

Lammermuir Community Council Ordinary General Meeting

Wednesday 14th June 2023 at 7:30pm Longformacus Village Hall

Minutes

Present: Councillors:

Bill Landale (BL) (Chair), Tony Homer (TH), Adam Prokopowicz (AP), Clive Warsop (CW), Cllr Mark Rowley (MR), Alastair Gordon (AG),

Minute Secretary: Dianne Repsch (DR)

Residents: Alison Landale (AL) and 3 residents

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies:

Apologies: Cllr John Greenwell (JG), Cllr Donald Moffat (DM), Anna Dabrowska (AD) (Treasurer,) Morag Rodger (MoR),

2. Matters Arising:

a) **Minutes of previous meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2023** - BL confirmed that the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved as a true record of the meeting.

b) **Action Point Document from previous meeting:**

Action Point 1: DR to check previous minutes on what was mentioned with regards to the walking fund amount so that LCC could make a decision on whether the funds could now be spent. JF stated in previous minutes on 12/1/22 that the walking fund monies of £2k included funds from other finished projects when there had been surplus left over.

Action Point 2: Emergency Resilience Plan to be sent to DR so that it could be circulated. The document was circulated on 14/6/23.

Action Point 3: DR to obtain and arrange for the telephone number to be circulated via The Herald - completed

c) **Any other matters:**

TH requested hard copies of the circulated attachments be provided at future meetings. DR noted.

3. Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance as at 14/06/23	£2,343.30
Payments out (in transit)	£0.00
Payments in (in transit)	£0.00
SBC COVID-19 Funding (ring fenced - no change)	£330.03
Walking Fund (ring fenced - no change)	£2,000.00
COMMUNITY COUNCIL	£13.27

(LCC PROJECT FUNDING – RING FENCED AT CELCA)

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

AD advised that the LCC admin funding of £2,000 and the community website fund of £250 will be drawn down this month.

Walking Fund:

TH raised the walking fund monies and whether it could be reclassified so that the money could be spent. MR agreed it should be spent but that the original part should be spent on something associated with walking because that is what FORS gave LCC the money for.

AL explained that CELCA had been asked to fund a sports day at Cranshaws but the request had missed the last funding application deadline. AL's suggested that the sports day could involve a walking event around the community walk.

BL suggested using the funds for maintenance of the community walk such as cutting of the hedges etc.

A vote was taken: to use the money for an event which related to walking. **Agreed**

Action 1: AL to let the sports day organisers know that they should put together an application and approach the community council.

TH raised the damage to hedges following the Jim Clark Rally in the Rigfoot area. It was generally agreed that this should be taken up with the Jim Clark organisers.

4. Planning Applications:

No planning applications received.

5. Longformacus Lychgate War Memorial:

MR gave an update confirming that the war graves commission will fund the project and the project would be overseen by a conservation architect. A technical brief needs to be drawn up so that firms who specialise in this type of work can quote. MR would raise an application with CELCA to start the process. The war memorial belongs to the community and MR confirmed that the record is held by SBC.

Action 2: It was agreed that CELCA should be informed that an application would be forthcoming

6. Resilience Committee Update:

Emergency plan has been circulated. TH confirmed that since the last meeting there had not been any comments or suggestions received. AG said that in principle they would now like to ratify the emergency plan at this meeting. At BL's request AG did a recap of the plan which includes:

- Local risk assessment
- What could be done to assist
- Local skills and resources assessment
- Community organisations who may be able to assist
- Emergency contact list which we need to test and try and find a way of communication in case of there not being a mobile network
- Emergency response flow chart
- Feedback and evaluation
- Appendices which is guidance received from SBC

BL thanked the Resilience Sub Group for all their work on the emergency resilience plan.

There was a discussion about the generator in Longformacus Village Hall and the ongoing maintenance and it was confirmed that this was being carried out by the Village Hall Committee. The generator for Cranshaws was delayed because of the repairs to the hall.

7. Oil Ring:

TH explained that an oil ring had been running in the area for many years and the person organising the ring has stepped down. There are a number of challenging issues regarding the administration and TH raised the issue of whether there was a practical way the community council could support the oil ring. At the moment there is no established mechanism to continue with the oil ring if the person running it leaves so a back up arrangement needs to be in place. The oil ring is currently not promoted enough and if we increase the number of people in the oil ring this would mean the oil would be cheaper. There are currently 20 people in the oil ring. An IT system that allows you to generate a group email is needed so that you don't have to keep generating a new list each time. WhatsApp had been tried without success. TH's view was that the oil ring could be operated on the Herald, a new label can be raised and messages sent using the relevant names without their details being shared with anyone else. Although there is a person who has offered to run the oil ring it would then be difficult for the community council to help out with the IT system. TH had agreed to update everyone in the ring once it had been discussed at the LCC meeting.

- To be part of the oil ring you need to have an email.
- Minimum order is 500 litres
- Previously it was a guaranteed quarterly period on a set date and there had not been any issues
- TH confirmed going forward it would be set dates

A vote was taken: To set up the oil ring with the Herald, promote to increase the numbers, community council would support and the oil ring would be renamed to be called the Lammermuir Community Oil Ring. Agreed - Action 3

8. Wind Farm Updates (Crystal Rig, Lees Hill, Dunside, Crystal Rig Solar and Longcroft)

Crystal Rig Phase IV: No further update since the LCC meeting on 19th April 2023. The community liaison group is holding a meeting on 15th June 2023.

Lees Hill Wind Farm: the ongoing surveys and work on the design and layout has taken longer than expected. There is also a new project manager. Fred Olsen is now planning a second round of consultation events to be held in late August.

Dunside Wind Farm: EDF confirmed to LCC that following two years of detailed environmental work and extensive community consultation they would be submitting a formal application for Dunside Wind Farm in June. Three public exhibitions have been organised and advertised with one of these being in

Longformacus Village Hall on Tuesday 22nd June.

Crystal Rig Solar:

Crystal Rig Solar held a public exhibition in Longformacus Village Hall on the 31st May. BL attended the exhibition and handed out a leaflet produced by Fred Olsen Renewables (FORS) which explains the project which consists of 800 solar panels raised off the ground so that wildlife can move underneath. BL believes the project will be going ahead. It does not have too much visual impact as the site is not visible from public roads.

MR suggested LCC should be making formal representations to FORS regarding the community benefit fund as there is no formal commitment to how much LCC will receive. AL confirmed they had spoken to the community liaison officer at FORS and the intention was there would be 60:40 split although this needed to be in writing.

Action 4: Write to EDF to ask if the solar project would increase the community benefit fund.

Longcroft Wind Farm: Renewable Energy Systems (RES) sent a letter which was circulated to LCC advising of the first public exhibitions for the Longcroft Wind Farm proposal. These took place on 23/24th May in Lauder. The exhibitions included visualisations of the current site design and layout.

Action 5: DR to check status on Newlands Wind Farm for next meeting.

9. Matters arising not listed above:

BL raised the phone boxes and whether there was an update. MR confirmed that at the moment there was no change. Ideally one call a month should be made from the village telephone boxes.

A general discussion took place about the newly installed 4G mast at Ellemford. The mast went live in March 2023 providing 4G connectivity to both residents and visitors to the area through the mobile network operator EE.

10. Correspondence received:

- Email from concerned resident regarding repairs to the war memorial. DR replied.
- Letter from Digital Scotland regarding the Scottish 4G infill programme in particular about the mast recently built and activated at Ellemford.

11. Any other business:

BL confirmed there had been a good meeting the previous evening with the CELCA management group. From the meeting a number of comments had been raised about the way LCC and CELCA relate, and BL was working on a response clarifying the history and how the relationship works between the two. It was also confirmed that TH was working on amendments to the CELCA constitution.

12. Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 30th 2023 at 7.30p.m. at Cranshaws Village Hall

Meeting closed at 21.00

