

FINAL

## Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council (LCC) on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Lauder Primary School at 7.30pm and by ZOOM



### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Alistair Smith, *Chairman*, Steve Aitchison, *Vice Chairman*, Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Jack Ponton by ZOOM, Judi Gunn, Marilyn Aitkenhead, Emma Herdman, Joanne Dryburgh, and Jenny Linehan by ZOOM, Scottish Borders Council (SBC)

Apologies: Edward Maitland-Carew, Councillors David Parker and John Paton-Day, 1 member of the public,

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

### 3. Police Report. Ian Porter could not be present. There were no items for his attention.

### 4. Adoption of Minutes of previous meetings.

The November minute was proposed by Jack and seconded by Judi.

### 5. Discussion on buses

5.1 There will be changes to the timetable in the new year.

5.2 The change over in Newtown St Boswells is running more smoothly although it was noted that there is no seating in the Bus Stop outside Milestone.

### 6. South of Scotland Coast to Coast Cycle Path – Stranraer to Eyemouth

6.1 It was agreed to keep this on the agenda.

### 7. Reports

7.1 Planning. – Amendment to plots at Birkenside, use of building as a house at Dod Mill, extension to 19 Allanbank Gardens – no comment. The application near Whiteburn Farm has been turned down.

7.2 Treasurer. Nothing to report.

7.3 Lauder Common Good (LCG).

7.4 LCC Outreach. The potholes on the Blainslie Road are getting much worse and Jenny asked Judi to send her photos.

7.5 Lauder in Bloom (LiB). The Festive Foliage is all up and plants for summer 2024 have been ordered.

7.6 Paths Group. It was agreed that the grant money from SBC (£405) be transferred from LCC to the Paths Group. Thanks to SBC for improvement and repairs to the Burnmill Loop .

7.7 Eildon Area Partnership. Nothing to report.

7.8 Christmas Lighting. The new lights look tremendous and the tree, although small, is very fine. There was discussion about diversification and growing our own trees and keeping them rooted so they could be re-used. It was agreed to talk to the Common Good.

- 7.9 Defibrillators. A new battery is needed at The School and the cabinet is already set up at the Golf Course. One is still needed at the bottom end of the Town.
- 7.10 Leisure Centre. The Leisure Centre and Community Shed are running well.
- 7.11 A68. Nothing to report.

**8. Planning - Ditcher Law and Longcroft Wind Farms**

- 8.1 A survey had been sent round Lauderdale asking for opinions on these 2 wind farm applications.
- 8.2 The choices are: Approve, Disapprove, Indifferent and Don't Know.
- 8.3 There were more people in support of both applications than against
- 8.4 It was emphasised that the LCC response should reflect all views taken from the survey.
- 8.5 The two leading questions are to balance up the financial benefit and the impact these large turbines will have on the Lauderdale landscape.
- 8.6 A further meeting on these wind farms was requested.
- 8.7 Concern was expressed about the properties nearest the site and the effect on them.
- 8.8 Alistair has spoken to the Longcroft consultant to arrange a meeting.
- 8.9 It was noted that community benefit from Toddleburn (Hartside) only went to Heriot, Stow and Oxton.
- 8.10 Applications for benefit to which we are entitled from a large windfarm in the Clyde Valley only opens once a year.
- 8.11 The Scottish Government provides advice on the distribution of funds.
- 8.12 Various benefits to the local community were listed.

**9. Any Other Business**

- 9.1 It was noted that Live Borders would need a cash boost as the accounts had shown a large loss.
- 9.2 Coop Update. The Coop as well as other providers like Cost Cutter are supplying goods to Penny Petroleum for the shop.
- 9.3 Judi asked Alistair is there could be a short closed meeting soon.
- 9.4 Steve asked Jenny for further information about the water leak below the Golf Course entrance and the road works and traffic lights involved.

Date and place of Next Meeting – **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Lauder School at 7.30 and by ZOOM.**