

Lammermuir Community Council
Ordinary General Meeting

Wednesday 22nd June 2022 at 7:30pm via Teams

Minutes

Present: Councillors:

Bill Landale (BL), Tony Homer (TH), Clive Warsop (CW), Johnny Fisher (JF)

Minute Secretary: Dianne Repsch (DR)

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies:

Apologies: Morag Rodger, Anna Dabrowska, Adam Prokopowicz, Alastair Gordon, Cllr Mark Rowley, Cllr Donald Moffat

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th May 2022

The OGM Minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting subject to the following amendments:
Proposed JF 2nd TH

Amendments:

Page 2, 2nd para up. BL raised that MR had said that LCC should write to LCF (CELCA) expressing disappointment that funds had been repurposed without proper consultation. BL clarified that this has now been dealt with as it was raised and discussed at the LCF meeting on the 7th June.

BL Page 2, 3rd para up. The following sentence should be amended to read: The motion would also state that in future LCF should advise LCC of any funds that are being reviewed in advance and LCC should have the opportunity to agree to them or not.

Page 6 para 3 It was noted that CW would like this paragraph re-worded as follows: CW said: As the community had been excluded from Longformacus Village Hall Committee meetings when long-term financial decisions were being made, there is a general feeling of being disenfranchised, especially as 6 figure sums are being spent on two local projects, when some villagers are in need of help at a time of rising food and energy costs. CW confirmed that the projects he was referring to were the village hall extension, knocking down and putting in the internet cafe, and Longformacus Park.

It was noted that the comment made by CW on the community being excluded from the Longformacus Village Hall Committee meetings was not an accurate representation and was not accepted by BL (Chairman).

3. Matters Arising:

LCF (CELCA)

CW said that the funds for any LCF project should not be repurposed without the person who applied for the funds or the person who is responsible for the fund being present.

BL confirmed that at the LCF meeting it was agreed that there should be a 2 year threshold and if the funds had not been used within that period then LCF can re-absorb them. Unless a request has been made to

extend. This is set out in the minutes of the LCF meeting which took place on the 7th June 2022.

CW asked if a courtesy reminder would be sent to the person whose fund it is. BL confirmed that LCF would do this as a matter of course.

Action Point document:

BL raised Action Point 5: The planting of the trees was superseded by the decision that LCC didn't have any suitable pieces of publicly accessible ground where LCC would be able to plant trees.

JF confirmed that LCC were trying to link this with the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and it was thought that the planting of trees as a community was a good thing to do. LCC could support this and let people know where to obtain free trees and offer support to those in the community who were interested in planting trees.

BL if it was publicised via the Herald or a postcard LCC would be glad to help with advice on how to source the trees if anyone in the community would like to do that. If anyone was interested they could apply to LCF for money for the trees and it could be raised at the next LCF meeting. As LCF would be the source of the funds LCC would be acting as the middleman and this would avoid using the Woodland Trust.

Action Point 4. TH asked if a request had been made at the last LCF meeting on 7th June for the extraordinary meeting which was discussed at the last LCC meeting on 18th May 2022. BL confirmed it had not been raised as it is now not necessary.

4. Treasurer's Report

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Bank Balance 22-06-2022 | £3,149.13 |
| Payments (in transit) | £0.00 |
| COMMUNITY COUNCIL | £1,444.10 |
| SBC COVID-19 FUNDING (ring fenced - no change) | £330.03 |
| WALKING FUND (ring fenced - no change) | £2,000.00 |
| <u>(LCC PROJECT FUNDING – RING FENCED AT THE LCF)</u> | |
| DEFIBRILLATOR (incl AED training) (no change) | £884.47 |
| COMMUNITY BROADBAND | £1,000.00 |
| COMMUNITY WEBSITE | £617.45 |

5. Planning Applications:

No Planning applications received since the last meeting.

6. Resilience Sub Group (RSG) Report:

CW confirmed that Corine Craik's application to reinstate the community larder was approved at the last LCF meeting on 7th June and £100 per week was being used to stock the larder. BL said that this had been good timing as the Resilience Sub Group (RSG) would have taken time to come to its conclusions and there was a feeling that something needed to be done quickly.

JF confirmed that LCF would need to have approval from the Wind Farm in relation to the electrical subsidy payment to the community. The RSG in the meantime have been working on the practicalities of the scheme, who would apply and how to make it happen.

TH confirmed that he had followed up with Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) about the potential impact of the electrical subsidy payment if someone was on universal credit. TH has a meeting scheduled with CAB and would report back so that any information can be included in any future announcements.

JF felt it was unlikely to be an issue but it would be good to know in advance so that we can reassure anyone in the community who applies for the subsidy that if they are receiving a payment that this would not affect their benefits.

7. Updates from Council Members:

No updates raised.

8. Matters arising not listed above:

No matters raised.

9. Correspondence Received:

No correspondence received

10. Any other business:

Paths Maintenance Grant: A general discussion took place regarding the local community path maintenance grant which is available to reimburse annual maintenance costs incurred up to the value of £450. This is for pathways or improving works undertaken and includes grass cutting, vegetation removal, surfacing and installation of gates etc. and can also go towards purchasing the necessary tools and machinery. JF raised whether the grant could be used to help local landowners with the maintenance of the paths that cross their land, in particular the Cranshaws Path. TH confirmed that if it is a long distance footpath the maintenance would be SBC such as the Southern Upland Way.

Action Point 1: It was agreed that an announcement from The Herald should go out to the community asking for information on any footpaths in disrepair and LCC would then contact SBC on behalf of the community to have repairs carried out.

Community Councillors Vacancies: A discussion took place on how to fill the recent vacancies on the Community Council.

Action Point 2: BL agreed to take this in hand and would report on progress at the next meeting.

CELCA/LCF:

Alison Landale (AL) joined the meeting to update the CC's on developments from the last LCF meeting which took place on the 7th June 2022. AL confirmed that if the wind farm approves the electrical funding subsidy then LCF would send a postcard asking the community to apply for the payment.

AL further confirmed that discussions were taking place with the Resilience Sub Group (RSG) as to how to make the payments once the approval had come through from the Wind Farm taking into account the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If the payment was sent by cheque then LCF would know the correct person was receiving the payment. Although this would be more time consuming as a cheque would have to be countersigned and posted. If everyone applies for the £100 this would be 15k which is above the LCF threshold so an extraordinary meeting would need to be held for this amount to be approved.

The CC's felt that if everyone in the community accepted the funding this would mean they were thereby agreeing it was acceptable.

AL however stated that correct procedures would need to be followed.

BL said that if the LCF has a ceiling of 10k then perhaps the way forward would be to wait until the 10k has been claimed and then have another application for the remaining 5k. As at this stage LCF don't know what the response will be and whether the amount claimed would go over the threshold.

11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 31st August 2022 at 7.30p.m. via Teams

Meeting closed at 20.45