



The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

Chair	Andy Murray	44 Hillside Terrace, Selkirk TD7 4ND	01750 21008
Vice-chair	Ed Strang Steel	2 Priory Park, Selkirk, TD7 5CH	01750 21766
Secretary	Alistair Pattullo	12 Victoria Crescent, Selkirk TD7 5DE	01750 721697
Treasurer	David Playfair	6 Millburn Place, Selkirk TD7 5AF	07889 817895

Minutes of the Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council Meeting held on Monday 13^h October 2025.

Present: Community Councillors: Chair Andy Murray, Ed Strang Steel, Alistair Pattullo, Grant Kinghorn, Sue Bremner, David Playfair, Lucy Playfair, and Kirsty Lovatt.

Also present: 3 members of the public, and 1 member of the press.

1. Chair's Introduction:

In a month dominated by outside meetings, AM noted the work undertaken by the elected SBC Councillors, who spend a lot of time attending meetings and events. AM also mentioned the polite and supportive manner of the discussions at the recent SBC Council meeting – a style to emulate.

AM mentioned the Selkirk Common Riding Flag Applicants and Attendants' sponsored walk from Flodden to Selkirk – 32.7 miles and more than £3,000 raised – a great achievement.

AM congratulated COPS (Community Orchard Project Selkirk) for their success again at the recent Greener Gateway Awards - Gold for Border Biodiversity, and Silver for Cultivating Communities. AM has written to SBC Comms team to request photos for the Newsletter. Greener Gateway Awards not updated on SBC website.

AM attended the recent event celebrating the retirement of the Duke of Buccleuch as Lord Lieutenant of Ettrick, Roxburgh and Lauderdale. AM expressed the Community Council's best wishes to the Duke in retirement and looked forward to working with his successor, John Jeffrey.

AM mentioned the 2 Selkirk calendars now available - one for the benefit of the Common Riding and the other for Brighter Selkirk. Both are available from the Scott's Selkirk shop.

AM mentioned the return of the Selkirk Film Club this Friday 17th Oct at the County Hotel. The grand opening will feature a showing of Cinema Paradiso, with free pizza!

2. Apologies / Declarations of interest:

Apologies: Cllrs Caroline Cochrane, Elaine Thornton-Nicol, Leagh Douglas; and Judith Thompson.

Declarations of interest: None

3. Approval of the minutes: Minutes were approved by ESS and seconded by LP.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of 8th Sept 2025 and not covered elsewhere in the agenda:

Selkirk Common Riding Executive advised that they had dropped their plans for a medal featuring the Town crest.

CC has obtained funding for the damaged notice board in the Market Place.

CC informed SBC about the listing of the closed Contact Centre on the SBC website, and this has now been corrected.

5. Community Police Report: September report received, and posted online. AM received apologies from PC Murray, and asked him specifically to try and attend the next meeting in Bannerfield, which residents would appreciate.

6. Planning – report from Ian King: IK not in attendance so no report.

7. Adoption of BT Phone box in Scott's Place.

AM reported that the contract has been signed and payment of £1 made. As soon as the BT phone equipment has been stripped out, we can progress with the refurbishment. The proposal is to paint it blue – the same colour as the Victoria Halls fountain, for which some paint is left over. Quote has been received from Nod Purves for painting - £145 inc VAT. Still awaiting quote from T R Keddie for installing a notice board.

8. Open Forum:

MoP1 – Road sign for Thornfield House pointing in direction of the cemetery.

MoP1 contacted SBC switchboard but nobody knew which department would be able to help.

MoP2 asked if anyone knew what all the coloured markings on roads and streets throughout the town centre are. It was noted that they denote where different utilities are located. AM to follow up with local Councillors to ask if this survey work will lead to a full map of the various utilities. **Action: AM**

9. SBC Councillors' Reports:

ETN – no report.

LD – appendix 1.

CC – no report.

10. Treasurer's Reports:

Community Council

£2,630.43 in account

Blooming Selkirk

£1,468.15 in account.

SHMG

£12,565.74 in account.

Brighter Selkirk

£2,779.53 in account

11. Reports from Sub-Groups:

SHMG: No meeting this month – next meeting to be held in November. AP advised that linking in with Bright Green Nature needs further discussion to ensure that it won't interfere with existing grants.

Brighter Selkirk/Blooming Selkirk:

Christmas lights – awaiting decision from CC re using battery and mains powered lights. SB asked if the lights could be coloured. AP advised that the lights can be programmed with different colours.

Hanging baskets and Christmas lights taken down.

Christmas event to be on Sat 6 Dec, from 10am-3pm.

Real Christmas trees will be placed in existing brackets along the High Street.

Christmas tree – CC has ordered 25 foot tree.

CGFWG:

Contribution to Sir Walter Scott's Statue: application has been made and will be considered in November.

PR Committee:

Next Newsletter - October. GK has submitted sports report and event photos.

AM/DP awaiting updates on events and details on organisations seeking volunteers.

Action: AM/DP

Victoria Park Action Group: no report.

12. Reports from other community organisations and outside bodies:

Selkirk Response/Resilience Team: no report.

Plattling Twinning Group:

Bavarian dancers performed at the Parish Church Hall on Friday 12th Sept.

Musical evening for them on Sunday 14th at the Glen Hotel was a success.

A7 Action Group:

Recent meeting in Hawick. AM voted in as one of 2 Vice-Chairs.
A7 Action Plan from 2015 to be updated.

Action: AM

COPS: Two awards at the Greener Gateway Awards – Gold for Border Biodiversity, and Silver for Cultivating Communities. SB noted the Selkirk High School also won silver award in the Secondary Schools category. Unfortunately, nobody was there to collect the award. Next planting will be on April 15th 2026 at the Glebe – apples, pears and plums.

Selkirk Regeneration:

AM pursuing funding for Sir Walter Scott statue – 50% funding approved by the Fallago Energy Fund. Thanks given to ETN for advising AM of this fund. Application to Neighbourhood Support Fund being considered. Common Good application will be considered in November. Still awaiting 3 quotes from builders via Stuart Davidson Architects.

The original application to the SBC UK Shared Prosperity Fund was unsuccessful.

Follow up on Selkirk & The Valleys Local Place Plan will include focussing on some of the priority projects, pending decisions on Selkirk's assets in the Live Borders review.

AM now to contact Keith Riddell of Thomas Riddell Builders re: replacing render on No. 1 Tower Street.

Action: AM

AOCB:

GK concerned about the number of bikes going through town, especially on pavements, with no lights on – adults as well as children.

SB suggested closer ties with the High School, including receipt of their information to include in the Newsletter. Clare Tyler of Selkirk Regeneration will be liaising with the High School and will request information be sent to the Community Council.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all for their participation.

Meeting was closed at 7:40pm.

Next meeting will be held on **Monday 10th November 2025** at Philiphaugh Community Centre, Bannerfield at 7:00pm.

Appendix 1

Cllr Leagh Douglas: Community Council Report: 13th October 2025

Bus Stop – Hillside, Selkirk (up by the garage)

I have been pursuing this one for a while now as there are numerous challenges around it. Inadequate pavement width, final decision lying with BEAR who were not able to flex any rules as we did attempt this at the first position proposed. SBC also pursued buying land to enable bus stop first choice position being pursued but that did not come to fruition as land owner did not want to sell a strip. However, we have made progress.

Funding has been secured and ring fenced for this (as long as spent within this financial year).

Council have drawn up a layout for the proposals, they are just being reviewed by the team before taking the proposal to BEAR.

BT have been contacted to give them a heads up as if the current proposal is past it may have implications for them. If BEAR give the green light, then the Council will progress to a Road Safety Audit for the proposals, and confirm the finer details around layout and costs.

Solar Panel Lighting – Ashkirk and Lindean Bus Stops

Following having successfully secured funding for solar panelled lighting in Lindean and Ashkirk Bus Stops I am pleased to advise they have now been installed.

Dropped Kerbs – Down by the bridge

Following numerous requests from local residents, I can confirm funding has been secured for further dropped kerbs down by the bridge. There were numerous reasons for this area being a priority ask dropped kerb wise. This includes the fact that dropped kerbs existed at one end to enable mobility scooter/wheelchair etc users being able to safely get onto the pavements at one end, but not off again within a large bump at the other side! It is also welcomed by numerous parents/guardians making their way to and from school/nursery for drop off etc.

Dropped Kerbs – General

Numerous residents have been in touch about various potential areas for consideration for dropped kerbs. However, one of those in contact, Lee Watt, was eager to meet me and discuss all the challenging elements of the common routes she takes on her mobility scooter. They are well 'trodden' routes down to the shops etc. I spent the morning with Lee and have now submitted a suite of potential dropped kerb positions for Council consideration. Following internal assessment, I will be keen to pursue their implementation spread out over many months to distribute cost. In short, the aim being to slowly build a more accessible town for all wheel dependant residents and visitors.

I feel strongly this is really valuable investment as loss of mobility is undoubtedly a disability that will impact many of us in future years.