

**Cranshaws, Ellemford and Longformacus Community Association
Lammermuir Community Fund**

**Tuesday 2 June 2020
Meeting held online via Zoom at 7.30pm**

**Minutes
General Meeting**

Trustees in attendance: Alison Landale, Corinne Mycock, David Mycock, Bill Landale, Ettie Spencer, Ian Davidson, Alistair Dawson, Wendy Dawson-Young, Alison Rodger, Robin Smith, Clive Warsop, Melvin Landale (attended for first part of meeting)

Also present: Kim Drysdale (finance), Robert Landon (technical support with Zoom), Kathleen White (minutes, standing in for Beth Landon), Sharon Baker, Heather Bewick, Graeme Walker

1. Welcome/Apologies

Alison welcomed everyone and checked that they were familiar with using Zoom.
Apologies: Stuart Blaikie

2. Minutes/Matters Arising

- **Strimmer** – AD confirmed that Anthony Philipson’s work email address is (or will shortly be) on the website. The strimmer has been added to the Community Asset Register.
- **Shed** – CW said that the shed has now been removed. He noted that what he stated was, there is a time limit on its availability as the Estate will take control of the allotment shortly and thereafter the shed also.
- **Community Assets** – everyone was again reminded to inform CM about anything that needs to be added to the Community Asset Register
- **Old Kirk improvements** – ID said that the joiner was present and work was due to start on the first day of lockdown. The joiner made a template of the window and he has since made a beautiful job of the top section of the frame. **ID will follow this up.**
- **Lammermuir Ladies Group, Clay Target Shooting, Longformacus Mums & Tots, Stitch & Craft, Windmill Café, Singing Group** – all on hold due to lockdown
- **Northumberland Theatre Group** – may be able to happen in September as planned
- **ReTweed** – Pauline Stewart has finished production of the reusable sanitary pads and has distributed some of them. Initial feedback is good.
- **CELCA2** – AD contacted Community Windpower (Aikengall II) about the overdue payment of £25K. This has now been received by LCF, plus the next payment, so £50K in total.
- **Duns Golf Club** – on hold due to lockdown
- **Duns Ceilidh Club** – the funding has been used, but no ceilidh dance lessons have taken place since then due to lockdown

- **Riding lessons** – no information available. **AL said that the applicant may need a reminder.**
- **BAVS (new MPV)**
 - at this point in the meeting it was thought that the new vehicle was already in use, however KD later advised that the funding has not yet been drawn down. In the meantime it was noted that BAVS very helpfully offered to deliver food and medicines to the CELCA community during lockdown, and that this service has been used where required.
 - CW stated that he did not make the comment about BAVS funding which was attributed to him in the minutes. He said he had supported the application, which he described as ‘superb’.
- **Kilt-making** – this is not taking place at present and the funding has not been used. AL proposed that the funds should be re-absorbed and that the applicant should be invited to re-apply to a future meeting. This course of action was proposed by CM, seconded by ID. **AL will speak to Rachel.**
- **Longformacus Village Hall Improvements** – CW referred to his comments at the last meeting about the level of public consultation. He believes that adequate consultation did not take place, and he said that other unnamed individuals share this view. ES stated that local consultation did take place and that the project is going ahead. CM said that the plans had been available for a long time, for local residents to comment on, and that this was well publicised. WDY said that the plans were also available to view on the SBC website as part of the public planning process which resulted in planning permission being granted. AL acknowledged CW’s views. **AL asked ES to keep local residents updated about progress with the hall improvements.**

Minutes approved – proposed by WDY, seconded by ES

3. Chair’s Report

AL said that there is no chair’s report, except to note that there are 2 new trustees from the Community Council – Morag Rodger and Elizabeth Willis. CM said that they were sent notification of this meeting. **CM will send their details to KD so that he can notify OSCR.**

4. Treasurer’s Report

KD spoke to his report.

CELCA 1

29 May 2020: £138,826.08

19/20 Participants’ contribution: £426.00

Current balance: £138,400.08

Allocated to projects: £101,261.74

Set aside for running costs: £3,000.00

Available for funding: £34,138.34

CELCA 2

29 May 2020: £88,362.99

Current balance: £88,362.99

Allocated to projects: £127,450.99

Available for funding: -£39,088.00

CM invited AD to update the meeting on the next Aikengall II payment. AD said that a further £25K will be due at the end of October 2020, and the same amount again at the end of March 2021.

It was noted by CM that if the Longformacus Hall Improvements work goes quickly, there may not be enough in CELCA2 to cover the cost, however the amount set aside in CELCA1 would cover any deficit.

KD noted that £35K from the other wind farm will be due in Aug/Sept 2020.

ReTweed – CM said that the outstanding balance of 06p will be re-absorbed

Community Newsletter

- CM asked if the outstanding balance of £994.27 is going to be used
- BL said that no progress has been made as yet. He won't do it alone and needs input from others, so he wants to be contacted by anyone who is interested or willing to help.
- AD & WDY noted that a lot of the information previously included in the newsletter is now available on the website. BL agreed that this has implications for the content of the newsletter.
- AL & WDY spoke in favour of a more 'chatty', 'newsy' newsletter produced perhaps twice a year. This would depend on people being willing to contribute. WDY said that more discussion is needed and she proposed that the balance shouldn't be re-absorbed at this point.
- BL noted that some local residents don't have internet access, and they need to be taken into account. CW suggested that trustees should try to find out how many people this applies to. ES said that people should not be prevented on cost grounds from having internet access, which is now considered essential.
- **BL agreed to draft a letter (about the newsletter) which will be posted out to local residents. He was asked to consider including information for new residents about the Community Herald email list.**
- This course of action was proposed by ES and seconded by CW

Strimmer – it was proposed that KD should set up a new budget of £500 for the maintenance of the community strimmer. This was agreed, proposed by DM, seconded by BL. **Action – KD**

Longformacus Notice Board – ES reported that the new notice board is up and in use. She asked that if a bill comes in for the labour of erecting the board, this should be paid from the notice board funding.

5. Applications for Funding

1) Ellemford Show – £3,417.88 – Sharon Baker

SB advised that Crystal Rig has approved the other 50% of the funding. There will be a meeting soon to decide whether the show can go ahead this year. If it doesn't go ahead, funding approved today will be re-absorbed.

Approved in full

Proposed by ID, seconded by AD

2) Swimming – £11,450 – Sharon Baker

- According to the treasurer's records, there is still a balance of £3,537 remaining. SB questioned this. According to her records, there should be no balance remaining. KD and SB agreed to check this out.
- AD asked how this project has been affected by Covid, and whether there would be any rebate on the current season's memberships. SB said that the swimming pool will struggle financially and that in her opinion no rebate should be requested. SB thinks it unlikely that people with individual subsidised memberships will expect a rebate. She said that in terms of the new season, she emailed everyone on the list. A few people (3 or 4) are not continuing, and a similar number of new people want to join, so the overall numbers are about the same.
- WDY queried whether funding in excess of £10K for one project could be approved at this meeting. There was a brief discussion about the relevant point in the constitution. This meeting is a public meeting and it was widely advertised online, which accords with the rule, however notice of this specific project proposal was not posted on local notice boards. SB said that she submitted her application to cover the full period during which memberships are due to expire, but the funding is not all required immediately. ID proposed awarding less now, and more at the next meeting. ES wondered if we should look in due course at changing the constitution, but it was felt that this was too difficult. CW said it was important to stick to the constitution. ES suggested awarding £10K now and the balance at the next meeting. It was acknowledged that there is some uncertainty due to Covid. SB thanked everyone.

Interim funding of £10K approved

Proposed by WDY, seconded by ES

For further consideration at the next meeting

3) Longformacus Parent & Toddler Group – £1,320 – Heather Bewick

- AL asked when the group is likely to be able to start up again. HB said that the mothers are very keen, but there has been no word as yet from the Scottish Government about a date when nurseries and playgroups can re-open.
- CW asked for more information about the proposed storage system, and HB said that it will consist of plastic boxes. CW asked whether these would be

stored in the main hall. HB said that they will be stored as needed, sometimes downstairs.

- WDY said she would support more money being provided for play and learning resources.
- CW asked if the funds will be re-absorbed if the group doesn't start up again. AL said it's very unlikely that the group will be unable to start up again, but it will re-open only when government guidance allows.
- AL sent her very best wishes to all the parents.

Approved in full

Proposed by CM, seconded by WDY

4) Bat/bird/owl boxes and webcams – £3,215 – Melvin Landale

- It was noted that although ML had been present for the first part of the meeting, he had now unfortunately dropped off Zoom. AL said that this was most likely due to a broadband issue. RL agreed, and said that ML's internet had dropped out several times before he finally disappeared.
- CM asked about the time-lapse camera funded previously by LCF. AL said it was quite different equipment and that there was some footage which ML is offering to put on the website if that would work. AL also said that it is available for community members to use. CW stated that the use of the time-lapse camera is on hold at present due to Covid.
- CM said that she would like to see a more detailed breakdown of the figures in the application.
- AD, who is an experienced ecologist & ornithologist, and runs the community website, said that he would like to discuss the project with ML. He has some questions about how it would work from a technical point of view.
- WDY said that the project is a lovely idea, it's just that the technicalities aren't clear at this point.
- AL & AD agreed that this is not the ideal time of year for the project, and so there is no immediate rush. **AD is willing to follow up and discuss with ML.**
- DM said that he has already agreed to sign the application as an unrelated trustee. AD said that he is also willing to sign the application if he is in agreement after he has spoken with ML.

Decision on hold pending further discussion

Proposed by AD, seconded by AR

For further consideration at the next meeting

6. Music Appreciation – discussion

- There is still £1,600 in the budget.
- The tutor GW was previously a local resident but he has now moved to Edinburgh. He would like to continue to offer monthly sessions in Longformacus Village Hall, from September through to spring 2021. He is asking for an additional £10 per session to cover his mileage.

- It was noted that there's no requirement for a tutor to be a local resident. A local resident has to submit the funding application, however in this case the funds have already been awarded.
- WDY asked if it would be possible to offer the sessions on Zoom if lockdown remains in place. GW said that although he has successfully run other sessions on Zoom, there are technical issues that would prevent him from doing so in this case. GW said that if Longformacus Hall can't be used because of building work, he would propose running the sessions in Cranshaws Hall. It was confirmed that an adequate sound system, projector & screen are available in Cranshaws.

Decision: AL proposed that the £1,600 balance should remain in the budget until the sessions can go ahead locally. She also proposed that the mileage cost of £10 per session should come out of the existing budget. Proposed by CW, seconded by WDY.

7. Any other business

None

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 2 September in Cranshaws Village Hall (all being well)

AL thanked Robert Landon for his technical help and she sent everyone's best wishes to Beth.

Note from meeting on 2.9.20 at which these minutes were approved by trustees

CW requested the following amendments to the minutes from the meeting on 4.3.20, but this was after the March minutes had been approved and therefore could not be changed. It was agreed at on 2.9.20 that these amendments would be recorded with these minutes instead (original wording in italics):

Matters arising:

Shed – *still available. CW suggested that anyone who wants this should ask the Estate, but to leave it a few weeks, as the Estate may decide the shed is now their property.*

Replace with:

Shed – it is still available now. However, CW stated that there is a time limit on its availability as the Estate will take control of the allotment and the shed shortly.

BAVS Wheels Vehicle Application

CW said that although it is a valuable service, should we fund proportionally?

Replace with:

CW said – There is no doubt that this is a valuable service, but we must make ourselves aware that this could set a precedent for others to follow. This service also works outwith the area that is appropriate for our funds, and we as committee must make it clear that this is a one-off payment, needed now, to allow an essential service to continue.

Remove:

CW thought this is a lot of money when we have a big deficit on CELCA 2

AOB – Longformacus Village Hall Improvements

CW questioned the level of public consultation on the hall improvements. It was pointed out that there has been consultation and funding has already been agreed to give this the go ahead.

To be added to this:

CW replied: although funding has been granted by the LCF this is in no way linked to whether the hall improvements would be accepted and given the go ahead by the local community.