St BOSWELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting was held in the Village Hall 25th April 2024

Date of next meeting: Thursday 30th May 2024 in the Church Hall @7.15pm. *Members of the Public wishing to join this Community Council meeting should contact the Secretary at stbospccsecretary@gmail.com or 07736 969 226*

DRAFT Notes of Community Council meeting held on Thursday 25th April 2024

1. Chair welcomed all attendees.
2. **ATTENDEES:** G Tweddle (Chair), C. Richard, A. Farnish, C. Emond, C Strang, Cllr S. Hamilton, G Aitken (SBC Safer Communities Policy Officer), Sgt A Granger (Police Scotland), R Hogg (SBC Dog Education Officer) + 1 Member of the Public
   APOLOGIES: W. Burns, Cllr S. Scott, M. Barrie, Y. Clement, Cllr. J Bathgate

3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**: proposed by CR and seconded by CE. Minutes of February meeting were still to be approved: these were proposed by GT, seconded by CR.

4. **MATTERS ARISING from previous Minutes Thursday 26th March 2024**

   4.1. **Christmas Lights**

   (4.1.1) CE has received a new quote for the lights and been in contact with Fiona Cameron (Tree Officer) regarding the stringing. Further conversations to happen re buying a "real tree". Hole on the Green to be covered. **CE**

   (4.1.2) Some donations have come in already via bank account following publicity. WB to check the correct procedure for handling money coming in via the collection boxes. **WB**

   4.2. **Defibrillator Training** – this happened immediately prior to the meeting and 21 members of the community were trained. Thanks to CR for organising. Photos taken and permission given to go out on social media.

   4.3. **Place Planning and Green St Boswells** – it is hoped that AP will send an update for the next meeting via CS.

   4.4. **Circus** – following a request to use the previous Rugby Club field, it was established that these pitches are owned by SBC and so a license needs to be applied for, but the building itself is owned by a Community Group. GT to investigate details of this ownership for bookings or use. **GT**

   4.5. **Litter Pick 20.04.24** – a successful day, 18 members of the community took

part, particular thanks to Sheila & John Pollock & Ralph Parker.

4.6. **Energy Surveys** – CS met with Julie Nock from Southern Uplands Partnership who are looking for pilot areas to carry out group energy assessments and future alternatives.

4.7. **Land Ownership and Wind Farm Leads** – following AP stepping down from the CC, this will be discussed at next meeting **CS for agenda**

5. ST BOSWELLS FAIR

5.1. Drop-In Feedback, Updated FAQs and Draft map

(5.1.1) Updated Drop-In Feedback shared with all. Query re the costs of Portaloos and skips and policing the event to be actioned as Freedom of Information request to SBC **CS**

(5.1.2) In response to another query, it was noted that the monies donated by the travellers does not go to SBC, instead is a gesture of goodwill towards the community received by the CC. AF to speak to Roy regarding donation amount and the stance on commercial stalls **AF**

(5.1.3) Draft leaflet and Draft FAQs shared by GA, these will be emailed out to all on CC via AF to be agreed as a collaboration. Potential to include on leaflet what we intend to use the donations for. Draft map to be updated online to include horses on the Croft as agreed last year with the travellers. **AF/GA**

5.2. 2024 Arrangements

(5.2.1) Trap race – GA noted there has not been an application for a permit but that he is hopeful to work with them again this year to ensure safe road closures etc. AG noted that it is not an offence to ride traps on the highway, that there is no difference in tolerance of behaviour from travellers or settled community from the Police and that discretion is used as in any situation. AG noted that the high level of police presence is due to risk assessment as per other large events. AF commented that any issues during the Fair could be quickly addressed by finding the police stationed on the Green.

(5.2.2) Query from a member of the public regarding the length of the Fair – this is not going to be any more than the 5 days as agreed and previously circulated as per the previous CC formula. (Arrive Wednesday 17th July and depart Monday 22nd July 2024). It was suggested that “noon” could be added to these arrangements for next year. AF to liaise with Roy at this year’s Fair. **AF**

(5.2.3) AG noted there is expected to be a good level of policing this year with strategic placing of vans to help with directing vans.

(5.2.4) SAG meeting will take place in June – suggestions from the meeting re measures to slow road traffic to be taken to the SAG **GA**

(5.2.5) Discussion about the white line on the Green, its purpose and how best to encourage fires etc. away from residents properties. AF/GA to speak to affected residents so that a decision can be made. **AF/GA**

5.3. **2025 Arrangements** – AF to liaise with Roy at this year's Fair to re-agree dates as per formula, proposed noon Wed 16th – noon Mon 21st July **AF**

6. **DOG FOULING (R HOGG, DOG EDUCATION OFFICER IN ATTENDANCE)**

6.1. RH explained the roles of Dog Education Officer and Dog Control Officer within SBC.

6.2. For dog fouling and keeping dogs under control, RH offered educational walks (talking to people in high traffic areas, informing of rules etc.), signage, educational stands, relocating bins. CC are interested in signs for how to report fouling including QR code and other contact methods. CS to email to continue conversation. **CS**

6.3. The process of reporting dog fouling was explained according to legislation. Although only one witness is needed it is a convoluted process and there are higher police priorities. Education and prevention is a sensible way forward.

7. **POLICE REPORTS**

7.1. These were circulated with the Agenda, no comments.

8. **TREASURERS REPORT (WB)**

8.1. Thanks given for the account summary received from WB, year-end accounts and all necessary paperwork has been passed onto auditor.

8.2. It was agreed for AF to be added as signatory on bank account due to AP stepping down.

9. **SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

9.1. Councilor's report presented by Cllr S Scott. Main SBC meeting today in which these points were covered:

(9.1.1) Soft launch of Inward Investment project

(9.1.2) Discussion of the Scottish Borders potential involvement in the Commonwealth Games

(9.1.3) Discussion of Live Borders and living wage

9.2. Current Consultations:

(9.2.1) It was noted that there is a consultation on street parking in town centres which closes end of May 2024 https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/4613/consultation-on-parking-in-town-centres-opens

9.3. StBosPCC elections – information posters for have gone out online and physical copies will be put up later this week **AF**

10. **51 BUS AND ANY OTHER PUBLIC TRANSPORT MATTERS**

10.1. 11th April 2024 meeting regarding this attended by SBC, Borders Buses, Rachel Hamilton and 80+ members of the community

10.2. The 51 Bus will not be reinstated as previously running despite local objection and SBC carbon targets. This is due to budget and logistics looking at the wider picture across the whole of the Borders.

10.3. People had the chance to explain the reality of their challenges. Some suggestions of potential changes were taken back by SBC and Borders Buses. CR to find out an update on any of these via R Hamilton or SBC directly **CR**

10.4. It was noted and thanks gone to a member of the community who has taped a useful schedule to the bus stance and shared on social media in absence of comprehensive information from Borders Buses and the incorrect information on Traveline.

11. **ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

11.1. CE noted that BEAR Scotland are looking at access along the A68 pavement and that work will be undertaken in the near future. **CS**

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 30th May 2024 in the Church Hall @7.15pm

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. We currently have two vacancies on the Community Council. Please consider joining us to make your views known.