St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Lesser Hall 30th November 2023

Date of next meeting Jan 25th 2024 in the Church Hall
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 30th November 2023

1. C. Strang, acting Chair, welcomed all attendees.
2. **ATTENDEES** : W. Burns, Y. Clement, C. Emond (part), G. Tweddle, Cllr Hamilton + 3 Members of the Public

   APOLOGIES : M. Barrie, A. Farnish, C. Richard, Cllr S. Scott

   Councillor Pam Brown has resigned form Scottish Borders Council. We thank her for her efforts on behalf of the community and wish her well for the future.
3. **RELATIONAL MENTORING – a presentation by Katy Leigh of Wise Group**

   This organisation is funded by the Scottish Government to help people who need some support when they go through difficult times. Any public body can help people access this service including CC's. See further presentation info.

   CE arrived at this point in the meeting.
4. **PREVIOUS MINUTES** :

   4.1. Proposed by AP. Seconded by YC.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

   5.1. **51 Bus Service** – an online meeting is planned Thursday 7th Dec and will include Jedburgh CC. It was explained that the decision to make a change had to be taken at short notice following the Transport Review and a service provider pulling out of their contract, it was reiterated that communication of the change had been poor and the various organisations involved do not seem to be co-ordinating public facing information.

   5.2. **Remembrance Day arrangements** – arrangements seemed to go well. Piper still needs to submit invoice. A MoP asked if a footpath could be installed from Buccleuch to War Memorial by cricket pitch. **CllrH**

   5.3. **Christmas Lights** – after some problems the power supply is now installed and a cut tree has been purchased. A hole is to be dug Friday. Lights are still to be purchased. Th original plan for a Living Tree needs to be put on hold due to the cost involved. It was agreed that a Festive Sub-committee be

convened for further development and fundraising for ongoing costs.

5.4. **Land Ownership Matters –** no further update

5.5. **Fair Update** – SBC have advised they cannot now host a review meeting as previously discussed. CC agreed to arrange a community feedback session probably immediately before Feb CC meeting. ALL

SBC's FAQ sheet was requested. Cllr H

FOI re the Trap Race and Insurance arrangements being pursued. CS

6. **TREASURERS REPORT**

6.1. **Treasurers Report from 26th October 2023 Meeting**

Balance at 30/09/23		£6,692.53
Held in 2 accounts		
Virgin Money	£6,645.46	
Royal Bank of Scotland	£47.07	
Balance at 30/9/23 in Virgin Money account		£6,645.46

6.2. **Income**

5/10/23 Border Berries	£410.00
18/10/23 Christmas lights project grant	£5000.00
18/10/23 Maintenance Grant	£630.00
18/10/23 Hall lets reimbursement	£261.75

6.3. **Expenditure**

3/10/23 Rexel (Christmas Lights)	£1458.46

6.4. **Expenditure since statement**

3/11/23 SP Distribution Power Connection	£787.08
16/11/23 Dryburgh District Churches (hall let)	£26.25
17/11/23 SP Distribution Power Connection	£868.21
28/11/23 Treetop to Workshop (woodland benches)	£150.00
27/11/23 Thankyou – audit of accounts	£11.00
28/11/23 St Boswells Village Hall	£285.00

6.5. **Income since statement**

3/11/23 SP Distribution (repayment for incorrect invoice)	£787.08

6.6. **Expenditure since statement – cheques not cashed**

22/11/23 Poppy Wreath	£50.80

6.7. **Invoice Pending**

SBC- Christmas Lights infrastructure approx.	£2,820

Christmas Tree £80

6.8. **Ringfenced Monies in account**

Maintenance grant £344.42 remaining

Pathways Grant £210 remaining

SBC Grant - Generator Hook Up £339.61 remaining

Green St Boswells £724.55 remaining

SBC Grant -Village Centre Enhancements £26.79 remaining

Polwarth Fountain £100 remaining

Community Woodland £247.03 remaining

War Memorial Account £47.07

SBC Grant – Community Gardens £2,529.64 remaining

Fair monies £300 remaining

SBC Grant - Christmas Lights project £183.33 remaining

Total Monies committed in accounts £5,052.44

6.9. **Uncommitted Monies as at Dec 2023 £2,055.05**

NB Hall payments still to be made for November to March

£630 Maintenance grant carries forward to April 24

Pathways grant to be reclaimed £450 -final cut Braeheads awaited

7. **POLICE REPORT**

7.1. Nothing to Report

8. **COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

8.1. Councillor Brown has stood down triggering a By-election likely to be around Feb 2024.

8.2. An increase in CC funding was approved at Executive Council but is dependent on the full budget process which will be completed in Feb. Also proposed an increase in Pathways Grant and Festival funding (Village Week).

8.3. Live Borders is currently under review. An action plan has been produced but additional funding will be required.

8.4. SBC has received £20million Levelling Up fund from UK Government to fund infrastructure projects between now and 2027. Work is ongoing to determine which projects.

8.5. SoSE have developed a Tourism Strategy.

8.6. Budget Process is now starting and will be completed in Feb 2024.

8.7. Full Council agenda next month will include an update on National Park.

8.8. Railway extension feasibility is being done under Borderlands Project and is

awaiting appointment of a Project Manager.

8.9. Q – Is there a Community Plan update/agreement? Cllr H

9. **CONSULTATIONS**

9.1. Scottish Borders Community Council Scheme Review – initial comments required by 12th Jan 2024.

9.2. Have Your say Placemaking & Community Engagement Sign Up – closes Feb 2026. It was agreed to officially sign up to this. AP

9.3. Review of Polling Districts and Places – closes Feb 2024. No change for St Boswells.

10. **PLANNING**

10.1. There are currently two Planning Applications

(10.1.1) **23/01638/FUL** Erection of 7no self catering holiday lodges and residential wardens lodge, Land East And North East Of Ash Cottage, Mainhill, St Boswells

(10.1.2) **23/01802/PPP** Erection of dwellinghouse, Garden Ground Of Meadow House, Weirgate Brae

11. **GREEN ST BOSWELLS**

11.1. A submission has been made to Keep Scotland Beautiful : It's Your Neighbourhood Pollinators Project competition.

11.2. SBC has produced an option for amending the grass-cutting regime on The Green – this was deferred to January meeting. ALL

12. **AOCB**

12.1. Confirmation has been received that the phone kiosk is listed and not on BT's list for closure.

12.2. 20's wheelie bin stickers to be requested for residents use if required.

12.3. Hamilton Place is not being gritted. Cllr H to investigate.

12.4. Speed of lorries on the A68 was discussed again.

12.5. Road from Polwarth Terrace to Jenny Moore's is still not gated off. Cllr H to investigate.

12.6. Extra bins and shelter still not in place at Jenny Moore's Play park. Cllr H

12.7. CS attended the Health Service Drop-In session at Kelso but nothing to report.

12.8. CS to speak with Tony re his Book Lending service. Could this be better signposted/advertised as many people don't know it is a service he is providing.

13. ***Date of Next Meeting – 25th Jan 2024 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 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.