

Fa'side Area Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership

3rd June, 7-9pm, Elphinstone Community Centre

Members present

Councillor Donald Grant

Councillor Jim Gillies

Councillor Kenny McLeod

Councillor Shamin Akhtar

Elizabeth Hutchison, Muirpark and Steading Tenants and Residents Association

Helen Spencer, Elphinstone Primary School Parent Council

Jennifer McNeil, Ormiston Community Council

Margaret Scott, Tranent West Tenants and Residents Association

Maureen Allan, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council

Phil Summerfield, Pencaitland Community Council

Robert McNeill, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council

Roger Powell, Ross High School Parent Council

Substitute members present

Mark Ormiston, Ormiston West Tenants and Residents Association

Others in attendance

Kaela Scott, Local Community Planning Officer, East Lothian Council

Kenneth Black, Anti-Social behaviour Co-ordinator, East Lothian Council

Paolo Vestri, Service Manager Corporate Policy and Improvement, East Lothian Council

Sgt Gordon Simpson, Police Scotland

Susan Tully, Tranent and Elphinstone Community Action Plan (TECAP) Steering Group

Tom Shearer, Interim Chair of Fa'side Area Partnership, Head of Communities and Partnership, East Lothian Council

Apologies

Alan Bell, Recharge

Brodie Thomson, Ross High Pupil Council

Charlotte Noon, Ross High Pupil Council

Douglas Neill, Macmerry and Gladsmuir Community Council

Maureen Cuthill, Macmerry and Gladsmuir Community Council

Scott Russell, Tranent & District Community Sports Club

| | Key discussion points | Action |
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| 1. Welcome | T Shearer welcomed everybody to the meeting and initiated a round of introductions. | |
| 2. Approval of minutes and matters arising | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes from the 22nd April were approved as accurate <p>a. Report and recommendations from the Town Centre Regeneration subgroup meeting</p> <p>The subgroup met on the 14th May 2014 to discuss a way forward. The key recommendations brought back to the partnership are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To form a joint working group with the members from the TECAP Steering Group, under the umbrella of the Area Partnership, to avoid duplication of effort ii. To take the 2 priorities relating to town centre regeneration identified in the T&E Action Plan (p10) as our starting remit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ revitalise the High St ○ Improve traffic management and road safety iii. To draw membership from existing groups and wider interested / relevant people, and take up the offer from Graham Duncan (retired Planner) to help guide the process iv. To invite a representative from the TECAP Steering Group to join the Area Partnership <p>Following discussion around these proposals there was broad agreement from all to proposals i.-iii. and a consensus that these would add value to any work done.</p> <p>LH also reminded the group of the Living Streets work carried out in Tranent previously (the implementation of which is highlighted as an action in the TECAP plan) and requested all members be made aware of this report. Here is the link: http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/15573/living_streets-an_audit_of_high_street_tranent</p> <p>Decision – proceed with the development of the sub-group</p> <p>Regarding proposal iv. – ‘to invite the TECAP Steering Group to become a member of the Partnership in its own right’- there was however more concern. MA reminded members that there had been agreement at the 1st meeting of the Area Partnership not to invite any further members until the existing group had had time to establish key priorities for the area. While all agreed TECAP’s involvement would be useful it was felt we should not reverse the earlier decision.</p> <p>KS reminded members that the meetings were held in public and that other groups / interested bodies could attend and participate at the discretion of the chair (as staff from Recharge currently do) This same point was reiterated regarding the Fraser Centre</p> <p>Decision – not to invite further membership at this stage but to encourage participation from other interested groups etc through subgroups and at Partnership meetings as appropriate.</p> | KS to contact all involved and call a meeting before the end of June |

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| | <p>b. Any other matters arising... There were no other matters arising</p> | |
| <p>3. Feedback regarding the key themes as potential areas for focus</p> | <p>a. Do we agree with the themes? Are there key areas missing? The 7 Key themes emerging from the previous meeting were distributed for discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town Centre Regeneration - agreed that Tranent would be picked up by the sub-group but that some consideration still needed to be given to the village centres and specific actions needed there. 2. Anti-social behaviour and perceptions of crime – to be picked up later in the agenda 3. Effective travel between villages, Tranent and beyond – agreed as a key theme for further exploration 4. Improving community information and co-ordination across the ward – agreed as a key theme for further exploration 5. Community Facilities – RP identified the need for greenspace to be included within facilities and amenities in the area 6. Challenges to living a healthy, active life in the area –agreed as a key theme for further exploration 7. ‘wraparound communities’ – agreed as a key theme for further exploration <p>There was discussion n relating to a key area of concern and potential that were not included above – leading to the addition of them 8.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Business and economy – including broadband connectivity. <p>b. Auditing what is already happening / in place in relation to the themes This agenda item was held over to be addressed at the end of the meeting in order to dedicate time to the next item on the agenda.</p> | <p>KS to update key themes and distribute with the minutes</p> |
| <p>4. Police Scotland Multi Member Ward Plans</p> | <p>Presentation Sgt Gordon Simpson gave a short presentation outlining the process and priorities of the Police Scotland- Fa’side multi-member ward plan, with input from KB, ASB co-ordinator.</p> <p>RM asked about the degree of local control of resourcing etc within the new Police Scotland structure.</p> <p>GS assumed that the Chief Inspector in East Lothian still had a very big say in resourcing and that demand profiles were used to allocate resources at a local level.</p> <p>RM asked about the impact of the closure of the Haddington Sherriff Court.</p> <p>GS acknowledged that while certainly this would have an impact work was being done to mitigate the impact on police time away from the area to attend court in Edinburgh.</p> | |

DG commented on the positive relationships with the police and anti-social behaviour team that exist in the area - highlighting police attendance at CC meetings and the value of the CAPP initiative – and the positive progress this has led to.

Small Group discussions

Members divided into 4 small groups to look at key questions in relation to the presentation and community safety issues in the area. The bullet points below capture key points from these discussions.

- i. How do these priorities and actions fit with your experience here?
 - The action taken to address anti-social behaviour in this area has led to a reduction. The measures taken are working so these should continue.
 - Dog fouling - ? role of Community Warden and Police.
 - Anti-social behaviour – worry about Police visibility – how often do Police patrol the streets?
 - Is there apathy in people reporting minor crimes and issues – under reporting.
 - Stats. on young people causing a disturbance was decreasing year by year – real vs. perceptions
 - Diversity initiatives – Police, Community Wardens, positive want it to continue.
 - These priorities and actions fit in with the CAPP that we are all in. Since the CAPP started the problems seem smaller.

 - ii. Do they reflect the real issues in these communities?
 - Yes they do. Issues differ in different areas in Fa’side – mainly low level, serious incidents are rare.
 - Concern about time it takes to arrest and deal with “known” offenders – drug dealers/anti-social behaviour – can take a long time – would like quicker action.
 - Biggest problem at moment is traffic – High Street Tranent, schools across the whole Ward.
 - Traffic issues are becoming confrontational.

 - iii. What could we do to change the situation? – Police, ASB teams, communities, schools, others...
 - Could have more Community Police Officers attending schools more frequently with continuity with same Officers.
 - There should be more priority given to CAPP meetings – attendance has dropped.
 - Vital that the Police continue to engage with community groups to build up trust as they are doing now. Anonymous tip offs.
 - Continued positive relationship with Police – Zara MacDowell.
 - Traffic warden missed and people taking advantage of this
- Key issues for police:
- CAPP meetings are valued by the community but police commitment to them seems to be dropping and they are having to be reorganised to fit

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| | <p>shift patterns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Police management of traffic in the area – and parking violations. • Address speeding Macmerry – Pencaitland – New Winton. • Address the # 44 terminus bus stop at Windygoul: buses backed up and lollipop person struggling around them. • Traffic congestion on Tranent High St and around schools particularly – becoming more and more confrontational. • Busses not drawing in to the bus stop and therefore holding up traffic – even when there is space. • U-turning Taxis. • Delivery vans on Tranent High St – blocking taxi rank and bus stops. <p>Feedback to the wider group and visiting officers highlighted a number of key points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There was general support for the Police Ward Plan and agreement that it did address the key issues in this community 2. There was support for the way anti-social behaviour in the area was being addressed – and a belief that incidences were reducing 3. Members emphasised the positive working relationship that they had with the police and ASB teams that had resulted in good diversionary and preventative work 4. There was however an emphasis on the need to maintain / improve contact with schools and the visibility of local community officers. Also the need for these posts to be sustained longer term by the same officer so as to build up trust, relationships and local knowledge. 5. The group also endorsed the value of the CAPP (Community and Police Partnership) meetings in this area however felt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater priority needed to be given to these meetings by groups represented - Times needed to be consistent and available in advance - That the profile of these meetings needed to be raised to ensure effective participation - Police needed to be able to attend these meetings at times that worked for the community - CAPP meetings could report back to the AP key issues as not all members attend <p>Decision – to re-emphasise the value of CAPP meetings and prioritise them</p> | <p>Stg GS to take the key issues identified back to police colleagues</p> |
| <p>5. Next steps</p> | <p>Given the time a full return to agenda item 3 b) was not possible however a few key points were raised</p> <p>Re theme 1 Town Centre Regeneration MA noted that The Tranent Business Association had been established (note attached) The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 25th June at 7pm at the Fraser Centre</p> <p>Re theme 3 Effective travel between villages, Tranent and beyond</p> | <p>Given this agenda item was not fully covered KS to develop a proforma for</p> |

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| | <p>PS noted the road resurfacing that had been achieved in Pencaitland but that the cycle lanes initially intended have not yet been acted upon – need to create safe cycle routes</p> <p>Re theme 5 Community Facilities SA noted that a mapping exercise had begun to look at what is available, where and how it is being used TS made links between this and community asset management activities across the county PS noted the need to include sports facilities and pitches – highlighting Pencaitland</p> <p>Re themes 6 and 7 Challenges to living a healthy, active life in the area and ‘wraparound communities’ Noted that - with the developments happening within the Health and Social Care Partnership and a variety of other plans / strategies under review (eg. Older People’s Strategy, Children’s Services Plan) and the new Local Health Plans - this will be a key area for exploration and discussion and potentially for wider consultation across the community.</p> <p>Any Other Business: Other issues/factors highlighted for consideration which may have an impact on wider plans for the area :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Government Boundary Review – out for consultation Key dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 29/05/14 - 21/08/14 Consultation with public on councilor numbers - 14/05/15 - 06/08/15 Consultation with public on ward boundaries - Local Development Plan – Main Issues Report – expected in September 2014. <p>Information requests carried over from the previous meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More information on child poverty / free school meal uptake – what are the trends over time? • NHS plans for future provision in the area | <p>feedback and distribute with the minutes.</p> <p>Members to complete and return proforma by 18th August</p> <p>Link to the consultation if interested https://www.consultation.lgb-scotland.gov.uk/</p> <p>Staff to investigate input for future meetings, as appropriate.</p> |
| <p>6. Date of Next Meeting.</p> | <p>Tuesday 2nd Sept, 7-9pm. Venue to be confirmed.</p> | <p>apologies to: faside-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p> |

Contact

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