

St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Village Hall on 23rd Feb 2023 at 7.15p.m.

Date of next meeting 23th March 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 23rd Feb 2023

1. **ATTENDEES** : C. Richard (Chair), W. Burns, Y. Clements, C. Emond, A. Farnish, C. Strang, A. Patterson, Cllr S. Hamilton, 1 Member of Public
2. **APOLOGIES** : Cllr P. Brown, Cllr Scott, M. Barrie, G. Tweddle
3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES** : Proposed CE, Seconded YC

4. **MATTERS ARISING not on Agenda** - none

5. **TREASURERS REPORT**

- 5.1. The foodbank operation has now transferred to Jedburgh Foodbank although donations of food etc are still accepted at Tony's Newsagents. Awaiting clarification of what to do with grant award and donations. It is proposed that an outstanding payment of £37.04 relating to Foodbank is paid from Covid Grant.
- 5.2. It is proposed that the remainder of the Covid Grant is allocated to the Defibrillator fund.
- 5.3. It is proposed that Border Berries and St Boswells Fair donation for use of The Green to be allocated to the Defibrillator Fund.
- 5.4. It is proposed that if there is a shortfall in the Fallago monies for bridle path this can be paid from the residue from previous years' Pathways Grant.
The various proposals were agreed.

- 5.5. **Balance at 20/02/23 in Clydesdale account** **£8,099.10**
Includes Maintenance Grant for usual CC expenditure -
village hall website postings, office sundries, poppy wreath, piper payment,
electricity payment for Christmas lights etc £630

5.6. **Monies ring fenced**

Foodbank Grant (£480) + donations (£360)	£840
Generator Point Grant	£861.98
Fallago Environment Grant	£1792.13
Defibrillator Installation	£1400
Replacement Jubilee Tree	£167.90
Polwarth Fountain	£100
Green St Boswells	£768.99

Community Woodland	£320.48	
Village Centre Enhancements Grant	£325	
	Total Ring Fenced	£7,206.48
(Remainder Unallocated as at Feb 2023)		£892.62)

5.7. **Anticipated Income**

Pathways Grant 2023/24	£450
Remainder of Paths For All Grant – report submitted	£425

End Of Year Statements due March 2023.

6. **DEFIBRILLATOR**

- 6.1. The current cabinet has been removed.
- 6.2. St John's do a public access defib scheme where the cost of a new unit is subsidised. Application has been made. A condition of the grant is that the CC undertake to maintain the unit and to co-ordinate training for anyone interested. Tony's Newsagent has volunteered to host the cabinet site and subsidise the cost of electricity to run dehumidifier. Tony will use his electrician for the installation.

7. **GENERATOR**

- 7.1. Installation is being planned to tie in with other electrical work at the Church Hall.
- 7.2. It was noted that SBC criteria for accessing generators in an emergency have changed. In the event of a large scale emergency there may not be enough SBC generators to go round so we are asking the community to help by registering their generator as being possibly available in an emergency.

8. **FOODBANK**

- 8.1. All future referrals for food parcels will now be passed onto Jedburgh Foodbank which covers our area.
- 8.2. Referrals are via the usual agencies, CC, Church, School, GP etc
- 8.3. Collections will continue at Tony's Newsagents and Church Hall and will be delivered to Jedburgh and/or Selkirk Foodbank for onward distribution.
- 8.4. The Rooney Foundation grant is to be ring-fenced till Jedburgh Foodbank have been through an assessment process.
- 8.5. The cash donations are to be returned.

9. **ST BOSWELLS FAIR**

- 9.1. This year's Fair dates are **Friday 14th - Wednesday 19th July**.
- 9.2. The planning co-ordination meeting has taken place. Areas to be occupied and entry/exit will be managed by the Travellers.
- 9.3. Police are planning to be on-site more regularly but this will be subject to service requirements at the time.
- 9.4. The trap race will now go through a separate process to register as an official event and will be subject to all necessary approvals etc. Application is currently in progress.

10. **GREEN ST BOSWELLS**

10.1. **Community Woodland**

Activity Days are planned on the first Saturday of each month – moth traps, bug hunts, Dawn Chorus walk, bat walk, fungus hunt etc. **ALL WELCOME**

10.2. **Wednesday Weed & Water Group**

Meet at 10:00 am at the Bus Stop for small tidying tasks. **ALL WELCOME**
We are looking for some small storage centrally in the village. Any suggestions welcome.

10.3. **Community Gardens**

A submission has been made to Cheviot Neighbourhood Support fund to support a group of Orchard Park residents to create a Community Fruit and Veg communal growing area, a group of Springfield residents to create a Community Wildlife Garden in the old play park area at the south end of Springfield Road and native wildflower and bulb planting on The Green to support Tweed Forum Pollinators Along the Tweed and Buglife's B-Line projects.

If successful CC contribution would be in the order of £333. To be allocated from GSB budget.

10.4. **Primary School**

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 17th March 2023. **ALL WELCOME**

10.5. **Land Ownership**

The ownership position of The Lower Green has been resolved however there is an ongoing issue with the original land transfer arrangements for The Green and an associated liability for individual Office Bearers which needs to be resolved. A Zoom meeting with a specialist Solicitor has been arranged to discuss this in more detail.

TBA

10.6. **Paths Around the Village**

We were sad to hear that Bill Hogarth of Oakwood Treecare has had to close his business at the end of last year. Bill and Elayne provided a very efficient service cutting back various hedges. We wish them both well in the future.

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.

10.7. **CHRISTMAS TREE & LIGHTS**

The proposal is to have a real tree planted, subject to various permissions.

A location on the Lower Green is being investigated as it is considered a discrete distance from nearby neighbours but visible from the road.

Landowners permission to be sought.

AP

Neighbours to be consulted.

Festoon lights are proposed strung between the trees subject to permissions from SBC Tree Officer and Roads/Lighting.

YC/CE

Annual cost for installation and testing tbc

CE

11. **SBC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

11.1. Play park - update requested from David Parker, still awaiting tender process to complete. I will continue to seek progress on this.

11.2. Constituent work - I have received many complaints/enquiries from constituents since the start of the year, mainly to do with housing/environment issues. This is taking up a significant part of my time.

11.3. Cheviot Area partnership on 1 February, 11 Neighbourhood fund applications approved plus we had a presentation from SOSCH. Draft minutes available on SBC website. Next meeting on 29 March. Venue still to be decided depending on tech being resolved.

11.4. Attended LiveBorders strategy day on 30 January

11.5. Attended audit committee on 13th February which focussed on Treasury Management Strategy and fraud controls. Have also attended audit development sessions

11.6. Attended full council on 16 February – approved investment to improve caravan site at Selkirk. Approved recommendations on Non-domestic rates – Empty property relief, Social work non-residential charging. Voted on Coronation fund motion which was carried. £500 per CC will be available.

11.7. Endorsed the award of new 101/102 bus service contract and approved

extension of Demand Responsive Transport pilot for a year.

11.8. Attended 2 licensing committees on 27 January and will be attending more. Have attended several elected member briefings focussing on various council responsibilities.

11.9. I attended the full council today via teams. It was all about plans & budgets. A number of reports and recommendations were approved including Council Plan, revenue to support long term financial strategy, capital plan and treasury management strategy.

11.10. Also discussed additional funding received from SG to improve teachers' pay offer.

12. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN CHART**

12.1. Timing of CC AGM was discussed – March /April tbc depending on agenda and finance auditing process.

13. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

13.1. There is one vacancy on the current CC. To be advertised. Any resident wishing to join please contact the Secretary.

13.2. AF agreed to take on social media engagement. Anyone wanting to post anything on CC Facebook page or website tab please contact Angela.

14. **VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE**

14.1. AF will look at options for updating the CC tab on the Village Hall website to help improve it's accessibility and flow of communications.

15. **PLANNING**

15.1. No applications had been received.

15.2. Noted that the Slaters Yard building was now going up and hedging was being planted.

15.3. Agreed to endorse Draft Council Plan responses. **CS**

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

16.1. Allan Drummond has written to officially stand down from CC. Allan has been a great contributor and supporter of the CC for many years and his service is greatly appreciated. **CS**

17. **POLICE REPORTS** – 2 incidents were noted in St Boswells this year.

18. **AOCB**

- 18.1. Coronation Event - £500 grant is available from SBC to mark the Kings Coronation. There are various conditions attached, Deadline for submissions is 12th April 2023. It was agreed to advertise this opportunity to other groups in the village to gauge interest. Any proposals to next CC meeting. **ALL**

19. ***Date of Next Meeting – 30th March 2023 at 7:15p.m. venue Church Hall***

Any members of the public wishing to join the meeting or raise an issue of local concern please contact The Secretary at stbosppccsecretary@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.