

Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council (LCC) on
Monday 7th October 2019 in Lauder Primary School at 7.30pm



1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Alistair Smith, *Vice Chairman*, Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Judi Gunn, Rachel Whellans, Steve Aitchison, Ross Montague, Councillors David Parker and Tom Miers

Apologies received: Jack Ponton, Edward Maitland-Carew, and Councillor Kevin Drum

5 members of the public

2. Conflicts of Interest. None so far.

3. Police Report.

3.1 Alistair reported that PC Michael Norrie had moved on and PC Calum Wilson had taken his place.

3.2 The police are coming to the next Lauder Scottish Women's Institute meeting to talk about fraud and phone and email scams. It was agreed that Ross would look into the Community Council facilitating a workshop, open to all, on this subject as it is easy to be taken in.

3.3 There have been two traffic incidents, one which broke a bridge on Edinburgh Road and one which broke a bollard at the old Bank of Scotland. David agreed to chase AMEY on this one.

4. Concern about the lack of a Scottish Borders Council (SBC) Local Plan and SESPLAN. Tom reported that, although the SESPLAN Regional Plan had been rejected by the Scottish Government (largely on transport grounds unrelated to the Borders) and there was some concern that developers would take advantage of this and build where they liked, SBC is confident that our Local Plan is legally still in use and existing settlement profiles are as laid down in 2016 and that an adequate supply of land for development is catered for while the Scottish government comes up with a new framework for strategic planning.

5. SCB Funding for Community Councils. Lorraine reported that she attended a meeting in September and that funding will still be available as before. Community council membership is being promoted in secondary schools in the hope that younger people may become interested.

6. Adoption of Minute of previous meetings.

With the addition of Rachel Whellans to the attendance list, the Minute was approved by Lorraine and seconded by Rachel.

7. Celebration of 75th Anniversary of VE Day. SSAFA the armed forces charity and SBC are encouraging local community councils to celebrate this between Friday 8th May and Sunday 10th May 2020. After a query on whether there will be funding for events, it was agreed to arrange a public meeting to discuss and Judi agreed to post this on Facebook and Steve agreed to inform other bodies in the area.

8. Great Borders River Clean on 26th October 2019. This would have taken place on the Leader Water. However the Scouts had been out on a foray and discovered that there was no litter in our area.

9. Bonfire and Fireworks – Saturday 2nd November

- 9.1 After discussion on low noise fireworks, it was decided to hold this at the Burnmill. Lorraine will ask Lauder Common Good (LCG) for money towards the fireworks and Ross, Alistair and Steve will look into logistics. It was also decided that the clearing up would be better than last year. Alistair agreed to look into provision of food for the evening and Judi to post preliminaries on Facebook.

10. Reports

- 10.1.1 Planning.
 - 10.1.1.1 Replacement windows at 61 West High Street. No comment.
 - 10.1.1.2 Potential wind energy project – 4 turbines at Collie Law. This area is in the Oxtun CC boundary and it was considered that the field of vision would not affect Lauder.
- 10.2 Treasurer. Lorraine reported that the books had gone to the auditor.
- 10.3 Lauder Common Good. There has been no meeting this month but questions had been asked about the tree planting on the Common as LCC had been consulted. David reported that the Sheep Company did not want to be involved but that LCG has employed a consultant from Lauder and that present grants should be enough to pay for trees, planting, fencing and maintenance.
- 10.4 LCC Outreach.
 - 10.4.1 Judi asked Liz Trotter to update the meeting about dog fouling progress. She reported that personally since a CCTV camera had been installed, her drying green had not been soiled. It was decided to report the overall problem to PC Calum Wilson and the SBC Dog Education Officer and to put an article highlighting this into Lauderdale News.
 - 10.4.2 The Teenagers Club will not happen until further notice due to problems with the Leisure Centre. Judi asked Lorraine to keep the £200 which was donated towards this until any progress is made.
- 10.5 Paths.
 - 10.5.1 There had been a very busy paths work day and much improvement was achieved.
 - 10.5.2 It was hoped that the floods at the weekend had not washed away too much.
 - 10.5.3 The Tennis Club path needs vegetation chopped back and David said that the Criminal Justice Team could be booked for this and other work.
- 10.6 Eildon Area Committee. Lorraine reported that the meeting she attended had concentrated on mapping transport problems. The local bus timetable is very antiquated and a discussion followed on the problems of getting to Galashiels and the BGH from Lauder and the difficulties of transporting teenagers. There is going to be a link to a survey which Judi will monitor.
- 10.7 Lauder in Bloom (LiB). Alistair reported that LiB had won 2 gold medals, one for Keep Scotland Beautiful and one for Bio-diversity for the 3 beds in the Park. At the Floral Gateway Champion of Champions awards LiB received a Highly Commended. LiB is planting for the winter and arranging for knitted and crocheted poppies for Remembrance Sunday. There is a move to set up a new initiative called Blooming Borders.

- 10.8 Defibrillators. Irene has passed on all the information on defibrillators to Rachel who will take these over. It was agreed that LCC should contact Earlston CC, Melrose, Newtown and St Boswells to collaborate on siting one at Earlston High School.
- 10.9 7th December at 5 o'clock will be the Christmas Tree Lights celebration plus a family ceilidh in the Public Hall.

11. Any Other Business

- 11.1 David told the meeting that Christmas trees had been sourced and that SBC would erect them.
- 11.2 Anne will order a CC wreath for Remembrance Sunday and Steve will lay it on behalf of the CC.
- 11.3 A lorry has knocked down some bollards on Mill Wynd and Tom will look into replacing them.
- 11.4 Tom will check with the Planning Department and Persimmon about the proposed path from the new houses at Stonycroft to Factors Park.
- 11.5 A query was raised about priorities for salting/gritting pavements in Lauder.
- 11.6 A question was asked by Ross about the removal of trees/shrubs on the Carfraemill roundabout and Anne will contact AMEY to find out why and whether they will be replaced.
- 11.7 Judi drew attention to the problem of excessive speeding on rural roads, especially Lauder to Blainslie, Lauder to Langshaw and the Legerwood road and the need for drivers to be educated.
- 11.8 There has been the offer to donate a bench near the beginning of the Lauder to Blainslie path with a request about how much one would cost. It was noted that a bench costs £150 plus £50 to fix it to the ground. There is also one needed on the Allanbank path.
- 11.9 Persimmon wants to donate a defibrillator to Stonycroft and Steve and Rachel will follow this up.
- 11.10 The Scout group wish to extend their Hall but have discovered that SBC own the ground around. However, an opinion was voiced that the curtilage actually belongs to the Hall. A planning application will resolve the situation.
- 11.11 Concern was raised about the state of the south end of Castle Wynd. Firstly, AMEY has pumped out a road drain on A68 and ejected the oily gritty contents onto Castle Wynd, secondly there is an abandoned car dumped, thirdly the walls on both sides are leaking stones and fourthly there is a horrible amount of decaying rubbish in and out of bins below the Black Bull. David said he would report all this to SBC and get Building Control to have a look at the walls.
- 11.12 There was a discussion about lack of verge cutting on rural roads which came to no conclusion.
- 11.13 In April 2020, AMEY will report back on the impact of the traffic calming measures on the south end of the A68.
- 11.14 It was also noted that the uncontrolled crossing on Mid Row was invisible to drivers and David agreed to check this.

Date of Next Meeting – **Monday 11th November** 2019 at 7.30 in Lauder Primary School.