

Minutes of the Lammermuir Community Council

Thursday 11th October 2018, 7.30 pm

Cranshaws Village Hall

Present:

- Alistair Dawson, Corinne Mycock, David Mycock, Clive Warsop and Tony Homer
- **SBC members:** Cllr Donald Moffat
- **Minute secretary:** Beth Landon

Apologies: Bill Landale and Keith Noddle

Agenda point	Action
<p>1. Welcome and apologies AD welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Bill Landale and Keith Noddle. Cllr Mark Rowley said he may arrive late, but did not make the meeting.</p> <p>AOB for discussion at the end: Scottish Power lines</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th June 2018 The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting. DM proposed, CM seconded</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising not listed for discussion below</p> <p>Community Consultation TH agreed with the conclusions arrived at in the previous meeting, which he was unable to attend.</p> <p>CM proposed to reabsorb the funds with LCF for the survey and all agreed.</p>	
<p>4. Treasurer's report</p> <p>CM reported that not much had changed since the last meeting. Money left in the LCC budget has gone down (some has been spent on defibrillators and some on paying the minute secretary).</p> <p>After the AGM all the accounts will be submitted to SBC and a £540 grant will then be released.</p> <p>£720 is ringfenced for secretary funding.</p> <p>Chairman is still due to submit expenses, so this will further reduce the LCC pot.</p>	AD

<p>Community survey and Village markers funds can be reabsorbed with LCF.</p> <p>Public Arts: funding is still being set aside for this, AD had a call from Ettie Spencer today about this.</p> <p>TH asked about why the £1000 agreed at LCF for defibs was not included in our accounts. CM said it should have been and she will produce a revised financial report. The Defibrillator kit is paid for, just installation of Ellemford defibrillator is outstanding. CM will check with Kim Drysdale (LCF treasurer) how much is left and will put remainder in our accounts. This has been included below:</p> <p>Bank balance 11/10/18 £4,568.61 £688.61 available in the LCC fund (not ring-fenced) £1180 ring fenced for the Walking Fund £2000 ring fenced for the Public Arts Strategy</p> <p>(LCC PROJECT FUNDING – RINGFENCED AT THE LCF) SECRETARY FUNDING £720.00 DEFIBRILLATOR FUNDING £629.66 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY (ringfenced) £13,000.00 BROADBAND £4,000.00</p>	<p>CM</p>
<p>5. Windfarms</p> <p>Aikengall II: Clr Mark Rowley emailed to say there is a huge battery storage area included in the plan for Aikengall IIa. Presumably this is to offset restraint payments.</p> <p>Apparently, others have also had difficulty with the operator (CWP) over community benefits. AD had been asked by SBC whether LCC is happy with the proposed way in which CWP will keep local residents informed about construction of Aikengall IIa . He replied that we would be once they have sorted out community benefits from Aikengall II. This has not yet been achieved. AD will write to CWP again.</p> <p>Cristal Rig IV: a planning application was submitted in June for additional turbines.</p> <p>General discontent was expressed on the growth of windfarms locally. It would appear Community Councils are powerless to affect progress; because we already have a large number of windfarms locally, objections to expansion are ignored. Concern was also expressed about the huge amounts of constraint payments.</p>	<p>AD</p>

<p>AD asked SBC view of Crystal Rig IV. Clr DM did not know. AD is in touch with Crystal Rig IV developers, so hopefully, at least we will get community benefits as and when generation starts.</p>	
<p>6. Defibrillators</p> <p>TH reported that the defibrillators are now installed in Cranshaws and Longformacus. Ellemford: there have been difficulties getting a power supply to the telephone box. An alternative location is at Rigfoot Farm. TH has spoken to the agent who has agreed to it being on the side of the barn. The electrician will be in touch next week.</p> <p>Colin Baxter is running a defibrillator training session on Saturday 13th October 2018. Then he can arrange for the defibrillators to be included on national register.</p>	
<p>7. Village Boundary Markers</p> <p>AD was given the go ahead for these at the last meeting, pending a response from SBC roads dept. AD has since met with the Council Highways representative, who approved of the plans, but said LCC would need planning permission and would need to use their modelling system to design the foundations and would need to use their contractors for the installations. All of this would vastly increase the cost of the project. Therefore, AD had decided not to go ahead, after consulting with the LCC via email, and the money has been reabsorbed with LCF.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to AD for all he has done on this.</p>	
<p>8. Website</p> <p>AD is still to meet up with the web developer as agreed at the meeting in June.</p> <p>CM asked whether she can point people to the current website, which Beth Landon is updating, via the Herald now. It has not yet been decided whether this website will be used or a new one developed, but this will be discussed at a meeting with the web developer and a small working group from LCC which AD will arrange. In the meantime, CM can point people towards the website.</p> <p>CM has not heard anything from Andrew Black yet about taking on the Community Herald, so she will keep doing it for now. It was mentioned that the Herald is very useful for communicating weather warnings etc via email, and that perhaps the Herald works better than a website would for rapidly communicating information to the community. CM clarified that there would be an email address</p>	<p>AD and CM</p>

<p>linked to the website, so everyone on the list would still get update notifications.</p> <p>It was mentioned that LCC could apply to LCF for funding for the website.</p> <p>AD pointed out that at the SBC resilient communities meeting, the Herald was shown to be a real asset. CM reminded everyone that the Herald relies on everyone feeding in information.</p>	
<p>9. Police reports</p> <p>3 reports have been received: July: child safely campaign, no incidents. 17 calls for the area, all road related or concerns for persons.</p> <p>27th June: damage caused to a trap, enquiries ongoing. Security, phone banking scams etc.</p> <p>6th July: threatening behaviour in Longformacus, person arrested. Quad bike stolen from Middlefield farm, Duns.</p> <p>A new policeman has been assigned to the community: PC Porter, who has been in contact to say he couldn't make this meeting.</p>	
<p>10. Planning</p> <p>There are two new planning applications:</p> <p>Crystal rig IV: plans have been submitted. See above.</p> <p>New holiday cottage: west of Whitchester lodge, near the polytunnels. AD showed all a plan to show the proposed location. No objections were raised. AD will report this back that LCC are happy with this application.</p> <p>Emergency services mast: AD had objected the proposed site and suggested that a better site might be at the workshop. As had been discussed in June at the LCC meeting, the number of houses impacted would reduce from 7 to 2, there would be better coverage, it was a brown-field site rather than agricultural and power was already available. Nevertheless, SBC had approved the plan.</p>	
<p>11. Correspondence received</p> <p>Some have been forwarded to LCC. In addition:</p> <p>Local biodiversity action plan: There is a public consultation on this, AD can email the link to anyone who wants.</p>	

Universal Credit: a request was received for a list of premises where members of the public can access computers for this. AD replied that there are none.

Roads: Longformacus to Ellemford road resurfacing will go ahead, this will be a short overlay scheme in 2018/19
The road into Duns, from Milburn bridge past Burnhouses, will also be resurfaced in the near future.

AD will forward any further correspondence of note.

12. Progress review

Chair's review after 18 months in the post:

Windfarms. LCC has had no impact on planning and is unlikely to do so. We have got no-where on securing community benefit payments from Aikengall II.

Broadband: After considerable effort to access broadband through Community Broadband Scotland, this was wound up and we are now simply having to wait R100.

Village signs: see above.

Planning: LCC's strong objections to the planning application on The Row and emergency services mast were both ignored.

Overall AD reported a sense that there has not been much progress made. Community Councils give a suggestion of local democracy, but in reality, are impotent. He had seriously considered resigning, but after consideration, will keep going as Chair.

Comments on the progress review

AD pointed out the work on defibrillators has succeeded, and thanked TH for this.

CM also mentioned the ongoing success of the Herald and that it was useful for AD to have discovered that this is fulfilling a similar role to that of resilient communities groups elsewhere.

13. Any other business

Power lines

Scottish Power have been doing a survey on the power lines.

<p>There are 2 lines within the community. One from the substation at Longformacus to Abbey St Bathans and another line along the back from the Baker's farm. The latter was being considered for possible replacement 5 years ago, and now this might be happening. A new line would be installed, then the old one shut off, with minimal disruption to power supply. The company subcontracted to do the work showed CM and DM the plans.</p> <p>Broadband CM may approach Borderlink to see what it would cost to bounce Broadband from Burnhouses, as Walter Murray had approached the LCF to say this may be possible at the last meeting. Radio broadband can be bounced at quite a large radius now. AD pointed out that if this was done, the community will not be eligible for BT R100 broadband roll out. CM may go ahead as an individual.</p> <p>Longformacus is meant to be upgraded in November, with fibre to the premises not to the cabinet. No timescale has been announced yet for Cranshaws. The Government has promised that everywhere will have access to high speed broadband by 2021. Paul Wheelhouse has a new position covering broadband and Cllr DM suggested inviting him to a meeting so LCC can ask him for more information. AD to contact him.</p>	<p>AD</p>
<p>14. Date of next meeting</p> <p>AGM: Thursday 13th December in Longformacus at 7:30pm</p>	

AD closed the meeting at 8:55pm