

EAST LAMMERMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT INNERWICK VILLAGE HALL ON 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

PRESENT: Chris Bruce Chair (Oldhamstocks), Colin Bloomfield Treasurer (Stenton), Wendy Smillie (Oldhamstocks), Anne Lyall (Spott), Rev Suzie Fletcher (Innerwick) (from 20.30)

APOLOGIES: Mitchell Stevenson (Community Engagement Partner VCEL), Kelvin D'Arcy-Burt (Stenton), Cllr Lyn Jardine (Dunbar & East Linton)

Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 accepted.

AOB for Agenda

- Insulate Innerwick – it was proposed and agreed to modify the grant for purchase of thermal cameras, these have been donated from another source. Elizabeth would like to use ELCC funding to progress project further (£3561.24) **CB**

Police Report

- Police Constable LJ to be notified of the dates for 2025 meetings and invite her to attend **CBr**

Belhaven Community Garden Group

- Invite group to next meeting to talk about their plans for garden. **CBr**

Liaison Meetings

- Torness – closing around March 2028, date to be reviewed end of year. EDF had said for all of their planned nuclear plant closures, if dates were delayed, it would only be a few months as all their reactors in the UK are at the end of their service lives and could not be significantly extended.  
John Fleetwood responsible for the East Lothian Council resilience plan. Agreed to contact JF regarding resilience plans for villages. **AL to contact JF**  
Resilient Communities Workshop to be held at Haddington Corn Exchange 1.3.25.  
List of community council contacts to be sent to AL. **CBr**
- Viridor – **CPH** missed last meeting, away.
- Valencia – J Bell lobbying, not sure if date has been fixed for the proposed community meeting
- Tarmac – December meeting. **CPH to attend.**

Area Partnership

- Danny Wight (Dunpender Community Council) interested in community councils' LPPs and how they fit into DELAP plan. A small group has been formed to look at published plans to ensure there is inclusion in Area Plan. They have produced a generic statement which they asked DELAP to look at, covering public transport, road improvements, relaxed regulations on solar panels. If compatible with LPPs this will be endorsed. **CBr suggested AL contact Sarah McLeary to have a look at this.**
- New housing – Innerwick happy to have (some) new housing.
- Newsletter distribution – specifically for DELAP members only **AL to look at this.**
- Sarah McLeary was now working with Gateshead Council (Planning). (info)

### Association of East Lothian Community Councils

- AGM 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024. **Anyone interested in attending as ELCC representative please advise CBr.**
- East Lothian Community Benefits – first AGM held 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 16 of a possible 20 community council representatives attended. This body will handle benefits at an East Lothian level from Newlands Hill and other new energy developments should they be forthcoming. **CBr**

### East Lothian Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy

- Martin Hayman presented this to council 29 October, finally approved. ELCC letter concerning the reuse of waste heat and community ownership and benefits helped this application.
- Alasdair Swan (Treasurer E Lothian Community Benefits) suggested that if East Lammermuir wants at any point to offer funds for use in East Lothian for a specific purpose, such as funding a heat network, such funds should be restricted for that purpose. In this case if the money was not used for the intended purpose, it could be returned.

Google training – not everyone is that familiar with Google Workspace, we need to ask PB to present an info session at a future meeting. This would enable us to make better use of a very powerful product that we are purchasing. **CBr**

### Correspondence

- Resilient Communities Workshop 01.3.25. **AL to attend**
- Community Benefits – SPEN asked to contact people who were hard to reach/wouldn't get involved. £50 attendance fee offered - workshop set up, register with Graeme Boulton, max 14 people, in the end only 2 people registered so the workshop didn't run. We will need to do more to engage the community about future community benefits.
- East Lothian Networks Steering Group (6 members) to be set up – **CBr invited.**

### Dunbar Retail Park

- Plans submitted for 3 units and another garden centre. Open consultation meetings to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

### Local Energy Infrastructure Developments (see eastlammermuirdevelopments.co.uk)

- Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> September attended by Graeme Marsden, Ray Montgomery and Tom Reid. GM to be link to council. GM advised need to establish role of co-ordinator and people required in relation to roads/biodiversity/active travel. Further meeting needed with developers/introduce GM as council link.
- Local Co-ordinator role has not been advertised yet.
- Branxton Substation – goes to planning committee 5<sup>th</sup> November. CBr to give short presentation – if unable to attend could someone attend on his behalf.
- Lorries in our Lanes – Tommy Deans attending Thurston Junction meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November (Innerwick). SPEN/SSE submitted estimated number of wagons coming off A1 – worst case scenario could see 400 per day between them, plus FOR 25/35 daily. Difficult to manage, TD responsible for smooth running of A1. **AL to attend.**
- Berwick Bank approved, offshore windfarm is being challenged by RSPB.

### Scottish Green Energy Awards – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

- SSE/ELCC were encouraged to submit application for the “Community Engagement Award” by FOR and have been shortlisted. CBr felt something should be put out to let community know about this nomination. **CBr to speak with PB**

#### Biodiversity Community Liaison Group

- Virtual meeting attended by WS but she had audio issues and the auto-generated captions were not always correct which made it difficult to follow the discussion but from what she could follow the meeting seemed interesting. Agencies gave presentations and Jason talked about more community engagement. SPEN representative to send WS their presentation which she will put on the shared drive. **WS**
- Biodiversity group has been offered the use of ELCC google workshop space and PB has created an email address for them.
- CBr/PB meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December with Foundation Scotland to discuss what IT arrangement is best for Local Place Coordinator, supporting the Biodiversity/Traffic groups and how to progress forward.

#### Temporary Workers Accommodation

- SPEN/EGL produced figures for numbers of temporary workers on projects over a 4 year period. Local/transient workers will need to be here for short periods. Berwick Bank have not submitted anything in detail. **Paul Forrest (Torness)** has said no extra workers will be needed as current staff will be engaged in different roles. Across the large employers there could be 600+ extra people at peak times, but currently there is little info on how will the work be phased, and who needs long/short term accommodation? Paul McClellan visited SSE site in north Scotland where they had a housing strategy in place. Pippa Swan (Dunbar Community Council) said the Dunbar LPP states they do not want an increase in housing but may support a hotel at Dunbar site. Graeme Marsden has asked for another briefing with CBr and PS.

#### Treasurers Report (provided by CB)

- ELCC Admin balance £4071.69.
- ELCC accounts have been signed off and a copy send to East Lothian Council.
- ABEI Energy £600 donation towards the LPP project been received leaving a remaining current LPP project balance of £874.77.
- Parish LLP maps on line subscription –we previously had a first year free subscription and have now been offered £60 annual subscription 2<sup>nd</sup> year onwards.. It was decided to cancel the subscription.. **CBr to find out what Foundation Scotland can offer.**

#### Local Updates

- Innerwick – SF meeting 30<sup>th</sup> October with architect regarding hall, has engaged The Ridge to do some initial work (kitchen/bathrooms). There was a potential Community Right to Buy/Community Assets Transfer for outdoor centre. If successful will have kitchen café and shop. CRTB/CAT request sent to Tom Reid (Head of Estates) who passed to John Martin.
- Post Office – no update. **SF**
- Community Council new member – matter in hand. **SF**
- A1 junction meeting, concerns and how to improve junction, flyover/Spott roundabout. **SF will chair the meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November.**
- Oldhamstocks Village Hall –\_planning permission granted. Query about 2 EV charge points to be installed. **CBr**

- Oldhamstocks cattlegrid/gate – horse riders asked for gate latch to be easier to operate.  
Roads Dept contacted, cattle grid/gate work has been done. Finally been completed 22 months later. **CBr**
- Voltalia – Springfield Action Group meeting 30<sup>th</sup> October. **WS**
- Spott – nothing to report. **AL**
- Stenton – Community Association AGM to be held soon. **CB**

#### List of Chairman Tasks

- Members were asked to have a look at tasks and see if there were any they were able to take over.
- CB volunteered himself and KDB to do a first check of minutes after each meeting
- AL asked for a back-up DELAP volunteer. **WS agreed to take on role.**
- AL agreed to take forward the Resilient Communities work

#### Any other business

- Nothing raised.

#### ELCC meeting dates 2025

- Dates to be discussed and list drawn up. **SF to draw up 2025 date list**

Next meeting to be held 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Oldhamstocks Village Hall at 19.30. All Welcome

Meeting closed.