

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

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
7.00pm Longformacus Village Hall**

**Minutes  
Annual General Meeting**

**Trustees in attendance:** Alison Landale (AL Chairperson), Bill Landale (BL), Alison Rodger (Vice Chair AR), Ian Davidson (ID Interim Treasurer), Clive Warsop (CW), Adam Prokopowicz (AP), Ettie Spencer (ES), Alistair Gordon (AG), Morag Rodger (MR)

**Also present:** Paula Easton (PE minutes), Kim Drysdale (KD finance), Corine, Greig & Cari Silver, Jonathan Wood, Kathleen White, Georgina Coleman, Hedley Tomlyn (HT), Heather Bewick.

**1. Welcome/Apologies**

Apologies: Anna Dabrowska, Tony Homer, Melvin Landale

AL welcomed everybody

**2. Previous Minutes – 9 November 2021**

Point 6 correction from 'and' to 'as'

**Minutes approved ID & 2<sup>nd</sup> AG**

**3. Matters Arising**

None

**4. Chair's Annual Report**

*I am really pleased to welcome you to the CELCA or LCF (Lammermuir Community Fund) AGM – it is good to see each of you – particularly those new to the area, a very very warm welcome. Thanks for coming. It's especially nice to be meeting in person. Last year we 'zoomed' because of increased covid.*

*CELCA has been receiving funding since around 2004 and became a charity December 2012. Our funds come from 2 local windfarms, Crystal Rig (CELCA 1) and Aitkengall (CELCA 2). We use this fund for larger or 'Heritage Projects'. It is possible we might be able to secure increased funds in the near future from further wind power developments.*

*We have 2 part time paid nonlocal staff; our Administrator / Secretary Paula Easton and financial administrator Kim Drysdale – both invaluable. Thank you both I do appreciate you very much. Ian Davidson is currently our named treasurer; we are looking to replace him at his request.*

*1. Of particular significance this year is Community Resilience; storm Arwen showed us both our strengths and weaknesses. The Community Council have been funded to form a resilience group. They are doing research to help us, respond well to any future crises A survey form is being collated at present.*

*Later in the meeting we will find funding is being requested to provide a generator for each village hall for emergency use, to provide, warmth & things like power for phones.*

*With the same focus, CELCA has allocated financial assistance directly to households. This is in response to the increased 'cost of living' and was unanimously agreed at last June's meeting. Post cards go to each household and people who are permanent residents can be funded. The first round went to around 65 households. In September the trustees agreed to 2 further rounds of funding. It's a direct help and appreciated very much by the community. £100.00 each time, per household. Kim will have a total of what we have both given and set aside.*

*2. A further area of community help is the free larder here in Longformacus. Corrine Craik buys food online – it is delivered to the hall and stored by herself and helpers. It is simpler than with Fairshare. We are just in process of getting something similar set up in Cranshaws.*

*We continue to fund partial swimming pool membership for anyone applying, and full children's lessons; this includes Teen Challenge residents swimming and lessons with the pool giving sole use to them. That is a wonderful opportunity for the young men and staff there.*

*The Whitadder Watersports centre is now up and running successfully and local adults and children joined in a funded sailing course. Just now there are paddle board and canoeing classes on Friday afternoon. With our help a young man who learned to swim, trained as a pool lifeguard - then went on to work at the swimming pool until he started at university. Really worthwhile.*

*We also partially fund our local shows, Ellemford and Duns. Very good to have these again this year.*

*On a disappointing note. A group tried to resurrect the Community Workshop by running classes and trying to promote interest. The classes were fun and those who attended were keen. However, the decision was reached to discontinue with the project at least for the time being as the problems of safety issues, equipment upgrade, and insurance seemed insurmountable. The building is now re-let by the landlord. Some of the equipment is being retained by him in lieu of unpaid rent and a decision is to be made regarding the remaining equipment. Projects do finish their useful lives.*

*Longformacus Village Hall upgrade/ alteration is sadly still on hold with covid lock down, and huge building price rises. But positively, in the meantime several activities continue here.*

*Windmill café, mums and toddlers' group, yoga, and concerts - all with some CELCA funding; all well run and appreciated; dog training's the new one!*

*Another very positive development is the Cranshaws Community Walk - all its fences, stiles, steps, bridges, and plantings. Some fruit trees have already produced tasty apples and I believe have been pruned. Recent progress has been the completion of the enhanced access path from the Post Brae car park, along the river, into and through the orchard. Once the trees are mature and producing fruit crops, a person in a wheelchair will be able to be close to any work happening there.*

*A young mum applied successfully for 2 pieces of play equipment which are now installed in the orchard area and in use. A seating area is surfaced with the first table and bench in place. Funding is there for a table with wheelchair seating space. The walk is regularly used by many different people and future ideas can be developed. Children using the play area have named it the 'Silver Sand play place' and those involved in organising it were glad to have over 9 volunteer helpers bring all together.*

*Nearby, beside Cranshaws Kirk, a Wee Forest has been planted with over 600 trees; help was given by Teen Challenge residents and a 'tree and nature specialist & teacher' who was working in the area. Messy Church will hold events using the wee forest for observing growth and diversity of wildlife – as well as using the Orchard Space for other creative activities. Hopefully Duns school will bring children up to assess growth rates in the wee forest and count species they see here.*

*These are the main activities we have sponsored this past year.*

*For me, it's both a privilege and a responsibility, to serve on this committee. I hope each of us has some satisfaction that together we have supported and funded some valuable projects over the years - as well as fun ones. I hope we will continue to keep that going and encourage creativity and action. We also need to remember that our constitution encourages us to promote good relationships within our community. I feel CELCA helps do that; but each of us here has a part to play. I would appreciate if you were to encourage others to get involved, to put in applications – not always easy but definitely worthwhile. Blessings to all and thank you for being here.*

*Alison Landale Chairperson 8.11.2022*

#### **4.1 Additional thanks**

KW said thank you to Johnny Fisher for all his help with the community.

**Action 1** PE Email CELCA/LCF's appreciation Johnny Fisher

## 4.2 Resilience Feedback

KW said the responses to door-to-door resilience checks has been positive from the community.

## 4.3 Lammermuir Community Council

Members of the LCC are automatically trustees of CELCA. LCC are actively looking for new members. AL gave her appreciation to members for their active involvement in both LCC and CELCA.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

Kim Drysdale Financial Administrator

### Appendix A AGM 8.11.22 End of Year Accounts DRAFT 2022

The bank balance is healthy at £326,360 and wind farm payments from Fred Olsen have been steadily increasing.

£25,000 was due in Sept from Community Wind Power. The last payment was delayed by 3 months. KD has spoken to them today and a positive response was received.

Trustees were asked to be careful how large projects are approved due to the funding being put on hold and then it cannot be used elsewhere.

### 5.2 Copy of Report that was distributed in advance to trustees:

As per accounts dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 for CELCA and CELCA 2 I bring your notice to the following:

Total Receipts from Windfarms 2022	£133,100 increase from £101,929 in 2021
Total payments for projects 2022	£ 98,907 increase from £ 74,969 in 2021
Surplus in 2022 of	£ 34,607 increase from £ 28,103 in 2021

The closing bank balance for CELCA was	£184,691 in 2022
The closing bank balance for CELCA 2 was	£141,670 in 2022
Total	<u>£326,360 in 2022</u>
	An increase from £291,452 in 2021

As at the 30<sup>th</sup> September there was £24,301 available for projects, this was prior to the sums approved by the trustees in September's meeting after added them onto the accounts the amount available in CELCA for projects went into a negative situation - £16,153 at 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

With CELCA 2 the amount available for projects at the 30<sup>th</sup> September was negative -£46,011 and as at 30<sup>th</sup> October was negative -£52,761. Payment was due from Community Windfarm of £25,000 by the end of September but has not arrived as yet despite several reminders and requests.

There is also a payment due to come from Fred Olsen for approx. £44,000 in December/January. Both these payments will help to correct the negative balance, but I think you have to be aware of the position when approving projects.

In CELCA 2 there is £106,000 approx. remaining for alterations to Longformacus Village Hall which makes a huge dent in the funding as well as £75,000 set aside for the playpark. There is also nearly £75,000 set aside for the playpark in the CELCA account. It is worth noting that Corinne Mycock had done projections for the payments for the Playpark and future projects.

### **Treasurer report Proposed BL, 2<sup>nd</sup> ES**

#### **5.3 Winter Fuel Payments**

54 people have applied for the first fuel payment of £100 per household, less than last year's 65. The next payment will be made before Christmas and then a third January payment. £16,00 has been set aside to fund this with a further £9,000 still available from the original project.

HT said Penmanshiel wind farm give their community a significant discount on household energy bills, and could this be offered instead of CELCA direct payments? AL has already asked Fred Olsen and they do not offer this. AR thought this could be due to them not being domestic energy providers themselves. EDF French energy company EDF are also known to offer discounts. AG said this arrangement may apply to the new windfarms. LCC members will keep this in mind going forward.

#### **5.4 New Wind Farms in the Area**

There are concerns that the proposed Lees Hill wind farm will have red light illuminations. ID said it was required to due to being on the flight path into Edinburgh airport. AP asked where the end is to the number of wind farms in the area and BL said the point had been raised to the Lees Hill proposal.

The tower heights of the Drum hill application were reduced because they could be seen from St Abbs. AG said the tipping point of concern if when lights are needed.

There were complaints about 230m heights in East Lothian which resulted in them being reduced to 200m. The location was moved further back toward Lammermuirs.

## **6. Election of New Members/Committee Members (Trustees)**

AL, AR and ID stood down as Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer.

BL, as Chairman of LCC, asked Trustees to declare if they anyone wanted to stand down. AR offered her position of Vice Chair. AL encouraged volunteers but none forth coming.

AL was re-elected as Chair - AR proposed, ID 2<sup>nd</sup> and AL accepted  
AR was re-elected as Vice Chair - BL proposed, ID 2<sup>nd</sup> and AR accepted  
AL was re-elected as Chair - AR proposed, ID 2<sup>nd</sup> and AL accepted  
ID was re-elected as Treasurer - MR proposed, AG 2<sup>nd</sup> and ID accepted

On behalf of all those present, AP offered thanks and appreciation to those who have participated in their positions for CELCA. This was extended to AL for her eloquence and professionalism.

## **7. Any Other Business**

**None**

## **8. Date of Next AGM**

Tuesday 14 November 2023, 7pm Longformacus Village Hall

**Chair declared AGM closed**