



**MEETING OF MELROSE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2021**

MINUTE

Present: William Windram (WW) (Chair), Graham Barker (GB), Robin Chisholm (RC), Andrew Panter (AP), Lorna Paterson (LP), Agnes Waldie (AW), Aziza Taylor (AT) (Secretary).

In Attendance: SBC Cllrs David Parker (DP) and Jenny Linehan (JL).

		Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: Dorothy Cameron, Martin Baird, Cllr Tom Miers, Val Miller.	
2.	Declaration of Interest: WW reminded members that they should declare any interest they may have in advance of an item being discussed.	
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 18 August were approved.	
4.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Pavements Opposite the Rugby Club: Work still to be carried out by SBC.</p> <p>Christmas Lights: RC reported that the grant application to the William Hill Trust had been successful. A further application will be made to the Eildon Community Fund.</p> <p>Golf Club Drainage Problem: No work done yet. The problem is expected to recur after the summer.</p> <p>Bollards: SBC will attend to the two remaining bollards in Buccleuch Street and Abbey Street.</p> <p>Fence at Darnick: The work is still to be done.</p> <p>Melrose Abbey: Repair work to the masonry is being done.</p> <p>Trimontium Trust: The Trust is embarking on Phase 2 of the project, and starting a new lecture series. The new museum remains popular with visitors.</p> <p>Community Council Elections: WW will ask SBC to add Melrose and District Community Council to the councils requiring elections in the coming year. WW asked all councillors to think of potential new councillors, who would be representative of all towns and villages in the area and of different age groups.</p> <p>Fingerposts: SBC have this in hand and the fingerposts are expected to be updated in 2022.</p>	<p>DP, RC</p> <p>WW</p>

	<p>Priorwood Bridge: LP will attend a site meeting with SBC to decide on the bridge replacement.</p> <p>Cemetery Wall Damage: It was reported that additional damage had been done to a railing. JL will take this in hand.</p> <p>St. Dunstons Garages: work to demolish the garages is waiting on vacant possession.</p> <p>Leaderfoot Bridge, new electric fence: Erica Niven of SBC is in touch with the owners on this matter. JL will take this up.</p> <p>Newstead Green: GB reported that the picnic had gone well. The group have money for a survey to be done before applying for funding.</p> <p>Greenyards Security Signs: These have been reduced.</p>	<p>LP</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p>
5.	<p>Police Matters: The Police Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Further incidents in the vicinity of East Port were noted, along with incidents in local shops. Local residents are not happy with the response from dialling 101 to report incidents as they have been advised to do by the Police. WW will ask TM to report any feedback on this issue from the Police Board.</p>	<p>WW, TM</p>
6.	<p>Traffic Matters: Congestion near Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue: Congestion at this point at certain times of day is impacting local bus services. JL and DP will put forward some ideas on how this could be tackled. Additional Bicycle Hoops: The local consultation on where to site additional bicycle hoops met with a positive response and work will now proceed. Chiefswood Road: Two way traffic is to be reinstated on Chiefswood Road. SBC will produce a costed design for a permanent separate walking and cycling path before Christmas.</p>	<p>JL, DP</p>
7.	<p>Planning Sub Committee: Chain Bridge Cottage, Annay Road, Melrose – alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of additional accommodation from outbuilding, change of use of agricultural land to form garden ground: MDCC supported the application but raised concern over the availability of car parking and any turning space for vehicles. Main Building, West Grove, Waverley Road, Melrose – alterations to roof to form dormer windows: No comments. Orchard House, Gattonside – alterations to dwellinghouse: No comments.</p>	
8.	<p>Community Events: Melrose in Bloom: It was reported that the Garden Party was a great success and very well attended.</p>	

<p>9.</p>	<p>Matters Raised by:</p> <p>Weeds: RC remarked on the unsightly weeds now visible on many streets. DP confirmed that SBC spray weeds once per year and this had already been done. Environmental concerns have had an impact on both the frequency of spraying and on the chemicals that can be used.</p> <p>Defibrillator: WW reported that the Bowling Club had been in touch for suggestions for where an additional defibrillator could be located now that one had been installed at the club. Suggestions made included the Golf Club and the Abbey Car Park.</p> <p>Weirhill paths and fence: Concerns were raised over both the debris on the footpath at Boat Brae and the overgrown hedge which needs to be cut. DP will investigate any appropriate funding sources. WW will contact the Bowling Club about the suggestion that the banking on the club side of the path could be planted, perhaps with the help of Melrose in Bloom, to keep the area tidier in future.</p> <p>Path near the Chain Bridge: The path is deteriorating. This is part of the Southern Upland Way.</p> <p>Litter Bin Opposite the Loan: RC asked for an update on replacing the bin. JL will follow this up.</p> <p>Darnick Incident: AP raised concerns about a suspicious incident in Darnick.</p> <p>Melrose Library: The library has now reopened with restricted opening hours. JL encouraged everyone to make use of it.</p>	<p>WW</p> <p>JL</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Matters Raised by the Public:</p> <p>Relocation of Items Stored while Trimontium Museum Redeveloped: A local resident had contacted the Community Council for an update on this. DP will write to him with information. The memorial boards have been renovated and will go back on display within the building shortly. It was confirmed that there will no longer be a Reading Room with the Ormiston Institute, but members of the public are welcome to use the lobby of the new museum.</p>	<p>DP</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 20 October 2021 at 7.30 pm. on Zoom.</p>	