

East Lammermuir Community Council

Meeting held Tuesday 15 August 2023

19.30 Oldhamstocks Village Hall

Draft Minutes

Present;

Community Councillors

Pete Branfield (Chair for meeting) Kelvin D'Arcy-Burt, Wendy Smillie, Chris Bruce (notes),
Anne Lyall

In attendance; Kevan Jamieson, Cllr Lyn Jardine

1. Apologies for absence Colin Bloomfield, Jill Malcolmson

2. Minutes of meeting held 13 June 2023

Addendum – agreed to co-opt Jill Malcolmson as Innerwick Community Councillor

Minutes agreed as an accurate record

Action: Pete will publish minutes

3. Review action points from previous meeting

Matters arising

- Stenton speed reactive sign – still not working/sporadic. Kelvin chasing. Has added request for white lining and traffic calming measures in Stenton/ Ruchlaw. Lyn mentioned there is a white line issue at Pitcox too – possible to align these two issues?
- Retaining wall and temporary HERAS fencing at Stenton – progress being made
- Poster for village noticeboards re. minutes – still outstanding for Oldhamstocks. Anne will get a copy to Wendy.
- Martin Hayman ELC – link him to Elisabeth Wilson of Insulate Innerwick. Done.
- East Lammermuir has frequent power cuts – could the community council raise this as an issue? KJ to draft a letter – outstanding action but research underway.
- Kristy Pryse-Hawkins narrative – template with headings to be shared with group **Action CBr/C P-H**

4. Any other items of business for the agenda

5. Membership of Community Council

- Innerwick Village Community Councillor vacancy – discussions ongoing, hoping for a firm candidate offer soon.
- Secretary position – KDB to consider [Action KDB](#)

Minute Secretary vacancy – agreed to advertise on website, facebook, printed copy on village notice boards. **Action; CB to amend previous advert, Pete/all to advertise.**

6. Local Energy Infrastructure Developments

- Response from Energy Minister/meeting with civil servants 26 July – message was that planning approvals system in Scotland is unfit for this scale of application, and anything we learn about how to do this well might help other parts of Scotland in due course. Disheartening.

- Discussion about provision of charging stations for electric cars and how challenging this is to put in place at UK level, as just one example of how hard and complex this is.
- More people need to get involved. Core East Lothian Winds of Change group is exhausted and overwhelmed. Sense of lots of sympathetic words but little action to improve the process and our experience. Not being given the chance to collaborate meaningfully as we would wish.
- NPF4 is being put in place through Councils' own local development policies – but until then NPF4 is not fully implemented.
- Work underway in East Lothian Council to train and upskill councillors in relation to key decisions they have to make, including planning decisions. At an early stage.
- Suggestion that a steady feed of information would be helpful, that can be self-reinforcing on social media.
- Other community councils have an interest – Cockenzie, Prestonpans, Tranent. Maximise links with them. **Action CBr to contact relevant community council chairs.**
- Consultation on community benefit rates expected from Scottish Government, timescale not known.
- Westminster will push back on any perceived slowing down of energy infrastructure improvement coming from Scotland.
- Proposed meeting with East Lothian Council and Scottish Government end September – needs to be a very significant triumvirate meeting, may take several hours. Martin Whitfield MSP has offered to facilitate.
- Public Inquiry - Compulsory Purchase (Berwick Bank) – site visit planned. Two local residents were invited as non-statutory objectors.
- Developers Group – single map showing all proposed developments provided three months after we asked – will be kept up to date and published on a sharepoint site. May not be fully open to the public – login or approved individual details required.
- Can ELCC publish that map? **Action CBr to enquire**
- List of planning applications and plans – will be kept up to date and published by developers on Sharepoint site.
- East Lothian Winds of Change – group structure, relationship with ELCC – discussion with ELWOC planned tomorrow evening 16 August.
- Berwick Bank Windfarm - Addendum to Environmental Impact Assessment published with 31 days to comment. **Action Ensure ELCC comments within timescale (CBr/all) – document states that will cover cumulative impact of consented projects only. Action; CBr check this with Keith Dingwall – what is ELC view on cumulative assessment?**
- Addendum (221 pages) has been published on ELCC website – need to ensure people see this and comment if interested. Hard copy to be made available locally. CB has also asked for a copy with tracked changes to facilitate local readers in seeing what has changed since the previous version.
- Local Place Plan could set desired parameters and aspirations out. We need to progress this. Would Planning Aid Scotland help with this as “guinea pigs” for this kind of development. Another website? See item 14 below.

7. Treasurer's Report

Previously circulated – thanks to Treasurer CBI.

Kelvin had clarified questions about Hall Hire costs with the Treasurer in advance.

No further questions.

Proposal to underwrite rental costs incurred by ELWOC for using Innerwick Hall. No objections raised.

8. Police Report

Not received.

9. Use of Google Workspace (Pete)

- Data management and protection (Pete)

ELCC pays the Office of the Information Commissioner an annual fee. We don't store many people's details beyond community councillors themselves, and their email addresses are not using personal names. Good statement about safe use of data on ELCC website. Need to watch we don't "reply all" or forward widely distributed emails! (Use bcc). Named GDPR lead is Pete. We are in a good position. Nothing further to report.

10. Community Benefits – East Lothian

- AELCC developments – update (Chris)

Nothing to report

11. Liaison Meetings and Roles - updates

- Planning liaison (Kelvin)
- Viridor Liaison (David) Meeting next week. Wednesday 23rd 11.30
- Valencia Liaison (Chris to ask David to raise at Viridor meeting.)
- Torness (Kelvin) 8 November public meeting Dunbar.
- Tarmac Liaison (David to advise)
- Area Partnership (Anne) Funding meeting in June run in a different way – stalls – but poorly attended. **Action: Anne to share results** – some funds held back for later in the year.
- Association of East Lothian Community Councils – no meeting fixed as yet. Next Chair identified (from North Berwick) (a rotating position)
- A1 Action Group – Lyn to check if a further meeting is planned **Action LJ**
- East Lothian Bus forum – representative needed. Any known individual who could represent us? Noted X7 Bus from Dunbar will now stop on Wellington Place in Edinburgh.
- Community And Police Partnership (Kelvin) Next meeting 21 September, KDB to attend if there is any relevant item on agenda.
- DELAP Health & Wellbeing Group - Wendy to attend 6 September, if work will change her shifts.

12. Local Updates

Stenton - Wall around telephone exchange falling down, BT Openreach coming out to look.

Innerwick – IPWA is meeting, albeit with reduced membership at present. No representation this evening.

Oldhamstocks – ELC chasing Scottish Power re Bodpave replaced with gravel after works

Spott – at Spott Rd /A1 junction BEAR Scotland cutting vegetation – Pete liaising and keep an eye on it. Pedestrian and cycle crossing doesn't feel safe – **Action: Lyn and Pete to follow up with BEAR.**

Discussion about Spott Core path and potential need for top-up funding, prior to end-of-year Benefits Fund round. Bridge and path nearly finished. Possible link with Covid remembrance project. ELCC keen to see project completed - and to stay within our own funding rules. **Action: Pete to discuss with Treasurer.**

13. Windfarm Benefits East Lammermuir

- Update on agreement for CR111 (Colin has circulated – need separate date for briefing for Jill M and any other Innerwick Community Councillor)
- Most Councillors signed Trustee declaration forms to be submitted to OSCR **Action; CBI**
- Cost of Living Crisis – Advice Direct Scotland (Lyn/Colin) – no further update
- Community Windpower (Rob Fryer meeting) (Chris to try to meet Rob at Energy Forum planned for 15 September)

14. Planning issues

- Local Place Plans – agreed this is now a priority for us to progress.
- Large public session September 20th afternoon into evening at Innerwick, trial at Spott Tuesday 19 September. Kelvin to ask Stenton CA to consider Thursday 21st. Wendy/Chris to ask Oldhamstocks CA if they want to run a separate event. Need some big maps!
- Write plan of how this will happen **Action Chris**
- Questionnaire to be offered house to house, with leaflet setting out all the dates – QR code to link to questionnaire - using Dunder template eastlinton.uk.com (Danny Wight)

15. Correspondence

- Shooting noise at Thurston Mains Cottages – referred to environmental health at ELC.
- Dunbar Space – Wendy met with Adrian – very ambitious and inspiring project for young people – based on positive experience at Space North Berwick. Seeking funding for feasibility study, may approach East Lammermuir Community Benefit Fund.
- Proposals for managing email volumes – any further ideas give to Pete.
- Beach Parking – banned between 22.00 – 06.00 as a trial. Send comments or concerns to Roads namely Ian Lennox ilennox@eastlothian.gov.uk

16. Dates of Meetings 2023

All Tuesdays at 19.30

19 September Local Place Plan meeting Spott – no meeting of community council as such.

31 October Stenton (Jane Ogden-Smith attending re Older People's Services)

14 November Community Benefits Funding meeting - virtual

5 December Innerwick