St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Church Hall on 29th Sept 2022 7.15p.m.

Date of next meeting 27th Oct 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 29th September 2022

1. **ATTENDEES** : A. Farnish (Chair), W. Burns, Y. Clements, C. Emond, C. Ctrang. A Patterson, Cllr S Hamilton, Cllr S Scott
2. **APOLOGIES :** M. Barrie, C. Richard, G. Tweddle, Cllr P. Brown

3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**
   - 3.1. Some amendments required to the financial figures will be covered in Treasurer's Report.
   - 3.2. Subject to those amendments Previous Minutes were approved. Proposed YC. Seconded CE.

4. **ANY MATTERS ARISING NOT ON AGENDA**
   - 4.1. The Landowner has advised that there will be calves in The Haugh field by the river (Southern Upland Way). It is hoped that people will use the fenced-off path for their own safety.

5. **TREASURERS REPORT**
   - 5.1. Signatories to Royal Bank of Scotland 'War Memorial' account to confirm they are content to merge with the main CC Clydesdale account provided the money is kept ring-fenced for maintaining the War Memorial. **GT**
   - 5.2. Money is owed to the Village Hall website due to lapsed SO.
   - 5.3. Planned work on the Bridle Path will exceed the remainder of the Fallago grant. Proposal to use the remainder of Paths grant for this.
   - 5.4. Remembrance arrangements, piper, wreath etc to be costed/allocated.
   - 5.5. Small amount for Expenses for Auditor of CC accounts needed.
   - 5.6. Border Berries invoice to be sent out with amount to be reviewed next year.

5.7. **Balance at Banks 1/8/22 £6,737.35**

Clydesdale (Operational acct)	£6,690.60
Royal Bank of Scotland	£46.75

5.8. **Expenditure**

7/6/22 Dryburgh District Churches (Hall lets)	£42

5.9. **Income**

Nil

5.10. **Balance as at 29/922 Clydesdale Acct £6,648.60**

5.11. **Expenditure since Statement**

29/9/22 Oakwood Tree Care (Pathwork)	£168
29/9/22 Church Hall (Hire)	£21
29/9/22 Green St Boswells (Plants)	£97.30
	£286.30

Information below carried forward from 30/08/22 with deductions for payments made

5.12. **Monies ring fenced**

Covid Group Grant Balance	£996.46	
Fallago Env Grant (£230 for CW bridge paid)	£1,792.13	
Polwarth Fountain	£100	
Green St Boswells (£299.70 planting paid	£950.30	
Village Hall Website (£40 – Apr/May/Jun)	£60	
Expenses	£150	
Pathways Grant (Residue £282+£450- £373 spent)	£359	
Christmas Lights	£70	
Village Centre Enhancements Grant	£325	
Community Woodland (posters £12 paid)	£288	
QGC Jubilee tree, post & plaque		-£60.50
Gypsy Fair monies	£415	
Total Committed	**£5,505.89**	

Leaving an Uncommitted Balance of **£1,142.71** as at Sept 2022

6. **GYPSY FAIR 2022**

6.1. Comments have been received from Residents which were noted by CC.

6.2. AF, SH and SS attended the feedback meeting which very positive, with several action points arising for future Fairs. S. Hutchison attended on behalf of the Traveller Community. Detailed notes will be provided by AF elsewhere.

6.3. Police will look at their staffing levels and try to improve planning.

6.4. May consider mobile CCTV if possible.

6.5. Pre-Fair leaflet wasn't circulated. It was agreed that more and better communication is needed.

6.6. There was much discussion about the status of the Charter between

Travellers and Village which is said to exist. Agreed to try and track this down and update to reflect the current understanding between interested parties.**AF**

6.7. There was discussion about whether the money collected is a fee or a donation. To be discussed further as part of Charter discussions.

6.8. Detailed notes of liaison meeting to be made available to Residents who have been in contact. **AF**

7. **FOODBANK**

7.1. AF and YC have liaised with Selkirk Foodbank, a registered charity, and now have a small number of dry goods parcels stored in the Village ready for distribution if needed. Fresh goods need to be added at a cost of £6/parcel. Selkirk FB believe that there is currently an unmet need in the Village.

7.2. Cash donations to support the fresh food element will be needed in the longer term if need is identified. AF/YC to approach local businesses for long term support but need a small fund to allow the first tranche of parcels.

7.3. Referrals will be through primary school, G.P., Rev Sheila, CC or self-referral via a QR code. Selkirk foodbank will monitor recipients.

7.4. Dry goods donation points have been set up in conjunction with the primary school, Tony's Newsagents (Old Post Office), Rev. Sheila (Church Hall Wed /Fri), Scottish Borders Chambers (White bungalow, Orchard Park).

7.5. The Church already makes very discrete, small cash donations directly to individuals if they are known to be in need.

7.6. Primary school and Church will be donating their Harvest Festival collections to Selkirk Foodbank this year.

7.7. To support this initiative CS proposed that £150 be allocated from the Covid Support Grant on the understanding that if a long term need for cash support was identified other sources would be explored. YC Seconded. All present eligible to vote (6), agreed the proposal.

7.8. Storage of dry goods boxes is needed – must be dry, secure, accessible, pest-proof. Suggestions to be followed up – ATC building, School, Tennis Club storage unit. **AF/CS**

7.9. Query regarding sanitary products was raised – to be pursued with SBC **AF**

8. **GREEN ST BOSWELLS**

8.1. A review meeting is planned to discuss how the planters and mini-meadow performed and what changes/planting is planned for next year.

8.2. It was noted that despite regular watering the QGC Jubilee tree was looking to have suffered in this year's drought. It was agreed to wait to spring before

deciding whether a replacement was necessary.

8.3. GSB and the Woodland group are supporting the primary school Parent Friend Partnership with their project to create a micro-orchard and Queen's Green Canopy project in the school grounds. They intend to submit an application to the Cheviot Neighbourhood Fund but it is important that they engage with the wider community in various age groups in order to qualify.

8.4. **Community Woodland**

A successful application has been made to Paths For All to continue the work to make the trees safe and to bring the paths back into regular use and possibly start to create further routes through the woodland. P4A require a Vulnerable Persons Policy to be in place. An outline policy was tabled but it was agreed to contact SBC Communities & Partnership Team (Clare Malster) to see what other, similar groups have done in this regard.

Regular workdays are taking place on the first Saturday of each month. The next planned Woodland Workday is 2nd November for a Fungus Hunt, more path work, hot chocolate and a blether about future plans. **All are welcome.**

8.5. The woodland sign has various problems/issues and it was agreed to look at possible replacements.

POST MEETING NOTE :

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.

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.

9. **WINDFARM ACCESS**

9.1. 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.

Following a site meeting with the contractor carrying out tree work along the route, they confirmed that due to the angle of the blade-lifting vehicle being used no work would be required to the south-east tree but that the south-west tree would need to be removed and a new one planted further back.

9.2. The pink flags and blue paint at the junction that have recently appeared, indicate the extent of the turning circle required for the blade and vehicle.

9.3. Transport Scotland and SBC have been contacted but it appears that works

along a road can be done to facilitate access regardless of whether an owner is in agreement or not.

9.4. It was agreed that relocating the tree permanently into the horse field may be considered an acceptable option if Buccleuch Estates were to agree. Although it was noted that this would locate it away from the historic crossroads layout and would need to take account of the future growth of the tree canopy and future access requirements.

9.5. It was also noted that the other Contractor, Community Windpower, requirements were not yet known and may have a further impact on the layout at the A68/A699 junction.

9.6. It was considered reasonable to ask Energiekontor to contribute towards some interpretation of the historic significance of the trees to be displayed on/near the trees as well as the replacement tree. TBC.

9.7. Agreed to contact Energiekontor to discuss communicating the proposal to the wider community and negotiating with Buccleuch Estates. **AP**

10. **CAR BOOT SALES**

10.1. CC is aware of comments circulating regarding the car boot sales. This item to be discussed at a future meeting.

11. **SBC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

11.1. The death of The Queen, Proclamation of King Charles III and the new Prime Minister at Westminster over recent weeks.

11.2. Several grants are available to small unconstituted groups as well as larger groups.
Mental Helath & Wellbeing
Cheviot Neighbourhood Support Fund
Provision of Recreation Facilities
Welfare Trust – for the relief of need & Poverty

11.3. 20MPH Consultation has been extended to 7th October due to postal strike. Streets within St Boswell's are to remain at 20 but A68 is to revert to 30MPH Individual residents are encouraged to make their views known. Comments, objections or support must be made in writing, including your name and address, to the following address: The Director of Finance and Corporate Governance, Council HQ, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA

12. **PLANNING –** this item was deferred

13. **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

13.1. The Kirk Session have agreed to host the generator hook-up point and to act as a respite centre if required.

13.2. £700 is required for fit-out. Councillors agreed to consider this under Small Schemes. Information to be forwarded. **CE**

13.3. CE to contact SBC Resilience Officer to ensure that we are on the list for emergency support. **CE**

14. **PLANNING** – this item was not discussed

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

15.1. A pressure group seeking to establish a rail link from St Boswells to Berwick wish to attend one of our meetings. To be scheduled due to time constraints.

15.2. Several items circulated previously to CC Members for information.

16. **AOCB**

16.1. Remembrance Sunday arrangements to be organised. GT has a list for what was undertaken last year. A request was made for a recycleable wreath if possible.

16.2. There is a lot of broken glass around the Viridor recycling skip. SBC (Ross Sharp-Dent) to be contacted for advice re getting this cleaned up.

17. ***Date of Next Meeting – 27th October 2022 at 7:15p.m. venue TBC***

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