



# The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

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Vice-chairman	Dr. Lindsay Neil	46 Hillside Terrace, Selkirk, TD7 4ND	01750 720841
Secretary	David Bethune	5 Marion Crescent, Selkirk, TD7 4LY	01750 721703
Hon. Treasurer	Tom Combe	68 Back Row, Selkirk, TD7 4AG	01750 720921

## Minute: Meeting held in the Committee Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk on Monday 12th January, 2009

- 1) **Present:** Community Councillors Bob Kerr (Chair), David Bethune (Secretary), Tom Combe (Treasurer) (from 8pm), Caroline Cruikshank, Jim Gibson, John Howie, Ian King, Alistair Pattullo, Norman Roxburgh and Murray Smail and Scottish Borders Councillor Vicky Davidson.

[also in attendance: PC Lesley Shiell (until end of item 6), Atholl Innes of the Border Telegraph and 3 members of the public]

- 2) **Apologies:** were received from Community Councillor Dr. Lindsay Neil (Vice-chair), and Scottish Borders Councillors Kenneth Gunn and Carolyn Riddell-Carre.
- 3) **The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December** were approved (proposed: C. Cruikshank, seconded: J. Howie).
- 4) **Matters arising from the minute not otherwise included on agenda:**  
I. King confirmed he had written to SBC expressing the Council's concerns about the proposed traffic management scheme around Knowepark School, which had been raised at the previous meeting [Open Forum, item(a)]
- 5) **Declarations of interest** – none
- 6) **Lothian and Borders Police**  
PC Lesley Shiell reported on 18 recorded crimes, and 15 crimes solved during December. These included cases of vandalism, assault, house-breaking, and culpable and reckless conduct. The last of these involved the detonation of explosive devices, for which 2 males have been charged. Some travellers were present during the month, but have now moved on to the designated site at Tweedbank.
- 7) **Reports from Organisations working with young people in Selkirk**  
(a) Jan Gordon of Impact was not present
- 8) **Planning:**  
(a) **Planning applications considered:**

	application	applicant	action / comments
1.	08/02122/FUL – Riverside Healthcare Centre – alterations and extension to care home	Mr. Arthur McLean	Application newly received, so decision deferred to sub-group or to next meeting

(b) **Report on Local Plan Amendment:**

- i. I. King reported on the proposed variations which affect Selkirk, as proposed in the current Local Plan Amendment, and their potential implications.  
These included 2 housing development sites at Philiphaugh Farm. Comments were made on the designations of Philipburn Mill (the former fish farm site - currently housing) – which should be altered to include an allowance for future allotments, Forest Mill (currently mixed, should remain so) and St. Mary's West Church (which would benefit from a design brief). The planning subgroup will formulate a response based on the opinions expressed by Councillors.

- ii. **Longer Term issues: By-Pass corridor:** I. King reported that the Amended Plan showed the line of the by-pass, although it has been omitted from the Government's current list of strategic transport developments. The Council agreed to maintain pressure for the by-pass by (a) inviting SBC Cllr. D. Parker and SBC Chief Executive D. Hume to a meeting, (b) composing a photographic dossier of traffic incidents in the town centre, and (c) writing to Hawick Community Council inviting them to confirm their support for a Selkirk by-pass.
  - iii. **Other issues:** Support was expressed for (a) a proposal to restore the designation of prime retail frontage to the Market Place and High Street; (b) the Borders crematorium to be developed at Lindean; and (c) the need to identify a site for a replacement for Knowepark PS. It was also agreed to include a copy of the Selkirk 'Issues List' with the Council's response to this consultation.
- (c) **Other planning matters:** none

**OPEN FORUM (taken at 7.50pm, between items 8(b)(i) and 8(b)(ii), and extended after item 8(b)(ii))**

- (a) G. Edgar expressed his disgust at the proposal for a sculpture of Charlie the Cockerel, and suggested that the Council should withdraw their approval to consider this idea. It was agreed to revisit the matter at the next meeting, when L. Neil was present.
- (b) G. Edgar noted that there was still a precariously attached Christmas tree on the Town Hall, and that the bollard at the Toll Bridge has not yet been repaired. B. Kerr agreed to follow these up.
- (c) J. Howie asked that the Council send an invitation to the Buccleuch Hunt for January 2010. Agreed.
- (d) D. Heatlie reported drainage problems caused by the speed bumps in Kirk Wynd, and damage to the footway on the silver bridge. B. Kerr agreed to follow these up.
- (e) D. Heatlie reported that he was organising repair and repainting of the vandalised trig. point at the Three Brethren. He was thanked for this offer.
- (f) The Council joined D. Heatlie in expressing thanks to Jim Hay and Hilda Bannister, for their excellent services as public toilet attendants, whose employment in this role finished this month.

**9) Reports from SBC Councillors:**

**(a) Councillor Davidson:**

- (i) commented on SBC's new policy re public toilets, which are to be improved and free, but no longer permanently manned – with an unfortunate disadvantage for disabled users. (G. Edgar noted that the disabled toilet in the Market Place had been vandalised last weekend, but had now been repaired);
- (ii) suggested the area opposite Philiphaugh PS might be considered as a possible allotment site;
- (iii) reported that the proposed road traffic regulations are likely to be approved at the Eildon Area Committee on Monday (19<sup>th</sup> January), except for those involving roads around Knowepark PS, where a revised plan, without one-way system, but with extended parking restrictions, is likely to be put forward for further consultation;
- (iv) reported that SBC is trying to save some employment at Heather Mills;
- (v) suggested the need to develop some tourist trails, and possible "art town" designation for Selkirk;
- (vi) agreed to arrange for the signage at the Riverside industrial area to be brought up-to-date.

In response to questions from J. Howie,

- (vii) will recommend to SBC that trees to be removed from Bannerfield Drive because of pavement damage, should be appropriately replaced to maintain/improve local amenity;
- (viii) will follow-up the repair/replacement of railings at Corbie Terrace, installation of bus shelter lighting at Bannerfield and Lindean, and installation of street lighting at Lindean;
- (ix) commented that the cost to householders of flood sacks is a subsidised one.

(b) **Councillor Riddell-Carre:** (not present) (written report received subsequently, and circulated to members)

(c) **Councillor Gunn:** (not present)

**10) Common Good Fund Operation** (no report)

**11) Community Council Website**

A. Pattullo described the options available for setting up a Community Council website. It was agreed that he should set up and maintain a website within the community-council.org.uk portal, with its own domain name, at an overall total cost of c£40 per year.

