

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**  
**TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM**

MINUTE of the MEETING of the TEVIOT  
AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM held in the  
TOWER MILL, HEART OF HAWICK on  
20 November 2012 at 6.30 p.m.

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Present:- Councillors G. Turnbull (Chairman), A. Cranston, Z. Elliot, S. Marshall, D.  
Paterson, R. Smith.  
Community Councillors C. Levell, I. Robson, M. Short.  
Inspector C. Wood (Lothian and Borders Police)

Apologies:- Community Councillor R. Knight

In Attendance:- Chief Financial Officer, Clerk to the Council, SB Local Area Manager (C. Blackie),  
Committee and Elections Team Leader.

Members of the Public:- 9

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**MINUTE**

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 16 October 2012.

**DECISION**

**AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chairman.**

**PROMOTING HEALTHY WEIGHT**

2. The Joint Head of Health Improvement, Allyson McCollam, was in attendance and gave a presentation on Healthy Weight. She advised that current statistics showed that 67% of those aged 16 years and over were overweight and of these 26% are obese. The rate was rising for both men and women and 1 in 5 of Primary 1 children in Scottish Borders were overweight or obese. This was an issue as obesity led to ill health and resulted in these people having a poorer quality of life as well as premature mortality. This in turn meant a higher dependency on services provided by health and social care and the resultant increase on the costs of having to provide those services. There were a number of different factors which influenced weight including food production and marketing, lifestyle and income. Encouraging healthy weight could only be tackled by partnership working both locally and nationally. Ms McCollam outlined the place of the Area Forum in the Early Intervention Project being carried out on in the Borders. The aim of the project was to help people make healthier choices, to create environments that promoted health and to strengthen delivery of programmes and interventions. She also highlighted examples of the types of action which were being used to meet the aims of the project. Ms McCollam answered questions and emphasised the need to influence the eating habits of the whole family.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the presentation.**

**FINANCIAL CHALLENGES 2013-2018**

3. The Chief Financial Officer, David Robertson, was in attendance to give a presentation on the Financial Challenges which the Council had to face over the next 5 years. He outlined where the Council's funding came from, how it was apportioned between the various departments and highlighted that the majority was currently spent on the provision of education and social work services. There were a number of challenges facing the Council, mainly as a result of the economic situation but also the changing demographics of the area. These included the need to modernise the school estate, deal with more frequent and extreme weather events, protect the region from flooding and meet new government targets

for recycling. It was also important to continue to maintain the road infrastructure, keep pace with developments in technology and provide services for people, both young and old, all with the aim of making the Borders an attractive place to live and work. In terms of future funding a gap of £28.7m had been identified over the next 5 years and the Council were developing a 5 year finance plan and solutions to bridge this in ways which would have the least impact on services. The status quo was not an option and difficult choices would need to be made which might affect the Council's ability to deliver some services. The public were being encouraged to submit their views and the ways in which this could be done were provided. Mr Robertson answered questions and gave details of the work being done to improve the Council's debt recovery procedure.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the presentation.**

**SMALL SCHEMES**

4. There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director of Environment and Infrastructure seeking approval for the proposed new SB Local small schemes from the Area Forum and to up-date the Members on Roads Capital & Revenue works and previously approved SB Local Small Schemes. The following schemes had been requested for consideration:-

Up-grade Market Cross, Wilton Lodge Park	£1,000
Replace old rose bed at O'Connell St Car Park with either	
(i) Tegular Blockwork	£8,805 or
(ii) Low Maintenance Shrubs	£1,430
New Play Equipment, Springer, Miller's Knowe	£900

The SB Local Area Manager advised that prices had now been received for three further schemes:-

Metal Handrail at Silverbuthall	£350
Dropped Kerb at Wallace Court	£900
Removal of item of play equipment and renovation	£1300

Members discussed the proposed schemes and agreed that with regard to the replacement of the Old Rose bed the low maintenance shrubs option be chosen as the way forward. It was noted that if the schemes listed above were approved a total of £19k remained in the budget. Councillor Smith indicated that there were still some schemes for the Hawick and Hermitage Ward which required to be costed and Councillor Marshall proposed that, given the recent criminal activity on the High Street, any remaining monies in the budget be used to improve CCTV in the area.

**DECISION**

**AGREED:-**

- (a) to approve the 6 schemes listed above with the low maintenance shrub option being chosen for O'Connell Street;**
- (b) that costs be provided for the outstanding schemes for the Hawick and Hermitage Ward; and**
- (c) that costs be obtained for the upgrading of the CCTV system on Hawick High Street, including both initial costs and ongoing revenue costs, and a report brought to the next meeting of the Area Forum.**

**HAWICK CAMPERVAN WELCOME**

5. There had been circulated copies on the Monitoring and Evaluation report following year 1 of the Hawick Campervan Welcome Initiative. Mr Jack Yallop, Chairman of the Project, was present at the meeting and updated Members on the success of the project. The proposals for improvements included adverts in the Campervan magazine, setting up a website and providing updated signs. The project would start again in Easter 2013. Members complimented Mr Yallop and his group on the success of the project which brought much needed revenue to the town.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the report.**

**OPEN QUESTIONS**

6. (a) A member of the public raised concerns regarding the state of the High Street for disabled people and the need for more dropped kerbs. It was noted that problems had been caused by blocks being dislodged and it was also reported that costings were being sought for additional bollards to be provided to stop cars parking on the pavement and causing further damage to the pavement.

**DECISION**

**AGREED that Councillor Paterson would speak with relevant Officers.**

- (b) With regard to the damage being caused to roads by timber transport, a member of the public advised that he had discovered that coal mining communities received compensation for roads damaged by transporting the coal and asked if this also applied to timber. It was advised that unfortunately the funding only applied to mineral extraction and not timber.

**DECISION**

**NOTED.**

- (c) The Chairman read out a question received via the Council's website as follows:-

"In view of the recent report 'The Economic Value of Landscape on the Scottish Borders' will councillors accept that the scenic areas of the Borders, particularly Teviotdale and other SLAs, must be protected from large wind turbine developments? Tourism provides jobs in rural areas, in Teviotdale there are at least 164. The Borders landscapes are a tremendous asset and the jobs which depend on them are precious and irreplaceable."

**DECISION**

**NOTED that this was currently a very contentious issue for Members and that each application had to be considered on its own merits.**

- (d) A member of the public offered his congratulations on the new Area Forum format and asked if there were any new initiatives being proposed that Members might like to comment on. It was reported that the new format was still developing and involved all community planning partners. Councillor Turnbull advised that there was a forthcoming meeting to draw up an economic development plan for Hawick and the input of the Area Forum would be sought.

**DECISION**

**NOTED.**

- (e) A member of the public raised the problem of BT providing a poor internet service for Businesses in Hawick. Councillor Smith advised that this subject would be discussed at COSLA the following week and would form part of the economic development plan.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

- (f) A member of the public asked if there would be a further presentation on the impact of changes to welfare benefits, including the effect on RSLs and was advised that there would likely be a presentation to the Forum in February/March 2013.

**DECISION  
NOTED that there would be a presentation on Welfare Reform at the next meeting of the Area Forum.**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT**

- 7 Mr Levell from Hobkirk Community Council reported that two contentious wind farm applications were the main issue in his area. He commented on the problems relating to Community Councils not having the expertise to negotiate with wind farm companies in respect of community benefit and asked if the Council would consider appointing a dedicated officer to provide this resource. Councillor Smith advised that it was currently Council policy not to engage in discussion on community benefit.
8. Mr Robson, from Upper Teviotdale and Borthwick Water reported that wind farm applications were also the major issue in his area and with regard to community benefit suggested that there needed to be more co-operation between community councils to reduce the burden of negotiations. With regard to the Langhope Rig scheme construction, details were still awaited in respect of the traffic plan and the closure of Martins Bridge. He also commented on closures of the A7 by Bear and the damage this caused to other routes in the area.
9. Mrs Short from Hawick Community Council reported that the Christmas Parade would be held on 1 December 2012 and new lights were being erected. The Community Council had sponsored a police bike and it would be presented tomorrow. An offer of landscaping for the works around the Bill McLaren bust had been accepted. An award to clear up fly tipping had been received from Zero Waste Scotland and this would be used to clean up an area of Burnfoot. Discussions had also been held regarding wind farm applications and they would be arranging a joint meeting with the other affected Community Councils.

**DECISION  
NOTED the reports.**

**REVIEW OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME**

10. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of Scottish Borders Council of 25 October 2012, it was reported that a Working Group was being set up to review the current Community Council Scheme and each Area Forum had been asked to nominate an Elected Member and a Community Councillor to be members of this Working Group. Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Marshall, moved that Councillor Turnbull be appointed as the Elected Member representative and Councillor Turnbull, seconded by Councillor Cranston, moved that Mrs Short from Hawick Community Council be appointed as the Community Council representative and both these were unanimously accepted.

**DECISION  
AGREED that Councillor Turnbull and Mrs Short be appointed to the Working Group.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11. The next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 15 January 2012 in the Heart of Hawick.

*The meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.*

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**SB LOCAL SMALL SCHEMES and CAPITAL & REVENUE WORKS**

**Report by Director of Environment & Infrastructure**

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**TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM**

**19 FEBRUARY 2013**

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**1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

1.1 **This report seeks approval for the proposed new SB Local small schemes from the Area Forum and to up-date the Forum on Roads Capital & Revenue works and previously approved SB Local Small Schemes.**

1.2 The following schemes have been requested for consideration by the Teviot and Liddesdale members:- replace the old rose beds at Lothian Road, Hawick, provide new play equipment, The Moat Park, Hawick & install metal bollards along Hawick High Street from Cross Wynd to Drumlanrig Tower.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 **I recommend that the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum consider and prioritise the following new SB Local small schemes for implementation:-**

<b>(a) Replace the old rose beds at Lothian Road with low maintenance shrubs</b>	<b>£1,900</b>
<b>(b) Install new play equipment, The Moat Park</b>	<b>£12,000</b>
<b>(c) Install metal bollards, High Street, Hawick</b>	<b>£ 9,850</b>

### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Elected Members, Community Councils and the public can request potential small schemes or work to be undertaken by the SB Local squads by contacting the SB Local Area Manager direct. SB Local is contactable via the new Scottish Borders Council telephone number 0300 100 1800, e-mail address – sblocal@scotborders.gov.uk or by writing to Environment and Infrastructure, Council HQ, Newtown St. Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA.

The following schemes have been requested for consideration via these routes to enhance the Teviot & Liddesdale Area :-

Replace the old rose beds at Lothian Road with low maintenance shrubs (£1,900). Poor quality roses occupy the existing beds adjacent to the car park & surrounding the seating area. These are frequently being used as a shortcut route by members of the public. The installation of low maintenance shrubs providing a dense, close knitted formation would enhance the area. This request was raised by the local Ward Councillors.

New multi-play equipment, The Moat Park (£12,000). The provision of this multi-play equipment would replace some existing dated equipment for all age groups. This request was raised by a local Ward Councillor.

Install metal bollards along the High Street between Cross Wynd and Drumlanrig Tower (£ 9,850). These bollards, as per others along the High Street, would increase pedestrian safety & reduce damage to flagstones by preventing vehicles parking on the footpath. This request was raised by a local Ward Councillor.

- 3.2 Works will be scheduled to meet specific area needs, local timetables and to maximise the overall efficiency of the works programme.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

#### **4.1 Financial**

A budget of £18,842 is available through SB Local for small schemes in the Teviot and Liddesdale area in 2012/13.

Appendices A, B & C list up-dates on SB Local small schemes and Roads Capital & Revenue works.

#### **4.2 Risk and Mitigations**

If the SB Local small schemes budget is not spent, the local area will not benefit from improvement works being carried out.

#### **4.3 Equalities**

The proposals within this report will not have an adverse impact on any of the equality groups - race, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief.

#### **4.4 Acting Sustainably**

It is anticipated that there will be a variety of economic, social or environmental benefits arising from the proposed schemes in para 2.1.

#### 4.5 **Carbon Management**

There are no significant effects anticipated on carbon emissions to the Council by doing or not doing what is proposed.

#### 4.6 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes which are required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in this report.

### 5 **CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Clerk to the Council and Head of Audit & Risk have been consulted and their comments have been incorporated into the report.

#### **Approved by**

**Director of Environment and Infrastructure**

**Signature .....**

#### **Author(s)**

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Craig Blackie	SB Local Area Manager (Eildon) 01835 824000 Ext 8036

**Background Papers:** None

**Previous Minute Reference:** None

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Jacqueline Whitelaw can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Jacqueline Whitelaw, Environment and Infrastructure, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA, Tel 01835 825431, Fax 01835 825071, email [eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk).

TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA  
SB LOCAL SMALL SCHEMES

Appendix A

Location	Work Description	Status <sup>1</sup>	Price	Available Budget	Comments
<b>Total Budget available for SB Local Small Schemes</b>				<b>£34,702</b>	
Miller's Knowe, Hawick	Infill treads on steps	Complete	£260	£34,442	
The Mote, Hawick	Cut high level grass	Complete	£400	£34,042	
St. Mary's Church, Hawick	Remedial works to wall (Joint)	Complete	£4,690	£29,352	
Ivanhoe Terr & Hillend Drive, Hawick	Remove old handrail	Complete	£280	£29,072	
Play Area, Strirches, Hawick	Install new multi-play (joint)	Complete	£2,250	£26,822	
Main St, Denholm	Re-paint railing	Complete	£1,450	£25,372	
Drumlanrig Square, Hawick	Install 4 No. dropped kerbs	Complete	£650	£24,722	
Wilton Lodge Park, Hawick	Up-grade area at Market Cross	Design Stage	£1,000	£23,722	
O'Connell St Car Park, Hawick	Replace roses with low maintenance shrubs	Order Raised	£1,430	£22,292	
Play Park, Miller's Knowes, Hawick	Install new play equipment (springer)	Order Raised	£900	£21,392	
Silverbuthall, Hawick	Install metal handrail	Order Raised	£350	£21,042	
Wallace Court, Hawick	Install dropped kerb	Order Raised	£900	£20,142	
Play park, Anderson Place, Hawick	Replace existing play equipment	Order Raised	£1,300	£18,842	
<b>Remaining Balance for SB Local Small Schemes</b>				<b>£18,842</b>	

Status<sup>1</sup>  
Design Process- Scheme/project being prepared for pricing  
Pricing - Scheme/project with contractor for pricing  
Ready for Approval - Scheme/project priced and ready to go to Area Committee for approval  
Approved by AC - Scheme/project approved by Area Committee  
With Contractor - Scheme/project with contractor for completion  
Complete - Scheme/project complete



Location	Description	Estimate	Final Cost	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
DH50/3 Earl Street, Hawick	Carrageway Surfacing	£50,000													
DH106/3 Mansfield Gardens, Hawick	Carrageway Surfacing	£30,000													
A6088 Hawick Carter Bar	Carriageway Patching	£7,000			Comp										
B6357 Riccarton Farm - Slaity Brae	Carriageway Patching	£35,000								Comp	Ongoing				
B6357 Meerburn - Sandholm Bridge	Carriageway Patching	£35,000						Comp	Comp						
B6359 Burnfoot - Newlands	Carriageway Patching	£7,000			Comp	Comp									
B6405 Denholm - Hassendean	Carriageway Patching	£5,000			Comp										
C34 Saughtree - Border	Carriageway Patching	£12,000									Comp				
D65/3 Bonchester - Hallrule	Carriageway Patching	£6,000			Comp										
Teviot & Liddesdale Area - Various*	Rhino Patching	On hold													
Teviot & Liddesdale Area - Various*	Nuphalt patching	£15,700				Comp	Comp	Comp							
Teviot & Liddesdale Area - Various	Jet Patching	£35,325		Comp	Comp	Comp	Comp	Comp	Comp	Comp					
DH51/3 Eildon Road, Hawick	Slurry Seal Footways	£4,000							Comp						
DH78/3 Howdenbank, Hawick	Slurry Seal Footways	£1,500							Comp						
DH205/3 Guthrie Drive, Hawick	Slurry Seal Footways	Deferred													
DH197/3 Deloraine Court, Hawick	Slurry Seal Footways	Deferred													
DH183/3 Wilton Park Road, Hawick	Footway Reconstruction	£9,000					Comp								
C134/3 North Bridge Street, Hawick	Footway Reconstruction	£16,000								Comp	Ongoing				
B6357 Douglas Square, Newcastleton	Footway Reconstruction	£9,000						Comp	Comp						
DH44/3 Douglas Road, Hawick	Footway Reconstruction	£5,000													
DH124/3 Noble Place, Hawick	Footway Reconstruction	£2,500					Comp								
DH113/3 Minto Place, Hawick	Footway Reconstruction	£5,000													
A6088 Bonchester Brae	Drainage	£5,000									Ongoing				
B6357 Gillside Cottage	Drainage	£1,800					Comp								
B711 Borthwick View	Drainage	£1,000													
B711 Borthaugh Cottages	Drainage	£7,000													
D17/3 East of Cavers	Drainage	Deferred													
DH19/3 Burnfoot Road, Hawick	Drainage	£5,000													
A698 Tower Burn	Masonry Repairs	£50,000					Comp	Comp	Comp						
B711 Martins Bridge	Strengthening works	Deferred													
B6357 Gillside	Culvert Extension	£35,000		Comp	Comp										
B6357 Murderdean Sike	Invert Scour Repairs	£15,000			Comp	Comp									
D22-3 Stobs	Masonry Repairs	£40,000						Comp	Comp						
B6357 Wane Cleuch	Masonry Repairs	£40,000													
B6359 Hassendean	Invert Repairs	£5,000													
D29-3 Bowanhill	Parapet Replacement	£25,000													
DH38/3 Chay Blyth Place, Hawick	Street lighting works	£45,000		Comp	Comp	Comp									
DH18/3 Buccleuch Terrace, Hawick	Street lighting works	£18,000					Comp	Comp							
DH24/3 Braid Road, Hawick	Wall repairs	£15,000							Comp	Comp					
DH81/3 Hamilton Road, Hawick	Wall repairs	£20,000					Comp	Comp							

\*See appendix C for individual streets

**TOTAL £617,825**

**Programme of Cut out, Rhino and Nuphalt patching - Teviot & Liddesdale Area**

APPENDIX C

**Cut out patching**

Town	Street	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Hawick	DH139/3 Rosebank Road												
Hawick	DH47/3 Duke Street												
Hawick	DH51/3 Eildon Road												

**Rhino patching**

Town	Street	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Hawick	DH139/3 Rosebank Road												
Hawick	DH156/3 Stirches Road												
Hawick	A698 Weensland Road												
Hawick	DH78/3 Howdenbank												
Hawick	DH80/3 Hazelwood Road												

**Nuphalt patching**

Town	Street	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Hawick	DH161/3 Twirlees Terrace				Comp								
Hawick	DH97/3 Lochart Place				Comp								
Hawick	DH133/3 Park Street				Comp								
Hawick	DH15/3 Brougham Place				Comp								
Hawick	DH208/3 Roxburgh Drive					Comp							
Hawick	DH205/3 Guthrie Drive					Comp							
Newcastleton	D53/3 Houghton Park				Comp								
Newcastleton	D41/3 Henry Street					Comp							
Newcastleton	D55/3 Oliver Place					Comp							
Newcastleton	D42/3 Whitcheater Lane					Comp							
Newcastleton	D48/3 Walter Street					Comp							
Denholm	D78/3 Douglas Drive					Comp							