

Musselburgh Area Partnership

**Minutes of the meeting of the Musselburgh Area Partnership
Monday 25th January 2016, 7-9pm
Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre, Haddington Road, Musselburgh**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Chris Knights, Chair (CK)
 Cllr. Stuart Currie, Elected Member (SC)
 Cllr. Fraser McAllister, Elected Member (FM)
 Cllr. John McNeil, Elected Member (JMc)
 Cllr. John Williamson, Elected Member (JW)
 Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)
 Irene Tait, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (IT)
 Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)
 Cathy McArthur, Windsor Park TRA (CMc) Jeanette Boyd, Windsor Park TRA (JB)
 Gaynor Allen, Musselburgh GS Parent Council (GA)
 Sharlene Miller, Musselburgh GS Parent Council (SM)
 Iain Clark, Pinkie St Peter's PS Parent Council (IC)
 Callum Maguire, Queen Margaret University (CM)
 Emma Scarcliffe, Bridges Project (ES)
 Barry Turner, Musselburgh Conservation Soc. (BT)
 Janice MacLeod, Support from the Start (JM)

Others in attendance:

Stuart Baxter, Area Manager, East Lothian Council (SB)
 David Dalgleish, CLDS, East Lothian Council (DD)
 Carlyne Murray, Business Support Administrator, East Lothian Council (CMu)

Apologies:

Cllr. John Caldwell, Elected Member
 Cllr Andy Forrest, Elected Member
 Tanya Morrison, Whitecraig Community Council
 Shona Bennett, Whitecraig Community Council
 Nadine Lowrey, Campie Primary School Parent Council
 Emma Stewart, Musselburgh Council of Churches

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome , Introductions and Apologies		
	CK welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated IC on his appointment as Turf Cutter at the Riding of the Marches. Apologies received were noted.	
2. Approval of Minutes		
	26th October 2015 – approved.	
3. Matters Arising		
Community Police Officers in Schools	IC confirmed that his document had been submitted to Police Scotland. SC was able to advise the meeting that the document was being circulated and that due to pressure being put on Police Scotland by local community organisations two youth engagement officers were being reinstated in the Musselburgh Area.	

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<p>4. Musselburgh Area Partnership Area Plan</p>	<p>SB briefly updated the meeting with the layout of the area plan and the colour coding that had been introduced. He added that although more information had been added, the main content remained the same.</p> <p>CK asked if anyone had any issues with the area plan and SB noted that he was concerned that if projects/actions weren't allocated 'Leads' and 'Timescales' then no progress would be made.</p> <p>Musselburgh Public Art Project (pg 6) – SB to provide a detailed update in his Area Manager Update. JMc expressed concern regarding details being shared due to the project being kept under wraps until the formal launch on 29 February 2016. SB noted that he had already shared with the Musselburgh Conservation Society having gained prior approval to release this information from Lesley Smith. CK asked that due to the degree of uncertainty that those present don't share details until after the launch date.</p> <p>SC asked that while the Amenity Services and Roads portion of the area partnership budget are not new money will the general services element be carried forward into the new financial year. SB confirmed that as far as he was aware the General Services Budget can be carried forward to the next financial year if allocated to projects. CK added that all area partnerships have realised that it's been a struggle to manage the amenity services budget this year and SB agreed that this year it has been a struggle to identify work to be done (and not done) by Amenity Services. SC suggested that an ELC officer be invited along to the next meeting. It was agreed that SB would invite Stuart Pryde, Principal Amenity Officer along to the next area partnership meeting in March to explain what was planned for the new financial year.</p> <p>CMc asked that consideration be given to clearing rubbish in gardens as the TRA had received lots of complaints had been received re concerns that vermin may become a problem. JMc clarified that if the gardens belonged to council tenants then the clearing can be charged to the property but if a private landowner/landlord then the council can't clear. SB added that it could certainly be looked at to see what could be done however. CK reminded everyone that the amenity services budget is not money but man hours and equipment which the area partnership can influence only.</p> <p>Fisherrow Harbour and waterfront area (pg 9) – FM noted that it was good to see the dinghy rings back in place and asked what the balance of monies left was. SB answered that he didn't have the figure available at the meeting the project was moving along satisfactorily and if anyone had any specific queries to get in touch directly. SB added that the car park in front was adopted by Lothian Region and now ELC. GA asked for clarification on what this meant, SB answered that this means that it is publicly adopted road and any proposed change of use would require a permit if temporary or to be 'stopped up' if permanent.</p> <p>CK then asked the meeting if in broad terms, they were happy to adopt the area plan. SC noted that it would be useful in March to update</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>SB</p>

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	<p>timescales once budgets are known. SB agreed and reminded everyone that the area plan is a working document and will change and evolve over time. CK also confirmed that leads and timescales are important to be included but yes everything is provisional depending on circumstances changing. CK asked SB and CMu to find a form of words that expresses the 'provisionality' of the area plan.</p> <p>The area partnership formally agreed adoption of the area plan.</p> <p>IC queried the green status of the attendance matters project (pg 21) as this had stalled. SB added that there are other actions in the area plan that are similar and that there was a need to identify areas needing additional support and that perhaps SB/CK/IK could then visit these groups and offer area partnership help. IC keen to ensure this project in particular gets moving again. SB noted that he has spoken to David Scott, Quality Improvement Officer, ELC and asked him to contact the head / depute head concerning the rollover to the Grammar School.</p> <p>Musselburgh Communities Day – BT and CMc agreed to form a working group.</p> <p>JM asked if formal evaluations were carried out on projects that have had funding allocated by the area partnership. It was agreed that there was a need to establish a reporting process in order maintain public confidence that money was being allocated well, SC noted that heritage and lottery funding had built in requirements attached to funding to report. Possible reporting timescales were discussed and JMc stated that there was a need to ensure that reporting of this nature didn't cause a resource issue for the area partnership and that perhaps 6 monthly would be easier to achieve. CK asked SB and CMu to look at options and propose a solution.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>SB/CMu</p> <p>BT/CMc</p> <p>SB/CMu</p>
5. East Lothian on the Move Update		
	<p>CK, SB and IC had met recently to discuss the actions identified by Peter Brett Associates in their On The Move consultation paper and IR was here tonight to join the discussion.</p> <p>SB advised the meeting that the actions listed by the report are very mixed and difficult to review as a group due to lack of analysis. IR was here tonight to give the background as to where we were and to help identify priorities for the match funding available to the area partnership.</p> <p>IR informed the meeting that he was meeting with all area partnerships to help identify and prioritise actions regarding active travel in the individual wards. IR noted that other area partnerships have created sub groups in order to pull together a shorter more actionable list in order to achieve quick wins and also to allow actions to be added to the Active Travel Improvement Plan. IR commented that other area partnerships share views of the long action lists compiled and he understand the disappointment felt.</p> <p>SM commented that right at the start of the area partnership transport was a big issue and a lot of discussion and information gathering took place, was it possible to reuse the information from then. CMu to review</p>	

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	<p>previous minutes to source information for SM.</p> <p>CK suggested that a working group be set up in order to progress related actions more quickly. SM, SC, DD and IC agreed to set a working group up. However tonight CK stressed that it was important that we agree what to spend the match funding on as it has to be completed before end of March.</p> <p>SB advised that 4 projects on the long list had been identified as possible following the meeting with CK/IC - pt 8 signage could be ordered, pt 14 leaflets could be ordered, pt 28 cycle racks could be bought and a new bus shelter. SM commented that the grammar school needs a bus shelter. GA added that a bus shelter at the grammar school would serve the sports centre also. IC added that this would link to page 15 in the area plan and IT expressed concern that it would be a worry if the area partnership were to lose money. CK asked if the meeting was happy to leave the details to SB and this was agreed.</p> <p>CK confirmed area partnership agreement that a bus shelter would be purchased sited at the grammar school and any leftover funding would go to purchasing bike racks, the location of which to be determined later.</p> <p>CK confirmed with IR that he should feedback progress/information to the On The Move working group with regard to the continuation of the national cycle network (consultant report due by end of February), the Sustrans feasibility report re cycle access thru the junction at Eastfield (Booker cash and carry) and the extension of the promenade from Joppa/Portobello.</p>	<p>CMu</p> <p>SM/SC/DD/IC</p> <p>SB</p> <p>IR</p>
6. Area Manager's Report		
	<p>SB asked if there were any questions regarding his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>CK added an update on the counselling being funded through Crossreach at Musselburgh Grammar School and advised that the sessions had started one afternoon a week and noted that it was good to see things happening.</p> <p>JM asked that the launch of 'Reading is Braw' on 1st March be highlighted and that if anyone had any ideas for events on the day to feed them back to SB. JM added that the organisers were hoping that as many community groups as possible be doing something at 11am as the main aim is to get the whole community reading together. CK added that events don't need to be complex or elaborate.</p> <p>SB showed the meeting artist impressions of the newly commissioned public arts installations. They consist of a large mussel sculpture and an archer with 12 silver arrows to be placed around Musselburgh (locations still to be decided) with each inscription explaining why they are there. It was generally agreed that the arrow trail was a good idea and DD is currently researching activity trails. IR commented that the arrow trail would be a good project to attract active travel funding. SB suggested that perhaps the Area Partnership could consider additional funding to</p>	<p>ALL</p>

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	<p>expand the arrow trail. SB asked anyone with questions to contact him direct.</p> <p>IC advised the meeting that he is part of a sub group working across all 6 area partnerships which is looking at a 'What's On' web solution for East Lothian and will update the area partnership regularly.</p>	<p>IC</p>
7. AOCB		
Bridges Project	<p>CK introduced ES, the new practice manager for the Bridges Project and replacing Fiona Langskaill as an area partnership member. ES distributed a leaflet and gave a brief account of the services on offer from the project.</p> <p>The Bridges Project works with young people from 13 to 22 years old with staff being funded by a variety of organisations. They cover east and mid lothian and provide a number of services for the young people who attend eg 2 employability services - Way to Work (left school) and Transition (still at school), a Homemaker service which helps young people with a housing need to learn independent living skills and apply for benefits etc, a group work programme to combat social isolation and improve employability skills, a personal tutor service to support literacy and numeracy while still in school or support based on interests eg gardening or learning to drive. There are also tailored groups that would help young people gain retail employment qualification or attend motivational courses to build a positive attitude and thereby make positive life choices.</p> <p>ES added that young people are facing a whole host of issues ranging from disengaged from school and thereby missing out help and advice available there, chaotic family background, lack of confidence, poor qualifications, legal highs etc. ES invited everyone to come along and see what the Bridges Project does at an Open Day on 29th February to celebrate their 30th birthday.</p> <p>CK noted that youth homelessness and legal highs were also prevalent in his day job. CK asked the meeting if they had any questions for ES. SC asked about tenancy support as this is a huge issue for East Lothian Council with a high number of tenancy failures with young people and whether there was interaction with ELC. ES confirmed that the Bridges Project works closely young people in this respect and with ELC.</p> <p>CK thanked ES and commented that it is helpful for the area partnership to know of the work that an organisation is doing. JM asked that the area partnership acknowledge the work done by Fiona Langskaill. CK agreed to contact Fiona on behalf of the area partnership and thank her.</p>	<p>CK</p>
8. Date of Next Meeting		
	<p>The next area partnership meeting will be on Monday 21st March 2016 at 7pm.</p> <p>CK asked that the agreed sub groups be able to report back to the area partnership then.</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>