



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

MINUTE

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

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

		Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllr Tom Miers.	
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 20 October were approved.	
4.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Christmas Lights: RC reported that the electrician will complete the work in the next few days. Both the street and tree Christmas lights will be on in time for the traders' Christmas shopping night on 26 November. RC was thanked for his work.</p> <p>Golf Club Drainage Problem: No work done yet.</p> <p>Bollards: DP will investigate what is happening as some bollards are still to be replaced. It was suggested that the number of incidents of collisions with the bollards could be due to their lack of visibility and some form of reflective marking may be a solution.</p> <p>Priorwood Bridge: VM expressed disappointment at the timescale for getting the new bridge completed.</p> <p>Cemetery Wall Damage: SBC have work in hand for this.</p> <p>Boat Brae Banking: There has been no contact from the Bowling Club to Melrose in Bloom to discuss options.</p> <p>Path near the Chain Bridge: JL reported that work to repair the path will be done.</p> <p>Litter Bin near Lowood Bridge: SBC will attend to this.</p> <p>Black Path: Bear will undertake work to put in a larger drainage pipe before Christmas.</p> <p>Rugby Club Flickering Light: This has not been attended to.</p> <p>Overgrown Hedges: SBC have a team busy with various hedges needing</p>	DP

	<p>cut back.</p> <p>Rhymers Stone: It was agreed that the base stone is subsiding. DP will get a quote for replacing the base.</p> <p>Boots Frontage: AT had written to Boots with a further complaint but had not received a reply. However it was noted that scaffolding had been erected and work was in hand on the front of the store.</p>	DP
5.	<p>Police Matters:</p> <p>The Police Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. DP will organise a meeting between the Community Council and the Police. It was thought that the number of crimes was rising as a result of the last year's lockdown.</p>	DP
6.	<p>Community Council Elections: DP reported that the election would happen in tandem with the election for Earlston and would take place in the New Year. The new Community Council will be in place for April 2022. JL will be the returning officer. Publicity will begin in January with Facebook posts and posters being put up locally. Application forms will be available from local traders. The Community Council must have a minimum of 6 members and a maximum of 12.</p>	
7.	<p>Traffic Matters:</p> <p>Lowood Bridge path extension: The recent work was welcome.</p> <p>Road Resurfacing: Recent work by SBC to resurface roads was welcome but some uneven patches had been left at the Fishers Lane junction, and a bag of rubbish left at the roadside. DP will ask SBC to attend to both issues.</p> <p>Darnick, Broomilees Road Junction: AW asked if the white lines could be extended as sight lines at the junction are not good.</p>	DP
8.	<p>Planning Sub Committee:</p> <p>Land north of Friars Hall, Gattonside – Erection of dwellinghouse with associated access: Some concerns over the sight lines for the proposed access onto the main road, and hopes expressed that as many trees as possible could be retained to lessen the impact of the property from surrounding viewpoints.</p> <p>Mavis Bank, 3 Dingleton Road, Melrose – Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse: No comments.</p> <p>Mill Cottage, Dean Road, Newstead – Alterations to workshop to provide annex accommodation and formation of patio area: No comments.</p> <p>Dingleton Communications Mast: AT asked about lack of progress with putting up a mast following the granting of planning permission some time ago. It was not known if the work would go ahead.</p> <p>Borders Gateway, Proposed Lidl Supermarket: Houses in the local area had been leafleted by Lidl to solicit support for the proposal. WW had written to Lidl with his objections. This will require a new planning application and the area is zoned for industrial development. It was agreed that the developers could make a presentation at the start of the next meeting of the Community Council. DP will invite them to the meeting.</p> <p>Access to Detailed Planning Information: VM had been approached by someone wanting to see large scale plans for a planning application in their vicinity. All such information is available online on the SBC Planning</p>	DP

	Portal, and offices such as Council HQ remain closed due to the pandemic.	
9.	<p>Community Events:</p> <p>Melrose in Bloom: VM reported that plans for 2022 had been agreed and the spring planters were in place. VM will investigate sites for tree planting in the town to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday 14 November: WW reported that the parade and wreath laying had been well attended with a short service held at the war memorial.</p>	
10.	<p>Matters Raised by Councillors:</p> <p>Music Practice Space: WW had been asked about the availability of a room for practising a musical instrument. It was agreed that the Trinity Centre was a possibility and the musician will be advised to contact the Trinity Centre for information.</p> <p>BGH Underpass Lights: RC reported that some of the lights were not working. JL will pass this on to Bear for action.</p> <p>Melrose Paths Group: AW reported that the group had launched a new website at www.walkmelrose.org.uk .</p>	
11.	<p>Matters Raised by the Public:</p> <p>None.</p>	
12.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 at 7.30 pm. on Zoom.</p>	