

Minutes of the meeting of the Preston/Seton/Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 23rd March 2016, 7-9pm
Pennypit Centre, Prestonpans

Members (and substitute members) present:

Peter Ford, Chair (PF)
 Cllr Margaret Libberton, Elected Member (ML)
 Cllr Steven Brown, Elected Member (SB)
 Philippa Barber, Longniddry CC (PB)
 Zoe Inglis, Prestonpans CC (ZI)
 Ferhan Ashiq, Prestonpans CC (FA) Calum Miller, Prestonpans CC (CM)
 Gillian Stewart, Cockenzie West TRA (GS)
 Lynne Lewis, Preston Lodge HS Parent Council (LL)
 Scott Penman, St Gabriel's RC PS Parent Council (SP)
 Rachel Menzies, Prestonpans PS Parent Council (RM)
 Ross Boyce, Longniddry PS Parent Council (RB)
 Angela Davie, Pennypit Community Dev Trust (AD)
 Carl Barber, Three Harbours Arts Festival (CB)
 Philip Wark, CRA (PW)
 Marlene Love, Cockenzie Hse&Grdns/C&PS In Bloom (ML)

Others in attendance:

Sue Cairns, ELTRP (SC)
 David Ostler, CRA (DO)
 Sandra King, Area Manager, ELC (SK)
 Carlyne Murray, Business Support Administrator, ELC (CMu)

Apologies:

Cllr Peter MacKenzie, Elected Member, ELC (PM)
 Janice Finney, Longniddry CC (JF)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies		
	Apologies received were noted.	
2. Minutes from Previous Meetings		
	20 January 2016 – Approved, PB proposed and CB seconded.	
3. Budgets		
	Budgets allocated for the next financial year were confirmed as £50,000 General, £100,000 Amenity Services (man hours & equipment) and £50,000 Roads. In addition there has been £100,000 allocated for education initiatives relating to raising attainment however guidance regarding allocation criteria is awaited. PF confirmed that this money was in addition to existing education budgets within East Lothian Council.	
4. Area Manager Update		
	Cockenzie House – upgrade lower conservatory – ML advised work is progressing well and thanked the Area Partnership for their support as it was this funding that was key in securing £58,000 from Viridor.	

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	<p>In Bloom Costs – ML advised that there are only 4 individuals involved with In Bloom ranging from 65 to 80 years in age and while they are fulfilling everything promised and are determined to keep going for at least another year additional volunteers are desperately needed.</p> <p>Signage – entering and leaving village/places of interest – progress is still being made and this funding will carry forward into the new financial year for completion.</p> <p>Prestonpans War Memorial – application will be lodged with the War Memorial Trust on Thursday, 24th March 2016. A stonework contractor has been selected, railing will be replaced as originally installed and metal pins will be installed for holding wreaths in place.</p> <p>Three Harbours Festival Support – CB thanked the Area Partnership for its support/funding and noted that due to changes in the management committee, planning the programme was a bit later this year. PW added that there is a need for volunteers to help with any aspect of the festival and if anyone was interested please contact CB.</p> <p>There was discussion about the difficulties of recruiting volunteers and various methods were suggested eg volunteer recruitment fair, digital by means of web pages/facebook, STRiVE etc. Concerns were expressed with regard to disjointed efforts and narrow demographics when considering options. LL suggested contacting local schools as young people at Preston Lodge taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh awards are struggling to find volunteering opportunities. SK confirmed the area plan included an action regarding volunteering.</p> <p>SK briefed the meeting on the East Lothian wide ‘What’s On’ database being led by Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership and that there is the option for all area partnerships to contribute to this. SK added that there was a reserve in the 2015/16 budget and asked the members if they would want to contribute funds. It was agreed that the project team be invited to talk to the area partnership before a decision is made regarding support.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>SK</p>
5. Area Partnership Plan		
	<p>The updated area plan was tabled with SK reminding the members that this was a living document and it was important to continue the process of prioritising the actions outlined in the plan. It was also important to see what areas needed further discussion and whether there was anything missing.</p> <p>PF added that the area partnership can influence ELC priorities and help reduce the frustrations felt by community councils for example where they may have been pushing for repairs for a lengthy period of time. SB added that actions prioritised by the area partnership can also assist councillors.</p> <p>PF highlighted that the area partnership needed to identify priorities for the coming financial year from the long list of actions and perhaps focus on a couple of longer term projects. There was discussion around ways of achieving this fairly across the ward and how to prioritise actions.</p> <p>It was agreed that an extra area partnership meeting be held in May to prioritise actions and begin the process of setting budgets for 2016/17. It</p>	

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	<p>was suggested that actions be scored from 1 to 4 with 1 being the highest priority and 4 the lowest. The snapshot area profile for the PSG area will also be circulated to provide demographic information and the areas of deprivation to aid scoring. We need to consider how the action contributes to reducing inequality, if the action is preventative/ early intervention and how it meets the overall aims outlined in the plan.</p>	<p>SK/CMu</p>
6. Preston-Seton-Gosford Children & Youth Network Priorities		
	<p>It was agreed that this sub group will continue to prioritise related outcomes/actions within the Area Plan and report back to the Area Partnership as required.</p>	<p>PSGC&YN</p>
7. Preston-Seton-Gosford On the Move Sub Group Priorities		
	<p>SK advised that the On The Move (OTM) sub group had held their first meeting and suggested that all OTM priorities within the area plan be pulled together in one section in order to assist with prioritising. This was agreed.</p> <p>PF added that Longniddry CC had met with the developers of the 450 houses planned at Longniddry on Monday evening and had suggested that the developers make a financial contribution to the area should planning permission be granted and the proposal was not adversely received. SK added that when East Lothian Council (ELC) award large contracts there is a 'community benefits' contribution included and perhaps there is scope for tying suitable contributions to the work of the area partnership. SP asked if developers invest in infrastructure and ZI stated that it wasn't in their remit. SB added that there is a mechanism for calculating an education provision contribution from developers and that this was currently under review.</p>	
8. Health & Wellbeing		
	<p>SK highlighted that there are a lot of actions in the area plan related to health and a sub group was needed to take these forward. PF added that it was disturbing that with the amount of housing developments being proposed for the area there would appear to be no increase in health provision. ML commented that the Patient Participation Group in Cockenzie could influence the provision at the GP surgery. SK asked for volunteers for the Health & Wellbeing Sub group. PF agreed to talk to John Niven re provision at local Health centres.</p>	<p>ALL PF</p>
9. Communications Sub Group		
	<p>Due to time constraints it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next area partnership meeting.</p>	
10. Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations		
	<p>Two requests had been received from Longniddry & District Rotary Club and ML as Deputy Lord Lieutenant for the area. However following discussion PF suggested that the money be evenly split between the ward's Community Councils to enable them to support community events. CM seconded and proposal was agreed. CMu to arrange transfer of funds.</p>	<p>CMu</p>
11. AOCB		
	<p>Disabled Go Funding Request</p>	

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	The request for funding from Disabled Go was discussed and it was agreed that Rebecca Spillane would be invited to discuss the proposal further with the area partnership as there are concerns that other more user friendly websites exist eg 'Euan's Guide'	SK
12. Date of Next Meeting		
	<p>It was agreed that if guidance was available with regard to the allocation criteria for additional budget before the next meeting it would be circulated. The subject of an education sub group was raised however it was felt that the PSG Children & Youth Network would cover this topic and AD suggested that some might find it informative to come along to a meeting. It was agreed to circulate dates of the next sub group meetings to the area partnership.</p> <p>PF closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and added that it good to see discussions at our meetings are Preston Seton Gosford wide and people in the area are talking about the area partnership and information is being fed back to us. The role of the area partnership is not just about allocating funds but also being influential on behalf of the local community, promoting aspirations etc. ZI asked if it the area partnership could do anything to influence participation with the Mining Museum's lottery funding application as Prestonpans CC isn't currently included in discussions. PF and SK agreed to try and find out more about their proposals.</p> <p>The date of the next Area Partnership meeting is Wednesday, 15th June 2016, 7 til 9pm in the Pennypit Centre, Prestonpans. East Lothian Council's Chief Executive Angela Leitch will be visiting.</p> <p>The extra meeting to discuss and agree priorities for financial year 2016/17 has been arranged for 18th May 2016, 7 til 9pm in the Pennypit Centre, Prestonpans.</p>	<p>CMu</p> <p>CMu</p> <p>PF/SK</p> <p>Apologies to be sent to - psg-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>