

FINAL

Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council (LCC) on
Monday 11th May 2020 by "ZOOM" at 7.30pm



1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Alistair Smith, *Chairman*, Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Rachel Whellans, Jack Ponton, Edward Maitland-Carew, Ross Montague, Judi Gunn, Steve Aitchison

Apologies received: PC Calum Wilson

No Scottish Borders Council (SBC) Councillors present

2 members of the public

2. Conflicts of Interest. None so far.

3. Police Report.

3.1 PC Calum Wilson has asked if there are any points please could LCC contact him directly due to COVID-19.

3.2 Alistair reported that a lorry, trying to get up the A68, had hit and brought down one of the wooden electricity poles in West High Street. This raised the questions of why wooden electricity poles are still on a trunk road and why car parking on West High Street did not have gaps to allow passing. It was agreed to contact Scottish Power, AMEY, Transport Scotland, the Police and SBC to prevent this happening again.

3.3 It was also noted that there had been a police chase following a van and caravan driving erratically from Toddleburn wind farm to Cornhill.

4. Adoption of Minutes of previous meetings.

The March Minute was approved by Ross and seconded by Edward. The April Minute was approved by Rachel and seconded by Edward.

5. Update on Lauderdale Resilience Group.

Everything in the Resilience Group is running smoothly and is greatly appreciated.

6. Update on Celebration of VE weekend (8-10-May) and VJ Day (15-16-Aug)

6.1 After a complaint from a member of the public, the police asked us to cancel any social distancing plans for any celebration on Friday 8th May. However, all the shop windows and gardens have been decorated and David Plain from Oxton recorded Last Post and Reveille in his garden.

6.2 It was hoped that, in conjunction with the Common Riding Committee, there could be a Party in the park in August to celebrate both days but no decision would be made until June due to restrictions on organised gatherings.

6.3 Natasja offered the Leisure Centre once lockdown has ended.

7. Reports

- 7.1 Planning. Slurry pit at Thirlestane Farm. No comment
- 7.2 Treasurer. Lorraine was anxious that with no AGM there were no audited accounts. However the balance is healthy.
- 7.3 Lauder Common Good. Nothing to report.
- 7.4 LCC Outreach. Judi raised concern about the increased amount of dog poo due to lockdown and increased walking. Edward agreed with this, especially on the Riverside Walk which includes dogs not on leads among livestock. Judi also raised the subject of the need for more space for trail bikes and asked if Rory Sutherland of Lauder Cycling Club could attend the next meeting.
- 7.5 On this subject, Edward reported that there had been vandalism in the Broomy Braes wood on the south side of the Leader. People with chainsaws had cut down trees, brashed others, taken down dykes, dug ditches and brought in tyres to make corners for a biking track. He has been out and taken down some jumps in case of accidents for which Lauderdale Estate would be liable. It was agreed that Lauder needed an organised track possibly somewhere on Common Land maybe around the Burnmill and that LCC would look into setting something up.
- 7.6 Paths. Because of social distancing and lockdown not much can be done. The refurbishment of the Burnmill path has been postponed. Judi asked if the Blainslie path could be cut later in the year. Alistair noted that members of the public have been cutting grass around and about.
- 7.7 Lauder in Bloom. The hanging baskets will go out in June and the bedding plants have arrived.
- 7.8 It was agreed to wait and see how things develop in connection with the Bonfire and the Christmas Lights.

8. AOB

- 8.1 There is a very corroded electricity box at the foot of the Town Hall steps which must be reported to AMEY.
- 8.2 Rachel asked Alistair to contact Councillor Parker about the back road to Galashiels including potholes.
- 8.3 There is some spare coloured glass for the Lauder signs but no yellow.
- 8.4 Lorraine commented on the lack of organisation to do with all the defibrillators as they each have different hosts and maintenance problems. Alistair will sort this problem. He asked it to be minuted that LCC approved the payment of £255 to HEART in Selkirk for the pads and batteries for the one at the pharmacy.
- 8.5 The signpost at the bottom of the Stow Road has fallen down and the Croft Road sign is very faded. Alistair will pass these on to Craig Blackie.
- 8.6 The Weigh Greener shop needs to pay for a planning application for Conservation Area permission to repaint the windows. LCC approved this payment.

Date of Next Meeting – **Monday 8th June 2020** at 7.30.