

North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership

Minutes of the North Berwick Coastal Partnership Meeting Tuesday 28 July 2020, 7-8 pm ZOOM MEETING

Voting Members present:	Substitute members present
Hilary Smith, Chair (HS)	
Cllr Jim Goodfellow, Elected member ELC (JG)	
Liz Forsyth, Aberlady Community Association (LF)	
Tom Drysdale, Gullane Area Community Council (TD)	
Simon Metzner, North Berwick District Association of Churches (SM)	
Jonathan Best, NB Environment Trust (JB)	
Janice Macleod, NBC Children & Youth Network (JM)	
Lesley Kay, Lime Grove Asset Transfer Group (LK)	
Nicky Fox, North Berwick Community Centre Management Committee (NF)	
Jane McMinn, North Berwick Harbour Trust (JM)	

Others in attendance:

Bill MacNair, North Berwick Community Council (BM)
 Sandra King, Connected Community Manager, East Lothian Council (SK)
 Shirley Gillie, Business Support East Lothian Council (SG)
 Caitlin McCorry, Service Manager Connected Communities, East Lothian Council (CM)
 Katie Nevans, Support from the Start (KN)
 Deborah Ritchie, NB Health & Wellbeing Association (DR)
 Izzy Anderson, North Berwick First responders Group (IA)
 Anne Orr, Dirleton Good Neighbours (AO)
 Robin MacEwan, Cycle Forth (RM)
 Libby Morris, North Berwick Trust (LM)
 Harry Armstrong, North Berwick Rotary Club (HB)
 Frances Donald, Local Resident (FD)
 Travis??

Apologies:

Tillie Baird, NBC Health & Wellbeing Association (TB)
 John Baird, Volunteer Car Scheme (JB)
 Ian Malcom, Aberlady Conservation & History Soc (IM)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS, DECISIONS <i>Actions</i>	FOR THE ATTENTION OF
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies, Minutes from Previous Meetings		

	<p>HS welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted. HS advised that this meeting would be recorded.</p>	
<p>2. Catch Up from Villages/Members</p>		
	<p>NBC Area Partnership had agreed to fund COVID response work in Dirleton, Gullane and Aberlady. JM thanked the partnership for the funding which gave flexibility in providing the emergency response in Dirleton. The application process had been made easy and a swift decision was made. LF from Aberlady was aware that the resilience work had a significant impact and the funding had been welcomed. They are currently running a book swap in Aberlady village hall and have installed planters at the gateways to Aberlady. They are looking to install additional benches to support local residents to get out and about. The 20 Speed Limit signs were welcomed but there was a need to have these throughout the village to remind people of the new temporary speed limit. The Gullane Resilience team had also worked really effectively. KN had established a Connected Communities resilience base in the main hall in North Berwick Community Centre which built on previous work by the Kindness Co-operative. This supported the excellent NB Resilience team and provided emergency food, 1194 frozen meals were made on the premises, craft packs for children and other essential items. 913 weekly lunch packs had been distributed. 127 Referrals were received from the contact centre. KN highlighted that although there was a drop in referrals from people who were shielding the impact of COVID on family income was significant. More people are claiming Universal Credit especially from those that were previously self-employed. The drop in income has resulted in more referrals for emergency food. KN thanked North Berwick Trust for their funding. HS was aware that there had been a fantastic community response within the town, villages and hamlets across North Berwick Coastal and wished to formally thank everyone for all their hard work and commitment. The Area Partnership will continue to build on the community spirit generated over the past few months.</p> <p>Catch Up form Sub Groups</p> <p>North Berwick Youth Project LK advised that the Area Partnership had funded the Mental Health Youth Worker who is currently supporting 16 young people. The good news is that ELC have agreed to appoint a Mental Health youth worker in all 6 schools. The posts will be advertised this week. This is testament to all the hard work of our pioneering partnership and North Berwick Children & Youth Network which identified the local need and developed the work through North Berwick Youth Project. LK requested permission to allocate the remaining funding for the Mental Health youth work to support young people given the new post within ELC and outlined a couple of scenarios the Partnership be made aware of:-</p> <p>If the current Mental Health youth worker is successful in any application to ELC for the new post LK requested that the remaining funding be re allocated to ongoing youth work to support young people and their mental health.</p> <p>If the current Mental Health youth worker isn't successful in any application to ELC the contract would continue within the funding period.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">HS</p>

	<p>HS suggested an email be sent out to members with the minutes to request their permission for any re allocation of funding subject to the outcome from either of the above scenarios.</p> <p>NBC Children & Youth network JM advised the group have not met recently but hoped to do so again once the schools go back.</p> <p>Lime Grove Group LK has chased this up and is currently with the Scottish Minister. There have been no dates or deadlines given.</p> <p>NBC Health & Wellbeing Association HS advised co-chairs TB/DR have stood down and new co-chairs LS/HS were voted in at their annual general meeting. The NBC Community Connections project was funded partly by the partnership to help reduce social isolation. During COVID this has evolved into a telephone befriending service. DR advised a huge amount of work was involved to develop policies and training to adapt to the changing circumstances. DB thanked CS and all the volunteers involved who are supporting over 60 people. The Area Partnership provided additional COVID funding for extra emotional support to community members over the period who were isolated. Remaining funding will be allocated should there be a second wave and DR will coordinate this. The Compassionate Communities project will start next year.</p> <p>HS thanked both TB/DR/CS and all the volunteers involved for their excellent work which has provided a much needed service. She also wished everyone on the new Management Group success with the transition.</p> <p>NBC On the Move HS advised that the group have met once. There had been discussion relating to the significant increase in traffic and the traffic speed in the town, villages and between the villages. Everyone was keen to see the impact of the new reduced speed measures. TD asked if there was a possibility of getting small 20 miles per hour signs as you go through the village or even 20 miles per hour painted temporary onto the road. JG will investigate these temporary suggestions and report back. HA raised concerns regarding the traffic speed creeping back up to 30mph as drivers go through the village. He suggested ELC look at the possibility of permanent speed cameras placed in each village. JG advised that both the NBC Area Partnership and Community Council had previously funded Speed Reactive Signs in North Berwick and in the villages. LF advised confusion over 20mph in Aberlady as there was signs on the road stating 30 mph. Can this be changed to stop any confusion? HS asked members to look out for this and report back. A list could be collated and sent to the Roads Department regarding this.</p> <p>Whitekirk HS reported that Whitekirk Development Company has purchased their village hall for the benefit of the community. Congratulations!</p>	<p>JG</p> <p>All</p>
<p>3. North Berwick Trust Strategy Consultation</p>		
	<p>LB gave an overview into the North Berwick Trust. Trustees wanted to ask the Area Partnership for their knowledge and ideas on local priorities to help them plan for the future. The Trust would like views of the following options:-</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep the forever fund of £200,000 annually subject to investment return to support local groups and projects and continue to invest the major funds. 2. Invest in a large transformational project that would make a difference in the North Berwick and wider community 3. A combination of the Forever Fund and investing in transformational projects. (some projects suggested include – Limegrove Asset Transfer, Country Parkland – space for Hub Development at Pilgrims Way), Affordable Housing, Wander Bus, Charrette Report Implementation, Key Workers, Apprenticeships for Young People. <p>HA asked if there was any restrictions to the Trust entering into any major partnerships with private or public bodies for a capital construction project. This was something the Trust could explore further. IA enquired re the perimeters of the Trust’s purpose. LB explained there is a broad range of objectives and would be surprised if everything couldn’t be covered within the current remit. It is stated that it is for the benefit of North Berwick but the interpretation of this could be discussed as projects which benefit North Berwick could also impact on the villages. The Trust would consider projects that would benefit everyone. There had been suggested that land be allocated for a new Health Centre but there had been no approach from NHS Lothian. SK suggested that members look again at the NBC Area Plan which highlights a number of priorities which could make a significant impact in the area. https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/12861/area_partnership_area_plans</p> <p>LB thanked everyone and stated that the NBC Area Partnership is a key group which North Berwick Trust wishes to work in partnership with given the number of previous consultations carried out through the Partnership. TD asked Dirleton/Gullane could make an application to the Trust. LB advised that this would be dependent on the project and who would benefit. DR did confirm that the deeds currently clearly state the Trust was only for North Berwick.</p> <p>KN suggested funding the Family Support Workers as there was no longer Educational Attainment Funding to pay staff costs. SM suggested support for Children’s Mental Health as CAMHS have a long waiting list. LB advised as an example that the Mental Health youth worker for NB High school did work with children from all the surrounding areas. HS advised that the compassionate communities project does work to benefit the wider community.</p> <p>HS thanked LB for starting this dialogue and asked that everyone read over the Area Plan and email nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk with their suggestions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p>
4. Scottish Government Food Allocation - £12,000		
	<p>SK reported that £10,000 had been allocated by the Scottish Government for food which has been spent during COVID on weekly fresh food. A further £12,000 has been allocated. The funding which was allocated from the NBC Area Partnership General Fund for food related projects could be put back into the General Fund from this new Food Fund. KN has looked into costs for providing fresh and frozen food within the current financial year. The cost would be around £9,400 to keep the food provided at the Connected Communities Resilience Base going as the need may continue to rise for people experiencing financial hardship. HS asked members for their permission to allocate the</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p>

	remaining funding to the Resilience Base to meet the costs of food and to keep a reserve in case there is a second wave.	
5. NBC Area Partnership Budget Allocations		
	<p>SK reported there was around £45,000 in the general budget still to be allocated. HS wanted to make everyone aware of this and to request that all members and Sub Groups consider projects that could be brought forward to the September meeting for further discussed. (see previous link to the Area Plan to help focus on the priorities). DR suggested holding some funds back in case there is a second wave of COVID. HS asked members to look at future possibilities perhaps encouraging local Participatory Budgeting events which each community could bring forward their ideas to bring renewal and encourage intergenerational community involvement in local decision making. This could also involve young people from North Berwick High School as the Musselburgh PB event had been very successful. For more information please check these two links regarding Musselburgh PB.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TadY6ojYT5M&feature=youtu.be https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHgVmlyM9UE&t=3s</p> <p>HS suggested everyone takes time to consider projects which will lift community spirits and provide positive outcomes this financial year. It has been a very anxious year so far.</p> <p>HB raised concerns re the lack of computers/technology available to some children and putting them at a disadvantage and suggested the partnership purchase some Samsung galaxy tablets to help them. CM advised ELC have received £400,000 funding from the Scottish Government for equipment to ensure everyone has equal access to digital technology. This will be managed and monitored by ELC Education Department and families will be identified through schools. The Area Partnership could possibly help by supporting Wi-Fi/broadband connections and training. This is crucial. HS wondered if this is something that could be looked at as an intergenerational project similar to the work being undertaken by East Lothian Dementia Friendly who are tailoring support for people to access digital skills. FD mentioned that the day centres and care homes had received tablets to ensure residents can keep in contact with friends. HS asked if Partnership Sub Groups could help by identifying people. SM asked if the Area Partnership could help promote IT and digital inclusion, by helping people to use IT and connected people to local projects including the library service.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>
6. A.O.C.B		
	<p>IA reminded everyone that this was SK's last meeting as NBC Connected Communities Manager and wanted SK to know that she has done a sterling job for North Berwick Coastal and the partnership utterly appreciated all her hard work and attention to detail. SK replied it has been an absolute pleasure working with the Partnership and everyone should be proud of what has been achieved, there are so many great projects to mention. The Area Plan needs to be revisited to prioritise climate change. She encouraged everyone to continue to work in the spirit of Partnership. SK has learnt so much from everyone involved. The central aim is to reduce inequalities across the community and North Berwick Coastal will continue to go from strength to strength. SK would like to congratulate TB/DR on their hard work in establishing the NBC Health & Wellbeing Association and the NBC Connected Communities Project. HS agreed the partnership would not have achieved everything they have if it hadn't been</p>	

	for the hard work and dedication from SK. SK has a way of getting the best out of people. The partnership really does appreciate everything she has done.	
Dates of Next Meeting	Tuesday 8 th September 2020 7pm on Zoom Tuesday 10 th November 2020 7pm on Zoom	Apologies to nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk