

East Lammermuir Community Council

Meeting held Tuesday 3 May 2022

19.30 Spott Village Hall

Note of meeting

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Community Councillors Chris Bruce (Chair and notes), Anne Lyall, Colin Bloomfield, Kelvin D'Arcy Burt, Wendy Smillie

In attendance; Fiona O'Donnell, VCEL

**2. Apologies for absence**

Donna Collins

**3. Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL) (Third Sector Interface)**

Fiona O'Donnell introduced herself and her role as VCEL Locality Officer for Musselburgh & Dunbar. She mentioned

- Youth Befriending scheme
- Community Support service
- Training in governance, policy development
- Supporting development of meeting centre(s) for people once a diagnosis of dementia has been given. Member-led small services focussing on slowing progression of the disease. First one will be in Musselburgh, smaller local services hopefully will follow.

Fiona is keen to understand our local opportunities and issues and link with us as appropriate. She provided information to share on local village noticeboards and stayed to listen to the rest of the meeting discussions.

**4. Minutes of meetings held 29 March 2022**

Circulated in draft recently, so we agreed to make any proposed changes by Tuesday 10 May – otherwise will be agreed as a correct record

### **Matters arising not on agenda**

- Tarmac – contact re A1 roundabout proposal (Julia)
- Reduced Speed Limits – ELC proposals - proposed zones  
Anne spoke to Senior Roads Officer Morag Haddow who said there is a further chance to comment, but it may be best to “tweak” proposals after the first proposal is approved. Colin has commented supportively on behalf of Stenton. In both cases the proposed 20 mph limit doesn’t include houses at the periphery of the villages. Reasoning for this not clear.
- Anouska Woods, Be Green – Community Co-ordinator  
CB had a good discussion with Anouska who remains keen to co-ordinate use of local funding with us as far as possible.
- Proposed windfarm – Newlands Hill (above Gifford/Garvald) – meeting with developers Bellpower Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May as a near-neighbour community council.

### **5. Any other items of business for the agenda this evening**

Eweford underpass

### **6. Membership** of Community Council – election procedures – update.

#### Section 7 of the ELC Scheme for Community Councils says:

Elected Members of the local authority, Scottish, UK and European Parliaments are entitled to attend Community Council meetings and receive agendas and minutes. They are not entitled to become members of Community Councils or to vote at meetings.

CB agreed with Caitlin McCorry, Service Manager at East Lothian Council that this suggests that any community councillor who is elected to East Lothian Council should step down from the community Council.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

Colin reported that the Community Council had fallen victim to a scam, and been conned into paying accounts to the value of £1,800. This has been reported to the police and bank fraud departments. It is clear we could do more to protect our assets, but this was a professional group and would have been very difficult to avoid. The Bank has advised we are unlikely to get any of our money back.

Community Council Members are keen to get new email addresses so Pete will proceed to set these up via a Google workspace account. We are not likely to achieve SCIO or Charitable status in the near future so agreed to pay for the Google workspace this year.

Agreed that moving to our new (slightly more secure) e-mail addresses is now a priority. Fiona suggested we share this story with other community councils, and small organisations working in East Lothian. Colin to consider how best to do this, through the Association of East Lothian Community Councils and VCEL, and the council itself.

Colin reported that he had circulated our accounts for 2021/22 to members last week and these are with a local accountant for auditing.

## **8. Exercise on Referral scheme**

Colin had circulated an update, and has a full proposal now.

Start date now imminent.

Evaluation report from Enjoy Leisure – CB to discuss with Janice and Janette (CBI)

Liaison with East Lothian Council (CBr) – still being pursued.

Scottish Social Prescribing Network – awaiting contact details from Paul McLennan.

## **9. East Lothian Council engagement (deadline 31 May)**

- Wendy gave a briefing on her reading of the East Lothian IJB Strategic Plan.

There are proposals for service redesign, some of which have developed significantly during COVID - for example virtual consultations.

Challenges the IJB faces include a growing population – growing demand – areas of deprivation - shortage of staff availability.

The Strategic Plan includes a welcome proposal for better engagement in future.

Wendy to propose a response for IJB Strategic Plan – including the adoption of an Exercise on Referral / Social Prescribing Scheme for Dunbar & East Linton, and other preventative work as well as strong involvement of local communities in the important service re-designs being proposed.

- The Local Development Plan

No-one was able to make time to review this complex document for us

- The Local Housing Strategy

### **CB to look for potential ELCC concerns**

## **10. Liaison Meetings and Roles - updates**

- Planning liaison – CB to ensure Kelvin is copied into any nationally-led planning proposals e.g. new Wind Farms that we are notified of
- Viridor Liaison – not met
- Torness Liaison – meeting 17 March at 10.00 on Zoom – minutes circulated now, Kelvin will attend in future likely to be October. Visitor Centre re-opening in July.
- Tarmac Liaison – not met
- Area Partnership next meeting 9 May
- Association of East Lothian Community Councils – agreed to join revolving chairmanship rota and judge whether we can resource this when our turn arises. Once every 20 years.
- A1 Action Group – not met
- East Lothian Bus forum – representative needed
- CAPP – no update

- DELAP Health & Wellbeing Group – met 4 April. Wendy will share minutes.

## **11. Local Updates**

**Innerwick;** Skateraw planning application – no local community councillors present. **CB to follow up with Donna Collins**

A1 road closures & diversion signage; CB and DC seeking a de-brief meeting with Kerr Archibald of BEAR Scotland

**Stenton** – Kelvin will follow up with Tom Reid re Doocot repair and Speed Sensor light at school

**Spott** – Spott to Dunbar path feasibility study with Sustrans, can be thought about in three sections; Village Hall – Canongate – quiet road via Wester Broomhouse – Eweford Underpass

Cost issues / landowner issues / suggesting to reduce scope to Quiet Roads – underpass section, link to Path 40 extension, alongside council work on quiet road. Eweford Underpass improvement costed at £200k of which Sustrans will pay £140k. Pete suggesting ELCC could lead on this work, or DELAP?

Discussion of how to collaborate with Dunbar CC – is that possible? PB and AL agreed to discuss with Jacquie Bell in the first instance in her role as Vice Chair of Dunbar CC.

Spott WI Party – Anne attended – excellent event

Oldhamstocks – OCA AGM was postponed (COVID) – hopefully now on 25 May

## **12. Windfarm Benefits**

Update on Agreement for CRIII / ELCommunity Benefit Fund proposal  
Colin advised we are now awaiting legal advice. Will take some time once we have that.

Update on Bank Account – signatories. Colin would prefer to have three “pots” now, probably as separate bank accounts. Auditors would prefer this. May be possible to run two of the accounts as savings accounts. Triodos Bank is still not open for new business. Charities Aid Foundation Bank, Unity Bank were suggested as alternatives – CBI to investigate.

Cost of Living Crisis – Wellbeing Fund proposal. Revised Application Form – Wendy and Colin suggest changing the Title of the Fund to Personal Support Fund, with several outstanding questions around criteria.

Documentation for funding meeting 10 May has been circulated – members encouraged to raise any questions in advance relating to bids.

### **13. Correspondence**

Data Protection responsibilities; ELC Data Breach guidance note had been circulated to us – Pete agreed to look into what we require as a Data Manager, linking to the support available from ELC.

Scottish Community Alliance regular briefing “Local People Leading” – CB to circulate to members.

### **Dates of Future Meetings**

All meetings Tuesdays at 19.30:

7th June – Stenton – Stevie McKinlay (CBI to Chair this meeting, apols CBr, KD’A-B)  
23rd August - Innerwick  
13 September - Oldhamstocks  
25 October - Spott  
29 November - Stenton

We will publish any decision about meeting virtually if required one week in advance of each date, on website and local noticeboards.