

CEDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Monday 21st July 2025 7.00pm, Crawford Village Hall

MINUTES OF MEETING



1.	Welcome & Introductions MR notified the group that Anne had chosen to step down as a Trustee at this time, but would remain an Ordinary Member. The group wished Anne well with her health.	
2.	<p>Present</p> <p><u>Trustees:</u> Fiona Cameron Fiona Greenhorn Valerie Witham Jane Quinn Daniel Rowley Daniel Jones JP Gilmartin Morag Ritchie Helen Hally</p> <p><u>Members:</u> Bruce Fraser Colin McMillan – Community Investment Manager, SSE.</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Joyce Gilmartin (T) Anne Hume Jan Emsley Paul Emsley</p>	
3.	Chair Arrangements It was agreed to revisit this later in the meeting as Helen had advised she would be a little late in arriving due to other commitments.	
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
4a.	Amendments No amendments were raised for the meeting minutes, and these were agreed as a true record of the meeting.	
4b.	Matters Arising No matters arising were raised.	

29.07.2025

5.	<p data-bbox="263 78 462 112">A View from SSE</p> <p data-bbox="263 156 1197 347">Colin McMillan attended the meeting and introduced himself. He explained a brief history of the funds that were available, including the money that had been made available from the Clyde Windfarm which had been split between the three Local Authority areas. He then explained his role working with the Community Council in looking at how to maximise funding.</p> <p data-bbox="263 347 1197 728">The main windfarm was built in 2010 with money set aside, which South Lanarkshire took responsibility for and split into the nine community council areas. Money was put aside for these nine areas and split by South Lanarkshire Council for each area to access. The extension was built in 2015 and it was agreed that this would affect six community councils, including Crawford and Elvanfoot. This has then led to a portion of money being added to the pot each year from this. Colin explained that some money has been paid out for events, but only small awards have been made. The playpark was funded by the extension of the windfarm, and the Community Action Officer was paid out of this pot.</p> <p data-bbox="263 772 1197 963">The money left in the pot is available to use, but Colin explained that this should be used to contribute to strategic development of the community, and normally for due diligence Colin and a Community Organisation would meet to discuss spending the money, made up of five or six community members, or from holding a community meeting to get ideas.</p> <p data-bbox="263 963 1197 1041">Colin was asked what would not be considered for using the money on, and he explained that it could not be used for;</p> <ul data-bbox="311 1041 877 1276" style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy consumption • Individual's homes • The benefit of Religious or Political groups • Private gain • Anything that would bring SLC into disrepute • Reimbursement of any previous expenditures <p data-bbox="263 1276 1197 1736">There was a discussion around the Community Action Officer money and the potential to utilise this with the consultancy role. Colin explained with the dissolution of the Community Council the money for this was handed back, but could be applied for again. Helen arrived at this time and explained that the process has been started with Community Enterprise Scotland to look at consultancy, and this is in progress with Lynda from CE. Colin advised that due diligence would need to be demonstrated, so he would expect up to three quotes to be sought after but also recognised that it was not always easy to get a response. HH spoke about the tender process followed for the feasibility study where three companies were approached but only two responses were received. DJ added that there was a comprehensive process followed where the two companies were interviewed by the Trustees and voted for.</p> <p data-bbox="263 1780 1197 1892">Colin asked for information to be shared on what comes next from the Community Action Plan (CAP) in relation to community transport, hall management and infrastructure projects, and offered assistance where he can.</p> <p data-bbox="263 1937 638 1971">Colin left the meeting at 7.40pm.</p>	
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3.	<p>Chair Arrangements Revisited</p> <p>HH had previously emailed the Trustees advising that due to personal commitments she had made the difficult decision to stand down as Chair, effective immediately. She has agreed to remain as a Trustee and still intends to participate where possible in supporting CEDAR achieve their goals for the Community.</p> <p>Replacing the Chair position was discussed, and it was felt that this needed to happen very quickly to continue the positive momentum. All Trustees were asked to make it known if they were interested in the post, and DJ was the only interested person. JQ nominated DJ as Chair and this was seconded by FG. It was unanimously agreed at the meeting to vote DJ at the new Chair of CEDAR.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that succession planning was needed, and HH had previously shared important emails with ongoing actions to DJ, JPG and MR, who agreed to arrange a meeting to organise the outstanding commitments. There is now a vacancy for a Vice Chair, so any Trustees interested in this were asked to email DJ at chair@cedar-group.org or MR at secretary@cedar-group.org. All were reminded that elected Office Bearers can only come from the Trustees. This led on to discussions over the need to create a recruitment plan for Trustees and Ordinary Members, and all were asked to offer suggestions for this if they came up with ideas.</p>	DJ, JPG, MR
6.	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>JPG shared the most recent Treasurer's report dated 17.07.2025, with an opening balance of £33, 884.42. JPG advised there had been no issues with payments generally, with the payments being received from regular group bookings. There had been an expenditure on a lawnmower and strimmer that had been approved by the Trustees for the Hall, and there is Micro Grant money left over from the previous workshops that will be reclaimed at the end of the fiscal year. JPG also advised that as of yet there has not been a payment made for electricity.</p> <p>The closing balance as of 17.07.2025 was £33, 825.42. A copy of this report will be shared with the meeting minutes.</p>	
7.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Aileen Gemmel had submitted a request on behalf of the Easy Movers group for additional equipment that could be used, including mini-weights. JPG noted that there was £1152 currently ringfenced still for the Easy Movers group, but after discussion relating to the Hall hire and instructors' fees, this money would be required to cover this. It was suggested the better option would be for a Micro Grant application be submitted to cover the cost of the equipment. This will be fed back to Aileen by DJ.</p>	DJ
8.	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing Grant Evaluation</p> <p>An email has been received from VASLAN in relation to the first evaluation of the mental health and wellbeing grant, including how the events applied for</p>	

	<p>have progressed. This report is due to be submitted in early August, but given HH's position she has been unable to make a start on this. It was suggested that we request an extension for this, and the information has been shared with DJ, JPG and MR.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that some of the funding initially applied for will not be needed, as the indoor bowls mats are no longer to be purchased. It was suggested that this money could still be used for the bowlers but for indoor lawn bowlers' mats instead. There was also discussion around a summer house to allow for additional meeting space and storage.</p>	DJ, JPG & MR
9.	<p>Book Fair</p> <p>MR and FC have met to outline the plans for the day, which is booked for the 26th July. There have been generous donations which will allow for a good selection of books, jigsaws, and children's items, and hope that further donations will be received of games, DVDs and CDs. MR added that currently there were four volunteers to date (MR, FC, HH & AH), and asked if there were any volunteers available for the day to aid in running teas and coffees or overseeing the children's area. JQ and VW volunteered, and DR said he would put a notice on social media to see if anyone else wished to volunteer. DR had already shared the event advert on social media and displayed a sign on the hall notice board. MR asked about a float which JPG will organise, and a key for the hall, which was agreed to be provided at the end of the meeting.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>MR & JPG</p>
10.	<p>Newsletter</p> <p>JG had agreed that she was happy with the idea of using OneDrive for feedback into the newsletter, and JPG agreed to set this up with her. The comments about the newsletter being too CEPE focused had been acknowledged, and agreement that an explanation about CEDAR would be included.</p> <p>The tear-off slip was questioned as it was felt that people may not return these, leading to the information not being received about who does and does not wish to receive a newsletter. It was agreed that the option to receive the newsletter digitally should be included as then individuals can contact to opt-in to this instead of a paper copy.</p> <p>There was also a discussion around having central places around the villages where the newsletter could be collected by interested individuals, and advertising to say when these would be made available for monthly collection.</p> <p>DJ had been unable to obtain quotes, and HH advised the previous quote she provided was for a bi-fold booklet, consisting of four pages.</p>	JG & JPG
11.	<p>Community Transport Initiative</p> <p>Following on from the previous meeting minutes, there was a discussion over types of suitable vehicles and the cost implications surrounding these options. There was also a discussion relating to MIDAS training if a vehicle was leased that had more than nine seats, and potentially a PVG scheme disclosure for children if children were using the transport. FG advised that</p>	

	<p>she is aware of a parent who currently drives a bus and holds a suitable PVG membership.</p> <p>JPG agreed that he was happy to continue to follow this up and look at pinning down potential vehicles and costs. DJ asked if JPG would be able to bring any information he had about this to the next meeting, and this was agreed as an action.</p>	JPG
12.	<p>Community Action Plan Review</p> <p>Due to time constraints, this action point was agreed to be carried to the next meeting.</p>	DJ
13.	<p>Hall Management</p> <p>In general, things are going well. The bins have now been delivered and contracted for uplift. JQ raised that from a Tea on Tuesday perspective, the bins are not being emptied so when she comes in, she has needed to empty the bins before starting. It was agreed that a polite notice could be made as part of the clean down after an event, and DJ will amend the terms and conditions to include this.</p> <p>The booking system has been working well, with more bookings being made. It was suggested that there needed to be a minimum of one hour stipulated as part of the booking to allow for appropriate set up and clean down of the hall, so DJ agreed to set this up.</p> <p>It was discussed that there would need to be a rota system in place for non-regular hires to ensure there was a key holder available to open and lock up the hall. DJ agreed that he would put a notification in the Trustees chat group when a booking was made to allow for a key holder to agree to take this on. It was agreed that Sharon would leave the hall open on the last Wednesday of the month after the parent and toddler group for the Citizens Advice sessions, and it will be locked up after by Shona following on from Yoga.</p> <p>A discussion was had based on quotes received by JPG for the Wi-Fi from BT, Sky and U-Switch. After discussing the packages and best possible deals, it was unanimously voted for BT to be chosen. JPG will arrange for this to be set up.</p> <p>Business Energy Scotland were out a couple of weeks ago looking at how to reduce the energy costs for the Hall. Currently the Hall costs an average of £1000 a month to run, and the suggestions given included loft insulation, draft exclusions, and an air source heat pump. There is a cashback grant available, which JPG will pass on to MR to share with the group. It was discussed that if an air source heat pump was looked into that this would need to be checked with the architects from CES, and there was also a suggestion of looking at infra-red panels. DR agreed that he is going to help JPG look into this further.</p> <p>Storage was discussed in the Hall. There are items left from the sip 'n' stitch group that are no longer running, and there are also items in the cleaning</p>	<p>DJ</p> <p>DJ</p> <p>DJ / Key holders</p> <p>JPG</p> <p>JPG & MR</p> <p>DR & JPG</p>

	cupboard needing sorted through. It was agreed that a group will be arranged to look at getting items returned to the original owners or moved on that are no longer in use or suitable.	DJ & DR
14.	<p>Tagging</p> <p>It was clarified from the last meeting minutes that the purpose of this is to arrange a tagging event where people can bring their items along for tagging. JPG has a UV light and pen for doing this, and advised that the purpose of this so that if any items are stolen this can then be shared with the police. It was agreed that JPG will arrange for this to happen as an open event at the next book fair.</p>	JPG
15.	<p>Micro Grants Update</p> <p>DR shared that there have been three applications for Micro Grants that were all successful, and reminded all that these were available for utilising.</p>	
16.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>DR mentioned that the previous Community Council group had access to an admin grant, and agreed that he would email Kenny to find out if this was something that CEDAR can apply for.</p> <p>BF discussed the successful launch of the Lowther & District Men's Shed in Leadhills, and the aim to have dedicated open days for each of the local villages. He advised the group that there is a workshop area and taster sessions will be offered. BF advised that there will be information made available from Ken Ledger that can be shared on social media.</p> <p>VW fed back that she had attended the last CAB session to offer refreshments and biscuits, but there were no takers so she doesn't feel this is worth continuing. The people who did attend went straight in to meet with the advisor.</p> <p>MR asked if there was a list of Trustees and Ordinary Members held by anyone that she could access so this can be updated and changes shared with OSCR. DJ advised he had access to this and would share it.</p> <p>MR raised a previous item that Gail had originally discussed about getting an InPost box applied for to sit outside the hall. All agreed this would be a good idea, and MR will begin the application process.</p> <p>JPG raised concerns over speeding through the village. It was suggested that we source a speed aware sign, or apply for the 20mph limit to go through the entire village. DJ advised that this had been looked at before elsewhere and if there is not a history of speeding resulting in an injury or fatality then there is very little chance of action being taken by the SLC under the Road Traffic Act legislation. DJ discussed of the changes made in Skirling and is able to talk to</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>DJ & MR</p> <p>MR</p>

	the person who campaigned for this change, so he will raise this with them and feed back at the next meeting.	DJ
17.	<p>Confirmation of Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.20pm.</p> <p>The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 18.08.2025 at 7pm in the Crawford Village Hall.</p>	