



# The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

Chair	Andy Murray	44 Hillside Terrace, Selkirk TD7 4ND	01750 21008
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 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

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

Also present – 6 members of the public; 1 member of the press; CC, LD, ET-N.

**2. Chair's Introduction** – AM noted the sad death of Ian Turnbull, longtime Chair of the A7 Action Group. His sterling efforts to lead the group in promoting safety on the A7 were noted. A committal will be performed at Borders Crematorium, Melrose on Tuesday 9th April at 12 noon, followed by a service in Hawick.

AM congratulated Nick Renwick Buttner on his appointment as Selkirk Colonial Society Standard Bearer for 2024, and Derek Easson on his appointment as Hammerman Standard Bearer.

AM reminded everyone of the Town Spring clean on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 10am. New retail tenants for shops in the Market Place are expected soon.

New Transport person at SBC complained about the new notice board installed on the Market Place bus stop, until it was pointed out that it replaced the previous broken timetable notice board, which had not been repaired in over 15 months. A new timetable notice board is to be installed, as well as the new notice board. AM requested that the bus stop be properly cleaned of rust, repainted and the wooden seats revarnished.

Due to study commitments, IC has resigned from his post with the CC. AM thanked him for his time and effort and all members wished him the best for going to university after the summer.

### **3. Apologies/Declarations of Interest** –

AM declared his interest in a Planning matter to do with Burnside Gallery, 48 Market Place, and recused himself from the discussion.

**4. Approval of the minutes** – Approved by ESS and seconded by DP.

**5. Matters arising from the meeting of the SCC held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and not covered elsewhere.**

#### **Volunteer Fair, May 5 has been moved to May 4, after the Farmers' Market.**

Stalls committed to by Go Wild Scotland, The Haining, Scott's Selkirk, Sustainable Selkirk, Community Football Club, Guides, Rotary Club, plus possibly 2 others. E SS to DJ and Silver Band and Young Scottish Country Dancers possibly to attend. AM will do a

further emailing to possible interested parties. AM asked for approval of £80 to print publicity leaflets. This was approved. **Action: AM**

IK requested that the minutes he provides from the SHMG be provided electronically rather than paraphrased for the purpose of the CC minutes. Agreed that they will be made available on the CC website. GK will email a poster which advertises the SHMG meetings. **Action: AM/IK/GK**

- 6. Community Police Report** – not yet received, but will be published on website. PC John Murray replied to AM re: request for detail about anti-social behaviour incidents. There is nothing overly startling, with no emerging patterns or concerns. It is predicted that youth ASB will likely continue with the coming of lighter nights and warmer weather, but at least Selkirk has the assistance of town CCTV.

**7. Planning Matters – 23/00392/FUL & 23/00478/LBC**

IK responded that the CC offered no objections to the proposed change of use and physical changes, provided that all changes, including ventilation and noise extraction fully comply with all building control regulations. This latest consultation refers to a request that the proposed flue not be attached to a neighbouring property.

**8. Cross Keys space.**

Stuart Davidson has prepared a report with proposed planting – circulated to all CC members. Many concerns were raised including drainage; material used for the planters; location of the stone plaque; lack of costings. It was agreed that further discussion is needed before the CC can give approval for the plans. All members invited to submit their concerns in email to AM.

- 9. Positioning of the new King's portrait.** Deadline was 28 March but has been extended. AM proposed that the King's portrait be positioned to replace the current late Queen Elizabeth II portrait.

Proposal to order the portrait approved. Discussion of where to place it will be held at a future meeting.

- 10. Open Forum** – GK advised that the path running alongside the Burnmill pitch is basically impassible and has been for a while. The path gets much usage, including by school children, to and from Philiphaugh School. **Action: CC**

GK asked if there was any progress with repairs on the fence at the Toll, and the trees at the BT station. CC and ET-N have been advised that the fence is on a list of works but will follow up. With regard to the trees, ET-N noted that an enforcement notice has been sent but there has been no response. ET-N had suggested that SBC carry out the works and the owners are billed. **Action: CC, ET-N**

Issue with dog dirt on the rugby pitch. CC advised that the rugby club can procure their own signs and that it would be useful to place one on the main gate. ET-N will contact the Dog Enforcement Officer. AM to discuss other areas of concern with ET-N after the meeting. **Action: ET-N, AM**

MoP1 advised that the footpath and a section of the road near the garages in Bannerfield are cracked and in need of repair. This was initially reported in 2021 and CC noted that it had been reported again on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. AM suggested that it be added to the

ongoing list of improvements and he will liaise with CC. **Action: AM, CC**

AM had had some notifications from MoP: Thanks to SBC for fixing the footpath across the Etrick bridge.

Might it be possible to reinstate the footpath beside the old Mill Lade in Victoria Park? It was noted that it is 900 years since the coronation of King David 1 of Scotland – might there be any plans for commemoration? No current plans reported.

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

### **Caroline Cochrane –**

Next Eildon Area Partnership Meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Selkirk statue repair: they have been inspected, and Stuart Davidson has submitted his report – AM requested a copy be sent to the CC.

Spring clean of town – to be held Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 10am. CC's meeting with Brian Young [Network Manager, Scottish Borders Council] to discuss a possible one-way system on Selkirk High Street will be on 11 April. This will need a full public consultation.

The 'Selkirk & The Valleys' break-out meetings from the various sub-groups were held, and the main meeting came together again on March 20. Next meeting: April 17 at 6pm at Kirkhope Parish Hall, Etrickbridge. IK felt that more structure would be useful in assisting the individual groups. CC advised that they will eventually work as one group and discuss one theme per meeting.

Meeting minutes to be posted on SBC website?

**Action: CC/AM**

## **12. Treasurer's Report –**

### SHMG

£5,298.85 in account

No activity

### Community Council

£3,934.79 in account

Outgoings - £30 secretarial

Income

£475 ads for WTS – total of £1,545

### Blooming Selkirk

£2,232.57 in account

£50 to Sue for gravel – leaves £641.21 ring-fenced for COPS

£560 ring-fenced for toll planters

### Brighter Selkirk

£2,329.19 in account

No activity

All 4 accounts now with Viv Ross – will be ready for presentation at our AGM in June. SHMG AGM will be held 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 - JT will ask Viv Ross to complete before then. Brighter Selkirk – need to organise AGM. AL suggested that members of the CC be provided with a copy of the Treasurer's report in advance of each meeting.

### **13. Reports from sub-groups –**

#### **Plattling Twinning Group –**

Realschule visiting from 22 April onwards. Rob Duff to supply photos for CC website. East Bavarian Highlanders visiting from 29 April to 6 May. John Nicol co-ordinating. Visit includes tour of the town, archery, trips to Smailholm Tower, Melrose Abbey, Roslin Chapel, Hopetoun House and Edinburgh.

#### **Selkirk Hill Mgt Group -**

In process of submitting request for next maintenance grant (including an increase). IK to liaise with JT. **Action IK, JT**

Currently looking to update constitution. Amendments have been circulated to all group members with a view to approving them at the next meeting.

Hill quieter than usual with walkers which is allowing animals such as deer to venture further throughout the Hill.

A new representative for the golf course is now in place. Caulks Well is a common problem which the golf course and the SHMG will work on jointly with the golf course taking the lead. Next meeting/AGM: 6 pm, Wed 01 May at Victoria Halls..

#### **Blooming Selkirk/Brighter Selkirk –**

Planters at the Toll – top soil, drainage, etc. will be delivered week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

AP asked when the bollards will be fixed. CC advised that the repairs should have been included in the insurance claim but will follow up. **Action: CC**

The railing boxes and planters need c. £2,000 of support: CC to speak to businesses re: possible sponsorship, and AP will put out appeals on Social Media **CC/AP**

AGM to be organised for the end of May. **JT/AP**

#### **COPS –**

Re: Ownership of Heatherlie Park site: SB to send ET-N Google map of area. IK suggested SB submit an FOI. **Action: SB, ET-N**

#### **Common Good Fund Working Group –**

Report from last meeting should be on SBC website.

#### **Victoria Park Action Group –**

No report.

#### **PR Committee -**

Welcome to Selkirk brochure now off to printer. 3,500 copies due on 2 May. Thanks given to Denis Roberts for his contribution. Denis will also distribute copies along the Royal Mile, Edinburgh.

Meeting held to plan the next Newsletter, due in the last week of April. 1<sup>st</sup> 100 copies will be sponsored by SBC via ET-N, as per the Jan edition 2<sup>nd</sup> 100 copies will be billed by SBC at a favourable rate. A sponsor for the next edition to be pursued.

**Action: AM/GK/DP**

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

##### **Selkirk Response / Resilience Team**

AP/AM had meeting re: Selkirk Resilience Plan and storing essential support items. AP to contact SBC re: which items are available and order accordingly. Balance of ideal items (including shovels, spades, hard hats, trolley, torches, batteries, gloves, First Aid kits, tabards etc) to be ordered.

**Action: AP**

##### **Selkirk Future**

Already discussed.

##### **SBCCN –**

Waiting to hear back from SBC before changing current constitution.

##### **A7 Action Group –**

Last meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024. IK disappointed in the lack of support from MP's, MSP's, and local Councillors. It is hoped that these issues will be raised in full when a new Chair is appointed.

##### **Selkirk Regeneration –**

No report from previous meeting – AM to follow up. **Action: AM**

#### **15. AOCB –**

AL – litter pick will be held 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 from 10am – 12. AM will collect the litter pickers.

ESS – Tickets are now on sale for the Country & Food Festival (Sept 21/22) via Eventbrite. Booking forms for vendors are live and there has been a great response so far. AM asked if local producers are represented at the Festival, and SB asked if ESS would consider a discount price for Selkirk residents.

AL asked for an update re the old contact centre and suggested that members of the community be invited to submit suggestions for future use of the building. CC advised that they may have someone interested in the building but there are a lot ongoing works which need to be dealt with first.

CC – there will be a site visit in town on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to discuss a one-way system. AL asked why the costs involved was such an issue now compared with when a temporary one-way system was in place years ago. ET-N stated that the costs involved in a

permanent one-way system are much greater than those for a TTRO (Temporary Traffic Regulation Order). IK advised that Co-op deliveries need to be considered at the site visit.

Standard Bearer presentation night to be held Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Reminder that it is customary CC members contribute £10 per head to the cost of refreshments.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all for their participation. Meeting was closed at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting will be held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in the Cruickshank Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk at 7.00pm.