

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM

MINUTE of the MEETING of the TEVIOT
AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM held in the
ROOM 205, TOWER MILL, HAWICK on
17 September 2013 at 6.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillors G. Turnbull, (Chairman), Z. Elliot, S. Marshall, D. Paterson, R. Smith.
Community Councillors M. Short, T. Stevenson.
Inspector C. Wood (Police Scotland).

Apologies:- Councillor A. Cranston

In Attendance:- Neighbourhood Area Manager (A. Finnie), Democratic Services Officers (J. Turnbull).

Members of the Public:- 3 in attendance.

MINUTE

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 22 August 2013.

With reference to the Apologies Inspector C. Wood requested that "Lothian and Borders Police" be amended to read "Police Scotland".

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute, subject to the above amendment, for signature by the Chairman.

THE BRIDGE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

2. Heather Batsch, from The Bridge, was present at the meeting and gave a presentation on The Bridge – Community Transport. It was explained that the Bridge's mission was to encourage and support the growth of Scottish Borders community activity through the development of a high quality, dynamic and effective voluntary and community sector which focused on improving the quality of life for all Scottish Borders citizens. An accessible community transport service was available from Teviot Wheels which covered the Cheviot and Teviot & Liddesdale Area; Tweed Wheels which covered the Tweeddale area and Gala Wheels which covered the Central Borders. All the schemes were managed from the Bridge's office in Jedburgh. The Hawick vehicle was based at Sainsbury's, with Bruce Motors administering the hand over of keys to voluntary drivers, this support from local businesses was much appreciated. The Hawick vehicle had been purchased in May 2011 and had a maximum of 6 seats, including 2 wheelchair spaces and a driver. It provided affordable door-to-door wheelchair accessible transport at 55p per mile inclusive and assisted individuals with mobility needs and also community groups, for example, MS Society, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, New Horizons, The Bud Club and Interest Link. The Social Car Scheme, provided by Scottish Borders Council, subsidised the scheme by 25p per mile for eligible individual clients and eligible journeys (social, doctor, dentist, access to other public transport). This subsidy reduced the cost to 30p per mile for the first 60 miles of each journey and was administered through The Bridge. Funding was given from Scottish Borders Council for running costs; Charitable Grants for vehicle replacement and through Roxburgh Thrift Shop. The joint working with Borders Community Transport Network brought all the local community transport providers together for integrated support and joint action. The Bridge (Teviot, Tweed and Gala Wheels), Berwickshire Wheels (BAVS), British Red Cross (cars) and Royal Voluntary Service (cars) were highlighted. With an ageing population, there was an increasing demand for the service, and there had been a 30% increase in bookings this year. The voluntary drivers had worked 1074.5 hrs from April to June 2013.

3. Mrs Batch discussed the various issues facing the scheme: there was a cap on the annual Social Car Scheme subsidy allocation; the scheme was unable to take concessionary bus passes and the Age Scotland campaign had recently been turned down; there was rising fuel costs, an increasing demand for the service which was almost at capacity, which in turn required more vehicles and more volunteer drivers. Mrs Batch continued that it was important that communities supported the scheme, and that anyone who could assist should contact The Bridge. She reminded Members that funding for the scheme was not ring fenced by Scottish Government and was rolled into one pot for transport.
4. In answer to questions from the Forum, Mrs Batch explained that The Bridge did not want to raise their hire charges as the aim of the scheme was to assist people in need. However, there was a minimum charge of £3.50, which meant that the scheme was not often utilised for short journeys. The Hawick to Borders General Hospital service was proving very popular with approximately 30 people using the service morning and afternoon each day and had now been extended to March 2014. The Chairman thanked Mrs Batsch for her informative and excellent presentation.

DECISION**NOTED the presentation.****SB LOCAL SMALL SCHEMES AND CAPITAL & REVENUE WORKS.**

5. There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director of Environment and Infrastructure which sought approval for the proposed new SB local small schemes from the Area Forum and updated the Forum on Roads Capital & Revenue works and previously approved SB Local Small Schemes. The Neighbourhood Area Manager reported that the installation of a footpath at Wilton Primary School would be completed during the October holiday week.

DECISION**AGREED**

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|------|--|------------------|
| (i) | Upgrade equipment at play area, Green Terrace, Hawick | £1,350.00 |
| (ii) | Install new picnic table with integral benches at Speechman's Haugh, Hawick | £ 225.00 |

OPEN QUESTIONS

6. Mr Martin Craig introduced himself to the Forum, Mr Craig was involved with the steering group for the proposed Upper Liddesdale and Hermitage Community Council.

DECISION**Noted the report.****COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT**

7. Mr Stevenson from Upper Teviotdale and Borthwick Water, reported on the continuing problem with wind farm traffic. The potholes had been repaired but the drivers were not allowing sufficient time between vehicles to allow the road to settle. However, the vehicles were now numbered which would allow for easier identification when reporting incidents. Inspector Wood noted their concerns and Councillors Turnbull and Smith would also raise the issue at the next Timber Transport Group meeting.
8. Councillor Smith reported that he had received a communication from a couple in France, thanking Hawick for the warm welcome and hospitality they had received whilst on holiday.

DECISION**NOTED the reports.****DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9. Agreed that the next meeting be held on 19 November 2013 at 6.30 p.m. in the Lesser Hall, Hawick.

The meeting concluded at 7.10 pm.

PROPOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAY DATES 2014

TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA

NEW YEAR 2014	WEDNESDAY 1 and THURSDAY 2 JANUARY 2014
SPRING	MONDAY 21 APRIL 2014
MAY DAY	MONDAY 5 MAY 2014
COMMON-RIDING (Common Riding Week 1st – 7th June)	FRIDAY 6 and SATURDAY 7 JUNE 2014
ANNUAL TRADES (Commence on Monday 21st July for two weeks)	*MONDAY 21 AND TUESDAY 22 JULY 2014
AUTUMN	MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2014
CHRISTMAS	THURSDAY 25 AND FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER 2014
NEW YEAR 2015	THURSDAY 1 AND FRIDAY 2 JANUARY 2015

* most shops and offices remain open.

SB LOCAL SMALL SCHEMES AND PAY AND DISPLAY PARKING

Report by Director of Environment & Infrastructure

TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM

19 NOVEMBER 2013

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 This report seeks approval for the proposed new SB Local Small Schemes from the Area Forum and Members approval of the proposals for agreeing and monitoring of pay and display parking income and expenditure in future.

1.2 The following Schemes have been requested for consideration by the Teviot and Liddesdale Members: Upgrade footway at Main Street, Denholm, and install dropped kerbs at Beaconsfield Terrace, Hawick. Updated previously approved Small Schemes are listed in Appendix A.

1.3 Pay & Display Revenue

Members will note that Councillor Parker's motion in relation to extending the use of funding raised from pay and display parking was passed by Council on 31 October 2013.

Motion

"Scottish Borders Council agrees to extend the criteria governing the use of the funding raised from pay parking, in the towns where pay parking exists, to include initiatives that would promote and support local businesses and town centres."

The following process is proposed for the control and reporting of this spending:

- Ward Members will agree, with Officers, the Schemes to be taken forward
- These proposals will be included in the Small Schemes report for the relevant areas.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 I recommend that the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum:

- (a) approves the following new SB Local Small Schemes for implementation:-**
 - (i) Upgrade footpath at Main Street, Denholm. £13,031**
 - (ii) Install dropped kerbs at Beaconsfield Terrace, Hawick. £ 1,475**
- (b) notes the updates on previously approved SB Local Small Schemes as detailed in Appendix A to this report.**
- (c) the process for reporting of pay and display parking revenue spending as follows:-**
 - (i) Ward Members will agree, with Officers, the Schemes to be taken forward**
 - (ii) These proposals will be included in the Small Schemes report for Tweeddale, including monitoring their delivery.**

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Elected Members, Community Councils and the public can request potential Small Schemes by contacting the Neighbourhood Area Manager direct. Neighbourhood Services is contactable via the new Scottish Borders Council telephone number 0300 100 1800, e-mail address – enquiries@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:-

- (a) Upgrade existing footpath at A698 Main Street, Denholm as a continuation to the previous works (£13,031). This request was received from local Hawick and Denholm Ward Councillors.
- (b) Installation of dropped kerbs at Beaconsfield Terrace with its junctions with Buccleugh Terrace, Hawick (£1,475). This request was received from local Hawick and Hermitage Ward Councillors.

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

3.3 Updates on previously approved SB Local Small Schemes as detailed in Appendix A to this report.

3.4 Pay & Display Revenue

Members will note that Councillor Parker's motion in relation to extending the use of funding raised from pay and display parking was passed by Council on 31 October 2013.

Motion

"Scottish Borders Council agrees to extend the criteria governing the use of the funding raised from pay parking, in the towns where pay parking exists, to include initiatives that would promote and support local businesses and town centres."

3.5 The following existing four processes were agreed by Executive on 28 April 2009:-

- (a) That draft proposals for how net income would be invested would be developed by Officers in consultation with the Members in whose Ward the car park lay (in whole or in part);
- (b) Investment proposals would be allocated to road and environmental improvements;
- (c) Investment of net income from each car park would be targeted within the town, village or settlement boundary in which it lay; and
- (d) Investment proposals and any subsequent amendments would be subject to formal approval by the relevant Area Committee.

The acceptance of this motion will thereafter amend point (b) to read as follows:-

- (b) Investment proposals would be allocated to road and environmental improvements and support local businesses and town centres.

- 3.6 The following process is proposed for the control and reporting of this spending:
- Ward Members will agree, with Officers, the Schemes to be taken forward
 - These proposals will be included in the Small Schemes report for the relevant areas.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

A budget of £34,702 is available through SB Local for Small Schemes in the Teviot and Liddesdale area in 2013/14. It has been agreed previously that this budget will be split equally between the Hawick and Hermitage and Hawick and Denholm Wards. If the above Schemes are approved, then there will be a remaining budget of £11,461 in Hawick and Hermitage Ward and there will be no remaining budget in Hawick and Denholm Ward for future Schemes.

Appendix A lists up-dates on previously approved SB Local Small Schemes.

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 Corporate Governance, the Head of Audit & Risk, the Head of Strategic Policy, the HR Manager and the Clerk to the Council 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
Alistair Finnie	Neighbourhood Area Manager (Teviot & Liddesdale) 01835 824000 Ext 6535

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 e&ittranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk.