



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 11th May 2026.

- 1 **Attendance:** Community Councillors: Andy Murray (Chair), Ed Strang-Steel, Alistair Pattullo, Grant Kinghorn, Sue Bremner, Judith Thompson, David Playfair, and Kirsty Lovatt.

SBC Councillors: Caroline Cochrane, Elaine Thornton-Nicol, Leagh Douglas.
Also present: 6 members of the public.

2. **Chair's Introduction:**

AM welcomed the appointment of Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Sam Coltherd, plus Standard Bearers for the Weavers – Mark Cornwall, the Fleshers – Craig Lowrie, and the Ex-Soldiers – Gary Alison.

In changes of responsibility, David Playfair has decided to relinquish his membership of Blooming Selkirk and Planning.

AM reminded all of the AGM on Mon 15th June – also a Bank Holiday, for the World Cup, with apologies. Judith Thompson will be standing down from the CC after the AGM.

AM reminded all about the SBC online meeting about the history of our textile mills:
Wed 13 May, 6:00-7:30pm.

There are also some seminars about preparing for the Tour de France. On May 19th there is one at Galashiels Academy from 12:30 – 2:00pm, and then one in Melrose Corn Exchange from 2:45 to 4:15.

On Sat 9th there was of course the Selkirk Sevens, and AM thanked the Selkirk team for their valiant efforts.

3. **Apologies / Declarations of interest:**

Apologies: Ian King, and Lucy Playfair.
Declarations of interest: none.

4. **Approval of the minutes:** Minutes were approved by ESS and seconded by DP.

DP expressed concern at the way in which LP's question re meetings in Bannerfield was answered at the previous meeting. AM apologised for any offence caused, but remained firm in his response. SB suggested that the CC should hold a meeting on a regular basis regardless of whether or not people from that area attend. AM proposed that the CC commit to two meetings per year. All agreed.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of 9th March 2026 and not covered elsewhere in the agenda:

Reporting Portal. Not yet up and running. ETN will follow up with LP. AM thanked the SBC Councillors for dealing with reported issues so swiftly. **Action: ETN/AM/LP.**

Only 2 Community Councils put forward candidates to represent the Eildon area – Selkirk & Clovenfords. SBC suggested candidates decided amongst themselves, so AM spoke to Clovenfords' Treasurer (Sandra Richardson) and it was agreed that AM would be the main rep for one year and then pass over the responsibility, with regular updates in the interim. **Action: AM**

Vistors from Selkirk Manitoba were given a tour of the area and entertained in the Fleece by members of the CC. They loved everything about Selkirk, so it is hoped that stronger links will be forged. The town's CAO (Chief Administrative Officer) will be visiting Selkirk in August. Thanks given to Cath Henderson for the items she kindly donated. **Action: AM**

The Silver Arrow invitations have now gone out, and ESS will represent the Community Council. **Action: ESS**

The Rotary Club litter pick from 19th April had to be cancelled. Hopefully it can be rescheduled.

Public Toilets: was it possible to make the Disabled toilets available after the main toilets' vandalism - ETN still pursuing. **Action: ETN**

6. Community Police Report:

Received and posted on website.

7. Planning:

DP no longer the CC contact.

8. Town Identity Backdrop: GK advised that the current backdrop used on stage is very plain and that something which represents the town is needed. GK suggested that the artwork used in the Market Place could be replicated, as well as incorporating the town silhouette with the town arms on top. AM suggested that the CC could make a contribution. CC advised that an application could be made to the Small Schemes. ETN suggested contacting Wilson Signs for a quote. All agreed. LD suggested that the High School could possibly be involved, and volunteered to make contact with them. This was agreed. **Action: GK/LD**

9. Open Forum:

Discussion was had about moving the current location for Petanque bowling to the Victoria Park. CC advised that a proposal would need to be submitted to the CGFWG.

10. Reports:

CC – aware that there is an ongoing issue with a horsebox abandoned at the level crossing. It will be removed but at a cost to SBC of £2k due to it containing fibreglass.

Reports of counterfeit £20 notes..

Community forum lunch – was well attended, and the focus was on volunteering opportunities.

4 flower beds need maintained at Knowepark primary school – suggested this could be a project for COPS. **Action: CC/SB**

Borders Community Action will contribute to the list of organisations and business in town.

Xmas lights – still need volunteers, will put a message on Facebook.

LD – SBHA have agreed to carry out more repairs at Raeburn Meadow. Repairs have been completed at Pringle Park, the Valley, and Corbie Linn. Repairs are ongoing at Philiphaugh primary school.

Lack of signage on the Loan – works will be completed by tomorrow evening.

16 – 18 High Street – planning contravention notice issued and a reply has been received.

Harris Trust – free training course for coaches will be held on 5th July at the rugby club. More information can be found on the Harris Trust Facebook page.

ETN – Farmers Market surgery was well attended and ETN took on 14 new cases.

SBC are looking at processes for adaptations in homes as it has been too complicated previously. The new processes will also apply to Springwood, day service provisions, and for people with illnesses such as MND.

Reminded everyone that 'tea and toast' is held at Philiphaugh community centre every Thursday from 9:30am – 11am. The pantry is also open – just bring a bag and £3.

11. Treasurer's Report

Community Council

Opening balance: £2,624.05

Closing balance: £1,667.88

Blooming Selkirk

Opening balance: £503.78

Closing balance: £668.65

SHMG

Opening balance: £6,030.94

Closing balance: £6,035.15

Brighter Selkirk

Opening balance: £2,223.74

Closing balance: £2,223.74

12. Reports from Sub-Groups:

SHMG: There have been lots of activities on the Hill. A new partnership has been set up with the Northwood Project who have provided advice on the way the Hill is changing from moorland to a woodland site, including managing water in the burns by the construction of leaky dams. Wildlife surveys continue to be carried out. Bright Green Nature held a very successful event at the Haining.

Brighter Selkirk/Blooming Selkirk: Next meeting to be arranged.

Hanging baskets – only 2 railing baskets left at Victoria Hall. AM will pay for one of them. There are 4 big baskets at the Market Place, and there will be 18 small baskets along the High Street. Need to contact businesses for sponsorship of the small baskets. All baskets have been planted and are currently at Philiphaugh Estate – delivery to be arranged. **Action: ESS/CC/JT/AP**

CGFWG – Report from Ian King / Caroline Cochrane:

Next meeting to be held 4th June.

PR Committee:

Welcome To Selkirk now being distributed. New newsletter to be produced before Common Riding. Thanks given to GK for photographs. **Action: AM/GK**

Victoria Park Action Group:

Meeting 5th May. New constitution discussed.

15. Reports from other community organisations and outside bodies:

Plattling Twinning Group:

No further news

A7 Action Group:

Nothing to report.

COPS: Wee Green fair was on Sunday 10th May - new orchard on the Green. SB linked in with CEO Project Coordinator of Bright Green Nature. Trying to find out who owns section of Heatherlie Park opposite FoxFitx. **Action: ETN**

Selkirk Regeneration:

AGM 23 June.

Action: AM

Creative Coathanger have now received funding for a feasibility study into the future of the former Contact Centre (Mungo Park's father in law's house).

An SR member is to do research into the restoration of the Mungo Park statue and the addition of an explanatory board for context.

16. AOCB:

GK asked when the temporary traffic lights at Scotts Place car park would be removed.

Action: LD

KL asked if there was an update on the request to amend the start of the 20mph zone due to new layout of road at Kerrsland.

Action: CC

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

Meeting was closed at 8:26 pm.

Next meeting will be held on **Monday 15th June 2026** in the Cruickshank Room, Victoria Halls, at 7:00pm, preceded by the AGM at 6:30pm.

2026 Meeting Schedule:

15 Jun / 13 Jul / 14 Sep / 12 Oct / 9 Nov / 14 Dec