

Fa'side Area Partnership

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership 25th August, 7-9pm, Fraser Centre

Chair

Bill Laird, Chairperson of the Fa'side Area Partnership (BL)

Members and substitute members present

Cllr Donald Grant (DG)

Cllr Kenny MacLeod (KM)

Robert McNeill, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (RM)

Pauline Megson, Ormiston Community Council (PM)

Mark Ormiston, Ormiston West TRA (MO)

Joan Ramsay, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (JR)

Margaret Scott, Tranent West TRA (MS)

Phil Summerfield, Pencaitland Community Council (PS)

Others in attendance

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

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

Sean Waters, STRiVE (SW)

David Orr, Fraser Centre (DO)

Debbie Middlemass, Support from the Start (DM)

Apologies

Maureen Cuthill, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Council (MC)

Cllr Shamin Akhtar (SA)

Maureen Allan, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (MA)

Cllr Jim Gillies (JG)

Stuart Mackenzie, Elphinstone Community Association (SM)

Roger Powell, Ross High Parent Council (RP)

	Key discussion points	Action
1. Welcome	<p>BL welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that he was looking forward to taking on his first meeting as Chair.</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p> <p>Membership</p> <p>BL provided those present with some membership updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helen Spencer has resigned her membership from the Partnership as the Primary School Parent Council representative due to study commitments. He asked that the Partnership note her contribution so far and thanked her for her participation. - This highlighted the need to re-explore Primary School Parent Councils involvement and it was agreed that the new school year and the upcoming Annual Public Meeting would be an opportunity for this. - BL introduced Debbie Middlemass from Support from the Start – noting that Support from the Start has been involved in sub-group work and has expressed interest in joining the Partnership. DM spoke briefly about Support from the Start’s role as a network of community members and professionals focusing on the needs for under 8s in the area. - BL asked the meeting to accept Support from the Start as members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposed RM - 2nd JR - Members present voted to agree this membership. 	
2. Approval of Minutes	The minutes from the 23 rd June were approved without amendment.	
3. Matters Arising	<p><u>Vice Chairperson</u></p> <p>Bill sought nominations from the membership for the post of vice-chairperson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion followed that it would be ideal to have a female vice-chair to maintain a gender balance. <p>No self-nominations for the post were received from the members present and all members were asked to consider this role in advance of our next meeting.</p>	ACTION: Members to consider nominations for the position of vice-chair.
4. Area Manager’s report	<p><u>Gateway Signage Project</u></p> <p>SD reported that he, along with members in most localities, had site meetings earlier in the month with Keith Scott from transport and Keith Fender from amenity services to consider the options for various locations and the feasibility of what could be installed at each site. He emphasised the need for a quick turn-around for decisions regarding each location.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PG noted that this would be discussed at the next Ormiston community Council meeting and that she would feedback to SD following this. - PS questioned the timescales, given that they had received no update re preferred locations etc since the site meeting - RM noted that it had been discussed by TECC and that they recognised given the number of different entrances to the town and Elphinstone that there would need to be a variety of options used. <p>SD reported that he hoped to have an update and location plans to those involved with the project by the end of the month.</p> <p><u>Parking provision at Foresters Park</u> SD reported he has been working with colleagues to determine the costs of developing additional town centre parking on this site (in line with the recommendations from the charrette), that would also benefit users of this facility. He noted that the hope was to be able to ‘value add’ to the work already being planned in the area by ELC Housing. He noted that this would be an expensive project, and that delivery would require influencing how other budgets are being deployed in order to deliver.</p> <p><u>Glenkinchie Path</u> SD reported that he and PS had met with Jennifer Lothian (JL), ELC Access Officer regarding the proposed new path to connect the Glenkinchie Distillery to the Pencaitland/Ormiston Railway Walk – making it a more accessible route for locals and tourists/visitors.</p> <p>While there has been a financial commitment offered from the Distillery there is still significant funding to be found for the project – with costs depended on the type of surfacing chosen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS noted that while they had had a very positive meeting there had been no progress since then and questioned who was responsible for leading the next stage? SD replied that he would lead however, JL would provide the specialist advice required. SD also noted that identifying funding sources would be key to the projects delivery. <p><u>Hibs Community Foundation</u> SD informed the Partnership that he had met with this group to discuss community use of their facilities and wider community opportunities at the site. There are a number of strands to this discussion at present, :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential of a family centre for the Ormiston and wider East Lothian community – Game changer project leading investigation. - A ‘greener’ agenda – looking at allotments, cafe, gardens etc – linked in with Ormiston Grows. Game changer project leading investigation. 	<p>ACTION: SD to provide updated options and location plans</p> <p>ACTION: SD to continue work to develop this project and identify funding sources.</p> <p>ACTION: SD and PS to meet to identify options to move this forward.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential to make links with the employability work they are doing at their main Easter Road site <p>SD noted these are all at quite an early stage and that he will keep the Partnership informed of any progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RM commented that there had already been a notable improvement to junior football teams being able to use the facilities there and hope this would continue - It was suggested to invite Yvonne Dalziel from Ormiston Grows to a future meeting to give the Partnership further information about the proposals they are developing alongside Hibs. 	<p>ACTION: SD to follow up with Ormiston Grows</p>
<p>5. Confirming our Draft Area Plan</p>	<p>KS presented a handout which contained the actions extracted from the draft Area Plan, as presented at the last meeting. (available here)</p> <p>The meeting worked through the proposed actions to confirm these were those to be included in the draft Area Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was general agreement that the language in the plan needed to be simplified and made more ‘plain english’ <p>1) <u>Enhancing the Public Realm</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS suggested the addition of projects in Pencaitland park under Goal 2 – including the possibility of a youth shelter – these had been discussed and identified in the Pen. CC meeting as priorities - Suggested that the APOGI project should also be added here. Also some discussion about plain englishing the language used in the plan and in particular this goal. - SD and RM spoke about the final report from the Tranent Town Centre Charrette, and the recommendations contained within it, that are being discussed by the Town Centre working group . A report from this group with their recommendations for actions for the Partnership to include in the Area Plan and outlining proposed next steps is in preparation and will be distributed shortly. <p>2) <u>Thriving local economy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreed without amendment <p>3) <u>Improving movement and congestion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JR expressed concern about the 5-10 year timescale for a by-pass route. Staff confirmed however that, even if this was agreed and prioritised in the Local Transport Strategy, advice from colleagues in the roads service suggest this would be a realistic minimum delivery timetable. - KS acknowledged that there would be more detail added to this section following the outcome of the East Lothian on the Move process – building on the work of the Active Travel working group. 	<p>ACTION: KS to take use the comments/amendments made update the plan for presentation at APM.</p> <p>ACTION: SD to distribute report on completion by the working group.</p>

	<p>4) <u>Increasing Physical Activity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RM raised the need to make sure Enjoy Leisure was more involved in these discussions as they may have the capacity to help deliver improvements – particularly in relation to activities for older men. - SD confirmed he would meet with Kim McGeary re this - SW raised making links with the Aging Well programme - There was general support for the projects suggested at RHS and they were seen as key opportunities. <p>5) <u>Supporting families to create healthy environments for children</u></p> <p>It was acknowledged that the proposals in this section all need further development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comments were made that in looking at this section the group had to acknowledge that there is a real lack of service and facilities in this ward that result in real gaps in services compared to other areas of East Lothian and that this is something that needs to be prioritised. <p>6) <u>Healthy eating</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allotments – AP requested SD to contact Stuart Pride with a view of taking on the organisation on forming the Muir Park allotment Association. - SW suggested it was Yvonne at STRiVE that would be able to provide this support and offered to raise it with her to put the group in touch. - Suggestion that the healthy eating initiatives needed to make sure they were complimentary to the Support from the Start project, supporting vulnerable young families with cooking skills to avoid duplication – link with Liz Kilpatrick to be established. <p>7) <u>Community Facilities</u></p> <p>It was acknowledged that the proposals in this section all need further development and that the sub-group needed to be reconvened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 particular action noted was to look at the cost of accessing school facilities – particularly during the summer. <p>8) <u>Community safety</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KS explained that the priorities here are largely those included in the Police Scotland multi-member ward plan – as discussed at an early meeting of the Partnership. - Speeding traffic was discussed – particularly within the designated 20's Plenty area in Muirpark – with LH asking whose responsibility it was to police this during the trial period - SD responded that this was a Police Scotland responsibility - BL agreed to take this matter back to ELC Roads services to see if there was anything that could be done to support enforcement and awareness raising locally. - Suggestion was made that it would be beneficial to undertake leafleting in the local area. 	<p>Action: SD to arrange meeting with Kim McGeary.</p> <p>Action: SW to follow up making this connection.</p> <p>Action: SD to contact Liz Kilpatrick.</p> <p>Action: KS to finalise and circulate cost of room bookings in Fa'side.</p> <p>ACTION: BL to raise the matter with ELC Roads</p>
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<p>6. Annual Public Meeting</p>	<p>The date of the Annual Public Meeting (APM) was confirmed as the 29th September at 7pm</p> <p>The preferred venue is Ross High School – KS to book.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - While acknowledging that this did clash with the Parent Council meeting alternative dates proposed all clashed with something and it was hoped that, by being in the same venue parent council, members might still be able to drop in to see the displays <p>The APM was seen as an opportunity to highlight the work that has been done by the partnership and seek wider community endorsement for the priorities and potential projects identified in our draft Area Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was agreed that it should be interactive - It should have lots of displays - Should include a formal handover to Bill as chairperson - Should largely be delivered by members rather than staff. <p>KS requested that members become involved in a small working group to plan the event.</p>	<p>ACTION: KS to organise a date and time for this meeting and distribute to members</p>
<p>7. Updates</p>	<p><u>East Lothian on the Move</u> – Fa’side event 1st Sept.</p> <p>KS reminded members of this event and its role in determining actions for the Fa’side Area Plan and Local Transport Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She encouraged all to help spread the word and attend themselves. <p>There were no other updates</p>	
<p>8. AOCB</p>	<p><u>Proposed Boundary changes</u></p> <p>Information about the proposed boundary changes had been distributed in advance of the meeting – the specific implications for Fa’side are proposals to change the name of the ward, bring Wallyford and Whitecraig into this area and remove Ormiston and Pencaitland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was general objection to this proposal. <p>KS agreed to draft a response and distribute to members for agreement before the closing date for responses of the 22nd Oct. 2015</p> <p><u>Tour of Britain</u> – Wednesday 9/9/15</p> <p>SD reminded members of the Tour of Britain cycle race passing through the county in September and distributed promotional materials.</p>	<p>ACTION: KS to draft and distribute a response to the proposal</p>
<p>9. Date of Next Meetings</p>	<p>Tuesday, 3rd November, 7 – 9pm, Fraser Centre Tranent</p>	<p>apologies to: faside-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>

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