



The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

Chair	Andy Murray	44 Hillside Terrace, Selkirk TD7 4ND	01750 721008
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 Monday 11th September 2023.

1. Present – Community Councillors: Andy Murray (Chair), Al Pattullo (Vice-chair), Kirsty Lovatt (Minutes Secretary), Judith Thompson (Treasurer), Sue Bremner, Alisdair Lockhart, Ian King, Ed Strang-Steel, David Playfair, and Grant Kinghorn.

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

2. Chairman's Welcome – AM thanked all for attending. AM also praised the SBC Councillors for the amount of work they do for the benefit of our community (later in item 8, MoP1 commented that the Councillors are paid well for this work. ETN then disclosed her income as well as noting that the role is supposed to be part time however her weekly hours far exceed the suggested 20hrs/week).

3. Apologies/Declarations of Interest – Reece McNaughton. AM declared a note of interest for item 12 (AOCB – 20mph discussion).

4. Matters arising from the meeting of the SCC held on Tuesday 15th August 2023 – Hillside development will be named 'Kerrsland'.

Plaque at Fleshmarket Steps still not cleaned.

AL questioned the relation between the Town Team and the rest of the community. AM advised that the Team is not in place yet. AL also asked if there were any terms and remits in place for the PR Committee. AM noted that this will be discussed at item 11.

5. Approval of the minutes – Approved by ESS and seconded by IK.

6. Community Police Report – report not received as yet although ETN has a copy which she will circulate. **Action: ETN**

AM has met with PC Murray and the following was noted:

- Selkirk has a relatively low crime rate.
- Parking – more ticketing has been proven to be an ineffective deterrent; more traffic wardens are. SB suggested a member of the public could patrol the High Street in a hi-vis jacket. ETN advised that to use a traffic warden not employed by Police Scotland, parking would need to be decriminalised which can take 3-5 years.

GK noted that the new CPO has not attended any CC meetings. ETN advised that the CPO will attend meetings if he is on shift and available. Suggested that a list of dates for future CC meetings be sent to the CPO. **Action: AM.**

Both IK and CC suggested that a representative from the CC could arrange to meet with the CPO on a regular basis.

A further discussion was then had about parking. IK reiterated his proposal that the parking spaces at the police station be used for public parking. KL noted that the car park is also used by SB Cares for their fleet cars as well as staff cars.

CC suggested creating signs in conjunction with the CC requesting members of the public to be considerate when parking.

7. Planning Matters – none.

8. Open Forum –

MoP1 raised the following issues:

- Victoria Park – lack of signage, update on grading of Park. CC advised that Live Borders are in discussion with SOSE re the next phase of the upgrade. No definite plan in place as yet but still meeting monthly. MoP1 noted that not having someone 24 hour on the site will affect the rating. Live Borders is dealing with the signage.
- Fence at the library is still in need of repair.
- Two new signs at Central Riverside with the name “Ettrick Park” which is incorrect.
Action: CC
- Since BIDS has been disbanded, who is managing the CCTV? CC stated that BIDS is still in place with the sole responsibility of the CCTV (Viv Ross, Stuart Davidson, and David Anderson).
- Will the Freedom of the Burgh be resurrected? AM advised that more research is needed before opening it up for public discussion.

MoP2 – Two trees are growing in the car park at Kingsland Avenue and the wall is also collapsing. ETN will put in a direct ownership request for the car park. ETN will also request ownership and responsibility maps for Eildon, SBHA, Waverley, and SBC. **Action: ETN**

MoP3 advised that the Pantwell is full of mud and the drain is blocked. AP also noted that a better tap would be appreciated. **Action: CC**

9. Reports from SBC Councillors –

9.1 ETN:

- Reminded everyone of the importance of discussing 20mph fully.
- Update from the Bus Network Review was received today. Recommendations will be put to SBC for decision. ETN and LD believe there will be very positive outcomes for Selkirkshire. Once SBC has made its decisions, work will go live at the start of the new financial year.
- ETN will speak with AP and Graham Easton re Selkirk Response Team.

9.2 CC:

- Andrew Bunyan has looked at the marriage stone on Back Row. Andrew has suggested that a 12x8 black plaque be placed above the stone. The cost will be £265 which could be covered by funds from the Small Schemes budget.
- JT advised that the bowser money has still not been received. **Action: CC**
- Tourism Strategy Meeting – survey online until 15th September 2023. AM concerned at the lack of follow through from all these consultations (aspirations rather than strategies). CC stated that actions were taken forward from previous meetings.
- Confirmed that Dunsdale Road will remain as 20mph.

AL asked if the double yellow lines by the Court be extended up to the new bungalow. A large tanker lorry has been parked there all weekend. It was noted that extending the double yellow lines would cause problems for people who need to access the court. IK stated that the main problem is the lack of car parks large enough for commercial vehicles and he will raise this at the A7 Action Group meeting this Friday. AM asked if the 20mph proposals will also be discussed at the meeting. IK confirmed that it is not on the agenda.

CC's remit on the continuing works list – all items are being dealt with on an ongoing basis.

10. Treasurer's Report –

SHMG

£3,412.52 in account

Community Council

£3,373.68 in account
(no activity since last month)

Blooming Selkirk

£921.71 in account

£630 ring-fenced for COPS (includes bench still to be invoiced for)
Still waiting for repayment for the bowser. **Action: CC**

11. PR Committee – The committee will essentially be a sub-group of the CC but less formal. Its structure will be dictated by whoever wants to be a part of it – needs a chairperson, but no treasurer. Informal meetings will be held each month and a report given to the CC.

With regards to the discussion had at the last CC meeting re forms of communication used to ensure information is cascaded to all members of Selkirk, it was noted that noticeboards have been updated and AM is looking at costings for electronic noticeboards. The problem with using electronic boards is finding someone who has the time to manage them and input the data.

A newsletter is in progress with two pages completed so far. The newsletter will be issued quarterly and half of it will discuss previous events, and the other half to promote future events. 25-50 copies will be printed and distributed to local business premises with the hope that they may have suggestions for future issues.

SB asked if, in the event that the newsletter is successful and more copies are needed, advertising will become necessary for funding.

AM recently visited Richardson's Printers in Hawick and it was suggested that Selkirk could have its own business directory. Although this is a good idea, it has proven difficult in the past to convince businesses to pay for an advert alongside their listing. GK noted that it can also be an issue just getting the basic contact information.

IK suggested that any publications could be transferred onto electronic noticeboards. IK also cautioned against the notion that the newsletters are free as SBC pay for the printing.

12. Reports from sub-groups –

SHMG – Payment of annual grant request has been received and is on the agenda for the Selkirk Common Good meeting to be held next week. On receipt of payment, there are still not enough funds to cover all outgoings and monies needed to run the group. SBC are also slow to make payments which has an adverse effect on when SHMG can make payments (e.g., Hill Warden salary). A bid to request an increase to existing grant funding will be submitted which will also note that previous activities have been compromised due to the lack of funding.

AP asked if there was any progress with 'Friends of Selkirk Hill'. IK stated that there hasn't been, but it will be part of the bid.

Issues regarding grazing rights and use of weedkillers. **Action: LD**

Blooming Selkirk/Brighter Selkirk –

In light of RMcN leaving Selkirk, JT raised the following issues:

- Who will take on responsibility for hanging baskets and planters in future?
- Immediate problem – taking down baskets and storing them.
- Emptying planters and putting in winter planting.

ESS assured JT that he is interviewing potential candidates and there will not be any disruption the service already provided. The new employee will put in as much work as RMcN and maintain a positive relationship with Selkirk. Baskets will still be stored on the estate. Trailer should still be available to the CC. ESS also stated that the taking down of baskets, and winter planting will all be part of RMcN's tasks before he leaves.

- Paying for future planting – sponsors this year covered cost of planting and baskets (-£100)
- Brighter Selkirk account still has £2,900 – need to decide how this should be used and how to raise more.

Both sub-groups are lacking funds and volunteers. CC suggested holding another coffee morning.

AM asked who leads Brighter Selkirk – JT runs Blooming Selkirk, and CC runs Brighter Selkirk. Although the two groups are together, they hold separate bank accounts.

The knitted baskets will also be taken down and returned to the Stormers.

CGFWG – next meeting will be held Wednesday 13th September 2023. AM asked if there were any unallocated funds which Selkirk could use. CC advised that all funds have been allocated to farm repairs which need to be carried out over the next few years.

Victoria Park Action Group – Joyce Wright and SOSE have held a meeting recently, the details of which have been passed on to the relevant person at SBC.

13. Reports from other community organisations and outside bodies –

Plattling Twinning Group - Both visits went really well, and the reception was enjoyed by all. A lot of effort went in to making our guests feel welcome. Need to encourage more people to join the group. Also need more engagement with the town at the next visit.

Selkirk Regeneration – Board meeting was held last Friday. The newly formed Town Team will be run by Selkirk Regeneration. The group also own 1 & 2 Tower Street. Works will be carried out on the front of 1 Tower Street. Work also needed to make the pop-up shops more competitive and in line with other shops on the High Street.

Solar panel park – discussion ongoing and further consultation required as to where it will be.

SBCCN – nothing to report although IK had commented at the Eildon Partnership meeting that public communication has not been encouraged previously which has led to apathy from members of the community.

ETN advised that the scheme of administration for CC's is underway, and a review will be held at the start of October. It is hoped that this will lead to a fresh start for SBCCN. AM noted that all CC's appear to have similar issues and common solutions could be found from discussions between each CC.

14. AOCB –

20mph consultation – (see also email sent by AM) The following points were agreed:

- Signage along Hillside Terrace needs to be clearer.
- Signage needs to be repainted and more added by tennis courts and the High School.
- Flashing sign to be moved.
- Extra roundels required.
- Concerns re connection from Kerrsland onto A7
- More physical calming measures – on the approach to the High School, and top half of the Loan (ETN advised AM request tabletop planning measures).
- Stick on roundels for wheelie bins.

MoP1 – algae in the fountain. Fountain needs to be emptied, cleaned and disinfected. AP advised that this is carried out once the fountain has been shut down at the start of winter. SB suggested using a sterilising tablet. **Action: CC**

Litter Pick – Arranged for Sunday 15th October (sites to be agreed). SRT budget can be used if any items need to be purchased.

GK again raised the issue of problem parking at Knowepark Primary School during drop off and pick up times. This has been an ongoing issue with no sign of it being resolved. Parents who park just down from the bus stop are causing dangerous driving conditions whereby cars are being forced onto the wrong side of the road on a blind summit. Cars exiting Anderson Road cannot properly see cars approaching. This is also dangerous for parents and children trying to cross the road with the assistance of the Crossing Patroller. ETN will attend at these times. **Action: ETN**

GK thanked AM for dealing with the banner on the railings at Victoria Halls so swiftly.

GK offered his (and those of the CC) best wishes to the Selkirk Silver band for their upcoming competition. CC encourages all to attend their rehearsal on Wednesday evening.

DP – issue at Green Terrace is still ongoing. **Action: CC**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for their participation.
Meeting was closed at 20:55hrs.

Next meeting will be held Monday 9th October 2023 in the Cruickshank Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk at 7.00pm.