

St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Church Hall on 26th Jan 2023 at 7.15p.m.

Date of next meeting 23rd Feb 2023 in Village Hall

Members of the Public wishing to join this meeting should contact the Secretary at stbosppccsecretary@gmail.com or 07736 969 226

DRAFT Notes of Community Council meeting held on Thursday 26th Jan 2023

1. **ATTENDEES** : G. Tweddle (Chair), W. Burns, Y. Clements, C. Emond, C. Richard, A. Patterson, Cllr P. Brown, C. Strang (part), 3 Members of Public
2. **APOLOGIES** : Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Scott, M. Barrie, A. Farnish
3. **TWEED VALLEY RAILWAY CAMPAIGN**
James Boulton, Chair TVRC, attended and gave a short presentation about the campaign to reopen the railway line from Newtown St Boswells through Kelso to Berwick on Tweed. This campaign is in its very early days and they are visiting CC's along the route to gauge interest.
This proposal is reliant on the Borders Railway Extension project from Tweedbank to Hawick/Carlisle.
They are seeking volunteers who would like to assist especially to sit on the Management Committee which is to be drawn from Scottish Borders and Northumberland. There was discussion about the proposal which was generally met with interest and the CC was generally supportive and asked to be kept informed of progress. JB was thanked and left the meeting.
4. **PREVIOUS MINUTES** Proposed – CR. Seconded – CE
C. Strang joined the meeting
5. **TREASURERS REPORT**
 - 5.1. D. Oliver and A. Drummond have been consulted in their capacity as Office bearers in previous CC. They have agreed that the RBS Bank Account which currently holds funds donated for War Memorial can be closed provided the remaining funds are ring-fenced for any future work on the War Memorial.
 - 5.2. Foodbank grant of £480 will need to be returned to funders as foodbank operation has been transferred to Jedburgh Foodbank.
Private donations will need confirmation as to whether they are to be returned or forwarded to Jedburgh Foodbank.

Grant £480 + donations £240 less expenditure of £137.04
Total remaining to be returned/forwarded £582.96

5.3. Balance at 1/12/22		£7,828.26
Held in 2 accounts Clydesdale	£7781.45	
Royal Bank of Scotland	£46.81	
5.4. Income		
5/12/22 Foodbank (3 separate donations)		£150
15/12/22 Foodbank donation		£100
16/12/22 SBC grant – Generator point		£861.98
22/12/22 Woodland logging day donations		£37.62
5.5. Expenditure		
5/12/22 Green St Boswells	£98.12	
5/12/22 Admin photocopy paper	£6.50	
Admin - Thank you	£13	
6/12/22 Foodbank	£25.13	
6/12/22 Foodbank Costs	£83.19	
6/12/22 Woodland poster	£5.14	
7/12/22 Galashiels Pipe Band (2 years)	£50	
5.6. Balance at 22/12/22 in Clydesdale account		£8,649.97
5.7. Income since statement		
3/1/23 Foodbank		£20
3/1/23 Foodbank		£20
3/1/23 Foodbank		£10
11/1/23 SBC Maintenance Grant		£630
17/1/23 Foodbank Grant (Rooney Family Foundation grant)		£480
5.8. Expenditure since statement		
6/1/23 Horse logging	£600	
11/1/23 Foodbank expenses	£4.95	
11/1/23 Tree felling	£1,000	
5.9. Balance as at 25/01/23 in Clydesdale account		£8,205.02
5.10. Expenditure since statement – cheques not yet cashed		
25/01/23 Foodbank	£23.17	
25/01/23 Admin – printer cartridges,paper	£32.15	
25/01/23 Christmas lights electricity	£40	
 Information Below Carried forward from 30/11/22 with deductions for payments made		
5.11. Monies ring fenced		
Covid Group Grant Balance	£846.46	
Fallago Environment Grant (£230 to woodland bridge)	£1792.13	
Polwarth Fountain	£100	
Green St Boswells	£768.99	
Expenses	£98.35	

Residues of Pathways Grant	£359
Christmas Lights	£70
Village Centre Enhancements Grant	£325
Community Woodland	£320.48
Gypsy Fair monies	£415
Paths For All Grant (current overspend)	(£475)
Generator Point Grant	<u>£861.98</u>
Total Ring Fenced	£5,482.39

End Of Year Statements due March 2023. All ringfenced monies will need to be revisited.

Unallocated balance currently **£1,094.35 tbc**

6. **FOODBANK**

- 6.1. All future referrals for food parcels will now be passed onto Jedburgh Foodbank which covers our area.
- 6.2. A great job has been done over the last few months raising awareness and providing for our community. Referrals can come from all the usual agencies, CC, Church, School, GP etc
- 6.3. Foodbank donations will continue to be collected form Tony's Newsagents and Church Hall and will be delivered to Jedburgh and/or Selkirk Foodbank for onward distribution.
- 6.4. A huge Thank You to Tiny Trebles who donated £56 from their Christmas sing-a-long.

7. **DEFIBRILLATOR**

- 7.1. The current cabinet is not working. CR is looking at replacement
- 7.2. which need an electrical supply to maintain the battery and humidity. Tony's Newsagent has volunteered to host the cabinet site.
- 7.3. BHF grants are currently unavailable. It was agreed that CC would pay for the replacement. CR to get quotes and purchase as cost effectively as possible.

8. **GREEN ST BOSWELLS**

- 8.1. **Community Woodland** – the horse logging event was very well attended and well received. This is largely funded by Paths For All grant but will need a small top-up, £100, from CC funds. Unfortunately the tree surgeon that was needed to remove 6 hanging trees needed to bring machinery onto site and some paths have suffered. These will be looked at in the coming year. Activity Days are planned on the first Saturday of each month – moth traps, bug hunts, Dawn Chorus walk, bat walk, fungus hunt etc
- 8.2. **Wednesday Weed & Water Group** have done some bulb planting and

started a small herbaceous planting area and meadow by the Bus Stop toilet building.

Bulbs have been added to the mini-meadow area on the Lower Green.

- 8.3. **Community Gardens** – a group of Orchard Park residents would like to create a fruit and veg communal growing area.

Springfield residents are looking to create a Community Garden in the old play park area at the south end of Springfield Road.

GSB are supporting both grant applications.

Post Meeting Note : The primary school Parent Friend Partnership/ GSB grant application for Community micro-orchard, mini-woodland and meadow has been successful. Work will start on this in Feb 2023.

The Community Council receives a small grant to help maintain a small number of footpaths around the village. We are looking for someone who regularly walks the village paths to help us spend this money.

Please contact the Secretary or any CC Member if you would like to help in any way.

9. **WINDFARM UPDATE**

- 9.1. Windfarm contractor Energiekontor will need to remove the south-west tree at the Selkirk/Kelso Junction to allow construction traffic to navigate the corner. They have agreed to plant a new tree on a new mound but this would need to be on ground owned by Buccleuch Estates. AP has met with BE Estates Manager who is amenable but will need to look at their Title and liaise with Energiekontor and their contractors.
- The pink flags at the junction indicate the Swept Path Analysis as set out by Energiekontor Surveyor.

10. **SBC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

- 10.1. Local Government finance settlement information is now available and a reduction of £7.2million is expected. The Council's total budget is £257million. Council will meet on 23rd Jan to settle the budget.
- 10.2. Jedburgh and Peebles are seeking funding to help plan their way forward in their towns.
- 10.3. SBC has passed a Motion seeking more simplified energy bill information for customers.
- 10.4. The new Chief Executive is confirmed as David Robertson.
- 10.5. This month's Cheviot Area Partnership is online but it is hoped that future

meetings can be both In-Person and online.

- 10.6. Questions were raised about the process for Council approving Traffic Orders to revert to 30mph without responding to submissions.

Local Development Plan has asked for 7/8 responses in a very short timescale. CS confirmed he would write to advise response was not possible and suggesting a revised possible deadline of 23th Feb.

11. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN CHART**

- 11.1. To Be discussed next month.

12. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL VACANCY**

- 12.1. There is one vacancy on the current CC. To be advertised. Any resident wishing to put themselves forward please contact the Secretary.

13. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 13.1. Could we improve interactions with our community? AF agreed to share Social Media responsibilities.

14. **PLANNING**

- 14.1. No applications had been received.
14.2. Draft Council Plan consultations are pending

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 15.1. A request has been received suggesting that the CC should investigate having a Christmas Tree, extending the lights and a Christmas 'Lighting Up' event. It was agreed to set up a Sub-Group to investigate possibilities and associated costs and report back to a future meeting.

L. Smith, Y. Clement, W. Burns and C. Emond to form sub-group.

- 15.2. CE to look for required replacement bulbs and contractor to take on future annual testing pre-switch on.

16. **POLICE REPORTS** - Jedburgh and Selkirk MMW Reports were circulated previously

17. **AOCB**

- 17.1. It was confirmed that the road which runs east from Jenny Moore's Road to Polwarth Avenue, past the Bridle Path, will be closed to vehicular traffic for a trial temporary period. Gates at either end will be required to allow tractor access to the adjacent fields.

- 17.2. A question was raised about the amount of external consultants that SBC commission. It was agreed to draft a letter to request feedback on the quality of advice received particularly in relation to the Tapestry Building Business Plan.
- 17.3. Information is awaited from the Church Estates about the generator point installation but progress is being made.
- 17.4. Provision of electric car charging points was discussed. There are 2 at The Buccleuch and 15 at NSB.
- 17.5. The Bottle Bank has a lot of broken glass around it. The contractor has changed but the contact number to request additional pick-ups is on the container.
- 17.6. Question was raised about the Emergency plan relating to transporting nuclear waste along A68 & A1.
- 17.7. A question has been raised over the liabilities of CC members relating to their ownership of The Green. ***AP to pursue with Community Land Scotland.***
- 17.8. The header plate of the CC Noticeboard needs to be sanded and revarnished.
- 17.9. Village Hall is hosting Wednesday Warm Ups at the Village hall between 8:30am – 12:00 open to anyone. Pop in or leave at any time.
18. ***Date of Next Meeting – 23rd Feb 2023 at 7:15p.m. 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 stbospcsecretary@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.