**Minutes of the Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council Held on Monday 11th March 2019 – Committee Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. PRESENT – Community Councillors; Alistair Pattullo (Chair), Tom Combe, David Deacon, Graham Easton, George Irvine, Adrian Kentleton, Ian King, Alisdaire Lockhart, Jim Stillie and Judith Thompson.   Also present – Councillor Gordon Edgar, Councillor Caroline Penman, 4 members of the public, 2 representatives from the local Press, PC Conal McEwan, Fiona Mallin (Minute Taker).   1. APOLOGIES – were received from Kirsty Lovatt and Councillor Elaine Thornton-Nichol. 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – there were no declarations of interest. 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - were approved as a true record, proposed by David Deacon, seconded by Graham Easton. 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES   Ian King advised the regeneration event had been successful.  Ian King also enquired about the insurance for a water tank and quad bike, with Councillor Penman advising that Melrose had paid £400 for this. She also advised that herself and Judith Thompson are looking in to sourcing equipment for watering the plants and cleaning the Market Square.  There were no further matters arising.   1. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT   This was given by PC Conal McEwan and circulated electronically to members.  Adrian Kentleton felt the report highlighted how the behaviour of youngsters can fluctuate, with PC McEwan advising that compared to other towns in the Borders, the youngsters in Selkirk are quite well behaved.  There was a brief discussion about the issuing of parking tickets to illegally parked cars with Councillor Edgar advising the Community Action Team (CAT) had issued 700 tickets in the past 9 months, and the proposal by SBC to create another CAT.  PC Conal McEwan then left the meeting.   1. LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS   Ian King circulated the list of local improvements, highlighting specific items and enquiring if members had anything to add.  Ian King enquired if the paintworks for the railings was in hand, with Councillor Edgar advising the tenders are out for this work.  Alistair Pattullo advised he had researched pricing for A2 Noticeboards with metal frames advising they range in price from £74.00 to £145.00. It was agreed Alistair Pattullo should organise the purchase of the boards at £145.00.  A discussion was generated concerning the refurbishment of benches in Selkirk – Councillor Edgar is to check the work programme and report back to the Committee.  Councillor Penman is to investigate which works may be required to bring the Fleshmarket steps up to standard.  Alistair Pattullo suggested speaking to owners to the entrance/butchers close at Halywells close, with comment being made to an area of dumped rubbish and a bin store which is there. Councillor Penman has advised she will speak to the owners of this area concerning the bin store area.  Ian King drew attention to the railings at the top of the Pringle Park, and Councillor Edgar has agreed to check if there is any work planned to carry out works to them.  Ian King also mentioned the cleaning of road signs, and enquired if this was the responsibility of SBC – Councillor Edgar confirmed it was, and suggested it could be incorporated in to the Selkirk Community Spring Clean.  Referring to various pathways and grass areas in Bannerfield, Councillor Edgar advised he was currently in discussion with SBHA (Scottish Borders Housing Association), about ownership and repairs. Adrian Kentleton advised he would make contact with SBHA.  Tom Combe mentioned the bushes at the Back Row and the marriage stone, advising the letters had come off plaque no. 3, The Ring O The Toon. Ian King advised there was nothing could be done to bring this back to standard as it was badly eroded.  Ian King drew attention to the wall at the low road, and the state of disrepair it is in. Councillor Edgar advised the owner has been contacted and given 3 months to carry out the required repairs, or SBC would do the repairs and charge the owner for them. A discussion ensued concerning this area of Selkirk and the works required to the roads and gulleys and how it was impacting local businesses.  David Deacon enquired about the Old Kirk Yard, highlighting its historical significance, with Councillor Penman advising new signage was going up and the wording was currently being looked at. Ian King confirmed this area had a lot of potential to progress and a lot of work needing done to this area. Councillor Edgar confirmed that SBC have responsibility for the Old Kirk Yard, however, do not have the funding to keep it as a tourist attraction.  Jim Stillie enquired how Selkirk Community Council could help, with Councillor Edgar informing him that a group could be set up and money could be applied for through localties funding. Alistair Pattullo advised a proper plan would be required with Alisdaire Lockhart commenting that this could be a good project for Selkirk Community Council to take forward. David Deacon enquired as to who would take this forward, and Alisdaire Lockhart has volunteered to take on this project to begin with.     1. PLANNING MATTERS   Ian King advised there were none, however, mentioned that the proposed development to the area of land next to Forleys Field had been referred to ministerial level due to concerns raised.  He also informed members that at the Eildon Group meeting at Borders College, there had been a display from Scottish Water concerning the new water tank being installed and the pipeline running to it at a cost of £30m. Ian King to invite Scott Fraser from Scottish Water to give a presentation of the works to Selkirk Community Council.  Alistair Pattullo highlighted the consultation process for the closure of Ettrick Primary School and the impact to the community. However, there is more concern for Kirkhope Primary School and Selkirk Community Council shows its support to the local community and in particular to the primary schools.   1. OPEN FORUM   Dougie Purves congratulated the Community Council on the new noticeboard in the Market Place, and enquired about the proof reading as there appeared to be an error – the sign should read the Battle of Philiphaugh, however, refers to the Battle of Philipburn. Councillor Penman will bring this up at the next BIDS meeting.  Kath Henderson asked for an update to the footprints, with Councillor Edgar advising this is still in the pipeline, as is the standing stones and the seats along the riverside. Councillor Edgar advised he is in regular contact with Conor Price and the works should be completed by the end of Summer 2019.  Dougie Purves referred to the flood works and the snagging and asked how many Community Council members had recently been up to the Black Bob Trail as there was a broken wall there – Alistair Pattullo advised he had been up there the previous day, and enquired where exactly this was, with Dougie Purves advising it was across from Leslie Cottage. Graham Easton advised this work will be done, and that it is cosmetic, not structural.   1. SBC COUNCILLORS REPORT   Councillor Edgar gave his report, advising the flowerbeds in carpark had now been removed and car charging points had been installed.  He expanded on the proposed water pipeline, informing Members it will take on the route of the proposed Selkirk Bypass and the works will impact on the A7 as it will run next to it, and up to Meigle Hill in Galashiels.  He confirmed all the white lining work should be carried out shortly.  George Irvine enquired if the carpark was being extended in to the Haining, with Councillor Edgar advising this was not the case.  Adrian Kentleton commented on the amount of drivers going the wrong way round The Valley, with Councillor Edgar advising that the signage should be completed by the end of March 2019.  Alistair Pattullo asked for an update to the town clock, with Councillor Edgar advising discussions were underway about who is responsible for the repairs as the quote to repair had been very expensive. He went on to say they had managed to open the door to the Town Hall, however, the plaster and paint work has still to be done.  Councillor Penman gave her report, informing Members of the forthcoming Riverside Litter Pick on 16 March 2019, commencing 11.00am at Philiphaugh Community Centre.  She also advised of the Selkirk Tidy on 14 April 2019, 9.30am in Selkirk Market Place, advising refreshments would be served from Rowlands.  Dougie Purves asked when the new High School and Primary School would be built in Selkirk, with Councillor Edgar advising that Selkirk High School is in better condition than other schools in the Borders which had priority need. Dougie Purves asked if a new school would be built within 10 years, with Councillor Edgar advising he did not think so.   1. TREASURERS REPORT   Judith Thompson gave this report informing Members the balance is currently sitting at £3204.96, with £1000 ring-fenced for the Response Team. Judith Thompson confirmed that Viv Ross is happy to audit the accounts, which will be carried out by the end of March 2019, and should be ready for the Community Council meeting in April 2019. There were no questions from Members in relation to the Treasurers Report.   1. LOCALITIES BID FUND APPLICATION   Alistair Pattullo informed the Community Council the bid fund for the fountain had been accepted. He has also applied for funding for a new bowser at a cost of £700.00 as there is a proposal to double the number of hanging baskets in Selkirk from 30 to 60.  Councillor Penman mentioned the new buggy with bowser which Melrose have, and the costing of £40.00 per basket, and the proposal to sponsor a flowerbed.  Judith Thompson and Alistair Pattullo will look at costings for a bowser and put their application in. Councillor Edgar reminded them they would need 2 prices for the Communities Fund.   1. BORDERS WALKING FESTIVAL   Alistair Pattullo confirmed the website will go live for booking walks and checking events on 31st March.   1. SELKIRK RESPONSE TEAM   Graham Easton provided this update, advising he had emailed Emergency Planning with progress so far. He suggested April for going ahead and carrying out another practical exercise. David Deacon and Graham Easton to action this.   1. REPORT FROM SUB-GROUPS 2. Selkirk Hill Management Group   Ian King advised the hill is in good condition and there are no problems on the hill. He went on to say there was some work required to the parapets and to some dry-stane dyking, and developing a work plan for the coming year.  Councillor Edgar mentioned the parties some teenagers attend, and the mess they leave with bottles and rubbish at the Chinese Hut, and although welcome, they need to be asked to remove their rubbish. Graham Easton suggested visiting them when they were there and speaking to them.   1. Blooming Selkirk   Judith Thompson advised herself and Councillor Penman had met with Scottish Borders Council concerning the garden works for this year. She advised they were okay for planting this year, but not subsequent years.  Councillor Penman and Judith Thomson are attending a Floral Gateway Seminar. They also plan to call another public meeting which will rally round some volunteer gardeners.  Judith Thompson confirmed the name for the group is “Brighter Selkirk”, which highlights their association as a subsidiary of Selkirk Illuminations.  Stuart Davidson is currently looking at the current situation of brackets for the hanging baskets. Judith Thompson also confirmed that they are looking at various ways the hanging baskets could be funded.  David Deacon asked if empty shops would also benefit from hanging baskets, with Judith Thompson confirming this.   1. SELKIRK CHAMBER OF TRADE   A Chamber of Trade meeting is being held on 12th March 2019, and an update would be made to the March Selkirk Community Council meeting.   1. REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND OUTSIDE BODIES 2. Eildon Area Partnership   Ian King gave a brief update on this Agenda Item.   1. Community Council Engagement Meeting   Jim Stillie confirmed this had been a well-attended meeting, advising the main issue was the gulf between the Community Councillors and SBC Councillors.  Ian King felt it had been non-political and that they had been prepared to listen to what people were saying.   1. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS   Alistair Pattullo advised the Royal Company of Archers would be coming to Selkirk on 25th May 2019. There will be an official lunch at the Victoria Hall then the Archers will march through Selkirk led by the Silver Band to the Haining.  Alisdaire Lockhart enquired if there would be any interest in a community facility for several items such as a community fridge, loan shop (to borrow tools etc), clothes exchange. Alisdaire Lockhart to investigate and report back.  Alistair Pattullo advised there is a Food Bank Seminar at St. Josephs on 5th April 2019 from 10.00am – 2.00pm.  There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm. The date of the next meeting is Monday 8th April 2019 at 7.00pm, Committee Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk. | ACTION  AP  GE  CP  CP  GE  AK  AL  IK  CP  JT/AP  DD/GE  TC  AL |