



**Minutes of the Meeting of Kelso Community Council held in the Town Hall,  
Kelso on Tuesday 10 January 2017, at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors John Bassett (Chair), Harry Tomczyk, Peter Cooper, Gavin Horsburgh, Fiona Scott, Betty Hodges, Colin McGrath and Alan Hall and Scottish Borders Councillors Tom Weatherston, Alec Nicol and Simon Mountford.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Shirley Redgrave (Secretary), Suzanne Howgego (Police Scotland), Kathryn Wyle (Southern Reporter) and Kirsty McFedries (Morrison Construction)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Dean Weatherston and John King and Alan Livingstone (Chamber of Trade).

- Please note questions to either the Scottish Borders Councillors or Kelso Community Councillors need to be submitted in writing to the Secretary seven days prior to meeting.
- All Councillors to make a declaration of interest prior to discussion.
- All correspondence to be circulated via the Secretary.

**Welcome**

The Provost welcomed members to the meeting and reporter Kathryn Wylie and Kirsty McFedries (Morrison Construction).

**Morrison Construction attendance to learn about community initiatives**

Kirsty McFedries, Project Skills Co-ordinator, Morrison Construction had contacted the Community Council to attend as Morrison Construction were building the new Kelso High School and wanted to learn about community initiatives in Kelso with a view to thinking about how they may be able to support these.

Kirsty advised in the first instance she was keen to gather information about the various community initiatives which she would take forward for consideration. She advised Morrison Construction were keen to work with disadvantaged groups and they could supply labour and materials for projects. Kirsty advised Morrison Construction offered pre employment opportunities and Councillor T Weatherston recommended Kirsty speak to Colin Henderson at SBC.

The Provost advised he had been in discussion with Morrison Construction to assist with the Men's Shed initiative which he was working on with Vivien Watson Community Psychiatric Staff Nurse, Poynder View.

It was agreed the Kelso Community Council projects of Men's Shed, Memorial Garden and Kelso on Bloom should be submitted for consideration by Morrison Construction.

The Provost advised Morrison Construction support was open to all community initiatives and asked Councillors to speak to other organisations in the town they were involved with to see if they had projects they wished to be considered.

The Provost reminded Councillors to put forward suggestions via the Secretary who would be the main point of contact.

Kirsty reminded Councillors the High School was due to be completed in December 2017 so projects would need to be tied to this timescale.

### **Police Matters**

Suzanne Howgego advised the December Police Scotland report had previously been circulated based on the Kelso and District Multi Member Ward Policing Plan. She advised although the Festive period had been busy, as per the report, there were no major issues of concern and some matters were still under investigation. She advised there were no links regarding the damage to cars and the anti social behaviour over the festive season was as expected. She reiterated the Police continued to monitor parking issues, resources permitting.

Councillor T Weatherston commented he had received an increasing number of complaints about dog fouling particularly in the area of Oakfield Court. Suzanne advised she would visit the area and put up signs on lamp posts.

### **Chamber of Trade report / Visit Kelso**

Councillor Dean Weatherston and Alan Livingstone had tendered their apologies so there was no report.

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2016 were approved. They were proposed by Councillor Betty Hodges and seconded by Councillor Harry Tomczyk.

### **Matters arising**

#### a) Memorial Wall

Councillor Tomczyk advised the memorial wall project was to be renamed Memorial Garden.

Councillor Tomczyk advised Jimmy Fleming was producing a picture which would show the memorial wall within the garden area. This should be available shortly and then funding would be sought.

Councillor Tomczyk advised surveys on Facebook could only be done by individuals and not groups. However, he felt it was important to use Facebook to get some initial free feedback of demand. Councillor Tomczyk reminded Councillors publicity would be done via Facebook, Kelso Life and the SBC quarterly magazine. Councillor T Weatherston advised Kelso could have a dedicated page publicising the project.

Councillor A Nicol advised funding may be available from the community grant scheme and if the amount was less than £500 it should be unbureaucratic.

Councillor Tomczyk advised he would be organising a sub-committee meeting in the near future. Councillor's welcomed Morrison Construction's interest in the project which will be pursued.

b) Kelso in Bloom – Floral Gateway Competition

Councillor Hodges advised the sale of the calendars had been a great success and all were sold. She commented she anticipated another calendar being produced this year.

Councillor Hodges advised she would be liaising with SBC Planning and Road's departments regarding the planting of trees at the Coldstream entrance.

Councillor Hodges advised she and the Secretary were meeting with the SBC Councillors next week to discuss the possibility of community grants.

Councillor Hodges commented she welcomed the possible involvement of Morrison Construction and felt the provision of labour would be useful for various projects.

c) Questions from the public

There were no members of the public present. However Councillor McGrath asked for an update on integration of health and social care to be given to a future meeting. Councillor's approved this suggestion.

## **Correspondence**

The secretary advised correspondence had been circulated to Community Councillors and a summary schedule had been compiled. In addition the following documents had been received which were tabled

A statement from Zurich Insurance Policies for Community Councils had highlighted the need for Councillors and officers to check their car insurance to ensure they were covered for voluntary activities. It was also noted Public Liability cover had now extended to Resilience committee activities.

## **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary advised the following:

She had written to Police Scotland and SBC to ask for an update on the CCTV in Kelso and whether they were in working order. Police Scotland confirmed although they operated the system they were not responsible for the maintenance of it. The Secretary had informed SBC they had some limited ring fenced funds available that could be used to carry out repairs. SBC confirmed the current system is not fully functional and unfortunately at this stage there was no funding available to carry out the necessary repair work needed. It was confirmed in Kelso there were nine units. Suzanne Howgego confirmed the units at East Bowmont Street, on Royal Bank of Scotland, Coal Market at the Police Station were working. The Provost reminded Councillors the Community Council had paid for the installation of the CCTV at the new toilet facilities and SBC had agreed to pay for their maintenance. It was noted SBC had arranged for a contractor to investigate the system and report back.

The Secretary had written to Sainsburys to thank them for allowing us to have a Bag Pack on Sunday 11 December and asking if we can hold another couple during 2017

The Secretary had received a request from the new Community Fundraiser for the Childrens Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS) who were looking to develop awareness of CHAS as well as recruit some fundraising volunteers and she wondered whether she could come to a Community Council meeting. The Council considered their proposal and it was agreed the best way forward would be to promote their organisation through our Facebook pages. Kathryn Wylie from Southern Reporter advised she would be happy to promote their cause and the Secretary would put them in contact but CHAS would be asked to keep us informed of their activities and if necessary attend one of our future meetings to give us an update.

## **Scottish Borders Council**

The Provost advised statements would be given by SBC Councillors if there was an update. The Provost reminded Councillors that if they wished to raise specific questions with SBC these should be submitted to the Secretary 7 days in advance of the meeting.

### **Area Forum**

Councillor T Weatherston advised there was no update as the Area Forum had not met.

### **Parking / Traffic management**

Councillor Nicol advised a report had been submitted to SBC to instruct the Chief Officer Roads to establish a rolling programme of inspections to ensure all signage and line markings in restricted parking areas are clear, visible and enforceable, and

to instruct the Chief Officer Roads to investigate the costs, resources, staffing requirements and financial viability of introducing a disc based traffic system for use in restricted parking areas to assist Police Scotland in their parking enforcement role and to bring back a report to the Council no later than 31 January 2017. Subject to the outcome of that report, then a three month trial would take place between 1 March 2017 and 31 May 2017 to implement a pilot scheme in Selkirk and Hawick to address the effectiveness of a disc based parking system in partnership with Police Scotland. Following a request for clarification from Councillor Tomczyk it was explained that the disk system would enable the Police to quickly establish if cars had exceeded the 2 hour limit without having to check registration numbers and time of parking.

Councillor Nicol advised he welcomed this development and would report back to the Community Council

#### Questions to SBC Councillors

There were no questions.

#### Consideration of Licenses

There were no applications for consideration.

#### Consideration of Plans

The Council considered the following plans –

- (a) Erection of boundary fence 1 Springwood Bank, Kelso. Councillor B Hodges declared an interest and withdrew from the room. The Council decided to strongly object to the application due to the detrimental effect on the surrounding area. It was noted the Council were sympathetic towards the applicant's apparent desire for privacy, however, it was noted all housing in the road and surrounding area had adopted an open plan approach to their front gardens and this proposal was not in line with the rest of the development and would be very detrimental to the visual amenity of the area, particularly as it is in a prominent position for pedestrians entering Springwood Bank and opposite an area which has recently been sympathetically improved. It was noted that The Council would have no objection to sympathetic soft landscaping to improve privacy.
- (b) Erection of steel portal framed building and alterations, John Hogarth Mill Kelso. Councillor D Weatherston had declared an interest. The Council had no objections to the plans.
- (c) Replacement windows Lothian and Border Police, Coal Market, Kelso. The Council had no objections to the plans.
- (d) Erection of detached 18 bed dementia care unit at Queens House Nursing Home, Angraflat Road, Kelso. The Council had no objections to the plans and welcomed the development.

The next meeting of Kelso Community Council will be held in the Town Hall, Kelso on Tuesday 14 February 2017 at 7.00pm.