

Lammermuir Community Council
Ordinary General Meeting
Thursday 12th September 2019 at 7.30 pm
Cranshaws Village Hall
Minutes

Present:

- Alistair Dawson, Corinne Mycock, David Mycock, Bill Landale, Tony Homer
- **SBC members:** Cllr. Mark Rowley
- **Minute secretary:** Beth Landon
- **Also present:** Kieran Davie and John Seed from Borderlink

Agenda point	Action
<p>1. Welcome and apologies Cllr Donald Moffat and PC Ian Porter</p>	
<p>2. Broadband (moved to point 2 at the meeting)</p> <p>Alex Cacciamani, Managing Director sent his apologies as he had to attend a 5G meeting.</p> <p>Background John Seed (Director) gave some background to Borderlink and presented the possibilities for the Lammermuir area. Borderlink has been running for just over two years, and is a Borders based company, established due to demand in the area. They cover a wide area of the Scottish Borders reaching into Northumberland and are moving into Dumfries and Galloway. They have over 1000 customers and operate a self-healing system, which can accommodate issues while not disrupting service. Borderlink are confident that they can connect every house in the area through their wireless technology.</p> <p>R100 rollout The Scottish Government probably won't award any contract for R100 until the end of the year, but even this time frame is not certain. 150,000 homes in Scotland are covered under R100 announcement, including 35,000 in Borders. However, 3000 to 7000 homes in the Borders will not be covered by R100 (~1/6 of homes). An "aligned intervention scheme" will run in parallel to R100 for those not easily reached by fibre; however coverage by R100 needs to be established first, so there could be a long wait for this. 5G may be in place before R100.</p> <p>Installation</p>	

Kieran Davie (Lead Network Engineer) showed the antenna which would be installed in each household: varying sizes of antennae, all very compact, and a small router. The longest distance from antenna to relay is just over 20km with direct line of sight.

They work in three teams to set up installation and can each connect up three properties a day, so nine households a day can be set up.

Costs

£250 for smallest antennae installation. This is covered by a UK Gov 'Better Broadband' voucher, if the landline Broadband Speed is less than 2Mb/s.

Borderlink can help people apply for these vouchers.

£30 / month plus VAT for unlimited usage package (two-year contract).

Speeds

With Borderlink's superfast broadband you are able to stream TV and films, play online video games, surf the internet, stream music all at the same time and have a VOIP landline telephone.

They have business packages which give speeds of 45 MB/sec to 100MB/sec.

Case study

Hermitage, on the road from Hawick to Langham, one of most remote points in Borders. Borderlink met with the Community Council and one of the landlords funded a relay, which can bounce from one property to another. The community now has around 85% coverage, and this will reach full coverage in time.

Disqualification from R100?

MR said his understanding is that if we go for this it won't disqualify the community from R100, but this is not certain.

Rural Gigabit Connectivity programme

Also available and is done on a community basis, although this will stop once R100 is announced and takes longer to set up compared to going with Borderlink.

Households already with BT

May be able to get out of contracts due to low speeds, but if not, they can either wait until BT contract is up, or pay for both during overlap. Timing differences will not be an issue for Borderlink.

Longformacus fibre connection

A small area in Longformacus is covered by fibre, around 30 properties. This won't be an issue for Borderlink.

<p>5G Coming soon and will be even better, with faster speeds. Signal can travel further and doesn't need a direct line of sight. Large amounts of funding will be available but Borderlink would need to partner with SBC to set this up. 500MB for antenna system Over 1 GB for 5G Eventually Borderlink will transfer over to 5G, and they will change the kit for the community.</p> <p>Satellite Broadband Some from the community use satellite broadband. This won't be an issue when it comes to testing speeds for voucher eligibility: as long as there is still a BT line Borderlink can test what the speed would be through this.</p> <p>Action plan The following plan of action from our area was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCC to establish demand from the community, just a simple opt in or out from each household, by sending out postcards • Borderlink will then survey those who opted in, to establish what tech would be required for each household and BBUK eligibility, and work out the best and cheapest way to cover the area required • Borderlink can then either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculate a total installation cost for the whole community, taking the vouchers from BBUK into account • OR work out which households are eligible for vouchers and which aren't, and calculate the cost for the latter • LCC will then decide how to fund <p>Options for funding Borderlink are able to cover the cost of installation and recover this over the two-year contract. Alternatively, LCF funding could be used. Or a combination.</p>	<p>CM and AD</p>
<p>3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th February 2019</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting. DM proposed, TH 2nd</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising not listed for discussion below</p> <p>Funds still available for the defibrillators will be left with LCF in case consumables are needed.</p>	

<p>As Keith Noddle and Bill Renton have resigned there are now only six community councillors. If this goes down to five another election will be required. AD will check the constitution to see whether another election is due this year or not and if need be will check with Clare Malster at SBC. MR informed us that community councils now have to ask SBC to run the election and SBC handle all the admin required.</p>	<p>AD</p>
<p>5. Treasurer's report</p> <p>Bank balance is £4,695.25</p> <p>LCC funds available: £ 815.25</p> <p>Ringfenced funds: Walking fund has £1,880 Public Art Strategy has £2,000 – decided at LCF this could be used for paying artists for quotes</p> <p>LCC PROJECT FUNDING – RINGFENCED AT THE LCF: SECRETARY £720.00 (not needed this so far as enough in LCC funds) DEFIBRILLATOR £256.07 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY (ringfenced) £13,000.00 COMMUNITY BROADBAND £3,903.00 COMMUNITY WEBSITE £1757.00</p>	<p>CM</p>
<p>6. Windfarms</p> <p>Aikengall II LCF have now signed the contract for community benefit payments of £50,000 a year. A first payment of £69, 850 has been received for this year (back dated). This will be used for legacy projects.</p> <p>Fallago II MR – public enquiry was 2017, still no outcome announced yet</p>	
<p>7. Website</p> <p>Moving ahead. The site map has been circulated and agreed. Jonathan Nicholson has sent pages to AD to fill in the text, and he is currently working on this. AD will send out sections to the relevant people for text. Jonathan is well through the development stage and will be working on configuration next.</p>	<p>AD</p>

<p>The Herald now has a new email address theherald@lammermuirlife.co.uk Once the new website is up and running LCC will inform the community via postcards.</p>	
<p>8. SP Energy Networks (local power supply)</p> <p>The community received a letter apologising for the number of power cuts. AD invited Euan Norris from SP Energy Networks to tonight's meeting, but did not hear back (he had been planning to come to May's meeting which was cancelled). AD has recently discovered that Euan Norris has changed roles now. One of the issues is the wires aren't up to spec, and when geese crash into them, they can short. New lines of a higher spec will be installed starting early next year.</p>	
<p>9. Telephone box consultation</p> <p>BT have informed LCC (via SBC) of their proposed plan to close Longformacus and Cranshaws phone boxes and have given time for a response from the community. CM emailed everyone in the area and had just three or four responses from individuals. These requested that the boxes are maintained in case of emergency because mobile signal is weak. AD has responded to SBC requesting for the boxes to be kept and added that if the boxes are to be disconnected the community would like to adopt them. The boxes would not have power but could be used for a mini library for example.</p>	
<p>10. Police reports</p> <p>Court case with former game keeper in Longformacus – police found 32 cats on his 'trophy list', which explains disappearing cats in the past.</p> <p>August Campaigns on anti-rape, student safety and road safety No road traffic or antisocial behaviour incidents Five police incidents including the theft of legal animal traps and an abandoned vehicle</p> <p>July Campaigns on summer heat safety and cyber stalking Police are recruiting No incidents</p> <p>June Campaigns on summer heat safety and suspicious emails One minor traffic collision</p>	

<p>Two incidents of meddling with lawful animal traps Four police incidents</p>	
<p>11. Planning</p> <p>No new applications since the last meeting</p> <p>Honey cottage replacement windows. LCC had no objections but SBC refused permission. The owners have appealed to the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Riverside Cottage extension has been approved</p> <p>11kV Overhead line between the Longformacus substation and Rawburn has been approved</p>	
<p>12. Correspondence received</p> <p>Dog education(!) officer for SBC offered a range of services.</p> <p>Cycling UK regional development officer offered various training sessions e.g. bike fixing and building cyclists confidence for commuting</p> <p>Review of polling districts and places: SBC want to know that all electors have reasonable and practicable access to polling stations. AD to respond to say how important the village halls are in enabling this to be the case.</p>	AD
<p>13. Any other business</p> <p>MR clarified that at the community council election all councillors have to step down and be reappointed. An election is only required if 11 nominations or more are received for the 10 places.</p>	
<p>14. Date of next meeting Thursday 28th November or 5th December 2019 in Longformacus (TBC)</p>	

Meeting closed at 9:10