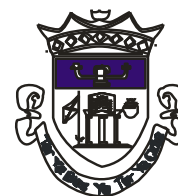


---

# Hawick Community Council

---



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF HAWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 6.30pm within the Lesser Town Hall, Hawick**

Present: Cameron Knox (Chair)  
Jim Adams (Treasurer)  
Stuart Mactaggart

Kevin Marsh (Vice-Chair)  
John Campbell  
Michael Robertson

Attending: Councillor McAteer  
Councillor Smart

Councillor Ramage

There were 16 members of the public in attendance, as well as Graham Ford for the Hawick Paper.

- 1. Chair's Opening Remarks** – The Chair welcomed everyone to the Monthly June Meeting. He hoped everyone who had participated had enjoyed their Common Riding. Cornet Jack Scott, his Lass Emma Grieve, Acting Father and Mother, George and Katy Young along with the rest of the big eight had led the town in a first-class Common Riding and even the sun had made a wee appearance. Our Principals were all a credit to their respective families and the town and would make great ambassadors when visiting the other towns over the other Border Common Ridings during the Summer.

He advised that the meeting would be recorded by HCC and on behalf of the Hawick Paper for minuting and reporting purposes.

Councillor McAteer expressed his congratulations to the Provost and to Members of the Provost's Council on the fantastic civil ceremonies over the Common Riding weekend, which had been well-received by the townsfolk.

- 2. Declarations of Interest** – The Chair went on to advise that if any members had a conflict of interest in any agenda items, they should please make it known at the start of the discussion.
- 3. Apologies for Absence** – Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Cox and Marshall, and HCC Members Stuart Beck, Margaret Hogg, Graeme King, Duncan Taylor, Euan Welsh and John Wilkinson.

4. **Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025** – The previously circulated Minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record of the meeting - Proposed for adoption by Kevin Marsh and Seconded by John Campbell.

5. **Matters arising –**

Refurbishment of the James Thomson Bridge – The Chair advised that HCC member Graeme King had received a positive reply from John Curry, Director of Infrastructure & Environment, SBC. They had agreed to clean the Bridge, which works would be carried out by the Unpaid Workforce potentially within the next couple of weeks, albeit date to be confirmed. Once the clean had been completed, SBC would assess for any painter works required, taking account of costs. The Chair expressed his thanks to Graeme King on pursuing that matter.

Live Borders – The Chair confirmed that the Secretary had contacted Live Borders to invite a Director to attend our July meeting to explain their proposals. Unfortunately, no-one would be attending, with direction given to complete their consultation survey live at the present time. He encouraged townsfolk to complete that online survey and to attend other consultation events.

Later in the week, the Chair advised he would be attending a joint meeting organised with Hawick Development Trust and members of the Hawick Town Team, Burnfoot Community Council and elected members with a view to providing a united front and form a joint response to the proposals within the Live Borders report.

6. **Police Scotland Reports – May 2025** – It was noted there were no police in attendance. Any members having questions regarding the reports, which had been previously circulated, should forward those to the secretary.
7. **Hawick Fire Service – Replacing existing Wholetime Service with a Day Staffing Model – Presentation by Greg McLeod, Fire Brigade Union** - The Chair advised that the proposal was to change to manning during daylight hours, with only on-call cover being provided in the evenings and at weekends. Community Council members' views were that proposal was not acceptable. Fires did not go by timetable and could happen at any time and anywhere. The Fire Service was not just about attending to fires, but being first responders for first aid, car crashes and such like. Response times to call-outs was therefore of vital importance.

The Chair introduced Fire Brigade Union's Greg McLeod, to give a presentation on the proposal.

Greg thanked HCC for their invite tonight. He was the Fire Brigade Union Member but also Crew Commander at Hawick Fire Station. He said he hoped for a large public meeting, and his presentation was a pre-cursor to that, and he welcomed any feedback on that presentation.

He thanked everyone for attending stating that their presence showed their commitment, courage and care to the town we called home. It was not about just making a noise, to sign petitions but to stand together against what was being

proposed, for our families, children and for everyone in Hawick. We needed to demand that our Fire Station stayed wholetime, 24 hours a day/7 days a week. It was not just about staffing changes but about safety, about response times and about saving lives. Every second counted in any emergency – any minute delay mattered when a house was burning or when someone became trapped, when lives hung in the balance. Fire did not wait until mornings, a car crash did not wait until the next shift started, emergencies did not run to schedule, and neither should our Fire Service he said.

Under the proposed day shift duty system, the Service would lose the immediate round -the-clock coverage currently provided by trained fire-fighters and instead would rely on a slower reactive system after-hours from staff having to make their way from their own homes, at a time especially when temporary traffic lights were situated throughout our town, and everyone knew how bad they were, and delays could mean the difference between life and death. Make no mistake, he said, that was not just a Hawick issue and if allowed to happen, that proposal would set a dangerous precedence for other communities across Scotland. Hawick should not be a test case but a turning point. There was a proud history of solidarity in Hawick and we protected our own and now we should rise to protect our most vital part of public services. To the decision-makers listening, he asked they listen to the people of Hawick and to hear the fear in their voices and see the fire in their eyes. He asked them to do the right thing – not the cheap thing, not the easy thing but the right thing. To everyone here and beyond, he asked they sign the petition, write to Councillors, MPs, MSPs and speak to neighbours, share the story, make the noise impossible to ignore. The Fire Service was not just a Department, it was a lifeline and in Hawick we should refuse that lifeline to be cut. He urged everyone to fight for our Station, fight for the 24/7 coverage and each other. Rapturous clapping ensued.

The Chair thanked Greg for his passion and professionalism in his presentation, which showed what he and his colleagues clearly had for the town. He agreed it was totally unacceptable for that proposal to be brought forward for a town the size of Hawick, especially with a small town being built (Center Parcs). Having spoken to Center Parcs representatives at their latest consultation meeting, they were unaware that the proposal was coming forward. Their Fire Assessment had been agreed on the basis of 24/7 cover from Hawick Fire Station backed up by Galashiels. Anything Center Parcs could do to assist in the campaign against, they would be happy to help.

Mick Robertson concurred that with the opening of Center Parcs in a couple of years' time, and additional influx of people into Hawick, we should not stand for that proposal being accepted. Hopefully there would be a big attendance at any public meeting arranged.

Councillor Ramage advised she had emailed the Fire Chief Officer with concerns and enquired if Center Parcs had been taken into account in their proposal. She had been assured that had been the case, however that proposal had been ongoing for about 2 years, and Councillors had only found out in November about Center Parcs coming to Hawick. Accordingly, they could not have considered that in their

assessment. There was also the lithium battery storage units – no-one knew what would happen regarding those and solar panels. She said it beggared belief that they were considering that proposal for Hawick Station.

The Vice-Chair advised it was for the 8 Community Councils (in the T&L area plus Lilliesleaf, Ashkirk & Midlem CC) to arrange the public meeting and to invite the Councillors. Those CCs were Denholm, Southdean, Hobkirk, Bonchester, Upper Teviotdale & Borthwick Water, Burnfoot, Newcastleton and HCC, with the addition of Lilliesleaf, Ashkirk & Midlem CC.

Greg advised that the area covered by Hawick Station stretched to Bellingham and up into the Kielder area too. If it were imagined someone having a fire in one of the outreach areas, such as Bonchester or Newcastleton and that being responded to by fire-fighters starting from home, who were of no less calibre than full-time fire-fighters he added, but were responding from pagers in the middle of the night, who had to get themselves ready, into their cars, drive through traffic/traffic lights (fire-fighters were not permitted to ignore red lights), get to the Station, get their fire-fighting gear on, wait on other colleagues arrival to make a full crew, and only then into the Fire Appliance and away. In comparison, wholtime fire-fighters on site were able to be in the Appliance within one minute to respond. The difference between those two scenarios could be around 10 minutes. Whilst Jedburgh, Kelso, Selkirk were all on-call, Hawick had some 10-12,000 more residents than those areas. That worried him. That difference in time in responding could be a matter between life and death.

Mick Robertson asked what the average timeframe was for on-call fire fighters to get from home and into the Fire Appliance. Greg considered that to be about 8-10 minutes before they would be mobilised, whereas wholtime would be less than one minute. If there was a fire, where someone could be confined in a bedroom, it would take that 8-10 minutes before the Appliance would be mobilised. If, however, Hawick on-call were not available, that timescale could increase to c.25 minutes. That timescale was the big difference, as Hawick on-call may not always be available and that 25 minutes was just not acceptable.

Councillor McAteer advised he had attended the Fire & Rescue Committee Meeting the previous week and a Senior Fire Officer gave an explanation regarding the rationale behind the proposal. It was good to hear that he said, and the first indication around their thinking was not surprising when the conversation stated there was a £60m deficit in their budget and it was very evident quickly to him that was what was pushing the proposal. The Hawick Fire Station was also full of RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete). It was clear to him from all of that what their direction of travel was.

The response coming from professional and local fire-fighters was around the element of risk associated to delays in response times, which was a critical point given Hawick was a rural area. That was put to the Senior Fire Officer and his response was startling and was on record. He said that he did not agree that lives were being put at

risk. The Senior Fire Officer had just admitted that he would be extending response times and was therefore clearly putting lives at risk. There appeared to be a real disconnect in their thinking.

Councillor McAteer said Councillor Smart and Marshall should act on the former's suggestion to raise a Motion to Full Council, bringing their attention to that proposal and obtain Council's support for action against that proposal being allowed to happen. Hopefully that would be forthcoming.

Personally, he had spent a lifetime with his roles in life being about protecting and safeguarding people and he found that proposal to be absolutely horrendous and a travesty for the people of Hawick. It was totally unacceptable – the level of risk, no matter how small he said, was just not acceptable. He thanked Greg for bringing the matter to attention.

Gordon Muir asked who would taking action be against and who would have the final say on what happened? Greg considered that would be the Fire Brigade's Senior Officers/Fire Board. Initially there had been c.300 options, reduced to 23 and those 23 had gone out to pre-consultation. The Fire Brigade Union however considered that many of the questions were loaded towards obtaining the answers they wanted - e.g., should fire engines be placed strategically to provide the best coverage? Well obviously that answer would be Yes. A meeting had taken place in Stirling, to go through the 23 remaining options. Public consultation would commence at the beginning of next month and hopefully the public would support and sign petitions against the proposal. He referred to leaflets prepared by the Fire Brigade Union, and the public could scan the QR code on the reverse of leaflets and he encouraged people to share with families and friends, to support the campaign against the proposal. The Union could only do so much and needed back-up from local Councillors, MPs, MSPs and the public and not just in Hawick but the surrounding areas to work together to stop this. Jedburgh and Selkirk fire-fighters were also campaigning against. With their limited numbers and taking account of fire safety procedures, they could not themselves put out large fires and would need Hawick's support in that. That includes as far away as attending fires at Kielder, Bellingham and Newcastleton areas too. The Chair said that it was not just fires but car crashes and the many other incidents that the Fire Service required to attend. They supported the public and now it was the public who needed to support them against that proposal.

Stuart Mactaggart thanked Greg for his presentation. Looking at the SFRS website, he had noted that their slogan was 'Working together for a safer Scotland'. It went on to say, 'We are committed to securing the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland'. Clearly that was not what was being proposed.

Councillor Smart advised that a meeting of Councillors had taken place, and all 6 Councillors were in agreement that the proposal would be detrimental to the town and the surrounding areas. She urged everyone to sign the Petition and let voices be heard.

Councillor Smart queried about Hawick being a Test case, and Greg confirmed that Hawick was part of the 23 options under consideration within the proposal. If we allowed the proposal to happen, it would be put in place and possibly rolled out elsewhere, with more and more cuts being made. Councillor Smart referred to the RAAC in the Station Building and whether that was a deciding factor in Hawick being part of the proposal. Greg advised that the Fire Brigade Union would be very concerned he said if that were the case. If that were the case, then fire-fighters should not be working in that building now.

John Campbell noted that Rachael Hamilton, MSP was onside and had asked SNP Leader, John Swinney to increase budget availability. He wondered if it was the case that budget was being spent on the big Chiefs' salaries and pension pots and not sufficient left for elsewhere. Greg advised that could not be guaranteed, however there would be big outlays for the buildings and their maintenance, for insurance as well as salaries for the fire-fighters and so on. Another concern Greg had was cuts in jobs, as although personnel could be reduced in Hawick from 25 to 7, that would mean potentially 18 job losses in Hawick. If that happened, there would never again be those 18 jobs in Hawick in that same role. That would be a big scar for Hawick.

Maureen Toogood asked, and not looking for anyone to lose their jobs, if thought had been given to reducing the numbers of stations in the bigger cities, e.g. Edinburgh. Taking one station out of Edinburgh might be a better option and have less impact. Greg confirmed that they were looking to close at least one of the Fire Stations in Edinburgh which he thought had c.8 full-time manned Stations. Maureen said her point was that they would not each be covering the size of the whole of Hawick within their specific areas.

Greg advised that Hawick Fire Station would not be lost as yet - the proposal was to change manning hours and therefore our Station would remain meantime. He advised of a Station in Glasgow also being considered within the proposal, however the surrounding stations to that were within 5 minutes response time to that particular Station, meaning that was likely to have little impact.

Councillor Ramage agreed that with Maureen's comment that Hawick would encompass an area bigger than those 8 stations referred to in Edinburgh. That was likely to be the case in terms of density of population, with more and more housing being built everywhere. The key issue was response times which could not be achieved by an on-call service. Personnel had to remain within speed limits in getting to the Station otherwise they would be breaking the law. Everyone knew about the chaos of traffic lights, particularly in Hawick at the present time and queues from those. On call personnel were unable to go through red lights, unlike full-time personnel who were permitted to do so.

The Vice-Chair asked if house fires would particularly happen around tea-time when people were cooking. Nowadays, Greg advised that chip pans were less used, and education had played a big role in reducing house fires. Most house fires he thought would happen at night time. Car crashes could happen at any time. The Vice-Chair

asked HCC members if they were agreed to hosting a public meeting referred to earlier, along with other affected Community Councils. Members agreed that should take place. Greg asked if HCC could liaise with him and the Fire Brigade Union on that meeting, as a start to their public consultation as well.

Councillor Ramage advised about a Petition being considered for signatures – not everyone was keen on use of QR codes. Dates suggested for Morrisons were 28<sup>th</sup> June or 12 July. Greg advised the latter date would be best as the Consultation would have started by then. He would let Councillor Ramage know who best then to forward signatures onto. Consultation would run until the end of August.

It was noted that there were still some big Knitwear firms remaining in Hawick, and it was essential to involve them too in any meeting.

Maureen Toogood asked where people could obtain the leaflets referred to earlier. Greg now had a supply of those and some had been distributed already and further leaflets would also be distributed in due course to shops, businesses, surgeries etc. Those would be distributed by members of the Fire Brigade Union in their own time, and out with uniform. Susan Brown suggested that some leaflets could be distributed at Burnfoot Carnival on 12<sup>th</sup> July and that could also be a venue for having any Petition signed. Greg asked if someone could contact him nearer the time of the Carnival to progress on that, and he said it would be helpful if Councillors could generate such a Petition. The Fire Service Union needed as much help as possible with the campaign.

Councillor McAteer agreed and hoped that the Motion being put to SBC full Council would clarify two or three different engagement stages which would require to take place. The Consultation would be for 12 weeks, right through the heart of Summer which meant not a lot of time.

It was asked whether leaflets could be put into schools for distribution through the kids to their parents. Permission from schools would be required for that to happen.

The Chair thanked Greg McLeod for his passionate presentation and said he was sure the Union would have the full support of Hawick's townsfolk.

- 8. Treasurer's Report – May 2025** – The Treasurer advised that the Opening Balance overall was **£22,916.04** and **Closing Balance £24,820.38**. The individual accounts were explained as follows:
- HCC 1 Account – opened and closed with a balance of £5,072.01. That balance included £1,566.76 Fallago Pathways Grant ringfenced for use on pathways.
- Christmas Lights & Event Account – opened and closed with a balance of £2,038.36.
- Hawick in Bloom Account – opened with a balance of £9,241.06. Income of £180 had been received for hanging baskets, and plant sale income of £1,974.30. Expenditure amounted to £249.96 for watering of hanging baskets had been made, resulting in a closing balance of £11,145.40. Today, however, a statement had been received to advise that £1,352.81 had now been received in relation to card payments from the

Plant Sale. That would be reported in next month's report. Overall, he commended Maureen Toogood and the other Bloom volunteers for their raising a total of £3,327.11 from the recent Plant Sale. Applause ensued.  
Community Benefit Fund Foundation Scotland – opened and closed with a balance of £6,564.61.

Members approved the Treasurer's Report.

The Chair advised that the Core Paths required to be cut by the end of June and at the end of August, and the Chair requested Members' approval to arrange for those works to proceed. Members agreed. The Treasurer enquired if SBC would again be providing a grant for that work, and the Chair advised he hoped that would be the case. Nevertheless, the paths would require to be cut, and there were sufficient funds within HCC1 account to pay for that work if necessary from our own funds. The ringfenced Fallago monies could also be used to fund.

Greg McLeod advised on walking past the Garden of Remembrance today, that the grass was very high. The Chair advised that was the responsibility of Burnfoot Community Council. There had been issues around cutting until wild flowers had come through and it was left with members of BCC attending to progress on that matter.

Anne Edwards advised she had spoken with Councillor Marshall on that issue prior to the meeting, as her uncle Robert Holliday had donated some £10k to that project. Councillor Marshall had advised her he would take that matter forward for that area to be maintained.

## **9. Public Forum and Town Issues**

Center Parcs Public Consultation Event- The Chair advised he had attended that event held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May at Hawick RFC. That meeting had been well attended by townsfolk and other interested parties. He said there had been a real buzz in the hall with members of the Center Parcs team extremely enthusiastic at how the public were engaging with them. All in all a very positive meeting.

Lights at the Mote – Councillor McAteer advised additional lighting was at design specification stage, which would establish costs and trigger subsequent debate. It was hoped that costs could be funded from the Small Schemes Budget. He suspected that the capital costs of the lights themselves would be fairly minor and that the challenge would be in the running and maintenance costs. He did not have a timescale for completion of costs but gave assurance that the matter was underway.

Weensland Allotments – Stuart Mactaggart said he was pleased to see some real action in progressing on works at those allotments. Hopefully sheds would be installed soon and owners could return.

Dog Fouling – Michael Robertson enquired of any progress on that matter. Councillor Ramage advised regarding his hope that dog fouling would be linked in with the new Street Parking Working Group looking at parking issues would not be the case. That Group was about on street parking, paid parking and hopefully, albeit a long way off as yet, about decriminalised parking. There were 3 paid parking areas in Hawick but



those currently lost money, however other paid parking areas elsewhere did make money and investigations on that would be made. She would keep HCC updated on that Group's outcomes.

Michael expressed his disappointment and that the issue was continuing throughout the town. Councillor Ramage agreed, however it was people's responsibility to lift their dog poo, and that matter could not be linked with parking.

Councillor McAteer agreed that there appeared to be slow progress on dealing with the matter of dog poo. Feedback from the Police/ASBO at SBC had been received, however round table discussions, including some representatives at the meeting, needed to take place to try to look at the issue from a different angle and look at options to resolve. Michael was right to continue to raise the issue. It was all about making the town look good with Center Parcs plans and increasing visitor numbers. Those responsible needed to be dealt with.

Michael said he would continue to raise the matter until something happened. Maureen Toogood advised that when gardening in Allars Crescent, one of the residents there had asked about getting a dog poo bin in that vicinity. Dog poo bags were being dumped in the skip on that street and with the heat, the smells were awful.

Michael enquired as to the possibility of getting a dog poo bin in that location. The Chair advised two dog poo bins had previously been in situ around that location, however, one had been set on fire and another thrown into the river. Councillor McAteer advised he would put in a request to the Neighbourhood Team and feedback on their response.

Gordon Muir advised that Hornshole Greenway had carried out a recent Street Sweep and in the wake of that, he had written to SBC's Fiona Cameron to explore the possibility of having a united effort of tidying the town along with SBC and carrying out that tidying with a core group of volunteers perhaps on a monthly basis, and with the help of some of SBC's equipment.

It was suggested the Council could help with Dog Poo Notices around the town highlighting fines of up to £1,000 for dog fouling. Even if a small number acted on that and lifted their dog poo that would offset the price of a poster. The Chair advised that signage had been tried previously too however Michael urged to try again. HCC had monies to absorb costs for posters. It was also suggested that the Hawick Paper could again publicise that ongoing issue. Susan Brown advised that Burnfoot CC had put out posters on lampposts last year and those could be obtained free from SBC's Dog Warden.

Greg McLeod asked if it were possible to obtain dog poo bags from SBC's Contact Centre. Councillor McAteer advised that he was not optimistic about that being reintroduced when SBC struggled to supply bin bags presently. There was no problem re-trialling signage etc but unfortunately it appeared that those who did lift their dog

poo were the ones who read signage and not the ones with total disrespect who allowed that to happen.

The Chair advised that Trinity Primary School had designed Poo Notices which were placed at the front of the school along with poo bags, however, issues with dog poo had continued. The kids were even trying their best, however, the dog owners were at fault. Keith Johnson agreed that posters should be placed in schools for the kids to educate themselves and hopefully pass on to parents and owners of dogs.

Pop-Up Bob – The Chair advised that had now been received and paid for from the Small Schemes Budget. Bob would appear on various streets within the town, starting off with Buccleuch Street.

## **10. Reports from Sub-Groups**

- (a) Christmas Event - Nothing to report at this time.
- (b) Hawick in Bloom – No update.
- (c) CCTV – The Vice-Chair advised he had received an email the day following the May meeting to advise that SBC's system to replace 16 existing cameras would be completed imminently. Councillor Ramage advised that apparently once all the other towns' systems were in place, there would be a joint switch on of all systems. Beyond that, HCC would continue to liaise with SBC on how to expand on that system with HCC's proposals. Councillor Ramage thought that CCTV would hopefully highlight culprits responsible for allowing dog fouling on the High Street.
- (d) Resilience – Nothing to report.
- (e) Fundraising – Nothing to report. With re-elections, the new membership would need to take that forward later in the year.
- (f) Planning – The Chair advised there had been no major planning issues in the month.
- (g) Bandstand Events - No update.

## **11. Reports from Community Partners & Representative Groups**

- (a) Hawick Development Trust (HDT) – Bryan Bell, Chair reported as follows:  
London to Edinburgh Cycle Tour – Following discussion at the last HCC meeting and improving the town's image for tourists visiting for that event, the Trust were working with CARS on a Conservation Project for some of the old properties on the High Street. That would include printed window clings on some 15-20 windows of empty shops. They were grateful to Alistair Redpath, Project Hawick and to ILF Imaging for offering to supply some copyright free pictures of the varied history of Hawick to be printed onto those clings. He understood CARS were happy to part fund that project, as part of their Regeneration Programme and the Trust were in the process of costing the clings and sourcing additional funding required to cover costs. They would target empty shops where they were able to obtain the owner's permission.

Bryan advised he had spoken to a Dutch couple a few weeks back who had expressed their dismay at the number of empty shops particularly at the bottom end of the High Street. The Trust would like to obtain pictures to put in some of

the empty shops, partly to hide the emptiness of the shops and they would also try as part of the Regeneration Programme to clean up stonework.

The Chair advised that as part of the Tour of Britain previously, there were jumpers which remained in the Town Hall cellar which would be fitted into the holders on the High Street for that London to Edinburgh event.

The Chair thanked Bryan for his report on behalf of HDT and there were no questions raised.

- (b) Foundation Scotland - nothing further to report. Expenditure ongoing.
- (c) A7 Action Group – Next meeting would be held on 26<sup>th</sup> June in Langholm.
- (d) Hawick Common Good – The next meeting would be held on 11th June.
- (e) Renewable Developments – Ongoing at a slow pace this month, with nothing further to report since last meeting.
- (f) Hawick Common Riding Committee – No update.
- (g) Hawick Reivers – No update.

**12. Correspondence** – Nothing further to report to that already issued to Members.

**13. A.O.C.B.** – John Campbell asked when the area outside the new Business Centre linking to Teviot Road would be completed. Councillor McAteer advised that funding had been allocated for that area towards the end of the financial year, including works to the gable end of properties there.

The Chair referred to a report on the radio that day stating with regard to the Flood Protection Scheme, due to time slippage costs would now be £101m with the Council having to contribute a further £3.2m up to April 2025. Councillor McAteer advised the matter was subject to legal discussions and therefore no comment could be made.

**14. Date of Next Meeting** – It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 6.30pm within the Lesser Town Hall, Hawick. That would be the last meeting of current membership, after which the re-election process would commence. Anyone wishing to become a member should please watch for information on HCC's Facebook page and SBC's website.