



**MEETING OF MELROSE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 17th MARCH 2021**

MINUTE

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

In Attendance: SBC Cllrs David Parker (DP), Tom Miers (TM) and Jenny Linehan (JL). Two members of the public.

		Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: PC Calum Wilson.	
2.	Declaration of Interest: WW reminded members that they should declare any interest they may have in advance of an item being discussed.	
3.	New SBC Councillor: Jenny Linehan was congratulated on her victory at the recent election and welcomed to the meeting.	
4.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February were approved.	
5.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Pavements Opposite the Rugby Club: SBC are currently working to repair the pavements..</p> <p>A6091 Litter: SBC staff have cleared the litter from a section of the A6091.</p> <p>Coatburn Green: Nothing further to report.</p> <p>A6091 Drainage: Bear have this in hand and will carry out the work soon.</p> <p>Boat Brae Rubbish Bin: VM raised this matter again. TM will take this up with SBC.</p> <p>Christmas Lights: The lights are still in place as agreed. RC and GB are preparing an estimate of costs for new switches and a spare garland. Running costs for this year were £109.</p> <p>Broken Fence at Darnick: AP reported that it had been agreed to leave the gap for access rather than put in a gate.</p> <p>Market Square Electricity: GB reported that the traders wish to retain the electricity supply. GB will speak to the traders about possibly splitting the cost of £125 between themselves and the Community Council.</p> <p>Bogle Burn Flooding: GB had sent photos of the problem to SBC and the problem was fixed, but subsequently reappeared. All now appears to be sorted.</p> <p>Local Businesses: It was reported that a number of small business in the</p>	<p>TM</p> <p>RC, GB</p>

	<p>High Street that appeared to be closing down, have been using the lockdown to redecorate and renovate their premises with a view to reopening when circumstances permit.</p> <p>Golf Club Drainage Problem: RC has photos to send to SBC.</p> <p>William Hill Trust: A meeting was held recently to review the annual report and accounts. There were relatively few applications for funding to the Trust in the last year and local organisations are encouraged to make applications as soon as they can resume their activities.</p> <p>Melrose Stone: A local builder has secured some of the stone for future use. The stone was not suitable for the wall repairs suggested previously.</p>	
6.	<p>Police Matters: Police Reports for January and February had been obtained and circulated prior to the meeting. It is hoped that reports will now be provided regularly.</p>	
7.	<p>Traffic Matters: Chiefswood Road One-Way Proposal: The public consultation is now underway. Public opinion does not appear to be in favour of the proposal with some local residents making their views clear to the Community Council as well as submitting their views to SBC. 20 mph Limits: A progress report will be published on the SBC website. Some changes could be made in the light of experience. Information on this will be passed to the Community Council.</p>	
8.	<p>Planning Sub Committee: The number of planning applications remains low. Land West of 44 High Cross Avenue, Melrose – Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of new access: Some concerns raised over screening and sightlines for proposed new access. However the present application is only for outline permission and more detail will become available at a later stage. Other planning applications did not raise any adverse comments from the Community Council.</p>	
9.	<p>Community Events: Spring Clean: SBC are unable to provide a skip or loan tools because of Covid restrictions. A number of local residents are informally making an effort which is to be encouraged although disposal of the litter collected will either have to be in private bins or possibly notified to Craig Blackie to be collected. RC reported large amounts of litter on local footpaths. VM will speak to the local press to highlight the need for volunteers. AP is litter picking in local woodland.</p>	
10.	<p>Matters Raised by Councillors: Newstead Electronic Sign: The sign is to be replaced. Newstead Trust: WW had tried to make contact with the Trust but so far without success. WW will suggest to them that they might like to participate in the Spring Clean. Orchard Park, Darnick, Street Sign: The road was reported to have just one street sign, however it was confirmed that this is standard practice. Shunters Wud: AP reported ongoing problems with young people socialising in the hut, causing some noise nuisance to local residents, and leaving litter. It is understood that PC Calum Wilson has attended in the past but unless the young people can be caught in the act of breaking the</p>	

	<p>law, there is nothing that can be done. It is feared that the gatherings are in breach of Covid regulations.</p> <p>Dilapidated Fence near Play Park at Darnick: SBC will remove this.</p> <p>Melrose Station Banner: RC reported that a group of protestors had held a demonstration at Melrose Station and put up a banner which could be a distraction to motorists driving at speed on the bypass. The owner had been notified.</p> <p>Community Council Elections: These could be held in August or September.</p> <p>AGM: It was confirmed that the April meeting of the Community Council will not be preceded by an AGM.</p> <p>Community Council Leaflet: WW had copies of a leaflet on Community Council rules produced by a Community Council in Berwickshire. Councillors may request one from WW.</p> <p>Contacts List: AT will update the contacts list with Jenny's details and circulate an up to date copy to all.</p>	
11.	<p>Matters Raised by the Public:</p> <p>Two local residents had passed on their objections to the Chiefswood Road One Way Proposal.</p>	
12.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 21 April 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.</p>	