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# Hawick Community Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF HAWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 6.30pm within the Town Hall, Hawick.

**Present** Cameron Knox (chair)                      Kev Marsh  
                  Stuart Beck                                      Stuart Mactaggart  
                  Michael Robertson                                  Jock Campbell  
                  Ian Young    Wilson George  
                  Nikki Finnigan

**Attending**            Councillor Smart                      Councillor McAteer

There were five members of the public in attendance.

**Declaration of interest** - the chairman reminded members of their obligation to declare any conflict of interest ahead of discussions during the meeting. This was noted.

**Apologies for Absence**- Apologies had been received by Kyle Douglas and Graham Ford and Councillor Ramage

**Adoption of Minutes** - of Meeting of Monday April 13, 2026, which had been circulated to members earlier.

There were proposed for adoption by Ian Young and seconded by Mick Robertson.

**Matters arising –**

Wulliestruthers boardwalk - the chairman advised that he had still not received a quote from the Criminal Justice Team regarding work on the boardwalk, but the figure was imminent.

Dog wardens – A letter had been sent to the new Police Scotland Area Commander inviting him to attend a future meeting to discuss the ongoing issue.

Active Travel Network – the chairman confirmed that the secretary had sent an invitation to the new ATN manager inviting him to attend a future meeting, and he was awaiting a reply.

High Street Parking – It was agreed at this time that the community council was not in a financial position to support Tommy Mulvee, from North Port with his High Street Parking project, but he would be advised of possible funding sources.

Scottish Parliament Hustings – The chairman updated the meeting to advise that around 50 people had attended the Hustings within the Town Hall. The number was seen as disappointing, but the community council had played an important role in allowing views and questions to be aired. He also congratulated Rachael Hamilton on her success.

Live Borders – a report was scheduled to be written up between Kyle Douglas and Graham Ford to forward to the Live Borders chief executive.

Co-option of member – Nikki Finnigan’s electoral role number had been confirmed by Councillor Marshall, and she was welcomed on board the community council.

Farmer’s Market – Mick Robertson asked if there had been any progress towards advancing the idea of a Farmer’s Market, to be hosted by the community council. Kevin Marsh had hoped to hold a planning meeting on April 21, but due to insufficient numbers the meeting was postponed.

Chairman Cameron Knox urged a push towards making the event happen. It was seen as a success in Selkirk and Kelso. There was a feeling that while regular markets were struggling to draw crowds, Farmer’s Markets were generating a buzz. The hope was to host two events this year.

**ACTION POINT**- meeting for Wednesday after Common-Riding. June 10, 6.30pm Marsh and Riddell.

**Defibrillators** – Mick Robertson raised his concerns that some defibs within the town were not working, and there was still a level of confusion amongst the public on the action to take in an emergency situation. Kevin Marsh reiterated previous advice that a 999 call should be made, and the call handler would direct people to the nearest available defib. He also advised that the only defib the community council was responsible for was at the Cross Wynd. Councillor Smart informed the meeting that this machine had been used three times since January.

**Police Scotland report** – No Police representatives were available to present the report to the meeting due to annual leave and resources required elsewhere. The chairman highlighted pockets of antisocial behaviour across both electoral wards in the town, which was a concern.

Mick Robertson also brought members up to speed on the on-going shoplifting scourge, and the impact the Shop Watch scheme was making. It was also understood that the national Police Scotland shoplifting squad would be visiting Hawick to bolster current resources.

**Treasurer's Report** – This was presented by vice-chairman Kevin Marsh.

**Public Forum and Town Issues** –

ATN Hawick to Selkirk – The chairman advised that a community engagement event was scheduled to be held in the Hawick South Church. He encouraged members to attend.

Tour De France roadshow – this event was due to take place on May 18 in the Town Hall. It was hoped the planned route through the town may have been revealed on the day.

Weensland Road telegraph pole – Stuart Beck highlighted the obtrusive position of a recently relocated telegraph pole which was encroaching considerably onto the pavement on Weensland Road, inconveniencing mobility scooter users, and pram users.

**ACTION POINT** – Councillor McAteer advised he would ask the question if the pole could be moved.

Wilton Lodge Play Park – Stuart Beck raised the overall tidiness of the park, he felt it could do with a good clean, and that a hole had appeared in the perimeter hedge which wasn't helping parents keep check on their children while they used the facility.

Park benches - Stuart Beck was also given approval to progress a meeting with representatives from the Criminal Justice Team to assess costs to repair various benches which were currently located within the polytunnel at the Walled Gardens. Other benches across the town would also be assessed.

**ACTION POINT** – Stuart Beck to schedule a meeting

Wilton Hill / Princes Street junction – Kevin Marsh raised concerns over a car attempting to access Princes Street in the wrong direction. He felt a painted NO ENTRY sign on the road may make such a manoeuvre patently obvious to be wrong.

**ACTION POINT** – Councillor Marshall to be approached for an update on plans at the junction.

Haysike Closure – Kevin Marsh advised that he had received notification from Scottish Borders Council that this road could be closed until the end of July. He was concerned about the ramifications for the Common-Riding. Councillor McAteer was awaiting an update, the main issue had been around a badger set, and that there may have been young badgers within the set.

Bourtree Place closure – Mick Robertson raised a frustration shared with many motorists that scheduled works had still not been completed. Councillor McAteer felt that Hawick had been let down by this prolonged situation.

Deteriorating road surfaces – the chairman highlighted a stretch of road around The Loan / Beaconsfield Terrace junction that was in urgent need of repair. Councillor McAteer encouraged people to continue to raise poor road surfaces with Scottish Borders Council. This was echoed by Councillor Smart who also suggested sending supplementary photographic evidence.

Borderland Deep Tech Accelerator Hub – Stuart Mactaggart sought an update on the evolution of the former Borders College building. Councillor McAteer echoed his concerns that there appeared to be no obvious activity in the building. He was encouraged such businesses wanted to stake a future within Hawick.

**Sub-group reports** –

Christmas event – a meeting would be held on June 10, alongside the Farmer's Market planning meeting.

Hawick in Bloom – Around £3200 was raised from the recent plant sale at the Evergreen Hall, this would help with the work to replace old planters, the new hanging baskets were scheduled to be placed in the last week of May. Wilson George asked to step down as the community council representative on the group.

**ACTION POINT** – new community council representative required

Resilience Group – no report

Fund raising – meeting on June 10

Planning – The CARS shopfront scheme had been completed

Bandstand events – the funds had been received for the forthcoming summer concerts.

A7 Action Group – the next meeting was scheduled to be held in June.

Common-Riding Committee – Kevin Marsh read out an email which had been sent to the community council from chairman Frank Scott regarding a new SBC policy on Common Good land with additional paperwork required to be completed by volunteers.

Hawick Reivers – no report

**Correspondence** – none

**AOCB** –

Peter Scott factory – Ian Young believed that work was now due to start to alleviate antisocial behaviour around the derelict former factory

Digital Banking – Kevin Marsh advised that office bearers now have access to digital banking transactions  
**Date of next meeting** – the date was set for Monday, June 8 starting at 6.30pm within the lesser town hall.