

Cranshaws, Ellemford and Longformacus Community Association

General Meeting

Monday 11th March 2024

7.00pm at Cranshaws Village Hall

Minutes

Trustees in attendance: Alison Landale (AL Chairperson), Alison Rodger (Treasurer AR), Bill Landale (BL), Tony Homer (TH), Pauline Homer (PH), Melvin Landale (ML) Clive Warsop (CW), Ettie Spencer (ES), Gordon Allen (GA), Adam Prokopowicz (AP), Morag Rodger (MoR), Selma Gordon (SG), William Pate (WP)

Also in attendance: Dianne Repsch (Minutes), Kim Drysdale (Finance)

Applicants: Application 1 Sharon Baker (SB), Application 2 Kathleen White (KW), Application 5 John McEwan (JM), Application 8 Sarah Dixon (SD), Application 10 & 13 Jen Adams (JA), Application 11 Ian Davidson (ID)

Residents: Jonathan Wood (JW)

1. Welcome & Apologies: Apologies were received from trustees: Alistair Gordon (AG), Anna Dabrowska (AD)

Apologies were received from applicants: Application 6 & 7 Corine Craik (CC), Application 4 Mandy Procter (MP)

2. Previous Minutes from 7th November 2023

No amendments were received prior to the meeting.

AL commented that on Page 3 of the Minutes with regards to the Winter Fuel Support application a postcard is being put together by AL & EW.

For application 6.3. The Alternative Educational Provision, the person receiving the help is doing well with the additional assistance.

For application 6.4 The tree lighting for the two additional trees was located at: Tree 1 on the way from Longformacus towards Duns at Hen Law. Tree 2 was at Craichness.

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting: Proposed ML 2nd GA

3. Matters arising:

Actions from previous meeting:

1. Completed
2. Information available on benefits available from Age Scotland dated March 23. This report was previously circulated to the community in March 2022 via The Herald and Village Notice Boards. Report was available as a handout at the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report:

KD confirmed that the Annual Return for OSCR had been completed and accepted by OSCR. CELCA now has £50,000 in an interest earning account with the Skipton Building Society, £25k from each

CELCA fund. There have been two interest payments received at 3.59% gross. KD also mentioned that it is difficult to obtain higher interest payments if we want to have access to the funds. It is also not easy to obtain savings accounts for charities.

Interest payment: 12/02/24 £95.43

Interest payment: 11/03/24 £137.70.

The financial statements are circulated regularly and there is an additional sheet which is called All Banks and this includes the Skipton Account.

KD confirmed that the funding available for CELCA 1 is £16,640.15 and in CELCA 2 there is £68,275.72 as at 11th March 2024.

It was agreed that the two projects which support the village halls should be moved to CELCA 2. This would save money on the CELCA account and also show that CELCA is using the money in CELCA 2. AL said that CELCA 2 was for large heritage projects and the halls were heritage projects as they will hopefully be here for a long time. CELCA will receive another large sum but not until the Autumn. When we send reports to CWP it would look better if it shows that we are spending some of the money in CELCA 2.

AP queried the funds in projects which are going back to 2021. AL confirmed that we ask applicants regularly for an update on the funds held in the various accounts. After 2 years CELCA can say we are going to reabsorb the funds. CELCA will leave the funds in place if the applicant is going to use it.

CELCA 1 - Fred Olsen Renewables

11 March 2024	£73,878.92
Payments out - in transit	£0.00
Payments in - in transit	£0.00
22/23 Participants Contribution	£147.00
Current Balance	£73,731.92
Skipton Building Society	£25,000.00
Allocated to projects	£77,091.77
Set Aside for Running Costs	£5,000.00
Available for Funding	£16,640.15

CELCA 2 - Community Wind Power

11 March 2024	£104,453.11
Payments out - in transit	£0.00
Payments in - in transit	£0.00
Participants Contribution	£0.00
Current Balance	£104,453.11
Skipton Building Society	£25,000.00

Allocated to projects	£61,177.39
Set Aside for Running Costs	£0.00
Available for Funding	£68,275.72

5. Funded Project Updates - It was agreed that the updates would be discussed at the same time as the applications.

6. Applications for funding:

6.1 - Application 1 Teen Challenge/Swimming - Amount Requested £2,250.00

Funding to continue the subsidised hire of Duns Swimming pool for the residents and staff of Teen Challenge, Whitchester House. The proposal is to partially fund the hire of the pool for an hour for the exclusive use of Teen Challenge. The Manager of Duns Swimming Pool has offered hire at a reduced rate in appreciation of the money already granted to the pool under the existing swimming scheme. The cost would be £110 per week and the participants from Teen Challenge would be asked to pay £20 per week of this, with the remaining £90 funded by CELCA. The application is for funding 6 months of weekly pool hire. The swimming helps boost their confidence as some of them can't swim when they start.

BL emphasised that the participants could be staying at Whitchester for up to 2 years and are not permanent residents of our area. However, they are residents during the time spent at Whitchester and are entitled to funding from CELCA.

AP asked for numbers taking part in the Teen Challenge and whether this information could be requested in future. It was confirmed there were 18/20 participants.

Action 1: DR to ask for numbers attending on future applications

Proposed ES 2nd AP Amount Approved £2,250.00

6.2 Application 2 Chair Yoga Classes - Amount Requested £6,020.00

Funding to continue to run a weekly chair yoga class in Longformacus Village Hall in June 2024 and from September 2024 through till June 2025. Taking into account holiday breaks, this would be a total of 43 classes held on Monday afternoons from 2 - 3.00p.m. The Yoga Scotland accredited teacher has been teaching a weekly yoga class in the Lammermuirs for nearly 12 years, kindly funded by CELCA. Earlier this year the evening yoga class was replaced with a chair yoga class. This class is suitable for adults who for whatever reason (injury, health related or age) are limited in their ability to practise floor-based yoga. £147 has been collected in contributions from the class attendees.

KW confirmed the classes were well attended with an average of 10 people each week. Everyone is contributing £3 per class which is paid to CELCA and £147 has been collected in contributions since the classes started in September 2023.

KD confirmed that there is £2,800 in the fund currently and it was **agreed** that the funding application should be reduced to £4,020.00

There was a discussion regarding the participants being from the CELCA area or outside and KW confirmed it was 70% from the CELCA area. ES mentioned that to have a thriving class for a rural area is quite an achievement.

Proposed ML 2nd ES - Amount Approved £4,020.00

6.3 Application 3 Cranshaws Larder - Amount Requested £1,300.00

The **Cranshaws Larder** has been running successfully since 2022 and this grant would enable the larder to continue. Funding means basic essential food items can be bought for the larder. Anyone can collect these as they wish. People are encouraged to only take what is necessary for themselves and their family so that there is plenty for everyone. Food is bought online and the larder is stocked by local volunteers. The community is very grateful for the larder and everyone seems very pleased with the selection of food available. Our thanks to CELCA for providing the funds to make the larder possible.

The funding requested was £100 per week x 13 weeks = £1,300.00

KD confirmed that this was a sufficient amount as there was still £1,200 in the fund.

AL confirmed that a new larder had been purchased with additional protection due to an issue with the previous larder. The cost had been £850.00 and the monies in the fund were used to pay for the new larder.

Proposed BL 2nd SG - Amount Approved £1,300.00

6.4 Application 4 Mobile Jewellery Workshops - Amount Requested £1,000.00

A workshop which comes to your home. The applicant is a self-employed jeweller and has run successful jewellery workshops in Longformacus & Cranshaws previously when Wind Farm funding was provided. As everyone is not able to access workshops due to struggling with the use of a car, anxiety about leaving their home, illness, affordability, disability, having to be at home because of family or caring commitments. Learning a new skill or hobby can make a really positive impact on mental health and confidence.

Self-employed since 2015 and has business, premises workshop and trading insurance.

In process of applying for her PVG Certificate

Photos received in support of application which were passed round at the meeting

Facebook page: Mandi Jewellery at The Funky Emporium

Feedback read out at the meeting by AL

To provide mobile jewellery workshops to people who are struggling to attend on site classes. Applicant has experience of jewellery making using different metals and cutlery. The workshops would be invaluable to people who have difficulty getting out for various reasons. A lesson will be provided teaching various aspects of creating a piece of jewellery including their own designs where possible.

PH asked if the materials were extra. It was confirmed that the materials were included.

Cost of 6 hour workshop including materials @ £100 per person x 10

Proposed ES 2nd GA- Amount Approved £1,000.00 subject to PVG Certificate being in place

Action 2: DR to have confirmation of applicants PVG in place before any CELCA funded session starts

6.5 Application 5 DunsPlayFest - Amount Requested £4,000.00

DunsPlayFest is an annual community festival of new dramatic writing which features highly acclaimed professional companies bringing new work to the Borders, non-professional groups exploring theatre, workshops, readings, local schools presenting devised drama, music, hot food and a licensed bar, all based at the Volunteer Hall which we hope will be made uniquely fabulous for the occasion by the artists of Allanbank Arts. There will be free family events at Duns Castle and in Duns Park and a great community feel throughout the town. Founded in 2019, DunsPlayFest has significantly increased its online presence. They are on an upward curve seeking to become more and more popular with the

locality and Scottish theatre community, to get bigger and better every year. Now in its fifth year, the 2024 festival will be held from Friday 26th April to Saturday 4th May 2024. Website at www.dunsplayfest.org.

Accounts and Constitution provided.

Charity No: SCO51548

Public Liability Insurance in place

Entirely non profit making. All reserves are available for use in the next festival.

Total project cost is expected to be £64,290.00 as per the breakdown provided on the application form.

Requesting £4,000.00 from CELCA

Details of other sources of funding: Approved funding from:

Creative Scotland - £20,000

Blackhill & Fallago Rig Wind Farms £10,000

William Syson Foundation £3,200

Business sponsors (to date) £3,250

JM gave a brief update on DunsPlayFest which is now a SCIO and getting bigger with more events each year. The Volunteer Hall is the biggest venue in Berwickshire and for the festival it is transformed into a welcoming space. This application is for the decoration of the hall. There are free family events in Duns Castle and Duns Park.

BL asked about ticket prices and JM confirmed that there is a variation in price depending on the type of show or booking a day pass.

A discussion took place as to whether CELCA residents could receive a discount/voucher. It was generally felt more CELCA residents would attend if a discount was offered. As there was some disagreement amongst the trustees on the need for a discount a vote was held.

Vote was approved to fund £4,000.00 subject to their being a discount code for CELCA residents

Action 3: DR to check with JM that a reduced ticket scheme is in place before funding can be used

6.6 Application 6 Journalling Cafe - Amount Requested £430.00

This application is to continue with the Journalling Cafe which has been running for 2 years. The funds are used to buy products to use at the Cafe. Brings people together and creates awareness of the environment. There is a discussion on current topics. The group creates Memory Books and develops some creative skills and enjoys a cup of tea/coffee with sandwiches and cake. The numbers attending each class vary between 5 and 8. There are 12 regulars who tend to turn up on different sessions.

CW suggested that the cafe should be promoted more to attract more participants.

Action 4: DR to contact CC about more promotion for the Cafe and find out more of what is included.

Proposed ML 2nd ES - Amount Approved £430.00

6.7 Application 7 Longformacus Larder - Amount Requested £1,950.00

To continue to supply food items for the Longformacus Larder. The larder has been running successfully for quite some time. More funding will help to continue with the larder which is a great help to those that use it. The larder helps with food poverty and saves the long trip to Duns for one or two items. The larder helps people who are short of money so they can have a decent meal.

Weekly shop @ £150 x 13 = £1,950.00

Proposed GA 2nd SG - Amount Approved £1,950.00

6.8 Application 8 Parentspace- Amount Requested £1,353.00

ParentSpace would like to run two programmes, jointly funded by PACT and CELCA. We've gathered anecdotal feedback from parents/carers in both areas and they have asked for 'Parenting in the Early Years' (for parents/carers of children 2- 5 years old), and 'Parenting in the Primary Years' (for parents/carers of children 5-11 years old). Both programmes are 6 sessions, each session is 2 hours, takes place weekly, and is run by two facilitators. We have a maximum of around 12 participants per course, which provides a small enough group for everyone to have time to share and be heard. We have two facilitators so that more support for each participant can be given if needed. The reason we're applying to PACT and CELCA is that given the relatively low population of the area, and the rurality, we believe it would be valuable to offer both programmes to both areas. It's also a way of partnership working, and (importantly) offering participants the opportunity to meet other parents/carers in the area where rural isolation can be a real issue for some people.

Charity No: SCO49137

Public Liability Insurance in place and Constitution provided

Parenting in the Primary Years would be the course run in Longformacus Village Hall and a flyer showing details of what is covered was handed out at the meeting.

Details of Funding Requested:		
ITEM	QTY	COST
Parenting in the Early Years course PACT	1	£1,123.00
Parenting in the Primary Years course L/f	1	£1,123.00
Hall hire 6 sessions @ £30	6	£180.00
Promotional Postcards		£50.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£2,476.00
Amount requested from CELCA: £1,353.00		
Details of other sources of funding: PACT £1,123.00 approved		

SD gave an introductory talk and there was a discussion with the trustees on the number of facilitators, support given to parents and the hands on experience.

AP asked if there was a medical professional involved and SD explained that they use tried and tested tools to guide the participants. All the facilitators have the necessary safe guard training, PVG Certificates and have mental health first aid training.

Proposed SG 2nd AR - Amount Approved £1,353.00

6.9 Application 9 Painting Classes - Amount Requested £6,270.00

Funding request is to employ the artist and landscape architect to run a series of painting classes in botanical art, landscape and still life. These will include instruction in the use of watercolour and other painting mediums, composition, perspective, illustration and colour mixing.

The application is for a full year of weekly sessions, following school terms, with a break during the summer and other holiday periods.

Class is for 1.5 hours with maximum 15 students

Advertising will be through The Herald, Village Notice Boards and possibly a postcard.

9 confirmed notes of interest have already been received.

Completely different from any previous classes. It is stimulating for the residents.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Tutor fee £110 + £10 mileage per class = £120	43	£5,160.00
Hire of village hall @ £20	43	£860.00
Art materials		£250.00
Total Project Cost		£6,270.00
Amount requested from CELCA		£6,270.00

Students contribute £3 per class which is paid to CELCA

There was a discussion amongst the trustees as to whether the funding should be given for 3, 6 or 12 months. AL thought that as these classes have not been run before but from a CELCA financial point of view it would be best to do for 6 months with a top up in September as CELCA receive more funds.

A vote was taken and the funding was approved for six months - Amount Approved £3,135.00

6.10 Application 10 & 13 Cranshaws Recreation Hall - Amount Requested £5,000.00 & £1,500.00

Funding being requested by Cranshaws Village Hall for items such as: Public Liability Insurance, repairing outdoor lighting and replacing faulty equipment and general repairs.

Also funding requested for painting the exterior walls, drain pipes and fascia boards.

2 Quotes for work supplied and available as a handout at the meeting

Quote 1 £1,300.00

Quote 2 £3,700.00

The trustees suggested that it would be best to obtain two more quotes as there was such a difference between the two quotes. The issue of adding Broadband to the hall was raised along with the issue of storage.

It was **agreed** to merge the two funding applications and the amount be increased to £7,000 with the proviso that additional funds could be applied for later in the year if required.

Proposed ML 2nd TH - Amount Approved £7,000.00

Action 5: DR to remind JA from CVH for requests for Broadband and Storage Area

6.11 Application 11 Heritage Centre - Amount Requested £640.00

The Heritage Centre acts as a repository for the display of artefacts of historical interest focussed on Longformacus and the Lammermuirs. Run by a small committee of volunteers the Centre holds two open days every summer and otherwise is available for people to visit at any time through contact with keyholders. Since its establishment relevant artefacts have continued to come forward from many people with a connection to the area. That has been the real success of the Centre in that it gives a focus for people who have long since left the area to feel that connection but at the same time allows people who come new to the area to develop an understanding of the rich and varied history of this community.

Organisation established 2015, Public Liability Insurance in place.

Constitution previously provided. 2 quotes supplied and Accounts supplied

ITEM	QTY	COST
High Capacity Dehumidifiers	3	£660.00
Hall Hire for various events	10	£200.00
Total Project Cost		£860.00
Amount requested from CELCA:		£640.00

ID explained that the Heritage Centre did have some reserve funds so they were prepared to purchase one of the dehumidifiers but they needed to keep some of their funds to pay for the electricity.

AL suggested that CELCA fund the three dehumidifiers as the Heritage Centre is a valuable asset for the community.

Proposed ES 2nd TH - Amount Approved £860.00

KD suggested this fund was moved to the CELCA 2 account as a heritage project and this was **agreed**.

6.12 Application 12 Tree Pruning - Amount Requested £249.90

Funding is for local residents who are interested in learning about pruning trees taught by a local qualified lecturer and teacher at Borders College. Also qualified by SBC as walk leader for countryside events. Pruning was demonstrated at the Forest Church event on 25th February 2024 which was very much appreciated and people wanted to gain more experience and learning. Looking after fruit trees

ITEM	QTY	COST
2 sessions of 3 hours each at £22 per hour		£132.00
Secateurs for community use (Spear & Jackson for 2 pairs)		£22.90
Wilkinsons pair		£20.00
Refreshments hot & cold drinks, fruit, biscuits sandwiches etc		£75.00

Total Project Cost		£249.90
Amount requested from CELCA:		£249.90

Proposed PH 2nd SG - Amount Approved £249.90

6.13 - Application was merged with Application 10

6.14 Application 14 Hessian Bags for Community - Amount Requested £1,000.00

Hessian bags have been provided several times in the past. Residents have asked for new ones as the old ones are wearing out. One large and one small per adult in the household - more if there are left over. These bags also advertise CELCA and will have pictures of local bird life. Environmentally friendly and prevent the use of plastic bags. A sample bag was shown at the meeting.

Proposed AR 2nd BL - Amount Approved £1,000.00

6.15 Application 15 Bonfire & Fireworks Night - Budget Option 1

Fly Agaric have put on, or been involved in several CELCA funded events. From bushcraft education, performances tailored to suit the event, to circus skills. Fly Agaric provides a broad range of events and extensive experience in entertainment and performance.

The application is to organise and put on a bonfire night with fireworks, entertainment and food.

Established in 2005

Safeguarding Certificates and Public Liability Insurance is in place

Fireworks being supplied by Merlin-Fireworks Ltd

Management & Organisation being supplied by Fly Agaric

Option 1 - Budget

ITEM	QTY	COST
Fireworks - budget option		£2,500.00
Fire Performers - budget option 1 performer + circus toys		£300.00
Management & Organisation (carried out by n4h)		£800.00
Food Provision		£500.00
Land Rent - fee waived		Nil
Total Project Cost		£4,100.00
Amount requested from CELCA:		£4,100.00

Option 2 - Ideal/Top End Option

ITEM	QTY	COST
Fireworks - ideal/top end option		£5,000.00

Fire Performers - 2 performers + circus toys		£600.00
Management & Organisation (carried out by n4h)		£800.00
Food Provision		£500.00
Land Rent - fee waived		Nil
Total Project Cost		£6,900.00
Amount requested from CELCA:		£6,900.00

A discussion took place and the following points were raised:

- Fireworks & Bonfires are not environmentally friendly
- Concerns about livestock near the location
- Concerns at the cost which could be £100 per head if only 70 people attending
- No way of knowing how many would attend
- Licence/Police/Safety concerns
- Insurance for firework company would not cover the bonfire

It was suggested to perhaps have a social event without fireworks with lots of good food as an alternative.

A vote was taken and the funding application was rejected.

7. Advance Notes of Intention:

This is an opportunity to let CELCA know if a new application is being considered: None raised.

8. Any other Business:

AP queried the voting method being used for the applications. AL confirmed that each application was proposed and seconded. A vote would only take place when there were any disagreements on the outcome of the funding application and the amount was over £10,000.

AL asked the floor to raise their hands if they thought CELCA should put every application to a vote. It was **agreed** that the current process should remain.

9. Date of next CELCA General Meeting:

Monday 3rd June 2024 to be held at Longformacus Village Hall at 7.00p.m.

Meeting closed at 21.00
