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Sent: 06 November 2020 13:01
To: localplan
Subject: Local Plan

CAUTION: External Email

Hi,

I read that you were looking for ideas for your next 10 year plan for the Borders. I was born and went to school in Jedburgh, but I don't live there now, though I still have family and connections with the community (and an ancestor who was Provost a long time ago).

Jedburgh is a great town, with a great history. It's been sad to see the town centre full of gap sites and shrouded in scaffolding which never seems to go away.

It was great to see the new school in a recent visit and I hope it acts as a stimulus for regeneration, re-imagining and future developments.

Here are my thoughts, if they are of any use to you -

(1) The museums in Jedburgh don't really work and don't pay their way. I would look to create a new community led museum in the gap site on the High Street, with a cafe and entertainment space that would reinvigorate the High Street and provide a community Hub. For inspiration I would look to the Gairloch Museum and the Ceildh Place in Ullapool. For fun I would call it "Kaleidoscope", did you know that the Kaleidoscope was invented by David Brewster, a Jethart man?

(2) I would convert Mary Queen of Scots House into an up market B&B, or boutique Hotel. Who wouldn't want to stay in a hotel where Mary Queen of Scots stayed? Sleep in her bedroom even..

(3) I would convert the Castle Jail into two things -

(a) A wedding reception centre linked to the Abbey. Who would not want to get married in an Abbey where the last Celtic King of Scots was married...or have their reception where his castle stood?

(b) I would turn the Dunion into an outdoor cycling adventure centre and ebike hire (to get up the steep hill) bike repair and accomodation could be centred in the Old Castle jail.

(4) I would use the old school buildings in Jed as low cost Artist Studios and business start up premises (this modelled on Summerhall in Edinburgh).

(5) I would organise two new festivals for the Borders -

(a) A 'Border Ballads' Festival. A festival for new songs that could take place in a different Border town every year. £1000 prize money and a £5 voting ticket for all performances.

(b) A 'Mini-Me' Comedy Festival in Jedburgh, to be held in the last week of July (ie just before the Edinburgh Fringe). £1000 prize money, £5 per voting ticket.

(6) Come up with a clearly envisioned plan to link Jedburgh, The Kale Valley, Yetholm and Kelso as a

dedicated walking and cycling circuit, avoiding main and busy roads. Through community engagement encourage, signage, campsites, picnic areas along the Kale valley.

Best wishes

Steve Scott



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