

To:  
Secretary, Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill, Scottish Borders Council.  
Neil Hastie, Estates Manager, Scottish Borders Council.

From:  
Secretary, Friends of Kelso Museum

Dear Neil,

I write to ask if SBC would consider the following proposal, from the Friends of Kelso Museum:

**Proposal-**

To plant an orchard of 30-40 fruit trees in one or both of the small and vacant green spaces at the foot of Mayfield Lane (ie at the entrance to Klondyke Garden Centre and east of the Glebe field).

**Rationale-**

To re-create a small area of what was once Kelso Abbey Orchard in medieval times. The Abbey Orchard and Gardens would have extended along the entire length of Mayfield from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries. (See attached map of Kelso from 1823 – Appendix 1).

**Method-**

Under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill, to seek to form a partnership of Kelso community groups that would apply for funding to purchase the fruit trees and plant the orchard and then to rent the site from SBC, on a long term lease for a nominal fee.

**Maintenance-**


The community groups would be responsible for ongoing tree and grass maintenance.

**Endorsements-**

Kelso Community Council endorsed the proposal at their evening meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Please advise us on how we may begin to explore the opportunities described above.

Kind Regards

  
Secretary, Friends of Kelso Museum

**Appendix 1.** 1825 Map of Kelso showing the extent of the Orchards at Mayfield, Kelso



Map of Mayfield area of Kelso from 1823- Showing the two small green site(s) adjacent to the entrance to Klondyke Garden Centre, as Orchards.