

## East Lammermuir Community Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 17 March 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in Spott Village Hall

### 1. Present

Community Councillors Colin Bloomfield, Janette MacDonald, Anne Lyall, Cris Thacker, Donna Collins and Chris Bruce (Chair and Minutes)

In attendance; Rev. Suzie Fletcher (representing Innerwick Parish Welfare Association)

Carey Douglas (representing Spott Community Association)

No Apologies for absence

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 21 December, 2019 proposed by Cris Thacker and seconded by Colin Bloomfield. No minute of January 2020 meeting as there had not been sufficient members to achieve a quorum.

### 3. Coronavirus

Community Councillors agreed that the right focus for the most effective response to the effects of the current pandemic is at village level.

The Community Council would seek to act as a backstop and co-ordinator of effort should any one village be unable to manage, perhaps because of a high level of infection or people needing to self-isolate.

Rev. Fletcher indicated that church members would collaborate ~~to~~ through Dunglass Parish wherever helpful.

Sandy Baptie is East Lothian Council's Emergency Planning Risk and Resilience Manager. He sends information to key contacts in each village already (known as SPOCs, Single Points of Contact) and this is generally the most reliable and up to date information to use in providing advice or information to local residents.

Through his Resilient East Lothian initiative Sandy will provide hi-viz branded jackets to each village, to be worn by volunteers as part of the resilience effort.

Each East Lammermuir village is planning its own response to the pandemic, with meetings scheduled for this week. Spott had already met, and identified zones with a volunteer to cover each one and a co-ordinator. This was seen as a good approach by reps from other villages.

After detailed discussion, including consideration of reported scams in England, Community Councillors agreed to support the development of a locally branded card to be dropped through every door in East Lammermuir, in the name of the local village association and ELCC, offering support to people who are self-isolating with Picking up shopping, Posting mail, a Friendly phone call, Information & advice and Urgent supplies.

Janette MacDonald would action this with a local graphic designer. Reps from each village would then collect cards once printed from Lothian Printers on Dunbar High St. An application would be made to Crystal Rig Community Benefit Fund to pay for East Lammermuir Cards (design and print costs).

Other activities like walking a dog might be taken on an individual voluntary basis. If that happened we might want to signpost hygiene guidance to the volunteer; but we didn't want to officially support dog-walking.

Safeguarding was not seen as relevant in that volunteers would not actually meet the people they support – goods would be left in an agreed place for self-isolating people to pick up later.

Further action required of ELCC might be advised by the co-ordinators in each individual village. The Community Council would meet virtually from now on, in support of social distancing guidance. A first additional meeting is scheduled for two weeks time.

#### 4. Crystal Rig Community Benefit Fund

Chris Bruce reported that Oldhamstocks Community Association have embarked on a process of soliciting new potential designs for a new Oldhamstocks Village Hall, with a choice of designs to be put to residents for consideration. The previously-proposed design from Simpson & Brown is still on the table too. However, it will be many months before a decision is reached, and in the light of elapsed time since funds were set aside for the Simpson & Brown plan, now over three years, Community Councillors agreed to return the ring-fenced £35k to Fred Olsen, pending further applications for use in due course.

Anne Lyall reported that Spott Community Association are due to return £6299.34 (hall project underspend) to Fred Olsen. They will also return the £6170 awarded for a paving project in November 2018 which has yet to be initiated. It was agreed that the £6170 sum be retained by ELCC until such time Spott CA undertake the said project.

Community Councillors agreed that an East Lammermuir Coronavirus Hardship Fund may be necessary as the pandemic takes its course. It was agreed to ask Fred Olsen Renewables to allow us to hold £41,299.34 in our bank account for this purpose. If this is agreed, we will need to discuss and agree arrangements for

- Advertising
- Management of funds and decisions about allocations
- Practical arrangements to make cash available – quickly.

Our custom has been to hold two rounds of allocations per annum, with the next one due in May 2020. After discussion it was agreed to stick to that timetable, even though some traditionally funded activities may not be able to run this year. Perhaps other novel applications will arise in the face of the pandemic. Janette agreed to progress with advertising the funds availability as normal, with decisions to be made at a May meeting of ELCC councillors.

#### 5. Crystal Rig IV Survey & Inquiry

Chris Bruce reported back from presenting ELCC evidence at the Inquiry in Duns on 10 March 2020. Local opinion suggested five areas of concern with the application

- No red lights on turbines
- No turbines higher than existing turbines at Crystal Rig
- Mitigation of noise from turbines
- Timely repair of windfarm traffic-related damage to local roads
- Establishment of a liaison group with local stakeholder groups to be led by Fred Olsen developers.

ELCC has been offered the opportunity to submit draft conditions to be attached to any eventual planning permission, by 2<sup>nd</sup> April. CB to draft possible conditions and share with Community Councillors for discussion and agreement at our next meeting.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report

Bank balance is £456.26

#### 7. Date of Next Meeting (by Zoom) 19.30 on Tuesday 31 March 2020

Items for future discussion (no time tonight)

Representation from Offshore Windfarm Developers

Dial-A-Ride and Dial-A-Bus

Haddington Town Centre Strategy

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