

## Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council on  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 in Blainslie Village Hall at 7.30pm



### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Irene Thomson, *Chairman*, Alistair Smith, *Vice Chairman*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Edward Maitland-Carew, Judi Gunn, Alan Reed, David Millar and Councillor Kevin Drum

Apologies received: Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Jack Ponton, Steve Aitchison, Ross Montague, Councillors David Parker and Tom Miers

5 members of the public

### 2. Conflicts of Interest. None so far.

### 3. Police Report. Anne had circulated this and posted it on Lauderdale Community Council (LCC) Facebook.

### 4. Notice of Motion – Co-option of Rachel Whellans proposed by Irene Thomson and seconded by Alistair Smith.

Rachel Whellans was co-opted onto LCC and took her seat.

### 5. Declaration to Abide by Community Council Code of Conduct

Those present signed the Declaration.

### 6. Inaugural Meeting of Future Community Councils

An LCC member had raised a question as to why no LCC business had been conducted at the Inaugural Meeting of the new Council. Scottish Borders Council (SBC) confirmed that, as the Secretary was not nominated until this meeting, there could not be an Agenda circulated more than 7 days beforehand under the LCC Constitution. An update to the Constitution will be discussed.

### 7. Adoption of Minute of previous meetings.

7.1 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Alan noted his objections to both that minute and the previous March one.

7.2 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019. This was agreed and proposed by Dave and seconded by Alistair.

### 8. Matters Arising not on the Agenda. - None

### 9. Lauderdale Initiative Group and Christmas Lights

9.1 The Initiative Group had come to LCC for support as their committee was losing members and those left were anxious to retire. A meeting had been held in June with an arrival of new members and new officials were nominated. Alistair is now Chairman and the LCC representative on the Initiative Group. The Christmas Light Festival will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December this year.

### 10. Flying of Flags on Town Hall Discussion

- 10.1 There had been a lot of controversial media discussion around the request to fly the Rainbow flag on the Town Hall.
- 10.2 It was noted that, unlike other towns, the Town Hall and the flagpole belong to Lauder Common Good (LCG) therefore is not guided by SBC policy. LCG has asked to be directed by LCC and Dave and Rachel will form a Steering Group to work out a policy.

## 11. Reports

- 11.1.1 Planning.
  - 11.1.1.1 The sub group will be Alistair, Jack and Ross. Alan offered to join this sub group and Alistair raised a concern about the path at the new development at Stonyford which was planned to come out at Millburn Park but looks as if it exits onto Factors Park which was not agreed. Kevin will check on this.
  - 11.1.1.2 An LCC member raised a concern about the lack of an SBC Local Plan and that all forward planning is up to a south east Scotland composite comprising City of Edinburgh, Scottish Borders, East, Mid and West Lothian and South Fife based in Edinburgh with no knowledge of our electric, water and sewage. It was agreed to add this concern to the next agenda when Tom can be present.
  - 11.1.1.3 Irene noted that the road to Stow is planned to be patched between September and November and that the AMEY traffic calming measures at Lauderdale Drive onto A68 are due to start shortly. Stephen Potts was thanked for all the work he put into this project.
  - 11.1.1.4 Kevin was asked to look into the repair to the junction between Mill Wynd and Mid Row and was also told that the white lines there are very faint.
  - 11.1.1.5 Alan asked for official agendas and approved minutes from planning sub group meetings over the past years. However this sub group does not meet formally and merely advises LCC on planning matters.
- 11.2 Treasurer. Lorraine reported that the current bank balance is approx. £1,000 and that she has ringfenced £550 for fireworks, £250 for Cornets Pins (not needed yet) £300 to the Sealed Knot Society, £200 to the Teenager Club for equipment and suggested that we ask SBC Quality of Life (QoL) funding to cover until the SBC grant of £630 comes in. She also suggested that any donations from this year's fireworks display are given to LCC. We have also paid for the defibrillator at the School.
- 11.3 Lauder Common Good. There has been an extra meeting between the Sheep Company and LCG about the tree planting. An LCC member raised a question about the lack of public consultation on trees on common land but it was felt that the project had been going for so many years that enough had been done.
- 11.4 Lauderdale Development. Irene reported that Lauder Resilience had achieved as much as it could and she will lead a new initiative – Lauderdale Development. She asked that everyone bring back 2 ideas to the next meeting of achievable plans for the future.
- 11.5 LCC Outreach.
  - 11.5.1 Judi reported that there has been requests for 2 more benches which the Rotary Club provide. One is at the bottom of the track from Thirlestane Drive and the other on the grass at the Stow Road end of Allanbank Gardens. Alistair and Dave will contact Allanbank to request this and also if the path through the wood between Allanbank Gardens and The Orchard can be used again.
  - 11.5.2 The Teenagers Club has been a success although needs more support from parents and will restart in October.

- 11.6 Lauder in Bloom (LiB). Judging of the Floral Gateway is on 6<sup>th</sup> August and Keep Scotland Beautiful is on 7<sup>th</sup> August. It was noted that the Town is looking good.
- 11.7 Paths.
  - 11.7.1 The path from the Chuckie Lodge needs strimming again. Also the Blainslie path.
  - 11.7.2 Dave offered to help Alistair with these jobs.
- 11.8 Eildon Area Committee. Kevin reported that the previous meeting had been all about the cutbacks for small playpark maintenance and possible closures. He asked that people go onto the SBC website to comment on these. Alistair noted that the Millburn Park one is used very regularly.

## **12. Any Other Business**

- 12.1 Alistair told the meeting that the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day is on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020. He is thinking of holding a celebratory afternoon possibly in The Avenue with something in the Hall in the evening.
- 12.2 The Rotary Club has purchased Tommy the Soldier silhouette which can be loaned for special occasions and will possibly be placed on the grass at the end of Crofts Road.
- 12.3 A question was asked what LCC had done about the raw sewage on Scott Road. It was felt that this was not an LCC matter and the resident had been advised to contact Scottish Water and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).
- 12.4 Christine Grahame MSP had asked if LCC would like a visit but it was felt that MSPs hold regular surgeries and individuals could meet with their MSPs at these.

Date of Next Meeting –Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30 in Lauder Primary School.