

ELCV Board Meeting Minutes

16th March 2026

Venue: Room 23, John Muir House, Haddington. Time: 14:00

Those Present:

Trustees: John Hardy (Chair), Terry Page (Secretary) Dave Quarendon (Treasurer), Ron Tuck, Paul Ince, Joyce Stephens, Harry Blackley.

ELC: Dave Wild, John Harrison

Apologies for Absence: Peter Quinn.

1. **Welcome:** The Chair welcomed John Harrison and thanked Dave Quarendon for taking the minutes at the last meeting.

He noted that Paul Beaven had resigned as a trustee due to other commitments. The Chair thanked him for his valuable contribution.

The Chair had emailed Zoe Goldstone but had not received a reply. Dave Wild will try and contact her. **Action 26-2/1** Dave Wild to contact Zoe Goldstone about her position as a trustee

Peter Quinn has suggested holding a separate meeting to discuss fund raising for projects and for core funding. The trustees agreed and thought we would need a list of projects to be funded. The discussion led to the following actions:

Action 26/2-2 Dave Wild to ask the Countryside Department for ideas and ask the rangers to ask their volunteer groups for ideas.

Action 26/2-3 Paul Ince to circulate ELCV members for ideas.

Action 26/2-4 John Hardy to contact Peter Quin to discuss how to develop the concept.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Ron Tuck and agreed unanimously.
3. **New Members:** 2 people, Georgia Mark & Orla Thomson, had applied to join since the last board meeting. The board approved their membership.

4. **Matters Arising and Actions from the Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

- 4.1 **Action 24-3/3:** Dave Quarendon to progress the Pencraig North & South Interpretation Boards design with ELC and funding with Peter Quinn & Anne Pearson.

No progress. The missing South Board was found by the Amenities Department and is being stored by ELC.

- 4.2 **Action 24-4/8:** Dave Wild will ask Tara Sykes to get a firm quote for replacing the information board by the Hedderwick (Skittery) Burn & John Hardy to approach the Brown Forbes Memorial Fund to finance.

We cannot replace the existing panel with a like for like, a wooden embossed panel, as these are no longer available. PVC panels are available. Action continues.

- 4.3 Action 25-1/4:** Dave Wild to ask Kristain Purchase for a firm proposal to provide a plaque, a trail camera and trees at Levenhall Links as a memorial to the Friends of Musselburgh Links.

Kristian has identified two benches that are not required elsewhere, costed two plaques (£165.54) and suggested buying a trail camera or 7 monoculars or 12 children's binoculars for that could be held by outdoor learning or at Musselburgh Library. Jason Rose, from the Friends of Musselburgh Links, has indicated a preference for the binoculars. The Board agreed with the suggestion of binoculars and approved the expenditure for the plaques (£165.54) and the binoculars (£330). **Action 25-1/4 complete. Action 26/2-4** Dave Wild to ask Kristian Purchase to purchase the plaques and arrange for the bench installation and purchase the binoculars.

- 4.4 Action 25-2/5.** Dave Quarendon to speak to Zoe Goldstone to find out how we get the money from the North Berwick Trust to pay for the North Berwick Law path survey

The invoice is to be redirected to the North Berwick Trust. **Action updated.**

- 4.6 Action 25-4/5** Dave Wild to get a quote for two ELCV Feather Flags.

The flags have been delivered and Dave brought one to the meeting. The Board agreed that Dave Wild would keep one to be available for display at work parties and John Hardy would keep a good one for use at exhibitions, conferences or similar. **Action complete.**

- 4.8 Action 25-5/3** Dave Wild & Paul Ince to cost an application to Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (Sustrans) for code lockable wheelie bins, litter pickers and some path warden tools.

Paul had contacted the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (Sustrans) and the funds from this round have been used up. The trust should contact Paul when more funds are available and he will monitor the situation. **Action closed.**

- 4.9 Information Boards on Pencaitland Railway Walk** Work is progressing on the boards. A further board situated at the Crossgate Hall Car Park also needs replacing. The ELC legal team are in discussion with the landowner.

Action 25-6/1: Dave Wild will obtain a quote to replace the board. **Action continues**

- 4.10 Vegetation Survey Aberlady Bay - Action 25-6/2:** Paul Ince to tell Graham Pettigrew that the funding for the Aberlady Vegetation Survey and surveyors field trip is approved. **Action Complete.** Graham Pettigrew will ask Ben Averis to send the invoice directly to Dave Quarendon.

- 4.11 Path from Tynninghame to Binning Woods – Action 25-6/3:** John Hardy to work with Nick Morgan on the proposal to resurface the path from Tynninghame to Binning Wood. The project is now likely to go ahead in the autumn. The Brown Forbes Memorial Fund has agreed to fund the project and John Hardy will keep them informed of the timing. **Action updated.**

- 4.12 Whitesands Ramp – Action 26-1/1:** John Hardy to accept Whitesands Ramp grant (with caveats). NatureScot, a statutory consultee, have indicated that the proposal is unlikely to be accepted due to its potential effect on the coastal environment. In consequence BeGreen have withdrawn the grant. **Action closed.** Nick Aitken will be discussing alternatives with NatureScot.

- 4.13 Business Cards - Action 26-1/3:** Dave Wild to distribute the new business cards to rangers to give out to volunteers who want them. **Action complete.**

4.14 Giant Hogweed Spotters - Action 26-1/5: Dave Wild to email a call out to all volunteers for new giant hogweed spotters and Action 26/1-6 Dave Quarendon to get a call for hogweed spotters into Mud in Your Eye. **Actions complete.** 5 new spotters have been recruited.

4.15 Cleaning Products - Action 26-1/4: Dave Wild to find out what cleaning product for outdoors boards are/are not acceptable. Soap/washing up liquid, water and elbow grease are the only acceptable products. **Action closed.**

4.16 Annual Report – Action 26-1/7: John Hardy & Dave Quarendon to prepare and submit the annual OSCT report for 2025. John has prepared his part and handed it over to Dave Quarendon. **Action Continues.**

Terry Page had spoken to James Meston who said that he was happy to audit the report again this year.

4.17 Fundraising – Action 26-1/7 Peter Quinn to explore ELCV funding possibilities. This will be developed at the special meeting. **Action superseded.**

Action 26-1/8 Peter Quinn & John Hardy to pursue getting agreement of a regular annual donation from the potential tourist tax income (visitor levy). This may have to wait until the levy has been approved. The council is consulting with communities and local business and there is a bill going through the Scottish Parliament to amend the act giving councils more flexibility. This can be considered at the funding meeting. **Action superseded.**

Harry Blackley suggested we have a Just Giving site. This can be discussed at the Fund Raising Meeting.

7.1 Reducing Wildlife Damage from Dogs. Ron Tuck reported that the leaflet was to be replaced by social media material, a design had been circulated for the post cards and a video contractor has drafted a video.

The post cards were estimated to cost £323 for 5,000 but it was not clear what the funding arrangements would be. **Action 26-2/6** Dave Wild to clarify the funding arrangements for the post cards.

7.2 North Berwick Law Path: Laura Douglas has previously approached the Nation Lottery Heritage Fund for funding but they had asked for more details and information on community engagement.

8. Financial Report. There have not been any transactions since the last meeting.

8.1 Current Balance: We have a balance of £3,623.39 of which £3,071.39 is uncommitted.

8.2 Transactions Since Last Meeting: There have not been any transactions since the last meeting.

Expenditure:	None
Income:	£1,580.00
Balance	£5,185.39
Commitments:	£552.00 for spending on Musselburgh Links
Uncommitted balance:	£4083.39

Any Other Business:

When litter picking volunteers sometimes find discarded vapes and nitrous oxide cylinders which should not be put into anormal disposal route. Dave Wild will provide advice on what to do with these. **Action 26-2/7.**

10. **Date & Time of 2026 Meeting:** Monday 18th May 14:00 to 16:00 John Muir House Saltire Room 2.

List of outstanding actions:

Actionee	Action	Number
Dave Quarendon	Dave Quarendon to progress the Pencraig North & South Interpretation Boards design with ELC and funding with Peter Quinn & Anne Pearson	24-3/3
Dave Wild John Hardy.	Dave Wild will ask Tara Sykes to proceed with the replacement of the information board at the Hedderwick (Skittery) Burn provided the cost does not exceed £2,200. John Hardy to approach the Brown Forbes Memorial Fund to finance.	24-4/8
Dave Quarendon	To get the invoice for the North Berwick Law path survey redirected to the North Berwick Trust.	25-2/5
Dave Wild	To obtain a quote to replace the PRW Crossgate Hall Car Park information board	25-6/1
John Hardy	To work with Nick Morgan on the proposal to resurface the path from Tynninghame to Binning Woods and to inform the Brown Forbes Memorial Fund of the work timing.	25-6/3
John Hardy & Dave Quarendon	To prepare and submit the annual OSCT report for 2025.	26-1/7
Dave Wild	Contact Zoe Goldstone about her position as a trustee	26-2/1
Dave Wild	Ask the Countryside Department for project ideas and ask the rangers to ask their volunteer groups for ideas	26/2-2
Paul Ince	Circulate ELCV members for project ideas.	26-2/3
John Hardy	Contact Peter Quin to discuss how to develop the fundraising.	26-2/4
John Hardy Dave Quarendon	To prepare and submit the annual OSCT report for 2025.	26-2/5
Dave Wild	To clarify the funding arrangements for the reducing Wildlife Damage from Dogs postcards.	26-2/6
Dave Wild	To provide advice to volunteers on the disposal of vapes and nitrous oxide cylinders.	26-2/7