

Fa'side Area Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership

23rd June, 7-9pm, Fraser Centre

Chair

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

Members and substitute members present

Cllr Shamin Akhtar (SA)

Maureen Cuthill, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Council (MC)

Cllr Jim Gillies (JG)

Cllr Donald Grant (DG)

Stuart Mackenzie, Elphinstone Community Association (SM)

Robert McNeill, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (RM)

Pauline Megson, Ormiston Community Council (PM)

Douglas Neil, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Council (DN)

Mark Ormiston, Ormiston West TRA (MO)

Roger Powell, Ross High Parent Council (RP)

Joan Ramsay, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (JR)

Margaret Scott, Tranent West TRA (MS)

Phil Summerfield, Pencaitland Community Council (PS)

Others in attendance

Ross Cairns, Candidate for Chairperson (RC)

Loraine Congalton, Community Development Officer ELC (LC)

Simon Davie, Area Manager – Fa'side, ELC (SD)

Bill Laird, Candidate for Chairperson (BL)

Rurighd McMeddes, Ass. Local Community Planning Officer, ELC (RMc)

John Russell, Fraser Centre (JR)

Kaela Scott, Local Community Planning Officer, ELC (KS)

Claire Wardhaugh, Muirpark & Steading View TRA (CW)

Apologies

Maureen Allan, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (MA)

Alan Bell, Recharge (AB)

Paul MacGregor, Tranent & District Community Sports Club (PM)

Cllr Kenny MacLeod (KM)

Helen Spencer, Elphinstone Primary School Parent Council (HS)

	Key discussion points	Action
<p>1. Welcome</p>	<p>TS welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked the Fraser Centre for hosting.</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p> <p>TS stated that the key purpose of tonight’s meeting was to elect a new community chairperson for the Area Partnership. He stated that this would be done via a private ballot of members with polling open until midnight.</p>	
<p>2. Appointment of Community Chairperson</p>	<p>a. <u>Brief Statements from Each of the Candidates</u></p> <p>Each of the candidates gave a 5 minute statement. After statements each candidate took questions from those present.</p> <p>RMcN queried whether the AP would offer the role of Vice Chair to the unsuccessful candidate, as he felt both gave excellent presentations and would be an asset to the work of the partnership.</p> <p>TS cautioned members stating that we only sought to secure a chairperson and had not asked members to consider the role of Vice Chair, although he thought the principle had merit.</p> <p>It was agreed that following the election of our new chair, we would ask members of the AP to identify whether they would be interested in the role of Vice Chair, it was agreed that this would be open to the unsuccessful candidate as well.</p> <p>b. <u>Private Poll of Partnership Members</u></p> <p>Polling cards were distributed and all members present – and substitutes representing members who were absent – took part in the vote.</p> <p>Bill Laird received an outright majority of all members during the course of the meeting meaning the result could be announced at the meeting.</p> <p>Decision: Bill Laird was elected as the community chairperson of the Fa’side Area Partnership and will officially take on the role at the Annual Public Meeting in August.</p>	<p>KS: An email would be circulated seeking nominations for the role of Vice Chair.</p>
<p>3. Minutes</p>	<p>SD noted a point of clarity in the minutes of the previous meeting suggesting an amendment to point 5. Page 6 to include as an action:</p> <p>“SD: To investigate these two potentially deliverable projects and report back to the next partnership meeting.”</p> <p>This suggestion was approved and the minutes have been amended accordingly.</p> <p>Following this suggestions the minutes were approved as accurate.</p>	

<p>4. Matters Arising</p>	<p>a. <u>Considering Additional Members of the Area Partnership</u></p> <p><i>Proposal from the Fa'side Tenants and Residents Associations</i></p> <p>TS stated that a proposal regarding membership of the Fa'side Area Partnership had been distributed to members on behalf of the four TRA's in the Fa'side Ward.</p> <p>In summary the proposal included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inviting all of the four TRAs in the ward to be full members of the Fa'side AP; • Allowing TRA members voting rights without the expectation of full participation / attendance. <p>TS invited SM who had tabled this proposal to speak to it before opening the issue up to wider debate.</p> <p>SM gave a statement regarding the proposal which can be found in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Following SM's statement TS opened the issue up for debate stressing that discussion should be kept to relevant and salient points. He also gave guidance (based on the proposals) that it may not be beneficial for the Area Partnership to accept new members who are not expected to attend, as this may cause problems with quorum, etc.</p> <p>KS provided a point of clarity stating that the established membership structure for the Area Partnerships has never restricted the membership of TRAs to two. The core membership guarantees spaces for 2 TRAs but the Area Partnership has always had the option to co-opt additional members, including TRAs, on a case by case basis.</p> <p>During the discussion that followed several points were raised which were broadly opposed to the paper under discussion. Concerns expressed are summarised below along with responses from SM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including all TRAs as members will disproportionately favour those communities with TRA's. Pencaitland for example, will be at a disadvantage with less representation than communities in Elphinstone, Ormiston, etc. • Communities represented by TRAs are already represented by Community Councils and should be liaising more closely with Community Councils rather than competing for equal representation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response from SM– that CCs often have large areas and remits to cover and are therefore not always able to have such a detailed approach to key local issues as TRAs which cover a smaller area. Hence representation for both will enhance community participation. • If all TRAs join this would mean disproportionate representation for Tranent, with two CC members and two TRA members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response – TRAs also in Ormiston and Elphinstone. Currently Elphinstone dwarfed by Tranent as within same 	
----------------------------------	---	--

	<p>community council area but much smaller. Hence limited representation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If accept all TRAs, would also need to be open to accepting all Parent Councils which may mean unmanageable numbers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response – Support accepting all Parent Councils as this would provide more opportunities for more of community to engage with Area Partnership. All Parent Councils have been invited in other Area Partnerships. • Area Partnership meetings are public meetings anyway and all are welcome to come and participate in discussions. In general decisions are made by consensus and non-member contributors are able to play a role in decision making in this way. • If in future more TRAs are set up this may set a precedent that all should be accepted automatically. This would become unmanageable and may encourage TRAs setting up for the purpose of joining the AP. <p>SM stated in support of the paper being debated that it was illogical to have only two TRAs as members representing all TRAs in the ward. This was because ECA and TWTRA have no legal basis for providing representations on behalf of communities outwith their area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS responded that, as members of the Area Partnership, all members have the role to adopt a ward wide view (using their local knowledge and networks to inform and support this). The aim is to develop a ‘ward-wide’ plan for improvement and all members are free to express an opinion on any issue within the ward – not only those within the areas covered by their respective groups. <p>TS drew discussions to a close and proposed an informal vote to gauge the feeling towards the proposal. Through show of hands it was clear that the proposal was not supported by the majority of members and the proposal was not agreed.</p> <p>TS thanked SM for his contribution and for tabling a proposal for discussion, highlighting that it is very positive that membership groups are engaging so enthusiastically with the Area Partnership.</p> <p>Decision: Proposal from TRAs not upheld.</p> <p>b. <u>Other Potential Additional Members</u></p> <p>TS stated that notwithstanding the outcome of this debate, there are opportunities to expand the membership of the Area Partnership where this is deemed appropriate. He encouraged all members to consider potential members that can bring additional perspectives to the discussion of the Area Partnership in advance of the next meeting.</p>	<p>Members: to consider potential other members of the Area Partnership and make suggestions to staff in advance of the next meeting.</p>
<p>5. Area Manager Report</p>	<p>SD stated that given the time he would distribute a written report with the minutes (Appendix 2) but had prepared a short presentation on some of the key action points in the report.</p>	

He stated that from the previous meeting he had investigated two potential actions for short term delivery:

- Gateway signage at entrances to settlements;
- Core path signage improvements.

SD stated that upon further investigation it did not look like the core paths signage improvements would be deliverable by end March 2016 so he had prioritised the Gateway Signage for the short term and highlighted an update which had been sent round regarding progress on this action.

SD highlighted another issue where there was potential for short term action this was regarding parking provision in the centre of Tranent. He indicated that there was the potential to allocate new parking next to Forresters park and suggested this as an alternative to the Balfour Square site proposed in the Charette Report.

SD provided a short presentation on the options available for the Gateway improvements (including: plantations/ cairns/ wording on signs/ speed reactive signs, etc) and the proposal to investigate parking provision along: Lindores Drive and at Forresters Park. Presentation available at http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/16730/proposal-gateway_signage

Key questions SD put to the Partnership:

- A. Do you support the idea of a new replacement gateway sign for the town and each village, based on the type and size of the examples shown? We would need some uniformity in terms of the sign (and I would propose all are the same size) and that each village and the town have the opportunity to have their town/village emblem etc added. If so,....
- B. Do you support the addition of extra words to the sign, 'Welcome to.....'
- C. Do you agree that it is the following communities who are eligible for the gateway signage project: Tranent, Elphinstone, Gladsmuir, Macmerry, New Winton, Ormiston and Pencaitland?
- D. There are a number of choices open to each community. Should AP members agree to a:
 - (i) consistent approach to the project for their community (every community has a couple of signs, some planting and one cairn etc), if approved, or
 - (ii) should each community decide upon what additional items are obtained for their area (i.e. Cairns, planters etc).
 - (iii) If option (ii) is preferable then does the AP want to set a

	<p>specific ceiling on spend i.e. a community could decide upon a stone planter, a herbaceous bed, cairn, a metal object (such as the anchor), a name plate for the cairn, two solar speed signs and two gateway signs were also required <u>this could total £22,150.</u></p> <p>(iv) If the AP want to decide on a consistent approach for the town and each village then what form should this take?</p> <p>During the discussion that followed several points were raised:</p> <p><i>Regarding Gateways to Settlements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendees keen to see improvements tie in with traffic calming measures to improve road safety within villages. Eg: Plantations and cairns linked to narrowing roads, etc to reduce speeds; measures including speed limit signage on road surfaces, etc as appropriate. It is unlikely that a 'Gateway' approach will be effective for traffic calming in Ormiston where a sharp bend already exists at the West entrance to the town, but road safety remains an issue on the High St. Attendees keen to see evidence on most effective means of traffic calming. It will be impossible to cover all entrances to settlements in the ward. Tranent for example has five, hence there will be need for prioritisation. <p>SD stated that following this discussion his next step would be to begin discussions with each settlement individually, involving relevant professionals in the field to identify viable options as appropriate. SD stated that issues around improvements to traffic calming and road safety would be included in this process.</p> <p>DG noted a concern around timescales and delivery of this project. He flagged given the holiday period and diaries that to meet each community and agree options may be challenging. SD agreed that it would be and he would also require assistance from colleagues in Roads and Amenities to guide members and communities on what is possible. SD requested members are available to meet or nominate representative of their groups to ensure this project moved forward as quickly as possible.</p> <p><i>Regarding Potential Parking Provision</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendees noted that this proposal may improve road safety issues in the area, particularly regarding young people using Forresters Park. Members gave approval for SD to investigate this proposal further and provide a more costed option for the members to consider at the next meeting or via email, whichever was the 	<p>SD: continue to develop both proposals and feed back to group at the next meeting or via email if agreements were reached by all communities on their preferred options.</p> <p>SD: to investigate proposed project and seek a view from members on whether to progress or</p>
--	---	---

	earliest.	not.
<p>6. Draft Area Plan</p>	<p>KS stated that lots of work had been done by various sub-groups of the Area Partnership and that this had been integrated into a draft Area Plan which all members had received.</p> <p>She drew attendees attention to a handout which extracted some of the prioritised actions from each of the sub-groups. (see Appendix 3). KS stated that it was important to bring these suggested actions to the meeting to provide a link between the work of the sub-groups and the full Area Partnership and noted that it demonstrated the high quality of work which members have contributed to each of the sub-groups.</p> <p>She asked members to review and feedback to the next meeting as to whether these met their groups view of what actions should be prioritised and reminded all members that the options of putting forward actions for the draft plan was still open to all members – and invited members to use their wider networks in the community to identify key actions that will help achieve the partnerships goals</p> <p>Any proposals not already included in the Draft Area Plan should be submitted through Area Partnership email, through KS or SD.</p> <p>The next stage of the Plan’s development would be a wider consultation which would take place at or around the Annual Public Meeting.</p>	<p>All: Groups to review content of prioritised actions and consider whether this is reflective of groups view on priorities.</p> <p>All: reminder to networks to ensure that all community priorities are included in draft area plan before the next meeting.</p>
<p>7. Updates</p>	<p>As the meeting had run over-time by this stage it was decided that written updates would be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tranent Town centre Working Group - Young Person’s Reference Group - Healthy Life-styles Working Group - Active and Sustainable Transport mini-conference steering group - Community Facilities Working Group <p>This can be found in Appendix 4.</p>	
<p>8. Next Steps</p>	<p>a. <u>Annual Public Meeting</u></p> <p>TS stated that the Annual Public Meeting which is planned for the 25th of August is an opportunity to seek wider engagement with the community of the ward and show where the Area Partnership is going, and the work that has been done.</p> <p>KS stated that staff will be looking for volunteers to assist with going over priorities in the plan during in summer in advance of this event and helping to shape how we can best use the meeting in August for wider engagement.</p> <p>Attendees agreed to assist in this process where possible.</p>	<p>KS: to call a meeting late July / early August to begin this process.</p>

9. AOCB	No other business was raised.	
10. Date of Next Meetings	<p>Tuesday, 25th August, 7 – 9pm, Fraser Centre Tranent</p> <p>- <i>This meeting will be the first Annual Public Meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership.</i></p> <p>Tuesday, 3rd November, 7 – 9pm, Fraser Centre Tranent</p>	<p>apologies to: faside-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>

Contact

Email: faside-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk

Phone: Kaela Scott, 01620 827822 or Simon Davie 07912 785 194

Supporting Statement For the TRA Proposal

This statement is in support of the proposal for full voting membership of the Fa'side Area Partnership for the 4 Tenants & Residents Associations in the ward.

Please allow me to explain why I think this proposal should be endorsed and I ask members for your support.

This proposal is about representation. It is about democracy and at its fundamental core it is about social equality. The TRA's are constituted and elected to represent the people of their communities and are accountable to our local members. All the TRA's want is to be afforded the same level of equality that other representatives on the Area Partnership have, so they can better represent the people of their specific community.

In the Area Partnerships current format only 2 TRA's are allowed membership, which in itself creates an imbalance, because TRA's represent a specific part of the Fa'side ward at a grassroots level and it would be improper for them to make representations for the TRA of an area they are not constituted to represent, in the same way you would not expect a Community Councillor from Ormiston to make representations for the Community Council of Pencaitland. This is why this proposal was tabled in the first place, for transparency and equality because who better to represent a specific community than the people who live in that community.

As we will all be aware this matter was discussed, through email, a few days ago and there were some points brought up that I feel need to be addressed. I must stress that TRA's have been elected and operate democratically and they work hard to create positive change for the people, we all represent. I can assure you that the proposal has been fully discussed with all committee members and agreed with each TRA and I hope all members have done the same and are not voting on a personal basis.

East Lothian Tenants & Residents Panel has advised that at no point was it agreed that TRA representatives would be nominated through the Panel. The Panel specifically advised that each group should be able to nominate its own representative for each area partnership. ELTRP was surprised when it saw the opposite included in the initial remit for area partnerships.

We are all accountable on this area partnership and we all want the same goals for the people we represent in different villages and towns across the Fa Side Ward. I would argue that the way forward is to do this as equal partners around the table with each member able to exercise a vote if required. In fact, I find it quite unusual that we are even debating equal rights for TRA's and others in the area partnership.

It is my experience that it's not the size of the democracy that hinders meetings or progress but the quality of the discussions and how we make decisions. I do not accept that by adding two voting members who may or may not choose to participate will make the area partnership unmanageable. In fact the opposite can be true, if you give people and TRA's a meaningful role they are more likely to participate and get involved.

If we are bold enough to approve one member one vote for each TRA that participates in the area partnership then, perhaps it can be extended to all who choose to get involved in the future.

I urge members to support this proposal whether you are a Community Councillor, Voluntary Organisation or Elected Member as we all want the similar things for our local communities. That is quality services that are reflective of local needs and TRA's play an important role in that process with all partners helping each other.

Partnership, in its essence implies equality and it's in that spirit that I ask you to support this proposal.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal and I am happy to take any questions.

Area Manager’s Update to Fa’side Area Partnership

This is a brief note detailing the key tasks that I’ve dealt with, or are currently dealing with, since taking up post in mid April 2015.

- **Area Partnership** – have attended meetings in April and June. Was proactive in terms of seeking a community chair and obtained an application through this approach. Indicated to partnership that in terms of priorities need to identify some quick wins and got approval to investigate a couple of projects prior to Area Plan being drafted for consultation. See projects for updates. Proactively, seeking to widen the membership i.e. local Support from the Start group. Also working with Recharge to try and get youth members who were previously involved to reconsider their position and take up their membership.
- **Charette** – Heavily involved in process and was attending meetings and inputting to this important process prior to being in post. Worked closely with Community Planning colleagues on the planning and implementation of the Charette and attended two out of the three sessions run initially and the follow up session. Visited almost every business in Tranent High Street prior to the Charette meeting and also promoted the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) project. Displayed plans in George Johnstone Centre and now awaiting outcome report from consultants. This will be tabled at next Town Centre Working/Sub Group.
- **Health and Inequality sub** – Attended three meetings of this group. Have struggled to get local health and social work involvement. Was proactive in widening membership and got Social Work representative to attend. Group considered priorities at last meeting and hoping to start to define some of these into local priorities. Will be looking to go out to wider consultation, particularly to local groups who maybe experiencing some of these issues.
- **Community Engagement** – sent an email to all partnership members asking to meet and clarify my role, the status of the Area Partnership, provide information on the budget and clarify what their aspirations are for their local community. To date have met with: Elphinstone Community Association, Ormiston Parent Council, Ormiston Community Council, Friends of Ormiston Park, Pencaitland Community Council and Ormiston Grows. Met with Dementia Friendly Tranent. Attending Macmerry Community Council on 6/7/15 and will be attending next meeting of the Community Sports Hub – awaiting confirmation of date. To attend Ross High Parent Council meeting once the new school year starts. Still happy to meet with other groups if they would like to get in contact with me. Attended devolved budget workshop and jointly presented to Tenants and Residents Associations at an Area Partnership briefing.
- **Elected members** – have been engaging with elected members on a variety of matters including using their local knowledge, current projects and previous issues.
- **Professionals meetings** – Regularly liaise with Community Planning colleagues. Have met with colleagues from Amenities, Roads, Active Schools, Housing colleagues, Emergency and Risk planning and Corporate Communications. I also met with the CARS officers to consider proposals for the designated area. Have also attended Senior Managers meeting and jointly visited Hibs (Training Complex) with Senior officials – some interesting opportunities came from this meeting which I am exploring.
- **Projects** – I have been working on a number of local projects with a view to delivering some quick wins. One identified through the Area Partnership was core path signage. Unfortunately, in terms of the timescale involved it was not possible to bring this project forward and deliver it before 31/3/16. Another project discussed at the Area Partnership is

APPENDIX 2 – Area Manager’s Report

Gateway signage for Tranent and all our villages i.e. welcoming people to our main town and villages. The Area Partnership have given me approval to progress this project and I am in the process of setting up meetings with local communities and colleagues to finalise what groups want, locations and costs. I have been involved in a number of meetings about Tranent Infant School which has been identified through the Charette as a local priority. I have meeting set up with a private company who may be interested in purchasing the building. There is also scope for a community group to come forward and through the Community Empowerment bill purchase the building. I have also been in touch with the Co-operative about the building I am currently located in to see what their plans are for it. The building is now on the market. I am a member of an advice group working with the Fraser Centre on their proposed project. I got approval from the Area Partnership to investigate a possible project at Foresters Park and am currently pulling together a plan and some options.

- **Tranent Business Association** – seeking to assist local businesses to set up an association.
- **Recruitment** – working with Area Manager colleagues towards recruitment of two Business Support Assistants. Developed recruitments tests for the first stage of the process. Both posts will be full-time and will be based in John Muir House, Haddington although they will be providing administrative support through the Area Managers to the Area Partnerships.
- **Tour of Britain** – attended a meeting with colleagues on the tour and how we can link in with our local communities.
- **Police Scotland** – I had an informal meeting with Inspector Harborrow and am waiting to set up a follow up. Currently considering Community And Police Partnership process and links to Area Partnerships.
- **Queries** – dealing with and have dealt with a number of queries from elected members and representatives from Area Partnerships over the past couple of months. These requests include issues around access to a community centre, access to a local play park, enquiries about charitable funding, signposting to a range of services, assistance for children who are financially excluded from some services.
- **Transition** – still supporting some Community Housing and Gypsy Traveller functions. Plans are in place for these areas to be fully handed over in the coming weeks.
- **Moved office (again!)** – Now located in Co-op building on Church Street, with local youth group Recharge.

Simon Davie
Area Manager
3 July 2015

APPENDIX 3 - Actions Prioritised by sub-groups and Area Partnership processes
(extracted from the Area Plan)

Priority:	Action:	Source:
Enhancing the Public Realm in our Towns and Villages	A. Improvements to the Backsides	<i>Charrette / Town Centre Working Group</i>
	B. Work with ELC to develop a Town Centre Strategy	<i>TCWG</i>
	C. Elphinstone Stone Community Garden development	<i>Elphinstone Com Ass</i>
Supporting and Enabling a Robust and Thriving Economy	D. Support the development of the Tranent (or Fa'side) Business Association	<i>Charrette / Area Partnership meetings</i>
Improving Movement and Congestion Issues throughout the Ward	E. Establish additional town centre parking area at Balfour Square or Forresters park	<i>Charrette / TCWG</i>
	F. Establish the carpark at the Heugh as a long-stay / park and ride carpark for commuters	<i>Charrette / TCWG</i>
	G. Improve Usability of Heugh Path to Prestonpans Train Station	<i>Active Travel Improvement Working Group (ATIWG)</i>
	H. Provide Secure Bike Storage in Tranent Town Centre	
	I. Reduce Speeds along Boggs Holdings Roads	<i>Boggs Com Ass</i>
	J. Increase Road Crossing Safety in Macmerry	<i>Macmerry Community Action Planning</i>
	K. Install reactive speed signs at entrances to New Winton	<i>New Winton Com Ass</i>
Increasing Physical Activity in day to day life	L. Improve security of Bike storage at RHS	<i>ATIWG</i>
	M. RHS cycle leader programme	<i>ATIWG</i>
	N. Improve signage of current path network	<i>ATIWG</i>
	O. Install path to link Glenkinchie Distillery with the Pencaitland Railway Walk	<i>ATIWG</i>
	P. Provide bursaries to ensure Active Schools Programme and other initiatives are affordable	<i>Healthy Active Life Working Group (HALWG)</i>
	Q. Extend footpath from Elphinstone Village to Elphinstone Football Pitch	<i>TECAP & ATIWG</i>
	R. Provide a Skate Park in Tranent	<i>Youth Ref Group</i>
	S. Development of an Activity Playground for 8-12 year olds at the eastern edge of the Forresters grounds	<i>Charrette</i>
Supporting Families to Create Healthy Environments for Children	T. Maternal Health Working Group: established to provide long-term sustained local leadership on this and other connected issues	<i>HALWG</i>
Improving Knowledge of and access to Healthy Food in the Community	U. Investigating the possibility of establishing additional allotments and community gardens	<i>HALWG</i>
	V. Circulate 'Kitchen Starter Packs': Where needed put together starter packs with eg: mashers, blenders etc and distribute to households lacking equipment.	<i>HALWG</i>
Improving Access to and the Availability of Community Facilities and Resources	W. Promote the 'Index of Community Facilities' compiled by the Partnership for use by the wider community to identify spaces they can use and use information to undertake analysis of un-met needs.	<i>Community Facilities Working Group (CFWG)</i>
	X. Investigate various options for the future of the old Tranent Infants School in partnership with ELC	<i>CFWG</i>
	Y. Establish an effective community information resource	<i>Partnership Meeting</i>
Becoming a more supportive and inclusive community	Z. Establish more social events for older members of the community in association with dementia friendly initiatives	<i>HALWG</i>

Tranent Town Centre Working Group

In early June the draft report on the Town Centre Charrette was presented to the Working Group for comment. It focussed on a number of recommendations for improvement in the area including traffic calming in the High St, redevelopment of Civic Square, improving the paths linking the residential areas to the north and south of the High St, increasing links between the George Johnstone Centre and the rest of the town and making better use of green spaces to create community spaces. The final report from Kevin Murray Associates will be sent to us soon and will be distributed to all Area Partnership members for information.

The next steps for the group will be to:

- Take the recommendations from the report, along with the other recommendations emerging from the work of the group and the CARS project, and consolidate them into a series of options for consultation at the Annual Public Meeting
- Begin implementation of key agreed projects (eg parking and backside paths projects) and assessing the feasibility of wider aspirational projects
- Use these results to develop a final report from the Sub-group that will be brought back to the wider Partnership for approval before being presented to ELC
- This will be used by ELC officers to inform a Town centre Strategy for Tranent which we would hope to see adopted by the Council this financial year.
- Work with ELC officers to develop an appropriate implementation model (eg may need to establish a Community Development Trust) to secure the funding required to deliver on the plans.

Young Person's Reference Group

The young person's reference group has met four times with the last meeting being held on the 23rd of April. The group have considered the top priorities for young people in the Ward and ranked these in order as follows:

- Tranent Town Centre and High Street
 - Safer, traffic and ASB concerns
 - Healthier, too many takeaways
 - Tidier, litter and dirty pavements
- Greenspaces and Wildlife
 - Polson Park and other public parks
 - The Heuch, greenspace and bat habitat
 - Countryside around the ward
- Community Facilities and Variety of Shops
 - Need for a Community Centre in Tranent
 - Shops and Services in the villages
- Walking and Cycling
 - Important for young people as don't have access to cars
 - Safe routes into Tranent from villages, and from Tranent to Haddington/ Prestonpans and Wallyford
 - Safe walking and cycling on Tranent High Street

The group have also considered specific projects that they would like to see taken forward in the short term and these are:

1. Deliver Skate Park in Tranent
2. Improve recycling and refuse facilities in Tranent Town Centre

At the most recent meeting Young People considered issues of health for young people in the area. This will be taken forward at the next meeting with discussion around suggested actions to improve health for young people in the ward for input into the plan.

Looking ahead officers are aware that a change in the structure of the Young Person's reference group may be required to ensure young people from all areas of the ward are included, and to ensure young people are

APPENDIX 4 – written updates (agenda item 7)

supported to attend full meetings of the Area Partnership. Consideration regarding how this can be achieved will be taken and it is hoped a new structure will be implemented during Autumn 2015.

Healthy Lifestyles Working Group

The healthy lifestyles working group have met twice and plan to meet once more during the summer to feed into the development of the Area Plan in advance of the Annual Public Meeting in August.

Discussions have taken place around the four priorities in the Area Plan related to healthy lifestyles:

- Improving Physical Activity in day to day life
- Supporting Families to Create Healthy Environments for Children
- Improving Knowledge of and Access to Healthy Food in the Community
- Becoming a more Supportive and Inclusive Community

Suggested actions have been developed for each of these priorities and these have been included in the draft plan. A third meeting is planned to consider any gaps, and look at actions in more detail.

Active & Sustainable Travel (AST) – Mini Conference Steering Committee

During autumn a series of consultations events and workshops will be taking place in each Area Partnership area with the aim of:

- Increasing community and public awareness of AST options within the ward and the benefits of AST.
- Considering community priorities for improving AST provision and awareness within the ward.
- Identifying short, medium and long term actions and priorities for inclusion in the Area Plan, and key council documents including the Local Transport Strategy and it's supporting document the Active Travel Improvement Plan.
- Identifying short term 'seed' projects focused on behaviour change for execution within the current financial year.

Consultants are being contracted to facilitate this process and a steering committee with representatives from each Area Partnership has been assembled to oversee this process and provide a tie in with local communities. Ralph Averbuch has volunteered to represent the Fa'side Area Partnership on the steering committee.

Following interviews on Monday 29th June consultants have been selected and the process of engaging with key stakeholders and planning the events will begin shortly.

Community Facilities Working Group

This group has not met for sometime as there were a range of other initiatives underway which crossed over with its remit – eg Tranent Charrette and the Fraser Centre Consultation, Macmerry Coalfields Action Planning.

At the last meeting members went away with a number of tasks including: to map the needs of sports clubs in the area for building spaces (Sports Hub); share the results of the Fraser Centre consultation re demand for spaces (Johnnie, Fraser Centre) to compile details of community interest in using space at the old Infants School (Alan, Recharge); to seek clarity on ELC's position regarding the old Infants School (Simon, AM); review the information collected during the facilities audit and assess the potential of underused buildings in the ward – are they assets or liabilities in their communities? (Kaela, LCPO); look at comparative opening times and rules / costs for use of the different ELC village halls / community centres in the ward to establish parity with other areas (staff).

It is hoped that a meeting will be called towards the end of the summer to pull all of this information together into a set of options and priorities that can be presented to the wider community for consultation at the Annual Public Meeting.