

Peebles & District Community Council

Chairman's Report – November 2025

1.0 General

Tourist Signs

There appears no movement from anyone.

Peebles Community Council Signage

We have a quotation of £120 or thereabouts for design and production. The question as to why we need it was raised. The answer is that what we have is amateur and, in some cases, quite dated. It doesn't travel well either and becomes tatty. We are a professional body and need to be seen as such at any event that we are asked to attend, The recent meeting at the school, volunteers' fairs, etc.

2.0 SBC – Community Council Chairs' Meeting (21.10.25)

About 30% of the Borders Community Council Chairs actually attended. The discussions were wide ranging. There is still no minute from the meeting. Issues discussed included

- CCTV for Selkirk
- Buses and Borders transport
- Wind farms and transmission
- Care support staff costs
- Centre Parks
- SBC and its interface with CCs

3.0 Illegal Vapes and Tobacco

Nothing new to report

4.0 Meetings attended since October Meeting

21.10.25	SBC Community Council Chairs' meeting
22.10.25	Burgh Hall Community Conversations
03.11.25	Pre-meeting meeting
04.11.25	Non-financial support and SBCCN replacement meeting (online)
06.11.25	Forest plans for Hamilton Hill roadshow at Burgh Hall
09.11.25	Remembrance at the Cenotaph
13.11.25	PCC Meeting

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

The last meeting on 04 November did give the impression that progress was possible. There was general agreement on all points discussed and both an online

Peebles & District Community Council

Chairman's Report – November 2025

and face to face meeting have been agreed. Online 16.12.25 and a meeting at SBC in Newtown St Boswells in January. Colleagues were copied with the agenda for the meeting and with the minutes of the previous meeting.

Half an hour before the last meeting started, members were emailed a report which included a summary of the comments from community councils that pertained to the SBCCN before it folded. Fortunately, your Chair had discovered the report at the time of its arrival in the inbox and was able to review it. There is no disagreement with the contents. A number of suggestions were made going forward.

- Whatever the working group decide upon it should match the aspirations of the Scottish Government as expressed in those statutes that bear upon the subject, such as the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, etc.
- The group needs a Terms of Reference
- Regarding the SBCCN replacement, a number of recommendations have been floated on the make up of areas. These include
 - Existing Area Partnership areas
 - School catchment areas
 - Historical counties (Peeblesshire, Selkirkshire, etc.)
 - ?

The problem perceived by this writer is that time will slip away and that no actions will be forthcoming, at least not any time soon.

6.0 Place Making – Town Action Plan

No tangible change at this time.

7.0 Live Borders

Awaiting the publication of the report and subsequent discussions with interest.

8.0 Police Report

Although the lists under each heading appear lengthy, again when neighbour disputes, no identified crime, etc are removed and only Peebles is considered, the level of crime appears low. The fire raising appears under vandalism and this seems to belittle, what is a very serious crime with a nasty potential.

Peter Maudsley
Chair
Peebles and District Community Council