

Musselburgh
Area Partnership

**Minutes of Musselburgh Area Partnership Zoom Meeting
Monday 30th November 2020, 7.00pm – 8.30pm**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Iain Clark, Chair (IC)
 Janice MacLeod, Vice Chair, Support from the Start (JM)
 Cllr. John Williamson, Elected Member (JW)
 Cllr. Andrew Forrest, Elected Member (AF)
 Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)
 Irene Tait, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (IT)
 Alister Hadden, Wallyford Community Council (AH)
 Barry Turner, Musselburgh Conservation Society (AS)
 Cathie McArthur, Vice Chair, Health & Wellbeing Network (CMc)
 Natasha McInninie, Bridges Project (NM)
 Callum McGuire, Queen Margaret University (CM)
 Gaynor Allen, Musselburgh GS Parent Council (GA)
 Christine Shaffer, Levenhall TRA (CS)
 Malcolm Currie, Musselburgh Business Partnership (MC)
 Emma Stewart, Musselburgh Churches together (ES)

Others in attendance:

Stuart Baxter ELC Area Manager (SB)
 Shirley Gillie, ELC (SG)

Apologies:

Cllr. Katie Mackie, Elected Member (KM)
 Cllr. Fiona Dugdale, Elected Member (FD)
 Linda Finlayson, Beach Lane TRA (LF)
 Tanya Morrison, Whitecraig Community Council (TM)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome , Introductions and Apologies		
	IC welcomed everyone and apologies were noted. IC informed everyone this meeting would be recorded.	
2. Conflict of Interest		
	This is a standing item of the agenda. Please declare a conflict of interest when projects are being discussed or when voting on funding applications.	
3. Minutes previous meeting		
	Minutes from meeting 7.9.2020 were approved by GA and seconded by AH.	
4. Matters Arising		
	Update on Educational Initiatives – this is on tonight’s agenda There are no other matters arising from the last minutes.	

5. Educational Initiatives Project update		
	<p>IC explained members felt that that application from Musselburgh Grammar School (MGS) CDT department for equipment should be provided by East Lothian Council. IC agreed to take this forward and has spoken to applicant and Lesley Brown (LB) from Education regarding this. LB explained that all schools were notified that the educational attainment fund would no longer be held by Area Partnerships. IC added that LB was happy to look over and give her opinion on any applications that the Area Partnership receive regarding educational initiative projects. IC asked if everyone was happy with this. SB asked for clarification if the application from MGS is now rejected or withdrawn. IC confirmed it is withdrawn. MGS are keen to look at a project working closely with all primary schools in the future. SB will seek further clarification and guidance on future educational initiatives projects.</p>	
6. Sub Groups		
	<p>IC stated that although it had not been easy to arrange meetings for sub groups, he reminded members that the Area Partnership had a year's subscription to zoom and added that if any member wished to set up a sub group meeting to contact him direct and he would supply the necessary details.</p> <p>Active Travel – IC suggested a meeting be set up for January 2021 to revisit core membership, priorities etc. Active Travel is still seen as important and remains an important objective of the Area Partnership, as highlighted in the Area Plan.</p> <p>IC added that the electric bridge has now been opened up for bikes which is in his opinion a positive benefit to the community. SB added that the Just Eat bikes at the Brunton Hall had been the subject of vandalism. A meeting had been held on Wednesday 23rd November 2020 where it had been agreed that any further vandalism would be reported directly to the local police, previously this was reported by the bike company to the police in Edinburgh. CCTV will be used to monitor the bikes and outreach workers in the area will engage with young people to raise awareness of this issue. SB informed members that electric bikes were still planned for the Brunton Hall although no firm date for their installation had been agreed. East Lothian Council are reluctant to move the bikes from this site to a new location as this area of the Brunton Hall has been identified as a travel hub. BT confirmed that SESTRANS was currently very busy with a lot on their agenda. BT added that he was keen that a meeting of the Active Travel sub group be held in January. IC confirmed he is happy to help set up a zoom meeting for this sub group.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing – IC/SB/JM had a meeting last week re People Know How who are a charity working from a headquarters in Ferry Road Edinburgh, this was to look at the possibility of a pilot project focussing on digital inclusion and befriending services. IC explained there is a YouTube video that explains more about this work, and provided this link https://youtu.be/Zm6ZDZY1BDI. People Know How provide refurbished computers and tablets along with training and support. IC added that it was explained that a 91 year old lady has been receiving support to keep her in contact with family abroad and helping reduce her feelings of isolation. The befriending service offered is more than just a phone call and looks to provide additional support based on the person's needs. JM explained the</p>	

focus for H&W will be families, young children and the elderly. Looking at a broad spectrum of all ages. Priorities includes reducing social isolation, improving digital accessibility and encouraging resilience. JM added she continued to work with Support from the Start in Musselburgh. IC will keep members up to date on progress. JM confirmed she liked the work of People Know How and that it was not prescriptive, they find connections and go at the peoples own pace. They provide the confidence that is needed so people feel they are in safe hands. GA confirmed they are a good community charity and she was very positive about working closely with them. CS enquired if anyone more local as they appear to be an Edinburgh charity. IC confirmed they are based in Edinburgh but cover the whole of Scotland. SB added that they have secured a local office in the Recharge Youth and Community Centre in Church Street Tranent. CMc added she knew of someone who would benefit right now from this type of support and asked for contact details. SB added that People Know How will accept referrals from any source including self-referrals and added that he had a referral form that could be used by anyone that needed it. NM confirmed that Bridges Project have been referring young people and families to People Know How all through lockdown and in her opinion they had been brilliant at addressing these needs in the community. She added that they acted very quickly and always followed up with additional support where needed, she would definitely recommend them. IC indicated that this was very positive and good to know that NMc has a good working relationship with this charity.

Budget/Priority – IC informed members that while there had not been a meeting, he confirmed that energies were being applied to bring forward projects to the Area Partnership to address the current priorities in the Area Plan. He was however looking to hold a subgroup meeting in January 2021 to look at future projects.

Sustainable Musselburgh – GA provided an update to members. A meeting of the sub group had been held recently. The subgroup had recently contacted ELC Road Services around spaces for people and had been introduced to Liz Hunter who she found was really good. Paul Mathews who worked with Liz explained the “Musselburgh Active Toun” project. GA added that Jason Rose from the sub group agreed to go on the group. GA tried to contact BT as she understood that active travel would normally be the remit of the Active Travel sub-group and didn’t want to stand on anyone toes. Jason will feed back to the group. GA confirmed she thought that it was going to be fantastic project when it happens.

GA added that the Sustainable Musselburgh sub group were focusing on the Musselburgh area including Wallyford and Whitecraig being a plastic free community and were working with both Jennifer Lothian and Caroline Davis to achieve this. GA informed members that she intended to contact the Musselburgh Business Partnership to examine ways that businesses can also be involved. MC replied that he was happy to have this discussion. GA agreed to contact MC regarding this. GA highlighted that the sub group continued to focus on concerns regarding water quality in the River Esk. Ga informed members that she was a member of a group set up by Colin Beattie to look at the water quality of the river esk and also a member on the SEPA stakeholder group on bathing water but that the main issue with the

	<p>water quality at the back sands was the from pollution from the Brunstane burn and that this has a huge impact on our swimmers.</p> <p>GA added the sub group were keen to continue to add additional wild flowers and had recently contacted Andrew Hogarth of Amenity Services regarding this. GA informed members that a meeting had recently taken place including Andrew Hogarth/SB and IC in Lewisvale Park to look at planting apple trees as part of a Community Orchard. Funding for this project will be discussed later as part of the Amenities Service budget. IC thanked GA for her update and suggested sending an email to SEPA to see what the suggested £3 million on improvements had been spent on. GA advised as far as she knew most of it was spent on misconnections to houses and buildings around Brunstane Burn. And the historical issues of outflow pipes and toilets connecting straight into river. IC will forward the email to SEPA to all members.</p>	
7. Chair Report		
	<p>IC advised the while the Hollies café is open to everyone that there is currently a lack of signage to attract more people into the café. IC indicated that he was investigating providing additional signage for the Hollies to help improve footfall and did not expect the costs to be prohibitive. Members agreed to support this.</p> <p>IC made members aware that he had been involved in a number of recent meetings, the Community Orchard, People Know How and had Several meetings with SB to identify possible future projects. Face to face meetings continued to be difficult as a result of COVID 19 but that he had met SB on a number of occasions in the Bistro at the Brunton Hall. When face to face meetings proved impractical he continued to meet virtually.</p>	
8. Connected Communities Manager Report		
	<p>SB explained the current budget position and outlined all the applications that have to be discussed/voted on tonight.</p> <p>IC confirmed that the Musselburgh Grammar CDT application had been withdrawn.</p> <p>SB outlined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighthouse Christians Against Poverty debt counselling £1,670 After a discussion on the proposal a formal vote was taken and the project was agreed by a majority of 13 to1 • Biking North, Biking East, Adventure East Lothian £1,100 After a discussion on the proposal a formal vote was taken and the project was agreed unanimously. <p>SB Highlighted to members that the following items of expenditure were being organised directly between the Area Partnership and Connected Communities Staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A project to distribute Christmas packages containing food to 100 identified families was discussed the initiative originated from the Baxterstorey community Christmas appeal this would cost £500. Members discussed this and agreed that 100 families should not limit giving more if needed to a maximum of 200 families at £1000. This was voted on by members and approved unanimously. • Meal packs in Wallyford, Whitecraig and Musselburgh £600 SB outlined the initiative. Connected Communities staff were currently providing meal packs to identified families in the 	

Wallyford and Whitecraig areas. This initiative would provide the ingredients for a starter, main course and desert along with a menu card for the families to cook for themselves. This help build resilience. It was proposed to offer a Christmas themed meal pack and to widen the area to include Musselburgh. The cost would be approximately £600. This was voted on by members and approved unanimously.

- Wellbeing Hampers £250
SB outlined this initiative also being organised by Connected Communities Staff to provide wellbeing hampers at Christmas to elderly members of the Community that had been identified through the Resilient Musselburgh work in the summer. This was voted on by members and approved unanimously.
- Children's Clothing £1,125
SB outlined the proposal by Connected Communities Staff working with Children First to provide winter clothing to 25 identified Children at a cost of £45 each, members had been made aware of this and additional information in an application form from Children First had been sent out to members. This was voted on by members and approved unanimously.

SB explained to members that he was also awaiting funding applications from the Bridges Project for £25,000 and the Musselburgh Business Partnership for approx. £19,000. SB will forward these applications to members when they have been received.

SB also mentioned the intention explained earlier to look at an initiative with People Know How on Social Isolation.

SB explained that he had been looking at priority projects that could be provided by the Road Services Budget.

This budget needs to be spent on Roads and Footways identified as adopted roads by the Council as Roads Authority. Due to Covid the Councils Road Services had no capacity to do work for the Area Partnership. SB then enquired about external contracts and two areas have been identified. 1. The slabbed areas of footway in very poor condition in Newbigging, these were on routes to school which is an Area Partnership priority and 2. Dropped kerb crossings.

Members unanimously supported this use of the Roads Budget.

GA made members aware that she had concerns regarding safe routes to Musselburgh Grammar School from Old Craighall and that this needed flagged to planning regarding the new development at Old Craighall.

AH made members aware that he had walked the Area of Wallyford Bing with Garry Inglis of ELC and enquired if SB had heard any more about the paths around Wallyford Primary School and the Bing area as this seemed to go on for ever. SB replied that he had not heard anymore.

AF made members aware that he had raised the mini roundabout at Fergusson Drive with Alan Stubbs the Road Service Manager who was looking at this area. JW replied that there was not enough room for a full roundabout and was unsure if proposals to introduce cycle lanes would make a difference? He also suggested to look at introducing access protection markings at existing dropped kerbs to stop people

	<p>parking adjacent to them. SB asked JW what locations he had in mind and JW agreed to forward locations to SB.</p> <p>SB made members aware that he had recorded a Christmas message which was being played on Radio Saltire.</p>	
9. Consultations		
	<p>IC informed the meeting of the current consultations below and encouraged everyone to take part individually or as an organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>What do you think of current visual impairment services? (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)</u> • <u>East Lothian Integration Joint Board - Equality Outcomes 2021-2025 - East Lothian Council - Citizen Space (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)</u> • <u>East Lothian Council COVID-19 Rural Economy Survey - East Lothian Council - Citizen Space (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)</u> • <u>East Lothian Primary Care Improvement Plan (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)</u> • <u>Covid 19 Tenants Survey (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)</u> 	
10. A.O.B		
	<p>IC made members aware of an issue that Levenhall Tenants & Residents Association had regarding the spaces for people proposals in the Levenhall Area and concerns regarding the 20mph zone. Roads Service have agreed to a site meeting and IC asked CS if she still wished to raise the matter under AOCB. CS replied that she did and gave members an account of the issues. CS made members aware that she had asked Road Services why Ravensheugh Road at Levenhall was not included in the 20mph zone. CS also highlighted to members of her concerns regarding the safety of the proposed crossing near the Levenhall roundabout. Both IC/SB had agreed to attend any proposed meeting to provide assistance and ensure the community voice is heard. CS confirmed that she welcomed this support. AF confirmed that he would raise this issue with Tom Reid Head of Infrastructure at East Lothian Council.</p> <p>IC closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their support, this had been a very difficult year with various impacts for the Musselburgh Area. IC added that he was very proud of the commitment provided by over 100 volunteers and community council members. Hopefully going into the New Year we may begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel regarding the pandemic and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He wished everyone the best for a Very Merry Christmas although Christmas will be different for most people this year. He was sure that most people would make the best out of this very difficult circumstances.</p> <p>IC asked members if over the Christmas period they could give a thought to projects or initiatives the Area Partnership could assist with that would help people in the community who have been adversely affected by this pandemic.</p> <p>AH offered his thanks on behalf of everyone to SB/IC and everyone associated with Resilient Musselburgh for all their hard work this year.</p>	
2021 Meeting Dates		

Area Partnership meetings for 2021 are as follows:

1st February 2021,
15th March 2021,
14th June 2021,
23rd August 2021,
4th October 2021,
29th November 2021

Apologies to
be sent to
[Musselburgh-
ap@eastlothia
n.gov.uk](mailto:Musselburgh-
ap@eastlothia
n.gov.uk)