# St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Church Hall on 25th August 2022 7.15p.m.

Date of next meeting 29th September 2022 venue tbc
Members of the Public wishing to join this meeting should contact the Secretary at stbospccsecretary@gmail.com or 07736 969 226

## DRAFT Notes of Community Council meeting held on Thursday 25th August 2022

1. **ATTENDEES** : G. Tweddle (Chair), Y.Clement, C. Emond, A. Farnish, C. Richard A Patterson, Cllr Brown and 1 Member of Public
2. **APOLOGIES :** Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Scott, M. Barrie, W. Burns, C.Strang

3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**
   - 3.1. Previous Minutes – Proposed AF. Seconded GT.
   - 3.2. Selkirk Foodbank – AF is liaising regarding setting up a visit for AF and CS.
   - 3.3. Path on the Haugh to prevent cow trampling – it was noted that although this was now in place complaints had been received regarding deep holes in the path and poor signage. A new Ranger is expected in post soon. It was agreed to contact them to discuss if any winter work is planned to improve this. It was noted that a cow had got into the fenced off area but this had been quickly resolved. **CS**

4. **TREASURERS REPORT**
   - 4.1. It has been confirmed in writing that Criminal Justice will not be submitting any further invoices.
   - 4.2. It was agreed that the fee for Border Berries to advertise on The Green is to remain at the same level for another year. BB to be advised that the fee will be reviewed next year. **CS**
   - 4.3. Potential uses for the ovid Grant money were discussed. It was agreed that unaffiliated groups that are struggling to reform/book halls post-Covid would be the first priority. It was proposed that the Church Hall, Village Hall and Community Club be approached to identify any clubs which have not yet returned particularly those which cite booking fees as an obstacle. **AF/GT/AP**

4.4. **Balance at Banks** **£6,941.95**

| | |
|---|---|
| Clydesdale | £6,895.20 |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | £46.75 |

4.5. **Expenditure**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7/6/22 Croft Castings – Platinum Jubilee plaque | £176.60 |
| 1/7/22 SO St Boswells VHall Website | £10.00 |
| 6/7/22 Acorn Workshop – post for Jubilee plaque | £216.00 |
| 8/7/22 Footeprint – flyers for Springfield Community Garden | £12.00 |
| 22/7/22 Graham's Gardens – cutting back various Vennels | £85.00 |
| 26/7/22 Oakwood Treecare – cutting back Beastie Lane | £120.00 |
| | **£619.60** |

4.6. **Income**

20/7/22 Gypsy Fair – fees for The Green £415

4.7. **Balance as at 26/7/22** **£6,690.60**

4.8. **Expenditure since Statement**

| | |
|---|---|
| 4/7/22 Dryburgh District Churches – CC meetings May, June | £42 |
| Cheque now cashed | |
| 1/8/22 SO St Boswells Village Hall – website | £10 |

Information Below Carried forward from 30/06/2022 with deductions for payments made

4.9. **Monies ring fenced**

| | |
|---|---|
| Covid Group Grant Balance | £996.46 |
| Fallago Environment Grant (for bridle path and woodland) | £2,022.13 |
| Polwarth Fountain | £100 |
| Green St Boswells | £1,203.90 |
| Village Hall Website | £100 |
| Expenses | £150 |
| Residue of Pathways Grant | £282 |
| Christmas Lights | £70 |
| Village Centre Enhancements Grant | £325 |
| Community Woodland | £300 |
| Total Committed | **£4,245.59** |

Leaving an Uncommitted Balance of **£2,293.01** as at August 2022

5. **GYPSY FAIR**

5.1. AF gave feedback on the Fair which was extremely well attended this year with unprecedented numbers of Travellers and horses attending. In the most part it went well with any reported incidents promptly attended to by the Traveller Representative.

5.2. The liaison meeting with organisations, Travellers and CC had to be postponed. Date to be arranged.

5.3. It was clarified that the money gathered from participants was not a CC responsibility. This is organised by the Travellers out of which they paid for additional toilets. The remainder was passed to CC. The Travellers would like to see this used on a project for the benefit of the resident community.

5.4. Agreed that planning of the Fair should be discussed by CC and to have a liaison meeting with SBC well in advance (at least May) to raise queries in good time particularly possible Road Closure Applications. **CS**

5.5. It was noted that the dates for the Fair change on an annual basis and this can be confusing especially for local businesses. **AF**

5.6. Correspondence was received detailing issues that some residents had with the younger Travellers in particular, behaving badly. **AF**

5.7. CC thanked AF for all her liaison work with the Travellers, Police, SBC and others.

6. **GREEN ST BOSWELLS**

6.1. **It's Your Neighbourhood**

Our Assessor recently toured the Village to look at how we had progressed in the last year. She was very supportive and complementary of our efforts and hoped that we would continue to make progress.

6.2. **Paths**

The CC has some limited responsibility for some paths around the Village. Some cutting back has taken place on various paths but it is difficult to keep track of all the paths. It would be helpful to share this responsibility. GT and CR agreed to keep an eye on paths close to them.

***Any Resident who walks the paths regularly and would like to help co-ordinate the path grant and maintenance please get in touch with The Secretary.***

6.3. **Community Woodland**

Claire McPhee has been nomimated to be Seconded onto the Community Woodland Sub-Group. AP proposed. GT seconded. **Decision : Agreed**
Moth survey and Family Wildlife Hunt Day went well with Borders Forest Trust and Wild About The Borders attending. A suggestion about quotes for commissioning an ecological survey was tabled. **Post Meeting Note** : a lovely article appears in Sept Edition of JedEye.
The Community Woodland sign is in need of repair and it was agreed to investigate a replacement. Consider using the Travellers contribution to help

with a suitable label noting their contribution?

Regular workdays are taking place on the first Saturday of each month. The next planned Woodland Workday is 3rd October. All are welcome.

6.4. **Primary School**

AP is working with the school Parent Friend Partnership on their Natural Play Area, Micro-Orchard and Queen's Green Canopy mini-woodland.

It would be beneficial to have improved links with other organisations in the Village particularly those involving older residents in activities. Please contact The Secretary or greenstboswells@gmail.com

7. **WINDFARM ACCESS**

7.1. A proposal for changes to two trees at the A68/A699 (War Memorial) junction has been received from Energiekontor, one of the two Contractors that require access to windfarms in the Hawick area.

One tree needs to be trimmed and one tree needs to be removed with a replacement to be planted further back from the junction. It was agreed that further information is needed. **AP/CE to meet the contractor onsite**

8. **SBC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

8.1. The Council agreed a 'Cost of Living Crisis' motion – calling on Governments to address energy prices etc

8.2. Bu Services continue to be reviewed – problems include low user numbers, less drivers, some services earmarked for reduced service or cuts.

8.3. Public Toilets – 14 are still closed with no plans to re-open. St Boswells not affected.

8.4. Further information has been requested from SBHA on the garages for housing sites in Jedburgh and Hawick.

8.5. Licensing of short term lets eg Airbnb/holiday lets, is being introduced - new licenses from October, exisiting properties form next April.

8.6. Local Housing Strategy Public Consultation on this closes 11th Sept 2022.

8.7. 20MPH – now implemented permanently.

8.8. St Boswells Traffic Management meeting – CC agreed a trial closure on the road which runs from Jenny Moore's Road behind the new houses to Polwarth Avenue. A 20MPH sign to be painted on JM Road.

8.9. Playpark at Jenny Moore's Road – SBC will come back with feedback on the Consultation.

9. **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

9.1. The generator installation for the Church Hall has been priced at around

£700. The Minister will ask for discussion on this at the September Kirk Session if possible. Finance for this will need to be agreed – ring-fence an amount and/or seek grant funding. CE to seek discussion with SBC Resilience Officer. Further discussion needed on a process/action plan for implementing actions in the event of a power failure etc.

9.2. Further work and discussion required. **CS**

10. **PLANNING**

10.1. No items to discuss

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1. A pressure group seeking to establish a rail link from St Boswells to Berwick wish to attend one of our meetings.

11.2. Health and Care Provision in Cheviot online meeting could not take place as planned.

11.3. Land Commission online workshop on carbon credits – for future agenda. **CS**

12. **AOCB**

12.1. **Police Report** – Selkirkshire received. Hoped that Community Officer can attend a meeting but it is no longer part of his job. CS

12.2. Community Council Network Steering Group has a new Chair.

12.3. Query regarding SBC mobile CCTV units – where are they deployed, with what criteria and what is the plan?

12.4. School Bus passes – this was a significant issue for some, with drivers asking some children to get off buses. This is the second year in a row that this has happened. Cllr Brown to pursue with Education as to why this unacceptable situation continues to happen and cannot be adequately planned in advance.

12.5. Discussion took place around the location of future CC meetings – it was proposed that CC meet in alternate venues in order to support both facilities.

12.6. Discussion took place regarding the sharing of responsibilities between CC Members. AF would be happy to take on Secretary duties if required.

13. ***Date of Next Meeting – 30th September 2022 venue Village Hall***

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 Scottish Borders Local Councillors usually attends our meetings.**

**Please consider joining us to make your views known**