

Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council on
Monday 12th September 2016 in Lauder Primary School at 7.30pm



1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Jack Ponton, *Chairman*, Irene Thomson, *Vice Chairman*, Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Alistair Smith, Mike O'Neill, Judi Gunn, Stephen Aitchison, Edward Maitland-Carew, Councillors David Parker and Iain Gillespie.

Apologies received : Anne Hogarth and Councillor Jim Torrance.

In attendance: Neil Mackay from SBC and 4 members of the public.

2. **Declarations of Interest.** Jack asked if there any Declarations of Interest - there were none.
3. **Police Report.** The report was circulated. Irene wanted attention drawn to the fact the travellers had returned to the area at the end of Whitlaw Road. She also felt that the parking on the road leading to the fire station was a safety issue.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting.** Approved by Alistair and seconded by Edward.
5. **Planning.** Alistair drew attention to three current planning applications for a property on East High Street, The Lauderdale Hotel and The Black Bull Hotel. No issues were raised pertaining to any of these applications.
6. **Treasurers Report.** Lorraine reported that there was currently £3660 in the account and that a grant was due from SBC. Alistair mentioned that he had an invoice relating to Ian's presentation.
7. **Common Good.** Nothing discussed.
8. **Lauder Revitalisation.** Judy has met with residents of South Gardens and discussed various ideas such as starting a book club, providing IT training, art and craft training and flower arranging.

Mike talked about the progress on the Info Hub. He spoke about the importance of everyone being able to have easy access to the info. He had prepared a hand-out.

Jack updated on the Lego Club. He will be meeting the teacher who looks after the primary school club soon.

Steve -cycle paths – there had been some feedback from the cycle paths work stream. There was a paths group previously and Oxton would be keen to be involved in reviewing publications. There is interest in interconnecting the towns of the borders. Others are keen to come together to facilitate further info on walks and paths. Melrose is a 'walkers are welcome' town and this is something that could be expanded. He will be starting a Facebook page to check out and Edward will link with Steve to take this forward. There was some more generalised discussion about paths and walks along with previous publications.

A feasibility study has been done around paths in Earlston. This is a published document and is accessible. Iain Gillespie will send a link to enable us to see this information.

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Jack raised a concern about crossing the road at Galadean to Blainslie with a request for signs. David agreed to ask Amey about this.

9. **Lauder in Bloom** – This year Lauder received ‘Your neighbourhood award of excellence’. Next year we will need to apply to Beautiful Scotland Floral Gateway- Lauder was third small town behind Melrose and Coldstream but won Tidy award, and Quality of Life. The next event is on 22 October called ‘Wild about Gardens’ in the Public Hall.
10. **Lauder New Zealand** The chair of the Beautification Society would like to donate a trophy for Lauder in Bloom to award to a winner of a competition of their choosing.

11. Other Business

John Brown Lauderdale Drive. The footpath at Mill Wynd opposite the parish church. David's recollection is that there was some consideration of extending the footpath but this was not feasible. David offered to arrange a site visit with the appropriate individuals from the council.

Angus Gilder raised the issue of both access routes and the continued dissatisfaction as a result of a resident in Hardy's Court putting up a gate and now reportedly stopping people using this access. Iain Gillespie explained the legal position regarding the access. The gates are allowed, the sign saying private is allowed. The resident has no legal basis to challenge people using the route, and anyone who believes they have been harassed may contact the police. The council does not signpost rights of way which it does not believe this to be in any case. Ian Landells, who believes it is, will send a copy of his documentation to Iain Gillespie.

Judi raised the Columbo 1400 project related to pinpointing children who would benefit from building confidence. Judi asked if the community council would consider supporting the project. Andrew Foggan is the leadership person who could help arrange a presentation.

Armistice Day Anne will order the wreath. Irene agreed to lay the wreath at the war memorial.

Crofts Road is to be resurfaced in April or before.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 10th October 2016 in Blainslie Village Hall