



# The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

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Vice-chair	Alistair Pattullo	12, Victoria Crescent, Selkirk, TD7 5DE	01750 721697
Minutes Secretary	Kirsty Lovatt	15, Ladylands Terrace, Selkirk TD7 4BB	
Treasurer	Judith Thompson	12 Victoria Crescent, Selkirk TD7 5DE	01750 721697

## Minutes of the Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th August 2023.

**1. Present** – Community Councillors: Andy Murray (Chair), Kirsty Lovatt (Minutes Secretary), Alisdair Lockhart, Ian King, Ed Strang-Steel, David Playfair, Reece McNaughton, Ieuan Chamberlain, and Grant Kinghorn.

Also present – SBC Councillors Caroline Cochrane, Elaine Thornton-Nicol, and Leagh Douglas; 7 members of the public; 1 member of the press.

**2. Chairman's Welcome** – AM thanked all for attending.

**3. Apologies** – Al Pattullo, Judith Thompson, and Sue Bremner.

**4. Matters arising from the meeting of the SCC held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023** – SBC Councillors will provide AM with any amendments needed for the local improvements list.

Headstones – if any have been removed, families will need to contact SBC directly.

**5. Approval of the minutes** – AL requested two amendments be made:

- 1) Section 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> para final sentence to read: “and finally constructive use of time within the CC meetings i.e. if anything needs to be discussed, *a report would be expected to be prepared and circulated prior to the meeting*”.
- 2) Section 6 final sentence to read: “AM thanked MB for her presentation *and for her leadership on the restoration of the Haining for the community.*”

Minutes approved by ESS and seconded by AL

**6. Community Police Report** – report not received as yet.

**7. Planning Matters** – Tait's Hill footpath crossing – no objections.

**8. Open Forum** –

DD – Display stand has been relocated and a handover was co-ordinated with AM.

Best Kept War Memorial Competition – Selkirk made it through to the final judging with results due in September. Looking to enter Most Improved category next year but still a lot of work to be done – stonework needs repointing, name plates to be cleaned, and accessibility to be improved. Work is being done by Riddells but in phases to keep costs down.

Remembrance Sunday – permission granted to go ahead with applications.

Wreaths – CC usually order option 1 but option two only costs £1 extra. Decent image needed for the wreath. **Action: AM**

Assistance available for veterans and their families all year.

Street lights are on all the time between the Fleece and the Court. **Action: CC**

MoP1 – Marriage plaque at Back Row is now completely illegible and marker obscured by shrubbery. **Action: CC**

Municipal building should be added to improvements list. CC advised that she has met with members of SBC to discuss the building as well as other Council properties in the town. Municipal building will be discussed by the Town Team once it has been established. IK noted that the building has been consistently reported to SBC for the last 10 years but has always been ignored. LD disagreed that it had been ignored, rather that the whole of the SBC estate is being looked at. There is a lack of funds at the moment and the size of the estate needs to be reduced in order to free up some of the funds. AL noted again that the building could be used to house the Heritage Centre. CC agreed but advised that this has to be looked at by the Town Team (David Bethune will lead the creation of this team).

Scott's Selkirk shop was up for sale but now has a lease for the next 5 years.

MoP2 asked if frontage could be put up at the old Sainsbury's site. CC advised that work will be starting there soon.

MoP2 also noted that she expressed an interest in tourism at the town planning meetings and progress seems to have been made. Next meeting, organised by SSSA (South of Scotland Destination Alliance), will be held 29<sup>th</sup> August at 4pm at the Woll Golf Course.

GK – Hedge at the top of the Loan needs to be cut back. CC advised that this has been reported to the care company.

Burned out flats at the top of Ettrickhaugh are dangerous. **Action: CC**

Weeds all over town – can this be dealt with? **Action: CC**

ESS – issue with thorns at Mill Lade. CC advised that ownership of the land needs to be determined.

Black Bob's information board is overgrown. **Action: CC**

## **9. Reports from SBC Councillors –**

**9.1 LD:** Disappointed at the lack of people who attended the Live Borders meeting. Consultation available online.

Community Conversations – next meeting 30<sup>th</sup> August 4pm – 7pm at the High School. Senior directors from SBC will also be in attendance.

**9.2 CC:** CC funding review has started and a consultation is available for each CC to complete. Next meeting to be held at the end of August. AM noted that grants seem to be disproportionately distributed. CC advised that this is being discussed as part of the review.

**9.3 ETN:** Now part of the review of the administration of CC's. Next meeting to be held in September.

Freedom of the Burgh was last given in 2011. If the CC would like to nominate someone, needs to be put in writing to the 3 SBC Councillors and they will then forward to the Clerk of the Council. IK disagreed with nominating an individual as this might be quite divisive. It was agreed that a small meeting could be arranged in camera, just before the September Community Council meeting, to discuss any potential nominations.

## **10. Treasurer's Report –**

Selkirk Hill Management Group  
£3,408.46 in account

Community Council  
£3,999.99 in account  
+£1,365.00 support grant received  
-£324 to Strive Digital for website support

Blooming Selkirk  
£920.60 in account  
£630 ring-fenced for COPS

**11. PR Committee –** This will be managed by AM and GK and it will encompass websites, notice boards, and social media. Committee is open to all CC members and SBC Councillors. MoP suggested that a circulation list may be worth considering for elderly people who cannot access technology. AM will look into possibility of printing communications. ETN advised that communications can be sent to her and she will forward to Print Services at SBC. DD noted that it may be worthwhile to look at existing social media e.g., Selkirk Response Team could be renamed and set up new rules for the page.

**12. Naming of Hillside Development –** no decision made. Agreed that more time was needed to consider it further.

## **13. Reports from sub-groups –**

**SHMG –** report to be circulated electronically. **Action: IK** Financial situation needs to be progressed and may look for an increase from the CGF group. ETN asked if there had been any discussion re her suggestion of establishing a 'Friends of Selkirk Hill'. IK noted that this has been considered.

**Blooming Selkirk/Brighter Selkirk –** Write-up in Borders Telegraph re the toll planters.

There will not be a Xmas lights switch on this year due to lack of volunteers. The market will still go ahead.

**CGFWG** – no meeting.

**Victoria Park Action Group** – Waiting to hear from SOSE and Live Borders before discussing priorities for the next stage of the Park. No timeframe for meeting as yet. Investment is needed in order to expand the site.

#### **14. Reports from other community organisations and outside bodies –**

**Plattling Twinning Group** – Public performance on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August at the church hall. 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September with invitations extended to all CC members plus guests.

Plaque at Fleshmarket Steps to be cleaned. **Action: CC**

**Selkirk Regeneration** – AGM minutes circulated electronically.

**SBCCN** – nothing further to report.

#### **15. AOCB –**

AM – Move November meeting to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> or hold meeting upstairs on Monday 13<sup>th</sup>. Agreed by all to change date to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>.

ESS – Ukraine Trip – stand at Peebles Show last weekend. 40 vehicles ready for delivery 17<sup>th</sup> September – 20<sup>th</sup> September. Goal of 200 vehicles for this year has been reached but there may be another trip in October followed by Spring 2024.

CC – coffee morning in aid of CR Trust will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August in Victoria Halls.

RMcN – advised that he is moving away from Selkirk at the end of this year so will have to stand down after the December meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for their participation.  
Meeting was closed at 20:30hrs.

Next meeting will be held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in the Cruickshank Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk at 7.00pm.