

EAST LAMMERMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2024  
INNERWICK VILLAGE HALL  
NOTE OF MEETING

PRESENT:	Chris Bruce	Chair (Oldhamstocks)	
	Colin Bloomfield	Treasurer (Stenton)	
	Kelvin D'Arcy Burt	Stenton	
	Anne Lyall	Spott	
	David Mumford	Innerwick	
	Sarah McLeary	Architect/Place Plan consultant	
	Rachael O'Donnell	FOR Project Manager Crystal Rig Solar	
	Julie Aitken	FOR Crystal Rig Re-power	
	Christy Pryse-Hawkins	Treasurer IPWA	
	Roxanne Pryse-Hawkins	Innerwick Resident	
APOLOGIES:	Peter Branfield	Spott	
	Wendy Smillie	Oldhamstocks	
	Jill Malcolmson	Innerwick	
	Cllr Lyn Jardine	Dunbar & East Linton ward	

Fred. Olsen Renewables Crystal Rig Presentation (RO'D/JA)

Solar Farm application to submitted before end of March 2024 to be followed by a validation/formal consultation period.

Several rounds of consultation already; project has been relatively well received. Lots of guidance about how solar will work and how this would affect habitat, substantial habitat plan included in project.

Traffic movement with solar is miniscule. The construction access has the option to come in from the east, but doubt expressed that this route would be used.

Crystal Rig I's lifespan ends in 2028 when decommissioning would start. FOR would like to look at repowering which would mean submitting a new application to replace 25 turbines with 10 and add in solar/battery storage. The new turbines would have a 62.5 megawatt connection. Old turbines would come down and the land be reinstated to its previous condition. Decommissioning does not take away all the old foundations, new foundations would be laid in a nearby area. CBl requested FOR look at the feasibility of reprocessing the material ground down from existing plinths for use as ballast in the new foundation concrete pours. This could prevent the movement of thousands of tonnes concrete by lorry/road offsite. The cable to existing grid connection at Belton, near Dunbar would also need to be assessed. RO'D said that she would like to attend another meeting to discuss this when more information is available.

It was pointed out that repowering would present the local community with a lot of disruption taking up roads etc. This would be included in the traffic plan. It was felt that if CR1 was repowered then CR2, CR3, CR4 etc; people who live locally were going to be subject to continuous disruption.

Crystal Rig would like to work with the local community on a biodiversity project in the future.

FOR representatives were thanked for presentation.

#### Minutes of meeting held 23 January 2024

- Approved

#### Matters Arising

- Industrial Development in East Lammermuir - a timeline outlining planning permissions and developments in the area. KPH has detailed information, anyone interested was invited to share ideas on how to develop this forward. The aim is to have a fully completed document that can be presented to interested commercial parties making them aware of local opinions and what has been promised in the past but has not materialised. (KPH)

Is whole coast to be industrialised? e.g. Viridor promised to manage business in a certain way but sold up and the new owners did not carry on promises made. Need plans in place to make sure this doesn't happen again.

#### Local Place Plan

- Sarah reported that Feedback from ELC regarding the draft said that it was fine. ELC happy with format and suggested contacting Transport Scotland about the crossing over the A1. The agreement of the landowner has to be taken into consideration when discussing passing places.
- CBr - Transport Scotland - exchange between BEAR Scotland, Active Travel and Sustrans Edinburgh. Sustrans to suspend cycle track "national route" status at Torness because crossing not up to standard. Sustrans proposed a footbridge there, but BEAR say it needs a wide entry point at side of road and they don't have money. Cyclists heading south have been observed going straight on to A1 unaware of cycle path on the other side. Signage needed. Transport Scotland have been invited to green energy development meetings but have not attended.
- Protected status for woodland. More and more land is being industrialised, could include in the LPP that this be limited. Need to create a status on land so developers know they aren't going to get their hands on it. No clear guidance available how to do this.
- DM - how to support new facilities and keep Innerwick a vibrant and sustainable village, important to have a mixed tenure of housing. Increasing the size of the village is going to make it a different place in terms of social infrastructure but would ensure the future of the school. Landowner keen to support the village as he has significant powers regarding what developers can do and seems open to using these for the benefit of the village.

If the Innerwick part of the LPP map was published on ELCC website would people see it, would it be better to have flyers printed for every potentially-affected house outlining what has been suggested and ask for any further comments before LPP submitted. **CBR/DM/SMcL to progress door to door information for neighbours of proposed housing scheme at Innerwick**

- SSE agreed to fund SMcL for 40% of 2<sup>nd</sup> part of LPP. Request to SSE that SMcL can invoice them directly. **CBR**
- There are 2 pots and money left in CC account is the remainder of Covid funding (£5,500) to be transferred to the ELCBTrust. Spott have returned cash (£39,500) because they are not carrying out the decarbonisation of the village hall. They will want to do this at some point so the cash is noted as authorised therefore can't be touched.  
It was suggested the money be returned to the budget and reallocated to other projects.

Spott Community Association to provide clarity on how much of the £39,500 they want. Can apply for the money again in a few years. **AL**

- Local LPP meetings to be held - Oldhamstocks - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February.  
Stenton - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February.  
Spott - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

#### Demand Responsive Transport

- Bus\_Trial will be called "East L Go". 4<sup>th</sup> March soft launch web site/link, 18<sup>th</sup> March app for service. 100 first full charged journeys will be paid for by ELCC. Service hours will be 7am - 9pm Monday to Friday.  
**JM** to represent ELCC on the East Lothian Bus Forum, first meeting 1<sup>st</sup> March.

#### Richmond's Hope

- some organisations looking to give one off allocation, some will give recurring. This year local third sector organisations have in total committed up to £18,000, looking for £39,000. Stevie McKinlay lobbying Health and Social Care Partnership. Two outstanding bids. Meeting again in March to keep the momentum going. **CBR**

#### Treasurers Report

- ELCC admin account balance £2784.60 (SSE via Berwick Bank reimbursed £2,600 for the projector).
- A claim has been made to ELC for routine meeting costs, ELC would like invoices but CBI has sent a mixture of bank transactions and invoices and will see whether this is acceptable - as post Covid most transactions are now by direct banking. Annual costs paid (ELCC insurance, GDPR registration etc.) **CBI**

#### Police Report

- circulated. Noted.

## Local Energy Infrastructure Developments

- Public meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February. Developers allocated 7 minutes each to outline what is happening, how long build will take, where they are at and what they are going to do for environment and community.
- Branxton substation - could go to planning on 5<sup>th</sup> March, if approved, all others will be enabled. However it appears OFGEM haven't given final approval = another chance to contribute our view.
- Public Inquiry Compulsory Purchase Order (Berwick Bank) Tynninghame Village Hall 22<sup>nd</sup> April (duration 2 weeks). Can attend hearing but can't speak unless a registered objector.
- Heat & Energy Strategy - Invite Martin to attend meeting to discuss. **CBr**
- RES (Lawfield BESS proposal) - Rebecca Meek to attend a community council meeting to discuss proposal. Advise Rebecca to contact DM to arrange this. **CBr**
- At the public meeting with developers on Monday discussion to be held regarding community benefit outlining ways the money could be dispersed. If given to East Lammermuir could target improving wellbeing in the community. It was thought people would want money off their electricity bills and help with insulation but some cash should be used to enhance the local infrastructure ie. improve roads, active travel, and some to wider East Lothian for more strategic and specialist initiatives. All options to be discussed. **CBr**

## Liaison Meetings

- Viridor - no problems - meeting 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024. **DM**
- Valencia - 31<sup>st</sup> January public meeting - copy of SEPA report on site fire requested from ELC. **DM**
- Dunbar Community Council at meeting put forward series of resolutions:
  - 1) *DCC will write to Valencia for a copy of their revised emergency procedure to tackle future incidents involving fire.*
  - 2) *DCC will lodge of Freedom of Information request so that DCC can see Valencia's own fire investigation report (submitted to SEPA).*
  - 3) *DCC will ask ELC why the Emergency Response Team failed to recognise the toxic danger of the fumes and failed to inform the relevant communities. How are ELC's lessons learned recorded? Can we have a sight of them, so that the response is correct of there is a next time.*
  - 4) *DCC will ask SEPA why they failed to take air quality tests and will ask SEPA to undertake soil samples, informing DCC of the significance of the results.*

ELCC agreed to endorse all 4 resolutions, contact DCC/ELC and say want to be linked with this.

Site have restarted accepting trucks. Have a specific shed to check sorting and have written to suppliers about batteries. SEPA report should identify responsibilities. An inquiry is to be concluded which could result in court action. Possible visit to Valencia site on 5<sup>th</sup> June. Official note to Valencia with nominations for visit. **CBr**

- Tarmac - last liaison meeting end of 2021. No response to correspondence sent last November. Suggestion made to approach Tarmac national press organisation again and go public expressing disappointment that public meetings have stopped. It seems that community liaison stopped when the manager changed. **DM**
- Area Partnership - Last meeting November, AGM 25 March. **AL**
- DELAP - DM advised he had been asked if he wanted to become a member on behalf of IPWA.
- CAPP - no minutes received. **KDB**
- DELAP Health & Wellbeing - **WS** to be given opportunity to sign off LPP.

#### Correspondence

- The Ridge (Dunbar) has invited ELCC members to visit, suggested date 18th March **DB, KDB, CBr, AL, CB.**

Next meeting 19.30 Tuesday 19 March Spott Village Hall