

FINAL

Lauderdale Community Council

Minute of Meeting of Lauderdale Community Council (LCC) on
Monday 14th October 2024 at Blainslie Village Hall and by ZOOM at
7.30pm



1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Alistair Smith, *Chairman*, Anne Hogarth, *Secretary*, Jack Ponton by Zoom, Judi Gunn by Zoom, Joanne Dryburgh, Marilyn Aitkenhead, Councillor Jenny Linehan by Zoom

Apologies: Lorraine Crawford, *Treasurer*, Edward Maitland-Carew Emma Herdman, Councillors David Parker and John Paton-Day, Scottish Borders Council (SBC)

PC Ian Porter

From Scottish Power Energy Network (SPEN), Marlene Marimbe, Colin Wyllie, David Rafferty, Ross Laird and Jordan Osborne

3 members of the public

2. Conflicts of Interest. None so far.

3. Police Report.

- 3.1 Ian introduced 2 reports and explained that speeding in Lauder was a very tricky problem although the 20mph limit is now enforceable by law. He will monitor the problems which have been notified to him.

4. Adoption of Minutes of previous meetings. The September minute was approved by Jack and seconded by Joanne.

5. Galashiels North Sub Station at Threepwood Brig combined with presentation on Cross Border Pylons

- 5.1 Marlene explained that there was a need for power to be transferred from Scotland to north west England by 400kv overhead lines. After the completion of the sub-station at Threepwood the preferred route will be over the Gala Water, the Tweed, the Yarrow Water, the Teviot and the Liddel to end up at Carlisle via Newcastleton. A further sub-station and battery storage unit will be built in the hills beyond Hawick.
- 5.2 It was noted that access to Threepwood for the heavy construction vehicles would be a problem.
- 5.3 There will be more consultation programmes needed before the project is complete.
- 5.4 A query was raised about community benefit from this project and the answer was that OFGEN would need to be involved.
- 5.5 **Allanbank Development** - The Section 75 consent on developer contribution will be negotiated in November between Whiteburn and SBC therefore construction will not start until 2025.

6. Lauderdale Wind Farms

- 6.1 Joanne reported on an email from John Hayward, Chief Planning Officer on SBC's Strategic Plan on Wind Farms. After a paragraph on the problems of accurately mapping where each turbine will be placed and how this can be put up on SBC's website, he

reported that the difference between actual planning consent and community benefit is becoming more blurred. He asked for more specific questions to be asked.

7. Buses Timetable – Judi asked about the problem of the public living at St Leonards and Boon catching buses on the A68 where there is no footpath nor lighting and sometimes the buses do not see them in the dark. Jenny will contact the bus companies and BEAR on this problem. There is now an Active Travel Officer is post at SBC.

8. South of Scotland Cycling Fund – Nothing to report.

9. Cemetery

- 9.1 Graeme Donald has produced a report on a site visit with Jenny, John, Alistair, Carol Cooke Parks and Environmental Manager from SBC and himself.
- 9.2 A plan for improvements was set up so that the Cemetery could be more user friendly with designated people for each improvement.
- 9.3 LCC formally supported this Report.

10. Reports

- 10.1 Planning. Nothing to report but Jack asked if the wind farm applications could be more easily found on SBC website.
- 10.2 Treasurer. Nothing to report.
- 10.3 Lauder Common Good (LCG). Nothing to report.
- 10.4 LCC Outreach. The Post Office move to Premier Shop is being monitored. Alistair will check with Edward about where the walks are in the Castle grounds.
- 10.5 Paths Group. The path to the cemetery needs some work and the formation of a path from the Boon roadend to Lauder is being planned. A path from Lauder to Stow was suggested.
- 10.6 Eildon Area Partnership. Nothing to report.
- 10.7 Lauder in Bloom (LiB). Judging was held on 8-Aug-24 but nothing will be heard until 21-Oct-24. Jenny was thanked for arranging the new street signs and the Stow Road/ The Loan signs at the War Memorial on both sides need clarification. The Small Schemes Fund will be applied to for the Burnmill Stone.
- 10.8 Lauderdale Initiative. The Dinner Dance to raise funds had zero attendance so plans have been modified for the Christmas Lights.
- 10.9 Defibrillators. All defibs working well. A meeting has been arranged to demonstrate them working along with CPR on 26th October.
- 10.10 Leisure Centre. 4 electric bikes are being installed.
- 10.11 A68. The bollards have been set up at the garage and trees on Edinburgh Road will be planted in the Spring. Resurfacing is being planned. Alistair will attend to where the additional disabled space will be situated.

11. AOB

- 11.1 Report on Community Action Plan Meeting. 27 people attended from Lauder and neighbouring villages. It was agreed to find priorities for accessing grants for local projects. A full report will be circulated.

Date and place of Next 3 Meetings Monday 11th November, Monday 9th December, Monday 13th January 2025 at Lauder Primary School at 7.30 and by ZOOM.