of Christmas lights**  
A proposal was made and universally supported that the switching on of the lights should become a focal event, and that this would be best take place at the time of the late night shopping night on the 1<sup>st</sup> December. This would be much preferred to an uneventful switching-on on the 26<sup>th</sup> November. The possibility of doing the lights switch-on on the 1<sup>st</sup> would be pursued with SBC, It was suggested that if switch off was done earlier than the 2am planned, energy use would be conserved.

7. **Paths grants**  
Money was available for the upgrading of paths, including of seats that are associated with their use. Different groups within Melrose would be approached to see if they would wish to work with the council to apply for this money to restore the various seats in the area that were in a state of disrepair, a problem noted at the previous CC meeting.

8. **Melrose and district groups list:** It was agreed to enhance awareness of CC activity and presence by working through the various groups active in Melrose and district. A number of groups were suggested, and the CC secretary would circulate a spreadsheet to enable CC members to contribute to a more comprehensive list.
9. **Morow Gardens Christmas Tree and Christmas Parade on 10th December.** The Rotary club wish to put a Christmas Tree in Morow Gardens, as last year, and organise the Christmas Parade for the 10th of December. This was welcomed by the Community Council.
10. **Missing coping stones from cemetery wall (Huntly Road):** This had been raised before. Jenny Linehan agreed to follow this up with SBC.
11. **Planning issues:** Planning issues had all been dealt with by e-mail
12. **Policing:** Policing reports would be reviewed when forwarded.
13. **Any other competent business**

In Newstead, the flat top section of Dean Road between the Black Path and Priorswalk is so severely rutted that it is dangerous for cyclists and very rough for car users.

The pedestrian path between Newstead and Melrose has become severely overgrown and needs to be cut back.

Dr John Reid, Chairman of Trimontium Trust, had requested to present his organizations plans at the next Community Council meeting. This was welcomed by the council.

There is a consultation process underway concerning bus provision. Mary Douglas, CC \Chair, will be attending a Zoom meeting on this on 6 December; views on this could be conveyed to her.

Report of vandalism to the poppies on the town cross had been reported.

A collaboration is underway between Melrose Bowling club and Melrose in Bloom to apply for funds through SBC to renew the dilapidated fence on the Bowling Club side of Boat Brae.

14. **Questions from the floor.** No issues were raised
15. **Time date and location of next Community Council meeting.**  
THERE WILL NOT BE A DECEMBER MEETING.  
The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18 January 2023 at 7.30pm in the Ormiston Institute.