

# **ELCC meeting – Wednesday 8th September 2021**

Stenton Village Hall, 19.30

## **1 - Present and apologies**

**Present Community Councillors** Colin Bloomfield (minutes), Janette MacDonald, Anne Lyall, Janice Hanvidge, Chris Bruce (Chair), Julia Harrison.

**Apologies** Donna Collins

**Visitors In attendance** - Maggie McCole by Webex (representing The Ridge, Dunbar)

## **2 - Approval of previous Minute**

Minutes from 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved - proposed Janette MacD, seconded Janice H.

## **3 - Presentation from the Ridge**

A discussion followed with Maggie McCole from the Ridge regarding their work in the area of Crisis Support. The Ridge effectively fills many of the gaps left between other agencies and their lack of resourcing in this area of community support.

The aim of the staff at the Ridge is to get to the root cause of an individual's issues of why they are asking for a certain type of support. Various examples were discussed – one example was someone regularly using a food bank may be using that facility because of other factors such as alcohol or drugs expenditure by someone else in that particular household. The aim of the Ridge is to work with that individual to find solutions to these more complex issues.

The Ridge has already seen a significant increase in demands for Crisis Support and anticipates further demand on its services due to both Covid itself and increasing numbers of people experiencing employment uncertainty as a result of the pandemic. Currently the work is sitting with 2 individuals who are struggling with the workload demand.

The Ridge would like to apply to the Crystal Rig Community Benefit Fund in the next project funding round to provide part funding for a 2 year co-ordinated Community Crisis Support Pilot. This would build capacity in a time of crisis to tackle deeply entrenched root causes of social inequality. The project would be accessible to all community members facing crisis and struggling to move forward. Costs will include an individual contracted to deliver the pilot, admin costs, marketing and communications.

Chris B commented that it might be worth the Ridge talking with the new offshore windfarm developers regarding possible joint interest improvements that might benefit both parties and would try to set up contacts with Maggie.

## **4. Matters arising from previous minutes**

Chris B confirmed FORenewables had no particular requirement regarding 'advertising' of completed projects - re-plaques etc. on installations.

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

The next round of Crystal Rig Community Benefit Funding will be considered at our meeting scheduled for 16th November 2021. Applications will open mid October.

## 6. Covid-19 Support

Janette MacD and Janice H confirmed the Exercise on Referral pilot project was now due to start at the end of Sept/start of October after a few minor delays. Enjoy Leisure were in process of agreeing contact details and other project requirements with Dunbar Medical Practice for the trial period.

Chris B would draft a short letter to Alison MacDonald/E Mendrickson/A Horsbrough (Connected Communities) to inform them of the pilot project (**Action CB**).

Update September: Illness and the continuing effects of the pandemic means implementation of pilot now delayed until start of 2022

## 7. Local Village Issues/ councillor reports

Colin B updated the meeting regarding the Rural Shared Mobile Network project – where the 4 main mobile providers share the same mobile mast in rural locations. Mobile reception in Stenton is pretty poor, but as the Ofcom coverage map says Stenton receives a good 4G signal, we cannot be considered for the project, even though reality is quite different from Ofcom's predictions. Further investigation has revealed the Ofcom coverage map is created from predictive computer programs, rather than actual signal measurement. Colin B would try to see if further progress can be made. Some time had been spent helping Innerwick Welfare with aspects of their village Hall improvement project.

Janette MacD stated the shared speed gun equipment has had to be returned to the supplier as the Police are no longer supporting training of private individuals to use the equipment. Whilst there would be a credit, it will not be for the full cost of the equipment. The credit would be returned to ELCC Crystal Rig Community Benefit Fund/FOR.

Innerwick Welfare was becoming an SCIO. Innerwick Flower Show would now go ahead in 2022.

There was a public meeting in Oldhamstocks on 12th Sept where the minister would outline and discuss the potential changes in the diocese, including the possible closure of churches at Spott, Oldhamstocks and Innerwick. Anne L would approach the minister in Spott for more info (**Action AL**).

Anne L reported that Spott were looking at land purchase between the Hall and the Church to enable a cycle way and play park. The ELC architects department were helping with the design process for disabled access to the church.

A resident had highlighted safety aspects to residents of cars speeding at the Pitcox junction.

Chris B had received a complaint email regarding use of beaches by certain local businesses.

Temporary closure of the North Berwick Edington hospital was scheduled owing to staffing shortages.

## **8. Liaison Meetings**

The latest police report had been circulated.

A Torness liaison group was due soon – a date had been published.

Janice H will circulate the next Health and Wellbeing meeting report.

Anne L reported Jacquie Bell was the only candidate for the role of chair for DELAP.

## **9. Planning Applications**

All had been circulated.

## **10. AOCB**

Various Councillors were due to step down at September/October Community Council elections. Colin B was prepared to adopt the role of Treasurer if elected at the next session.

Dates of next years meetings to be discussed on 26<sup>th</sup> Oct.

The recently drafted Data Protection and Privacy statement was approved to go on the ELCC website.

## **11. Dates of Next ELCC General Meetings**

26th October

16th November - Funding meeting prior at 18.00