

Minutes of the Meeting of the Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 15 March 2017, 7-9pm
Pennypit Centre, Prestonpans

Members (and substitute members) present:

CLlr Willie Innes (WI)
Gary Donaldson, Cockenzie & Port Seton CC (GD)
Philippa Barber, Longniddry CC (PB)
Iain Stewart, Longniddry CC (IS)
Zoe Inglis, Prestonpans CC (ZI)
Ferhan Ashiq, Prestonpans CC (Chair) (FA)
Gillian Stewart, Cockenzie West TRA (GS)
Laura Wood, Prestonpans PS Parent Council (LW)
Stuart Thomson, Pennypit Comm Dev Trust (ST)
Sheila Chambers, Cockenzie & Port Seton In Bloom (SC)
Nicola Dickson, Support from the Start (ND)
Keith Forrester, Longniddry & District Rotary (KF)

Others in attendance:

Lynn Paton, Resident (LP)
Freddi Wilson, Lighthouse Central Community Hub (FW)
Sandra King, Area Manager, ELC (SK)
Carolyn Murray, Business Support Administrator, ELC (CMu)

Apologies:

Andrew Crummy, Chair (AC)
CLlr Steven Brown, Elected Member (SB)
Lynne Lewis, Preston Lodge HS Parent Council (LL)
Angela Davie, Pennypit Community Dev Trust (AD)
Marlene Love, Cockenzie & Port Seton in Bloom (ML)
Gordon Horsburgh, CLD, ELC (GH)
Daniel Baigrie, Community Development Officer, ELC (DB)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies		
	Apologies received were noted.	
2. Minutes from Previous Meeting		
	18 January 2017 – ZI asked for a small amendment at item 10 - Health & Wellbeing Network – ‘Grapevine which...’ be replaced with ‘local groups.’ Minutes were approved - proposed by SC and seconded by GS.	CMu
3. Matters Arising		
	<p>Priority 1.30 Interpretation Board, Millennium Garden – SC has asked SK to check archives for details of supplier so repair can progress.</p> <p>Priority 11.8 Local community/volunteer sector groups – £1,050 has been distributed between Prestonpans, Longniddry and Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Councils (CC) to promote volunteering in their area, each to feedback on their plans and how the PSG Area Partnership can support them. SK suggested that member organisations consider taking part in the Preston Lodge Foundation’s launch in September and thereby promote their organisations and join in a community celebration. CC representatives agreed there was time before the next area partnership meeting to consult with their councillors and feedback.</p> <p>On The Move –Prestonpans CC to discuss participation at their next meeting. IS raised the poor state of the notice board at the shops in Longniddry and was advised to identify this if a priority for their short-term priorities from the Area Plan in the next financial year at the next area partnership meeting.</p>	<p>SK</p> <p>Community Councils</p> <p>ZI IS</p>

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	<p>SK added that The East Lothian Poverty Commission recent report identified actions for the area partnerships and there is a need to look at priorities carefully moving forward to ensure that we are delivering on these outcomes. The Commission has also recommended a Poverty Champion be appointed in each Area Partnership and it was proposed that SK speak to Sheila Laing, Co-lead for Support from the Start.</p> <p>Members then discussed the impact of Universal Tax Credits and the delays in payments which has caused a drastic increase in hardship with more referrals to the foodbank. A Kindness Cooperative recently set up at North Berwick Community Centre was highlighted by ND who advised that this included - top up fuel cards, supply food parcels, frozen meals from bulk cooking sessions, advice and support.</p> <p>The Lunch Club at Prestonpans Infant School was identified as meeting an identified need and additional support to cover their staff costs was requested. There is no cost to children who attend with bus fares being provided for youngsters that come from Cockenzie Primary School. Support from the Start would like to have all local children in the age group attend but this increases staff costs substantially.</p> <p>PB highlighted a priority in the plan regarding employability and asked if it was possible to consider recruiting more crèche/play workers to support local activity. ND noted that local workers are being employed by the lunch club and gaining experience which helps them seek permanent employment. It was agreed that SK would liaise with the other Area Managers re a holistic view of these problems and to take back to ELC.</p> <p>ZI noted that Cuthill Park is also planning more free activities during school holidays and to encourage families to use a raised bed to grow their own vegetables.</p> <p>IS highlighted the need to support East Lothian Care & Repair who carry out small household jobs eg install security lighting etc for the disabled and OAPs. He will be contacting all 6 Area Partnerships to consider a contribution of £500.</p> <p>WI suggested that the Area Managers look at plans across all the Partnerships to address poverty East Lothian wide and to make recommendations to East Lothian Council as this may be a legitimate expense for core Council services.</p> <p>FW from Lighthouse Central Community hub outlined their work to support people in hardship and increase employability skills.</p> <p>Following the discussion members agreed that there was a need for a small pot of money to be made available to help with hardship/emergency situations. WI added that as long as there was a clear audit trail this would be suitable action for the Area Partnership to take. FA then asked for approval of the following allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Lothian Care & Repair - £500 • Emergency/Hardship Fund & Lunch Club- £5,800 • Lighthouse Hub Employability - set up costs - £1,000 	<p>SK/SL</p> <p>SK</p> <p>SK</p> <p>SK</p> <p>SK</p> <p>SK</p> <p>SK/ND</p>

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	Projects outlined in the financial report.	
Support from the Start	<p>Also see item 3 'Matters Arising'.</p> <p>ND provided a brief update – N Moir is hosting weekly 'Tea & Toast' sessions for parents who are engaging well. The main issues raised so far are sleep and fussy eating. The 'Sleep Lady' is going to visit Prestonpans Infant School soon and run a session for parents. In September/October there will be a family learning event East Lothian wide with speakers and early stages workshops etc. Munch & Crunch sessions are being held twice a year with it consisting of families eating together then the children go and play and the parents talk with the focus on how families help children to learn.</p> <p>Members discussed the issues around EDI findings related to children–emotional maturity and health & wellbeing. The results will help identify priorities.</p>	
On The Move	<p>The new paths leaflet is at the printers. CMu to circulate electronic version to members for information. This was paid for by Smarter Places/Smarter Choices which is a fund that looks for key projects that can be match funded from the partnership. Projects such as path improvements, active travel initiatives (walking and cycling), cycle racks etc. SK asked members to consider possible projects for the new financial year.</p> <p>PB advised that she and SK is attending a meeting on Monday with Seton Sands Caravan Park as a possible location for a beach wheelchair. The discussions are in the early stages.</p> <p>SK advised that work on the path from Cuthill Park to Prestoungrange Mining Museum was on hold. WI commented that an alternative route had been identified which crosses John Burns land and not the Golf Course and a meeting to discuss is still to be held. ND added that Prestonpans Infant School had written to the Golf Club about the path.</p> <p>North Berwick Coastal cycle/footpath from Gullane to Luffness was near completion and further work between Luffness to Aberlady could then link with a future path from Aberlady to Longniddry Bents along the coast.</p> <p>PB raised the issue of representation from Prestonpans Community Council to the 'On The Move' sub group and stressed the importance of equal representation across the ward. ZI advised that she was addressing this and should be resolved soon.</p> <p>The next meeting of the On The Move sub group is on the 30 March at 6.30pm in the meeting room at the Mercat Gait, Prestonpans.</p>	CMu
Health & Wellbeing Network	<p>SK advised that the Health & Wellbeing Network had met on Monday 13 March and agreed the following: CHANGES Mental Health Project will be offering taster sessions from their programme at Pennypit Centre after Easter with the aim of having a stronger presence in the area. Health Issues in the Community training is being undertaken with the aim being to build capacity within the community. Projects allocated funds are listed on the budget sheet and were approved by the Partnership. The main priority identified by the group however was the impact of the Universal Tax Credit on the local community and discussions are ongoing.</p>	
Communication	Update provided under item 3 'Matters Arising'.	

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8. East Lothian Community Rail Partnership		
	Update provided under item 3 'Matters Arising'.	
9. AOCB		
	<p>ZI advised there had been a recent spate of anti social behaviour at Cuthill Park and the notice board funded by the Area Partnership had been damaged and asked if the Friends of Cuthill Park could seek funding for a new notice board as it was a key area of the Park both for sharing information of what is happening but as a meeting point for families, lost children etc. SK advised that as Cuthill Park is identified in the area plan and it would be up to the members to prioritise this in the next financial year.</p> <p>In relation to the anti social behaviour increase in the area recently FA commented that it has been identified as a high priority at the CAPP meetings and a PSP group had been set up with youths being identified and established that in the main it is the same individuals involved. Police Scotland is dealing firmly with those caught although there is still discussion regarding solutions. Access to the railway is being shut off and FA advised that work has started and should be completed within 2 weeks; there is one section which is privately owned however permission is being sought to continue the fence. PB asked if anti social behaviour could be added to area plan priorities. SK advised that the PSG Children & Youth Network is already working on projects bringing different agencies together to provide diversionary activities. It was generally agreed that work needed to continue and engage with the young people involved. IS commented that a lot of joined up thinking is needed to address this.</p>	ZI
10. Next Meeting – 10 May 2017		
	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 May 2017 at 7pm in Pennypit Centre.	Apologies to be sent to - psg-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk