

Cranshaws, Ellemford and Longformacus Community Association

General Meeting

Monday 3rd June 2024

7.00pm at Longformacus Village Hall

Minutes

Trustees in attendance: Alison Landale (AL Chairperson), Bill Landale (BL), Gordon Allen (GA), Adam Prokopowicz (AP), Morag Rodger (MoR), William Pate (WP)

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

Applicants: Sharon Baker (SB) Application 2 & 5, Corine Craik (CC) Application 8 & 9,

Residents: Jonathan Wood (JW), Karen McLean (KM), Brenda Patterson (BP), Heather Bewick (HB)

1. Welcome & Apologies: Apologies were received from trustees: Tony Homer (TH), Pauline Homer (PH), Ettie Spencer (ES), Selma Gordon (SG), Alistair Gordon (AG), Alison Rodger (Treasurer AR), Clive Warsop (CW), Melvin Landale (ML), Anna Dabrowska (AD)

Apologies were received from applicants: Natalie Cormack (Application 1), Cllr Mark Rowley (Application 6), Maureen Ferguson (MF Application 4 & 10)

AL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Previous Minutes from 11th March 2024

No amendments were received prior to the meeting.

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting: Proposed BL 2nd WP

3. Matters arising:

Actions from previous meeting:

1. Completed
2. Completed - PVG received and circulated
3. Completed - Discount received of 50% and report circulated from Duns Play Fest
4. Completed - More information included in funding application
5. Completed - Update received. Issues ongoing

AL updated the meeting on the following:

The Teen Challenge are no longer going to hire the swimming pool and the money of £1530 which has been paid to the swimming pool will be reabsorbed into the fund and deducted from the swimming membership application.

The Jewellery Workshop has had one course which has gone ahead.

Duns Play Fest - sent a full report and confirmed that 12 members of the CELCA community had attended the festival. They also reported that some residents had been reluctant to give their full postcodes.

ParentSpace had only received one application for the primary years course so they will try and run again in the Autumn. It was also felt that not enough notice had been given to advertise the course. The parenting for early years course will be running in Abbey St Bathans and Preston.

With regards to the Hessian Bags application the company CELCA had used before now required a minimum order of 10,000. Another company quoted just under £2,000 so a further application would be needed to add to the £1,000 already approved.

4. Treasurer's Report:

KD reported that the interest payments now totalled £533.00 for a period of four months. The bank balances for CELCA 1 is £58,374.85 and in CELCA 2 there is £99,685.11 as at 28th May 2024.

There is a payment expected from Community Windpower of £25,000 which was due in March 2024.

The swimming pool project, Berwickshire Agricultural Show and Ellemford Show had been transferred to CELCA 2 to balance out the CELCA 1 and CELCA 2 funds. AL confirmed that CELCA don't have to use CELCA 2 just for larger projects so going forward will use this fund for some smaller projects as well.

In view of the Teen Challenge not going ahead KD confirmed that £2,250 had been paid to the swimming pool for the recent session. The session will now only cost £720 leaving £1,530 available to deduct from the current swimming membership application. The Swimming Pool will send a revised invoice showing the new cost and £1530 held in credit for the next invoice.

CELCA 1 - Fred Olsen Renewables

27 May 2024	£58,656.26
Payments out - in transit	£0.00
Payments in - in transit	£0.00
23/24 Participants Contribution	£282.00
Current Balance	£58,374.25
Skipton Building Society	£25,000.00
Allocated to projects	£81,927.70
Set Aside for Running Costs	£5,000.00
Available for Funding	£3,553.44

CELCA 2 - Community Wind Power

11 March 2024	£102,576.33
Payments out - in transit	£2,891.02
Payments in - in transit	£0.00
Participants Contribution	£0.00
Current Balance	£99,685.31
Skipton Building Society	£25,000.00

Allocated to projects	£68,316.18
Set Aside for Running Costs	£0.00
Available for Funding	£56,369.13

5. Funded Project Updates - the following feedback was circulated to the Trustees prior to the meeting.

Cranshaws Larder

This is being very well used and there is very little left by the end of the week. The shopping is done online and the shopper takes up the many offers that are available online with the supermarket so is able to buy more food with the discounts received. Thanks to the trustees who give to our community very generously.

Cranshaws Village Hall

We have spent some of the funding on this year's insurance with NFU. The painting will be carried out by Brian Bolton, he's hoping to start soon. Storage area will be a while off just yet. We need to purchase land to have the space to put an extension on. Broadband, there is fibre being installed into Cranshaws. We (the committee) have decided to wait till that is completed as it will be the best for the money.

Duns Play Fest

Report for Lammermuir Fund- End Of Project May 10 th 24

The grant, of £4000 was gratefully received to enable the decoration of the cabaret stage area at Duns Volunteer Hall for DunsPlayFest 24 (26 April – 4 May). The area was received with delight by our audience members as the large, usually empty, hall was transformed into two theatre spaces with unique personalities. The cabaret stage, decorated and designed by local artists, and the larger 2/3 of the hall as a main stage black box theatre. Professional performers played alongside emerging artists, and amateur companies in a wonderful melting pot of creativity. As Richard Demarco said at the Closing concert that DunsPlayFest was similar to the beginnings of the Edinburgh Festival; a wonderful vibrant community of artists sharing their work in intimate settings to an appreciative audience. We were delighted that the festival reached capacity on many of the shows on the cabaret stage and on a significant number on the Main Stage.

We recorded 12 people attending from the CELCA area from our onsite box office. We found that some people were reluctant to give their full postcodes, and may need a different way to collect this data. We offered all CELCA residents a 50% discount on all their tickets which enabled residents to see over 3 shows on the main stage and 3 at the cabaret stage for their £9 full price/£7.50 evening pass for any evening. Representing outstanding value for money; accessible quality theatre in their neighbourhood.

Alternative Education Provision

I cannot thank everyone enough for making this possible as it has made such a difference to give a purpose to the week, keeping open the idea of learning and hopefully managing some basic qualifications.

BL asked if this was an agreeable use of CELCA funds. AL confirmed that CELCA had funded school trips previously and also a laptop and books for a university student who had just completed his 1st year and now had a part-time job to help with his funding.

Longformacus Larder

The larder is hugely appreciated by the residents who use the Longformacus Larder. Although the shopping is done once a week all the items are not put in the larder at the same time but is topped up most days. The volunteers try to create meal options to include some healthy options such as fresh vegetables.

Whiteadder Watersports Centre AL raised the access passes for the centre which cost £140 for a family. The access pass cost contributes to maintaining the centre grounds and car park and entry to the

facilities including changing rooms and showers as long as a school group is not there. JW confirmed that he had been told that members of CELCA could use the car park at no charge. HB advised that previously you could leave a donation but booking is now all online. It was felt that you could not justify the cost if you're only going to use it occasionally. MoR said the centre was not checking the cars had the access passes.

Action 1: DR to research the access passes for CELCA residents which could be purchased and requested from DR

6. Applications for funding:

6.1 - Application 1 Berwickshire Agricultural Show - Amount Requested £1,000.00

The application is for funding towards the cost of tentage, rosettes, trophy engraving, judges expenses, cataloguing, insurance and advertising for the Industrial Tent at the 2024 show which is held at Mainsgate Park, Duns.

There are many exhibitors in the Industrial section that come from the Lammermuir district which gives them an opportunity to showcase their stick dressing and make and bake skills, whilst being able to interact with other local exhibitors. There is also a charitable class every year, this year it is premature baby beanie hats to be donated to the BGH.

The Industrial section makes a contribution of £800 towards the costs associated with their section, however the remainder is un-funded. The total tent cost for this section is £2076, while the additional sundries (listed above) total £1115. The total cost of this section has risen considerably to £3131, and as mentioned above, the Industrial section contributes £800 which leaves £2131 un-funded - 47% grant requested. Attending the Show would become unobtainable for the Industrial Section should they have to fund all their costs.

Proposed Mor 2nd WP Amount Approved £1,000.00

6.2 Application 2 Swimming Memberships - Amount Requested £11,808.00

The grant will be used to fund 70% of the annual membership of Duns Swimming Pool for community residents and provide 100% funding for children's swimming lessons for CELCA residents.

It will benefit the CELCA residents in that they are getting access to an excellent local sport's facility for 30% of the actual cost. It will encourage all parents to sign up for or to continue swimming lessons for their children, providing them with a potential life-saving skill and hopefully help them to keep safe around water and aquatic activities. This application will also help to secure the future viability of Duns Swimming Pool, ensuring it remains open for everyone.

ITEM	Public Price	CELCA Price	COST
Children's swimming lessons (fully funded)	£260	20 @ £260	£5,200.00
Family memberships	£575	8 @ £402	£3,216.00
Individual memberships	£330	4 @ £231	£924.00
Over 60 memberships	£250	8 @ £175	£1,400.00
Contingency amount for 1 of each membership type			£1,068.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST			£11,808.00

Less: Amount in account from Teen Challenge cancellation			£1,530.00
Amount requested from CELCA			£10,278.00

Proposed WP 2nd GA - Amount Approved £10,278.00. It was agreed that the £462 currently in the account would remain in place for contingencies.

6.3 Application 3 Tai Chi - Amount Requested £4,123.00

Responding to requests from people in the community to continue running Tai Chi classes at Longformacus Village Hall. They will be run by John Wilson, a Tai Chi teacher from Duns. These classes are open to adult women and men of all ages.

This application is for funding for 33 classes from September 2024 on a weekly basis, except during holiday periods.

The classes are to take place in Longformacus Village hall, time to be agreed.

The maximum number of participants is 15.

The classes provide an opportunity for participants to improve their health and wellbeing and to meet and socialise with other members of the community. These classes have been popular and well attended, with 8-10 participants permanently attending. The classes would be advertised for the coming year to attract new participants.

JW confirmed that this was the second year of Tai Chi and they would like to run it for another year. It is well attended. John is a great teacher who sometimes adds some self defence to his classes. They would circulate another advert so that they could hopefully attract some new participants to achieve the maximum of 15.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Teacher fees £95 per class	33	£3,135.00
Teach mileage £5 per class	33	£165.00
Hall Hire	33	£660.00
Postcards to advertise the classes locally		£163.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£4,123.00
Less postcards cost (separate account for these)		£163.00
Amount Requested from CELCA		£3,960.00

Proposed GA 2nd BL - Amount Approved £3,960.00

6.4 Application 4 Senior Outings - Amount Requested £1,200.00

To fund some outings for the senior residents in the CELCA community. There is a trip planned for the 3rd July to Eyemouth to the Heathers Restaurant and then a drive round the coast road. A Christmas lunch/day out is planned for later in the year.

It will enable some of the senior residents to socialise and enjoy a day out as transport will be provided.

Some of the senior residents are not able to leave the village so these trips will be much appreciated and will promote social wellbeing within the community. Numbers expected to be 10/16 persons. The coach will pick up in each of the villages as bookings are collected in advance so that this can be organised.

Proposed BL 2nd GA- Amount Approved £1,200.00

6.5 Application 5 Ellemford Show - Amount Requested £4,044.00

The Lammermoor Pastoral Society is the Committee which organises the Ellemford Show. The Ellemford Show is a locally run family show. It is held on the last Saturday in September. The main attractions are the sheep competition, on farm cattle competition, the industrial section, vintage tractor section and dog trialling. The organising Committee consists of local people and uses local businesses as far as possible to source equipment & services needed to run the show. The show is very well supported amongst local farmers and residents, but also attracts a regular following in the community and from further afield.

To help fund some of the running costs of the show. The application is to fund 50% of the running costs listed below, which include the hire of marquee, toilets, generator, bus, printing, show dance costs and rosettes. An application has been submitted to Crystal Rig Wind Farm Fund for the other 50%.

The show is open to everyone and brings the community together. It gives those who work in this rural community a chance to showcase their work, in the stock classes, the industrial section and their skills in the dog trialling. It's also an opportunity to get together with and network with other farmers and members of the community. Show date is Saturday 28th September 2024.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Olympus Marquee plus generator hire. All as per quotation	1	£3,780.00
Oink hog roast (based on 2023 cost)	1	£707.00
Printing costs (based on 2023 invoice)	1	£1,450.00
Deebees Rosettes	1	£500.00
Band for after show dance (2022 - Polse local band)	1	£1,250.00
Hire of toilets (3 + 1 disabled) & lights (based on 2023 cost)	1	£400.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£8,087.00
Amount requested from CELCA		£4,044.00

Proposed WP 2nd MoR Amount Approved £4,044.00

6.6 Application 6 - Longformacus War Memorial Amount Requested £3,000.00

Restoration of Longformacus War Memorial. A number of residents have raised concerns about the deteriorating state of the War Memorial at Longformacus' "new" Cemetery as well as the condition of some of the War Graves located there.

As early as 2013 it was reported on War Memorials Online, supported by the War Memorials Trust, that the memorial was in a poor condition. The decay is now severe and there has been an on site meeting with the War Memorial Trust.

The War Memorial Trust are clear action needs to be taken and are keen to support a community project. The cause of decay is clear. The oak structure sits in sodden ground, the western elevation takes all of the harsh weather and at some stage a plastic paint has been applied, trapping in wet and encouraging rot. A similar, but in much better condition gate is at Fogo, still in its raw oak state.

As well as cleaning, conservation and repair of the memorial itself the plan is to see the three war graves in the cemetery restored and there may be opportunities to enhance the entrance area and perhaps make it more accessible to those visiting or attending funerals who have mobility issues.

The War Memorial is a sensitive and historic structure that requires care and traditional and appropriate skills. Whilst we could just commission some repairs it is clear that previous, well-intentioned interventions in the past have been harmful and contribute to the damage. Therefore it seems prudent to engage the services of a local conservation architect. They will; provide advice on the conservation and restoration needed. Agree a plan for future work. Draw up specifications for the work to enable approved suppliers to tender – necessary to draw funding from War Memorials Trust and other bodies.

Supervise the work and suggest enhancements to the surrounding area

War Memorials Trust are keen on the project. They recognise that the memorial is increasingly fragile and needs urgent help. Whilst they have not, and cannot yet, commit funds, they are being generous with support and advice.

SBC's Director of Infrastructure & Environment is supportive of the project, welcomes it and is content that we proceed. SBC have suggested that if it would help funding and ongoing support they would look favourably at transferring the asset into our community's ownership – which is where it started with our community, over a century ago, funding the memorial.

- The memorial is largely of oak and it will restore and conserve a community asset for the future.
- It will enhance visitor's experience at the cemetery.
- It will show appropriate respect for service and to our war dead.
- There may be opportunities for residents to engage with the restoration and the techniques involved.
- There should be an opportunity to further enhance the entrance to the cemetery and, perhaps, provide information on those commemorated.

ITEM	QTY	COST
1st stage is to engage a conservation architect to draw up a condition report to specify the necessary works and draft documents to tender from appropriate contractors with the skills needed to deal with a historic oak structure	1	£3,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£3,000.00
Amount Requested from CELCA		£3,000.00

A discussion took place as to whether the community would wish for the ownership of the memorial to be transferred to the community. It was raised that it would be better for SBC to continue to own the memorial and CELCA pay for the repairs. BL confirmed as the Chair for the Community Council that it would be more beneficial if SBC continued with the ownership.

growing so responsibility MoR agrees. AP historic value to the community. Although from finance point of view -

AL we will pay for repairs but we don't want to own the memorial. AL asked the floor to vote on whether they would like SBC to continue with ownership of the memorial. A vote was **passed** by 9 votes. No votes were received to transfer the ownership to the community.

Proposed BL AP 2nd GAGA - Amount Approved £3,000.00

Vote community ownership from SBC to community council -No votes

9 votes to leave in SBC ownership

Action: write to MR and let him know

6.7 Application 7 Community Walkway - Amount Requested £5,000.00

The community walk, including the Orchard, is in need of maintenance and work to improve safety in some parts, especially where there are steps. The fund would be used for labour and materials. The community walkway is used most days by residents and visitors. The current balance in the fund will be used first. (as of May 2024 £3,356.00)

BL the main item is the steps which are in need of repair and Aitchison Fencing are being contacted for a quote. There is also ongoing grass cutting. The funding request is for labour and maintenance.

CC suggested CELCA put a toilet on the walkway. AL agreed this should be considered in the future.

Proposed GA 2nd WP - Amount Approved £5,000.00

Action 2: DR to speak to Aitchison Fencing with regards to using the paths maintenance grant of £600 which LCC can claim towards the work. DR would submit the claim as Administrator for LCC

6.8 Application 8 Longformacus Larder - Amount Requested £1,500.00

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 shopping is done online and then one of the volunteers goes to the larder to meet the van and unload the shopping. All the shopping is not put in the larder at once so that it lasts the week and it is topped up most days. The volunteers try to create meal options to include some healthy options such as fresh vegetables. There is usually fresh bread/pancakes and toiletries.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Food Shop each week @ £150	10	£1,500.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£1,500.00
Amount requested from CELCA		£1,500.00

A discussion took place regarding an increase of funds for the larder due to the cost of food at the current time. It was **agreed** to increase the weekly amount to £170 and increase the amount allocated to £5,000 which would fund the larder to the end of the year.

Proposed BL 2nd WP - Amount Approved £5,000.00

6.9 Application 9 Journalling Cafe - Amount Requested £350.00

This application is to continue with the Journalling Cafe which brings people together and creates awareness of the environment. Everyone who attends is given the option to make birthday cards, flowers, do some painting and create a memory book. Some attendees may be trying some of the skills for the first time so it gives them time to develop some creative skills and socialise in a group. There is general chat about everyday things such as what is going on in the village and in people's lives (no

politics) There is tea/coffee provided and some food. On average there is 7 people at each session and 12 in the group overall.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Food	15	£50.00
Hire of Hall	15 @ £20	£300.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£350.00
Amount requested from CELCA		£350.00

Proposed GA 2nd MoR - Amount Approved £350.00

Feedback: BP really enjoyed taking part in the classes and has learnt some new skills and is going to be trying inking at the next session.

6.10 Application 10 Cranshaws Larder - Amount Requested £1,000.00

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.

ITEM	QTY	COST
Online shopping at £100 per week	10	£1,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£1,000.00
Amount requested from CELCA		£1,000.00

A discussion took place regarding an increase of funds for the larder due to the cost of food at the current time. It was **agreed** to increase the weekly amount to £110 and increase the amount allocated to £4,000 which would fund the larder to the end of the year.

Proposed AP 2nd WP - Amount Approved £4,000.00

6.11 Application 11 Postage - Amount Requested £1,000.00

A request was made by KD to add funds to the postage account. The postage account is used for the community postcards.

Proposed MoR 2nd GA - Amount Approved £1,000.00

KD raised the promotion of events and benefits to the community by postcard as not everyone would receive the notifications through the Herald. It was **agreed** that this should be organised.

Action 3: AL & DR to create a postcard or flyer to advertise all the events currently going on in the village halls and community benefits that are available.

7. Advance Notes of Intention:

This is an opportunity to let CELCA know if a new application is being considered: AL raised the application for Hessian Bags which had previously been approved for an amount of £1,000. If CELCA order 150 bags of two sizes more money would be required as the recent quote was in the region of £1,800. It had been proposed that a Lapwing and possibly another bird could be used this time to create a new look for the bags.

Proposed BL 2nd WP - Amount approved £1,000

Action 4: DR & AL to decide on design and obtain quotes and proceed with order.

BL raised the issue of hedging cutting. WP said the farmers are in schemes where they can only cut the hedges at certain times of the year.

Action 5: DR as Administrator of LCC to contact SBC regarding the cutting of hedges and report back

8. Any other Business:

A discussion took place regarding a seniors day out organised by CC to take place in August. CC was suggesting a day out leaving at 10.00 to visit Alnwick Garden Centre, Castle and lunch with a coach being provided. AL thought it would be too much to do all 3 elements as it was a long walk to the castle from the car park. AL asked CC to do some research and obtain quotes. AL also said it was important that everyone works together to help the community and everyone keeps good relationships.

Action 6: CC to obtain quotes for the day out to Alnwick and DR to circulate information for trustees to agree to the funding. - coach then go to garden centre and go for a meal at the treehouse castle substantial walk 10.00a.m. AP suggested we make a decision on how much to allocate. Propose August end. Propose not a competition all tryig to support our communities. WP suggested costs and an email for everyone to propose.

9. Date of next CELCA General Meeting:

Monday 2nd September 2024 to be held at Cranshaws Village Hall at 7.00p.m.

Meeting closed at 20.30
