St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A Zoom meeting was held on 25th March 2021

Date of next meeting 29th April 2021 via Zoom
Members of the Public wishing to join this meeting should contact the Secretary at stbospccsecretary@gmail.com or 07736 969 226

DRAFT Notes of meeting held on Thursday 25th March 2021

Chair : G. Tweddle

Attendees : Cllr Hamilton, W. Burns, Y. Clements, C. Emond, A. Franks, A. Marks, J. Pollock, S. Pollock, C. Richard, C. Strang, A. Patterson, + 1 Member of Public

Apologies : Cllr Scott, Cllr Brown, M. Barrie, A. Drummond

1. **POLICE REPORT**

Residents are reminded to report any issues that cause them concern to CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111 or 101 or JedburghDistrictCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Police Scotland cannot attend meetings via Zoom.

We are now receiving both Jedburgh and Eildon Area reports.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Not discussed

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

3.1. Next meeting (29th April) would normally be an AGM. The current Chair and Treasurer are standing down. ***Could you fulfill one of these roles?*** Please advise The Secretary before the next meeting if you would be willing to carry out these duties. The current Postholders will provide support to anyone willing to take over these duties.

3.2. A modified Annual Village Spring Clean was carried out by a small number of volunteers in their own time over a two week period and in accordance with current Covid guidelines. A tremendous effort which sadly resulted in 56 bin bags being gathered and a number of much larger items. Thanks to all who participated. It would be good to consider publicising this activity more widely next year in an effort to attract more volunteers.

3.3. The Great Borders Rivers Clean is being organised by Tom Rawson of St Mary's School, Melrose for the weekend of 15th and 16th May. Last year's

River Clean was a huge success with 453 volunteers clearing more than 2,000kg of rubbish from riverside communities from one end of the Borders to the other. It would be useful to do our stretch of riverbank over the next couple of weeks before vegetation growth makes it difficult.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

4.1. AM proposed allocating funds to Green St Boswells to support ongoing work in the Community Woodland, Path upgrading and upkeep, Village Planters. AF seconded. Carried unanimously.

4.2.	**Balance Brought forward**	**£4,450.22**
Income received		
	Nil	
Expenditure		
	Litter picking equipment – Chairman £201.87	
	Community Woodland - Grahams Gardens £70.00	
Balance in Bank not inc Covid Grant		**£3,181.89**
COVID Support Grant Balance		**£996.46**
Balance at Bank		**£4,178.35**
4.3.	**Funds allocated**	
	Green St Boswells (Woodland, Planters, Paths) inc.	£127.73
	Additional funds to Green St Boswells agreed above	£872.25
	Polwarth Monument Plaque + Repairs	£314
4.4.	**Projects Completed awaiting Invoice**	
	Bridle Path hardcore - SBC Criminal Justice Team	£500
	Uncommitted Balance Remaining inc COVID grant	**£2,364.37**

5. COMMUNITY WOODLAND

5.1. Thanks to a small group of volunteers for clearing low branches and coppicing a small number of hazels in the Upper Woodland. The plan is to gather loose material, hire a chipper and to use the chippings to lay over the

muddy sections of paths.

5.2. If successful, perhaps a regular date for 1st Saturday in each month could be arranged whereby a number of small tasks that could add to the woodland could be carried out eg Bug Hotel, snowdrop planting, path maintenance, new steps and tree planting.

POST MEETING NOTE : Thanks to Border Mowers who provided a chipper FOC and a good number of volunteers who came together on two consecutive Saturdays to gather material, feed the chipper and lay bark on the paths. Thanks to all who contributed.

5.3. Unfortunately the new signs fixed around the pond FOC by Buccleuch Estates were vandalised and used to dam the pond outlet causing it to overflow over the paths. ***AP to pursue an alternative more vandal resistant option.***

5.4. There was some discussion about Jock's Yard and whether Buccleuch Estates could share their plans for the site. There is still a lot of contamination and it would be desirable to have some work carried out to this site. There could be an opportunity to extend the path network and provide some information on the stonework recently uncovered.

5.5. A number of bird boxes have been donated.

6. ST BOSWELL'S FAIR

6.1. An email has been received from SBC about the 400th Anniversary of the Fair.

6.2. A letter has been received suggesting that the CC might like to support the suggestion of making badges or other graphic images to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Fair. As there is no way of knowing what form the Fair will take in 2021 due to lockdown restrictions and the CC having previously agreed not to actively participate in the Fair in 2021, there was no support for this request.

7. SBC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Any Member of the Public can report roads, lighting, and various public nuisance issues at any time on the Council's website under the "REPORT" tab.

7.1. Due to the Leaderdale and Melrose Bi-election and the General Election Councillors have been in an extended period of purdah although the Budget

has been approved. This includes, no rise in Council Tax, extra money to deal with roads condition, establishment of the Build Back Better Fund, Council Officer time to support new drive towards Community Masterplanning, a Sustainability Co-ordinator, a new Food Growing Strategy.

7.2. The Area Partnership meeting covered Fit For 2024 and the new Placemaking approach, Transport, Policy on Sexual Entertainment Licensing.

7.3. The Council is currently seeking views on the possibility of removing bins at Scott's View as there is an ongoing litter issue at the site. Views on this varied from, the Council emptying the bins more regularly (broadly the favoured option), to removing the bins entirely which it was thought could be linked to a wider “Take Your Litter Home” campaign.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1. **ONGOING APPLICATIONS** ***:***

Slater's Yard, Charlesfield Road/A68 Junction – 21/00244/FUL

New Agricultural Dealership Shed

The CC has lodged an objection to this application and has received further correspondence from SBC on this ongoing matter.

It was agreed to seek further clarification as to the matters of the unauthorised change of use, the Freedom of Information request, and the inadequate and unsatisfactory landscaping condition.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1. SBC's Draft Anti Poverty Strategy has been received.

9.2. 20 MPH Speed Limit changes. Another survey has been received. Speeds are now available on SBC's website via a dashboard.

9.3. The Secretary raised the possibility of CC Members providing snapshot of skills, interests and qualifications. A proforma will be circulated. ***CS***

9.4. CC Members are asked to send their mobile numbers to GT to set up a WhatsApp group with the aim of improving communications between members.

10. AOCB

10.1. The Village Hall Committee Secretary attended and confirmed that they are in the process of updating their website and have confirmed that the CC could

have a tab on the Homepage. The CC would be responsible for providing information in pdf format and this would be uploaded and managed for a small monthly fee (£10).

10.2. CS proposed the CC accept the Village Hall Committee offer to provide a CC Tab on their website. AP seconded. A majority agreed subject to the following conditions

(10.2.1) situation to be reviewed in two years

(10.2.2) VH to provide site analytics for visits to CC page

(10.2.3) CC data to be returned to CC should the site cease to operate

(10.2.4) page to contain a link to CC FaceBook page

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 29th April 2021 at 7:15p.m. Via Zoom

Any members of the public wishing to join the meeting or raise an issue of local concern please contact The Secretary at stbospccsecretary@gmail.com or telephone The Secretary on 07736 969 226
or approach any Community Councillor

Thank you for taking the time to read these notes.

Your Community Councillors are volunteers.

Our main role is to represent our local area, consult with residents and pass their views on to organisations such as the Council and NHS who have responsibility to consult about how local services are delivered.

One of your Local Councillors usually attends.