



The Royal Burgh of Selkirk and District Community Council

Chairman
Vice-chairman
Secretary
Hon. Treasurer

Bob Kerr
Dr. Lindsay Neil
David Bethune
Tom Combe

15 Cannon Street, Selkirk, TD7 5BP 01750 722658
46 Hillside Terrace, Selkirk, TD7 4ND 01750 720841
5 Marion Crescent, Selkirk, TD7 4LY 01750 721703
68 Back Row, Selkirk, TD7 4AG 01750 720921

Minute: Meeting held in the Committee Room, Victoria Halls, Selkirk on Monday 10th November, 2008 (following the AGM)

- 1) **Present:** Community Councillors Bob Kerr (chair), Dr. Lindsay Neil (vice-chair), David Bethune (secretary), Tom Combe (Treasurer), Jim Gibson, John Howie, John Munro, Ian King, Norman Roxburgh and Murray Smail and Scottish Borders Councillors Vicky Davidson and Carolyn Riddell-Carre.

[also in attendance: Inspector Mike Wynne (until end of item 6), 1 member of the Press and 2 members of the public]

- 2) **Apologies:** were received from Community Councillors Jenna Agate, Caroline Cruikshank and Alistair Pattullo, Scottish Borders Councillor Kenneth Gunn, PC Lesley Shiell and Andrew Keddie (Tweeddale Press).
- 3) **The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October** were approved (proposed: J. Howie, seconded: M. Smail).
- 4) **Matters arising from the minute not otherwise included on agenda**
- (a) J. Gibson asked about rearranging the room layout to allow members of press and public to sit at the Council tables, to facilitate communication. It was agreed to extend the tables at the next meeting to allow this.
- (b) L. Neil asked if Cllr. Riddell-Carre could respond to the question re the Scotbet sign raised at the October meeting. C. Riddell-Carre insisted that the design change to the sign was “within permitted development limits”, but that the window changes were not, and that SBC was pursuing compliance on that issue. I. King insisted that the change to the sign was significant, and should not be considered within permitted limits. L. Neil proposed that the Council should write to SBC Planning Department asking for full clarification of the relevant planning guidelines.
- 5) **Declarations of interest** – none
- 6) **Lothians and Borders Police**
Inspector Mike Wynne reported on 18 recorded crimes during October, of which 5 have been solved so far. These included a case of fraud, several assaults, breaches of the peace, vandalism to cars and a case of theft with fire-raising. In relation to the fraud, he advised members of the public never to give bank details over the phone. More recently, another incidence of fraud is being investigated, involving the agent for Parks Hampers. 13 calls have been received re youth behaviour, 4 of which involved named individuals. Inspector Wynne encouraged members of the public to contact the police (anonymously if necessary) to report anti-social behaviour. He has instructed more foot patrols to try to reduce the problems. He also reported that the majority of the groups of young people gathering on the streets were not causing any nuisance, with only a small minority involved in anti-social behaviour and under-age drinking. He suggested inviting some young people to attend the next meeting. J. Howie proposed inviting Jan Gordon of Impact to attend a meeting to explain the work with young people carried out by her organisation.

M. Smail asked about regulations concerning fireworks. N. Roxburgh asked whether it was legal for a young person to come round doors offering goods for sale ; Insp. Wynne stated that a permit was required.

OPEN FORUM (taken at 7.55pm, following item 6)

- (a) G. Edgar commented that he had asked about **drainage at the Pringle Park** at the last meeting, not about the railings. B. Kerr agreed that the minutes will be amended accordingly. V. Davidson undertook to investigate the drainage question.
- (b) G. Edgar reported that the hedge along the riverside had been trimmed, and thanked those involved.
- (c) G. Edgar asked about a rumoured consultation on the future of the Pringle Park. The Council has no knowledge of this.
- (d) G. Edgar reported that a bollard at the Toll bridge needs repair. B. Kerr reported that SB Local and the Parks Department are dealing with this.

7) Planning:

(a) Planning applications considered:

	application	applicant	action / comments
1.	08/01670/FUL – land East and South of 22 82 Linglie Road - erection of 7 dwelling houses	Eildon Housing Association Ltd	The Council supports this application in principle, but raised concerns about drainage, loss of amenity space, loss of trees, the style of house design, tiles rather than slated roofs, lack of detail of road surfacing materials, displaced parking, and public safety issues concerning access to and from Linglie Road. Proposed that the 40mph limit on Linglie Road be reduced to 30mph, and that consideration should be given to extending street lighting and footways on Linglie Road.
2.	08/01645/FUL – Children’s Panel Reporter’s Office, 12 Ettrick Terrace – replacement windows	Scottish Children’s Reporter’s Administration	an exemplary application , using like-for-like materials within the conservation area, so approved and commended

(b) Other planning matters:

- i. Internal alterations and disabled ramp at Municipal Buildings:** I. King had receive plans, but has asked for further details of the design of the proposed ramp in order to assess its impact on the listed building.

8) Reports from SBC Councillors:

(a) Councillor Riddell-Carre:

- (i) reported on a Scottish Government planning seminar, and a COSLA committee, both of which had raised many thought-provoking issues, which will be difficult to deal with in the current economic climate;
- (ii) reported on a forthcoming meeting of SESplan (South East Scotland Strategic Planning Authority);
- (iii) reported that the SBC Local Plan Amendment has been published, is available from <http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/life/planningandbuilding/plansandresearch/20825.html>, and is open to consultation until Jan 09;
- (iv) reported that a decision on the Selkirk By-Pass had been expected in October, but is still awaited;
- (v) reported that the Selkirk TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) will be published this week;
- (vi) commended a new clear bus map recently published which she had made freely available through local shops.

(b) Councillor Davidson:

- (i) reported that 10 dog fouling notices had been issued in the Victoria Park;
- (ii) expressed satisfaction that C. Riddell-Carre will chair SESplan in its formative year;
- (iii) reported that over 500 responses had been received to the controversial Transforming Children’s Services report, and that SBC would decide on the way forward at its December meeting;
- (iv) expressed concern about difficult budgetary decisions to be made across all departments of SBC;
- (v) raised a number of major issues that will need to be considered over the next few years, including implications once the by-pass decision is made, possible need for replacements for Knowepark PS and the swimming pool, damaged and waterlogged pitches at SHS and the rugby and football clubs; C. Riddell-Carre indicated that some funds were available to support increased physical activity, which might be worth investigating;

- (vi) reported that a permanent repair to the damaged Chapel Street pavement has been included in the 09-10 budget; B. Kerr undertook to investigate the current unsatisfactory repair, and to add this (plus the other topics raised) to the Selkirk issues list.
- (c) **Councillor Gunn:** (written report, submitted in his absence)
 - (i) reported that a proper gully has been recommended to solve the standing water problem near the Market Place bus stop;
 - (ii) reported that the wall rendering on the public toilets is to be renewed, then repainted;
 - (iii) reported that BEAR have agreed to repair the pavement at the entrance to Doctor's Close;
 - (iv) had attended a site meeting at Fleshmarket, and noted the proposed redesign is to proceed in this financial year; (nb. CC members requested opportunity for CC to vet 'final' design proposal)
 - (v) reported that SBC have been encouraged to submit a funding proposal to the Scottish Government for major flood prevention measures for Selkirk.

[C. Riddell-Carre left the meeting at this point]

9) Common Good Fund Operation

The SBC report on Common Good Funds had been received. L. Neil disputes several fundamental legal issues included in the report. V. Davidson reassured the Council that no Common Good Fund moneys had been invested in failed Icelandic banks.

10) Correspondence

	Item	From	Action
(a)	notification of consultation on provision for play areas	SBC	passed to J. Howie for response
(b)	invitation to AGM	The Bridge	passed to J. Howie
(c)	minutes of Borders Digital Forum		noted
(d)	October newsletter	SBCCN	passed to B. Kerr
(e)	Copies of Vibrant Communities Handbook	SBC	passed to I. King
(f)	notification of meeting of Scottish Parliament's Public Petitions Committee (Duns, 2 nd Dec, 12:30)	SBC	passed to B. Kerr
(g)	Report on Review of Common Good Funds (see 9 above)	SBC	passed to L. Neil
(h)	Consultative Draft Amendment to SB Local Plan 2008	SBC	passed to I. King for comment (before 28/01/2009)
(i)	invitations to presentation of Future of Scotland's Hills and Islands report	Royal Society of Edinburgh	I. King, L. Neil, T. Combe, N Roxburgh to attend mtg on 14/11

11) Reports from Sub-groups

- (a) **Selkirk Hill Management Group** – I.King reported on various ongoing improvements (the well, drainage, tree thinning), site meeting on 22/10, and full meeting on 5/11.
- (b) **Plattling Twinning Group** – L. Neil reported that the accounts are being finalised, and that the usual stall would be present at Scott's Selkirk.
- (c) **Evening Study groups** – see AGM for Treasurer's report

12) Reports from outside bodies

- (a) **Selkirk Regeneration Group** - L. Neil reported that the stage 2 feasibility study on the windfarm proposal was nearing completion, and that a public meeting would be held early in 2009, at which computer-generated images of how a wind farm might look from several local vantage points (Langlee, Selkirk bridge, the Market Place, Ladylands garage and Shawpark Cemetery) would be displayed; the possibility of the project releasing funds to the community to undertake significant developments was stated, but that the final decision (to proceed) would be taken by the residents of Selkirk.

13) Other business

- (a) **bus stops** – L. Neil asked that the Council writes to the appropriate authorities to seek the installation of a new bus stop near Baxter's to serve NGT and the new Dunsdale developments
- (b) **CC funding review** – B. Kerr asked how SBC's economic stringency might impact the Community Council funding review – and was advised (by Cllr Davidson) that this is not known at this time

