

Minutes of the meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership

27th June 2017, 7-9pm, Loch Centre, Tranent

Quorum 11

Chair

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

Members and substitute members present

Elizabeth Hutchison, Vice- Chair, (EH)
Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Elected Member, ELC (SA)
Cllr Gordon Mackett, Elected Member, ELC, (GM)
Cllr Colin McGinn, Elected Member, ELC (CM)
Cllr Fiona Dugdale, Elected Member, ELC (FD)
Cllr Brian Small, Elected Member, ELC (BS)
Nicky Neighbour, Ross High School Parent Council (NN)
Alan Bell, Recharge (AB)
Robert McNeill, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (RMcN)
Joan Ramsay, Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council (JR)
Debbie Middlemass, Support from the Start, Fa'side (DM)
Isobel Berry, ECA (IB)
Phil Summerfield, Pencaitland Community Council (PS)
Maureen Cuthill, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Council (MC)
Joan Smith, Chair of Elphinstone Community Association (JS)

Others in attendance

Simon Davie, Area Manager – Fa'side, ELC (SD)
Lorna Maclennan, Business Support Administrator, ELC (LM)
Margo Macdonald, ECA (MM)
Alan Lauder, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Action Group
Jordan Butler, Heavy Sound CiC (JB)
Ian Pryde, Macmerry & Gladsmuir CAC (IP)

Apologies

Cllr John McMillan, Provost, ELC (JM)
Cllr Tom Trotter, Elected Member, ELC (TT)
Cllr Kenny McLeod, Elected Member, ELC (KM)
Douglas Neill, Macmerry & Gladsmuir Community Council (MC)
Mark Urwin, Active Schools ELC (MU)
Erica Wishart, Minister, Tranent Parish Church (EW)
Scott Glynn, Tranent and District Sport Clubs (SG)
Lorraine Congalton, Community Development Officer, Tranent Town (LC)
Pauline Megson, Ormiston Community Council (PM)
Katy Pollock, Manager, Homestart (KP)
Ralph Averbuch, Pencaitland Community Council (RA)
Mark Ormiston, Ormiston West TRA (MO)
Paul MacGregor, Tranent and District Sport Clubs (SG)
Margaret Scott, Tranent West TRA (MS)

		Key discussion points	Action
1	Welcome	BL welcomed everyone to Macmerry Village Hall. Given a range of new faces round the table BL asked everyone to introduce themselves. BL stated that the meeting was quorate.	
2	Apologies	These were noted.	
3	Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the last meeting were approved with changes by Robert McNeill and Debbie Middlemass.	
4	Matters Arising		
5	Budget 2017/18	<p>SD provided an update to members regarding our current budget position prior to the presentation by Heavy Sound C.I.C to all them to make an informed decision.</p> <p>i/ The Roads allocation is fully committed (Ormiston Park project).</p> <p>ii/ The General allocation has £900.00 to be committed (allocations approved for Polson Park Pavilion, The Fraser Centre and Blooming Belters, alongside contributions to the Youth Reference group, Fa'side Active Travel and the carry forwards from last year, the notice board for Tranent town and final spend at Glenkinchie Path).</p> <p>SD asked if members were of a minded to support Tranent Allotment Association with £780 which would enable them to pay the ground lease to ELC for this year. In the future they would pay this themselves. The proposal is that this support could be received from the general allocation. SD noted that the creation of the association was a partnership priority and once which was all but completed. There was a general discussion around the proposal. Approval was given to the project and SD to get the group to complete a retrospective application. Members agreed that we would not use this process again and all future requests would require an application and to be circulated prior to the meeting for consideration.</p> <p>This discussion also led into a dialogue about having a funding matrix/criteria to apply to applications that were presented to the Area Partnership. SD stated that this had been looked into but was no further forward.</p> <p>iii/ Educational Attainment and Initiatives allocation has two currently funded posts. SD circulated a note for members illustrating possible ongoing costs for the partnership if members were minded to continue to support these posts. This demonstrated that there was sufficient allocation to cover the Heavy Sound proposal.</p> <p>In addition to this SD confirmed a change to the Big Hopes Big Futures co-ordinator post. Homestart had noted some difficulty in their initial round of recruitment and obtained some feedback about the salary. As a result, they proposed to reduce the number of hours provided by the co-ordinators post. The net result of this proposal would see the sum of £4,570. Homestart are proposing to return this funding to Fa'side Area Partnership to allow us to fund other projects. Homestart have indicated that if no other projects are forthcoming and there is a danger of the funding not being used there could be scope to extend the term of the co-ordinators post by a few months. There was a general discussion and it was agreed that Homestart should return the allocation to the partnership and this would provide us with an opportunity to consider other projects. SD to contact Katy Pollock.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Action: SD</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action: SD</p>

6	<p>Application for funding</p>	<p>Educational Initiatives Element – Jordan Butler, Heavy Sound CiC</p> <p>SD noted that the application and cost breakdown for the projects had been previously circulated to members. SD noted that as members came into the meeting and as confirmed, the additional supporting documents (which were substantial) had been left for members to peruse.</p> <p>Jordan talked about the impact that music had had on his life and how he wanted to help disengaged young people to use creative arts to turn their lives around. The projects idea is to introduce new and unorthodox approaches to educational attainment, community engagement, inclusion of ‘at-risk’ groups and community empowerment through participation in music and arts based creative learning across Fa’side. The activities will create community benefit and social impact through working with individuals and groups considered disadvantaged and disengaged/isolated and in communities of multiple deprivation, producing powerful monitoring and evaluation evidence and giving these young people a voice in their community.</p> <p>The approaches are designed to support wellbeing through personal development, alternative approaches to education/literacy, learning new skills for life and employment. It will realise potential of young people supporting them moving on to positive destinations.</p> <p>After a range of questions from the table Jordan left the room with interested parties AB and CM, who had declared an interest in the project.</p> <p>A general discussion took place around the project. BS indicated that the presentation and indeed JB’s passion for the project were impressive. He went onto flag a concern, noting that the application was for a significant sum and large percentage of our overall allocation. In addition, there was little evidence of this type of project working elsewhere. BS wondered whether a more prudent approach would be to scale back the project, run it (again we could consider for a shorter period) and then bring back the evaluation for members to review the outcomes?</p> <p>A lengthy and healthy discussion took place about the focus of the project and it was noted that the majority of costs were staff based. Given the amount of sessions and possible young people the project could reach, it was felt that the overall cost versus the possible benefits per young person were relatively small. IP noted the huge overall cost to the public purse of young people whose lives are blighted by addiction or other matters. He felt if we could help change the direction of just one life from crime and addiction then the project could be considered a success.</p> <p>Members agreed by consensus to support the project. Jordan and the others rejoined the meeting and BL provided the good news. Jordan thanked everyone for their support and left the meeting.</p>	
7	<p>Matters Arising</p>	<p>i/ Draft Annual Working Plan 2017/18</p> <p>Although comments had been previously asked for from all Area Partnership members no comments were received. It was agreed that the Partnerships Annual Working Plan was now formally approved and LM would place this on the website and confirm the same to members and our wider distribution.</p>	<p>Action: LM</p>

		<p>ii/ Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair</p> <p>The Chairs post was for an initial term of 2 years and the Vice Chair 1 Year. Thereafter our standing orders require that we have annual elections. Paperwork regarding the possible elections was sent out to members at the previous meeting seeking comments. Again no comments had been forthcoming.</p> <p>As a result, SD proposed that we should externally advertise the posts of Chair and Vice Chair from mid August for 28 days seeking nominations.</p> <p>If there is more than one nomination for each position then a short statement will be collected from each applicant and this will be circulated to members. This will be sent out to all members with voting papers. We will then invite all applicants to attend our AGM and present a short statement on why they are the best person for the position. Following on from this we will move to a private vote. This will be concluded on the 14th November 2017.</p> <p>iii/ FAT – the Fa’side Active Travel group are hoping to have launch day on 22nd July 2017 at Foresters Park Tranent. More information will be provided shortly.</p> <p>Post meeting: - the above event had to be postponed until Monday 18th September 2017. More information will be circulated in due course.</p> <p>Annual Public Meeting - <i>Tuesday 7th November 2017 at Ross High School (6.30-8.30pm).</i></p> <p>SD reminded members of our up and coming Annual Public Meeting. This is where we have the opportunity to update members of the public what we have been doing over the last financial year (16/17) and to get the public to help us prioritise our projects for next financial year (18/19).</p> <p>A general discussion took place on the format of the meeting. It was agreed that we would hold the evaluation of the plan first and then allow the groups who have received our support to complete their presentation (one presentation where all the groups get a small opportunity to say who they are, what support they received and the difference it made). There will be time at the beginning and end of the meeting for the public to talk to the community groups and stall holders who received support.</p> <p>SD noted that he, BL, LH and LM would meet to plan the event and then contact members seeking volunteers to take on some roles and responsibilities on the night.</p>	
8	Community Connections	<p>This presentation had to be postponed as the presenter had family commitment which she had to attend too. This will be brought to the next available meeting. All papers for this presentation had been circulated to members.</p>	SD
9	Sub Groups of Area Partnership and training	<p>SD referred to the paper previously circulated and indicated the major issue of capacity for both himself and LM. A range of business is currently being carried out during the main partnership meetings, which as discussed previously means the meeting are operationally focused, lengthy and often we miss a number of items on the agenda.</p> <p>SD noted that this matter had been discussed at a number of our previous meetings however no progress has been made. Comments had been received from various members about the format of the meeting. SD referred to the TRA paper which had been previously circulated, which were linked to a number of the points made about the format of our meeting.</p>	

		<p>A general discussion took place around the format of the meeting and the impact of this on the effectiveness of the area partnership.</p> <p>It was agreed that we would seek to obtain a community chair for each sub group and volunteers came forward at the meeting or through prior contact with SD as follows:</p> <p>Health Inequalities/Older Peoples Sub group - Maureen Allan had stated that she was willing to take up this opportunity. Agreed by members.</p> <p>Community Facilities – Robert McNeill volunteered.</p> <p>Finance, Scrutiny and project priorities – Joan Ramsay (agreed to take this on in an interim capacity but would be happy to be a member of the group going forward).</p> <p>Communications Sub – Ralph Averbuch was nominated in his absence! SD will make contact with Ralph to clarify if this was something he would be interested in taking on.</p> <p>Youth Reference – Alan Bell volunteered. Agreed by members.</p> <p>Fa’side Active Travel – currently SD.</p> <p>Tranent Regeneration – Paul Zochowski, Senior Planner is sub group chair.</p>	<p>Action: All/SD</p> <p>Action: SD</p>
10	AOCB	<p>Poverty Champion for Fa’side Area Partnership – information was circulated. SD asked members to consider this proposal. Our Area Partnership is seeking a champion to ensure that all our decisions consider the key outcomes from the Poverty Commission report. This should ensure that there is consideration given as to how our priorities and initiatives are seeking to tackle these inequalities. If anyone is unsure of what the role requires please refer to the paper previously circulated and any questions please contact SD.</p>	<p>Action: All</p>
11	Date of Next Meeting	<p>The date of the next Area Partnership meeting is Tuesday 5th September 2017 in Macmerry Village Hall at 7pm.</p>	
Meetings for the year		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tues 7th Nov – Annual Meeting, Ross High School, Tranent (Doors open 6pm for a 6.30pm start) 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tues 14st Nov – Annual General Meeting for members and substitutes only 	

Contact: - Email: faside-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk Phone: Lorna Maclennan, 01620 827146 or Simon Davie 07912 785 194