

Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council on
Monday 9th July 2018 in Blainslie Village Hall at 7.30pm



1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Jack Ponton, *Chairman*, Irene Thomson, *Vice Chairman*, Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Alistair Smith, Stephen Potts, Judi Gunn, Craig McBeth, Gaye Colquhoun (after Item 10) and Councillors Kevin Drum and Tom Miers

Apologies received: Edward Maitland-Carew, Allan Pryde, Steve Aitchison and Councillor David Parker
2 members of the public and PC Norrie

2. **Declarations of Interest.** None at present.

3. **Police Report.** This had been circulated. Jack asked for any items concerning the Police.

3.1 Firearms Amnesty. Concern was raised that the general public had no way of finding out about this Amnesty. In June's report it states "From today 18 June until Sunday 1 July, people in possession of firearms and ammunition, for which they do not hold a valid certificate, will be able to surrender these to police. In addition the public will be able to hand over replica firearms, air weapons, BB guns, imitation firearms, component parts and other ballistic items". Michael noted that this had been on the Police website but was informed that this is not regularly accessed by the general public.

3.2 Michael was also advised that his report reads that no indiscriminate parking on the pavement had been seen but this was still happening.

3.3 Stephen told Michael that he had done his own analysis of SBC's Speed Tracking which has not been made public yet and had discovered that, contrary to verbal reports, there is indeed excessive speeding through Lauder, particularly at the southern end. He produced some figures to prove this. SBC and Amey as well as Michael will be contacted to inform on this.

4. **Minute of previous meeting.** These were approved by Alistair and seconded by Irene.

5. **Item 10 was brought forward - Co-option to Community Council.** Gaye Colquhoun was welcomed as a member of the Community Council proposed by Judi and seconded by Irene. Gaye's Electoral Number is 5B 476.

6. **Notification of items not on Agenda.** Entrance to Brownsmuir Park. A trench had been dug across but not properly filled in. Tom will follow this up.

7. **Matters Arising.** – Handrail loose at Leisure Centre. Although this is a problem for the Leisure Centre to correct, because of the safety issue, Kevin said he would follow this up.

8. **Paths.** Alistair reported that the works planned in June to maintain the Burn Mill path had not happened due to lack of volunteers although he admitted that the weather had been very hot.

9. **Eildon Area Partnership.** There had been no meeting but Irene wondered if money from the Localities Fund could go towards the Community Shed.

10. Reports

- 10.1 **Planning.** Tom left the room for item 10.1
- 10.1.1 There were 3 small applications this month – new shed at Corsbie – no objection, demolition of existing steading to form a new dwellinghouse at Chapel on Leader – no objection, internal and external alterations at Dod Mill– no objection.
- 10.1.2 Erection of 38 No dwellinghouses, formation of access, landscaping and associated infrastructure on land north of 48 Thirlestane Drive.
- 10.1.2.1 The plans for this had been studied. It was agreed that the housing density was very high, possibly 30 would be more appropriate, that the path was in the wrong place, parking spaces were inadequate although the plans were not very clear and concern about the harm that digging right up to the foundations of the present houses would cause.
- 10.1.2.2 It was noted that there would not be a new playpark for this development but that money would come from the developer to improve the present one in Thirlestane Drive.
- 10.1.2.3 It was agreed to ask for an extension of time to allow for a more thorough consultation with the people of Lauderdale.
- 10.1.2.4 Craig agreed to add a link to the planning application on the LCC Facebook page to encourage individuals to lodge their own questions, queries, objections or support.
- 10.2 **Treasurer’s Report.** Nothing to report.
- 10.3 **Lauder Common Good.** The Sheep Company has not accepted the proposed tree planting and negotiations are continuing.
- 10.4 **Revitalisation.**
- 10.4.1 Irene reported that the defibrillator for the School and the Bowling Club will be on order by the end of summer.
- 10.5 **Lauderdale Community Council Outreach Meetings.** Judi reported on the last meeting. Anxiety has been expressed about the danger of the A68 entrance to the tennis courts. Tennis club members should be encouraged to access the courts via Whitlaw industrial estate.
11. **Lauder in Bloom (LiB).** Alistair reported that fortunately the new hanging baskets have little reservoirs underneath so they only needed watering every two days during the very hot weather. The Keep Scotland Beautiful judging will take place on the 1st August just before the Fancy Dress Parade! There is a meeting planned at the end of August to discuss using more perennials and less disposable bedding plants. There was a short discussion on whether a mini tractor or quad bike may be needed for LiB in summer and clearing snow from pavements in winter.

12. Lauderdale Community Shed

- 12.1 The planning application for the portacabin (18/00694/FUL) to be placed in the land in the car park south of the Leader Leisure Centre has been sent to SBC by the Community Council. Until 21 days are over nothing more can be done but money may be needed to pay for the portacabin move from Duns Primary School to Lauder in August.

13. AOB

- 13.1 Irene noted that there had been a letter to the Southern Reporter commenting on the flying of the Rainbow flag.
- 13.2 Jack asked the SBC Councillors why the work on the Galadean Bridge was taking so long.
- 13.3 He also noted that the Legerwood road was going to be closed for some time to instal a fibre optic cable for faster broadband to Westruther but NOT for Legerwood itself.
- 13.4 There were observations from the floor about the abandoned cars in Mid Row. They are on private land. However there is also an abandoned car in Castle Wynd. Anne was asked to write to the DVLA, Environmental Health, the Police and SEPA to try to sort this one.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 13th August 2018 at 7.30. The meeting will focus on the Persimmon development proposal.