

**Lammermuir Community Council**  
**Ordinary General Meeting**

**Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 8:00pm**  
**at Longformacus Village Hall**

**Minutes**

**Present: Councillors:**

Bill Landale (BL), Tony Homer (TH), Anna Dabrowska (AD), Adam Prokopowicz (AP), Morag Rodger (MoR), Alastair Gordon (AG), Clive Warsop (CW)

**Minute Secretary:** Dianne Repsch (DR)

**Agenda**

**1. Welcome and apologies:**

Apologies: Cllr Donald Moffat, Cllr Mark Rowley

**2. Matters Arising:**

a) **Minutes of previous meeting held on Wednesday 19th October 2022** - BL confirmed that the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved as a true record of the meeting.

b) **Action Point Document:**

Point 1 - letter from Paul Whitfield which has been sent to the Scottish Planning & Environmental Health Agency opposing the Lees Hill Wind Farm development was circulated prior and also at the meeting.

Point 2 - letter from LCC to the Energy Consents Unit raising concerns in respect of the Lees Hill Wind Farm development was sent on 25/11/22 and an acknowledgement has been received confirming that the ECU will add our letter to the scoping report documents.

Point 3 - AP raised his concerns on the number of wind farms not only in the Scottish Borders but also other parts of Scotland and mentioned his concerns on the health and wellbeing of our communities having so many wind farms in such a small area. AP would like to recommend LCC talk to other councils and set up a small group to address the issue.

A general discussion took place between all the community councillors and various viewpoints were discussed.

**Action Point 1 - a letter should be sent to SBC requesting a map showing the location of all the current wind farms and proposed wind farms.**

Point 4 - MoR attended the first Community Liaison Group meeting for Crystal Rig Phase IV on 17/11/22. The notes from the meeting were circulated. The main topics covered were the community benefits and the traffic routes to the site which are anticipated to be from the A1 via Innerwick.

Point 5 - Priority Road Repairs. A request was sent out via The Herald. The responses received from the residents were forwarded to Cllr John Greenwell on 30th November 2022.

**c) Links Nursery, Duns - Closure - Cllr Mark Rowley**

The Links Nursery is due for closure in March 2023 which will leave Duns with no nursery of this kind. In the absence of Cllr Mark Rowley a discussion took place and it was established that BHA owns the old college building and used to run the nursery before Links took over. The building does not meet regulation standards and the costs are high due to the room sizes and the large number of staff. There are 38 places with 12 places being for children under 2. The community council agreed that this was a matter of concern to the community and would like to be kept informed of developments.

**d) Place Making - Cllr Mark Rowley**

In the absence of Cllr Mark Rowley discussion on this topic was carried forward to the next meeting

**e) Any other matters:**

No matters were raised

**3. Treasurer's Report:**

<b>Bank Balance 07/12/22</b>	£2,985.88
Payments out (in transit)	£0.00
Payments in (in transit)	£0.00
<b>COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>	£655.85
<b>SBC COVID-19 FUNDING</b> (ring fenced - no change)	£330.03
<b>WALKING FUND</b> (ring fenced - no change)	£2,000.00
<b><u>(LCC PROJECT FUNDING – RING FENCED AT THE LCF)</u></b>	
DEFIBRILLATOR (incl AED training) (no change)	£884.47
COMMUNITY BROADBAND	£1,000.00
COMMUNITY WEBSITE	£617.45
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY FUND	£8,262.50
LCC ADMIN costs	£2,000.00

#### **4. Planning Applications:**

Notifications have been received of pre-planning 4G Telecommunications upgrades for Bothwell Hill TD11 3SL and Crichness Farm, Crichness Farm Cottage, Crickness TD11 3SR. All documents were circulated to the Community Councillors with appropriate drawings prior to the meeting.

#### **5. Resilience Committee Update:**

TH confirmed that the survey had gone out to all residents and the RSG were in the process of collating responses and then a report would be sent out to everyone. The response rate had been 30%. The collated information would show what resources were available and the volunteers available to assist and also which residents should be checked on in the event of an emergency.

TH also confirmed that a funding application had been submitted to CELCA/LCF in respect of the generators. The generators would not be available until late spring/summer due to the demand on generators at the current time.

A discussion then took place regarding the generators:

- storage when not in use
- site location when they are in use as this needs to be outside for ventilation purposes
- maintenance
- storage of fuel
- security

AG added that the RSG was working well with regular meetings and the plan for the next meeting would be to discuss what is an emergency in order to start emergency procedures.

BL passed on his thanks to the RSG including JF and KW and confirmed that LCC gave their full support in the event of an emergency arising now or in the future.

#### **6. Matters arising not listed above:**

##### **Ellemford Forestry Planting:**

BL has spoken to TreeStory Consultants who are managing the project on behalf of The Ellemford Estate, TreeStory have confirmed that the application being submitted to Scottish Forestry will be ready in approximately two weeks. Once the application has been submitted LCC will receive an updated issues log which will include the issues raised by LCC. The Scottish Forestry will take some time to approve the application and it is expected that there will be modifications. The application will be available on the public register for a month to give time for responses from the public.

It was agreed that LCC would look at the application and respond.

AP said that we had been assured that as we were local residents, we would be spoken to again before the application was submitted. AP also raised concerns about the heavy rainfall and the possibility of the houses in Rigfoot being flooded. BL asked AP to draft a letter raising his concerns and send it to him to take this matter forward. BL would then submit on behalf of the CC. BL confirmed that once the application was in the public register there would be an opportunity for LCC to respond. .

**Action Point 2 - AP to send letter to BL**

**7. Correspondence received:**

Letter received from CELCA requesting assistance from LCC on the following issues:

- a) The funding levels provided by the local wind farms are currently £5k per mw generated. Due to their current high profit levels, can this figure be verified as the highest that can be made available?
- b) With plans for new wind farm developments in the area at Dunside, near Longformacus CELCA would like clarification that this would provide additional financial resources for the LCF.
- c) The council's assistance is required to arrange for the hedging at the entrance to Longformacus Play Park to be cut back. Safe access is very important and this is being hindered by the overgrown greenery.

TH confirmed that the increases had been paid as the wind farms had increased in size. TH thought that the funds may move away from community councils in the future and change to committees making the decision on where the funds are spent.

TH also confirmed that the hedging cutting has been arranged with local residents.

**Action Point 3 - DR to reply to CELCA with this information.**

**8. Any other business:**

No matters raised.

**9. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 8th February 2023 to be held via Teams

Meeting closed at 22.00