

# Peebles & District Community Council

## Chairman's Report – April 2026

### 1.0 General

#### Annual General Meeting

The May meeting is an AGM. Would any person up for re-election who has not submitted their completed applications, please do so ASAP. Any other person wishing to join the community council please contact our secretary soonest. Although, the deadline for applications is this week.

#### Tourist Signs

The Chair has no information with which to update

#### Illegal Vapes and Tobacco

As reported a large haul of illegal cigarettes was uncovered in a police raid

### 2.0 Meetings attended since October Meeting

10.03.26	James Renwick, Eildon over path signage
11.03.26	Clare Swan – Drill Hall
12.03.26	PCC meeting
18.03.26	Civic Society on Kingsmeadows
22.03.26	Polish Map Conference at the Barony
26.03.26	Chambers Institution Trustee meeting
30.03.26	pre-meeting meeting
09.04.26	Monthly PCC meeting

### 3.0 Working party on non-financial support to community councils and the working party on the Community Councils Network.

No change. Next meeting 21 April.

### 4.0 Place Making – Town Team

Little new to add, the next meeting is scheduled for 14 April.

### 5.0 Live Borders

Following the report from a member of the public that was received indicating that the Drill Hall may be under some form of threat from Live Borders / SBC; Councillors requested clarification. Subsequently, it has been reported back that the facts as understood by the member of public and separately by Clare Swan, were not entirely correct and that the threat is not immediate. Having noted this change is happening over time and it is hoped that a sufficient amount of time will be allocated by Live Borders for planning and that a written plan will be issued by

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them in early course so that all parties affected by the changes will be able to come together with a common goal and understanding.

### **6.0 Police Report**

This month's police report demonstrates three assaults and a dog attack in Peebles. Similarly for Peebles some low key ASB and vandalism also reported if we ignore neighbour disputes of varying sorts. Three reports of shoplifting and a low undercurrent of fraud, scams and possible thefts from homes. Obviously, we would like to see zero reports. However, for a population of circa 9,000, this is a low level of disturbance.

### **7.0 Windfarms, Associated Infrastructure and Disbursements.**

To recap, a meeting was held with Foundation Scotland, and we continue to progress with a mechanism for disbursing the Bowbeat monies soon to be available. Advertising is being designed and will shortly be ready for both an appeal for persons to join the grant oversight panel and to advertise availability of grants to the community. Both, to run concurrently so that the first grants may be available in August. It is understood that two volunteers have put themselves forward to join the oversight panel.

### **8.0 Hustings**

The hustings are arranged for 16 April. PCC member James McMordie has promulgated the event to high School pupils. Confirmation has been received by most parties involved. One or two to chase.

### **9.0 Caledonian Court Signage**

Your Chair has now met management on two occasions and walked them around the paths to show the erroneous signage, the destroyed signage, the silly signage and the signs that now appear as rubbish on our paths. At the time of writing there has been no remedial action. Clearly, this is disappointing.

### **10.0 The Fish Fountain**

As we are aware, SBC documentation clearly shows that the fountain is part of the Common Good, although, we were informed that this was an error. Error or not it seems that PCC would have to resolve the issue as no other person appeared to want to take a lead. Consequently, our secretary, who we all know has an extremely high workload has contacted the sculptor, with the following results.

[I visited Beltane Studios this morning and spoke with Iomhar and Ruarig Macivor. Their plan is to repair the fountain and ensure it is working as originally planned – i.e. as a working fountain. They have arranged with Euan Irvine to do the](#)

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necessary groundwork free of charge. Colin Napier, who did the original stonework, will restore it free of charge. Finally, Iomhar and Ruaraig will restore the third fish securely, clean all the bronze, and ensure the fountain is working properly with the facility to clean it as and when necessary, again all free of charge. The only payment required would be for any materials used.

They told me about the background to the fountain. Originally it was going to be installed in the foyer of the Eastgate Theatre as a Millennium project. However, the fountain languished in the County buildings in Rosetta Road for 2 years before some well-intentioned person installed it outside the theatre but apparently without the knowledge of how it was intended to work.

The Macivor brothers have been waiting for some considerable time for SBC and the Eastgate Theatre to speak to each other about allowing access for water from the Theatre to the fountain. With that permission in hand the restoration can commence. The brothers suggested that Gareth Smith at SBC might be the person to get that ball rolling.

In respect of the fountain that all feedback praises as a valuable addition to the town there are two thoughts that come to mind. The history to date does seem to cast question on the competence of some parties. However, the other thought is that this is more than offset by the generosity of spirit of the Beltane Studios, Euan Irvine and Colin Napier. Nor should we forget our secretary. Thank you to all of them. Now let us hope that our council in whatever form can finally facilitate this work. There is possibly still a technical question relating to the working of the fountain. We would hope that this does not form an excuse for even more procrastination.

### 11.0 Short Notice Emails

Our secretary received this

From: **SBC**

Date: Wed, 1 Apr 2026 at 17:10

Subject: [OFFICIAL] Scottish Borders Council: Feedback Survey on Day Support for Older People

You can find full details and access the survey [here](#); it is closing on April 5th:

Note: It arrives with PCC on Wednesday evening with a closing date of Sunday. No further comment required! Neither is this a one off, it happens fairly often.

Peter Maudsley  
Chair - Peebles and District Community Council