

# Lammermuir Community Council

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Longformacus Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Frances Renton(FR, Maureen Ferguson (returning officer) (MF)), Alistair Dawson (AD), Anthony (Tony) Homer(TH), William (Bill) Landale(BL), Corinne Mycock (CM), David Mycock (DM), Cheryl Philipson(CP), Keith Noddle (KN), Mark Rowley(MR), Clive Warsop(CWa)

Apologies: Cllr John Greenwell, Rosetta (Carol) White

Public: Bill Renton(BR), Forbes Gamley(FG)

Maureen took on the role as Chairperson, invited all the new Councillors to the meeting and continued with asking each new Member to introduce themselves.

The new Community Council Members are:

[Alistair Dawson](#), [Anthony Homer](#), [William Landale](#), [Corinne Mycock](#), [David Mycock](#), [Keith Noddle](#), [Cheryl Philipson](#), [Mark Rowley](#), [Clive Warsop](#), [Rosetta White](#)

## Election of Office bearers:

Chairperson: AD proposed Mark Rowley  
DM seconded Mark Rowley

Nobody else expressed interest to take over the role of Chairman. MR was hoping somebody would stand up but since this wasn't the case said he would do it for only 1 more year and will stand down at the next AGM.

Due to the very busy year ahead the CC decided that it would be helpful to elect a Vice Chairperson to support the Chairman.

Vice Chairperson: DM proposed Clive Warsop, who declined due to work commitments.

AD nominated by MR, seconded by CP and supported by the whole CC.

Secretary: CM was asked if she would like to continue, with many other community commitments she would like somebody else to take over. None of the committee was willing to take on the role so after discussions the decision was made to hire an external secretary.

BR to ask Dawn Darling, secretary of the Longformacus Village Improvement Committee if she would be interested in the work.

CM agreed to stay on until a replacement was found.

Treasurer: CM agreed to remain as Treasurer. Proposed by BL, seconded by KN.

## The Code of Conduct:

The Code had been e-mailed to all the new Councillors in advance of the meeting. It was read out and discussed at the meeting. All Councillors agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct.

TH- asked how the CC dealt with 'conflict of interest' situations.

MR- It is usual to raise it at the start of the meeting. It usually only comes up if there is a clear pecuniar interest or financial gain.

FR- also planning interests could create conflicts of interest.

TH- Is on the board of the Berwickshire Housing Association and worried this could potentially lead to a conflict of interest.

MF- had been on BHA board for 10 years and never encountered this problem.

(After taking a short break for refreshments the Community Council continued with the meeting)

(The minutes of the previous Meeting of the 28 Sept '16 were circulated to the new CC members by e-mail.)

Minutes of previous meeting: approved, proposed MR, seconded Cwa

Cwa- With mentioning the calculations for the 11% of the remaining broadband funding, being a reachable target divided by 100 households, he did not mean he expected people to pay out £150 themselves.

Chairman's report: covered in the AGM.

Treasurer's report: Bank balance as of 13<sup>th</sup> Dec £4079.28, Comm. Council £499.28, Walking Fund £1580, Public Art Strategy £2000, Comm. Survey and Events (LCF) £3240, Initial Broadband Funding (LCF) £4000

Broadband: MR - With her knowledge and experience Cheryl Philipson would be perfectly placed to take on the Broadband subject. CP kindly agreed to do this.

CP- Longformacus Tel. Exchange is now full. This will hopefully expedite work being done to improve the Broadband situation. MR- latest time table by BT suggests this will not happen before the last quarter of 2017.

MR- between this meeting and the next we need to organise events to explain to people where we are with broadband and what our possibilities are going into the future.

In addition to this we need to sound out farmers and landowners about their willingness to give access to their land.

Planning Matters: None

Windfarms: covered in Chairman's Report.

Cwa- Will the public inquiry for Fallago Rig re-tread the same ground as before, in 2008?

MR- it will be up to the Reporter to decide what information he takes into account.

We will be invited to a pre-inquiry meeting.

Cwa- the situation is more sensitive now with the increased density of the turbines.

Telephone Boxes: covered in Chairman's Report

NHS: FR- The Integration of Health and Social Care are slowly progressing. In practice it is hard work to make the two come together. From a promising start the integration has fallen behind plan and is now playing catch-up.

MR- Has FR heard about any planned closures or cancellations?

FR: Knoll Hospital is less likely be closed anymore, Dr Bruce Auld appointed.

To her knowledge, the NHS are not looking at any closures.

Website:

MR- First a Thank you to KN for sorting out the Website.

KN had a constructive meeting with a small working group consisting of Website representatives of some of the Community user groups.

He revealed a Framework for the Website with the key argument that this system makes the updating and maintenance very simple.

Still, it would take a lot of time to initially populate the website. It is also important to maintain consistency in style and cohesiveness, it needs a 'Style Editor'.

There will be a calendar to tie everything together and a 'yellow pages' of sorts to feature local businesses. It's important to create a picture of the wider Lammermuir Community as a whole.

CP- invited 'the photographers' to send in pictures.

The Website Group has decided that it would be best to hire somebody to manage the input of information and asks the CC to support this. There is sufficient funding set aside for Website Development at the Community Fund to pay for it.

KN is to ascertain how much time is needed to enter the initial data, and will concur with one or two community groups to get a better idea of the exact needs.

The CC is supportive of the general principle to allocate the resources already allocated to the website, in order to get it going again.

MR- Thanked KN again for his work and for guiding us through.

#### Roads:

Cwa – there is a marked improvement to some roads

MR- although there have been repairs there is one increasingly deeper and more dangerous on top of the hill on the Duns Road.

FG- Still no white lines at the top of the Hardens, just where the fog forms. Two near accidents recently.

FR- to take it further with the SBC

#### Police:

Last year we agreed that it is sufficient for the police to e-mail us their reports for our meetings.

We do have a new Community Officer, Lee Harper.

#### Trees:

MF- The beech trees in front of the Lammermuir Cottages in Cranshaws are getting too tall, which is starting to worry the residents. In addition to taking a lot of light away they are also becoming dangerous if they would fall over. She has contacted the SBC but they don't take the responsibility.

MR- to write Cranshaws Estate

#### Consultations: none

#### Community Resilience Planning:

MR- The SBC has asked us again if we would like to form a Comm. Resilience Group. Since everybody helps everybody anyway and there are no Insurance advantages connected, there is no enthusiasm for the idea.

Settlement Markers: no progress, moved to next meeting.

#### Correspondence:

Rages – rail action group asks our support for the possible opening of the station at Reston. (MR to write)

Scottish Civic Trust- My place photography, looking for entries

Walking Festival – decided was to express an interest to host the Walking Festival for either 2018, 2019 or 2020. (MR to send back form before the 16<sup>th</sup> of December)

#### Future Agenda Items:

Community Planning, Website

DONM: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 (Longformacus Village Hall)

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (Cranshaws Village Hall) (CM to inform police)

AOB: MR asked both the Committee as the members of the public, no AOB

At 10.15 pm MR thanked all for attending and closed the meeting