

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 10th March 2021, 7-9 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Ruth Davie, Chair (RD)
 Cllr Lachlan Bruce, East Lothian Council (LB)
 Cllr Neil Gilbert, East Lothian Council (NG)
 Brian Weddell, Prestonpans Community Council (BW)
 Bryan Hickman, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (BH)
 Sandy Darling, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (SD)
 Helen York, Longniddry Community Council (HY)
 Claire Jamieson, Cockenzie Parent Council (CJ)
 Andrew Crummy, Heritage Connections (AC)
 Stuart Thomson, Prestonpans Community Sports Hub (ST)
 Owen Smith, Prestonpans Management Committee (OS)
 Lisa Kerr, Co-chair Health & Wellbeing, (LK)
 Lorna Bellany, Pennypit Development Trust (LBE)
 Beckie Peacock, Support from the Start (BP)
 Sheila Chambers, Cockenzie & Port Seton in Bloom (SC)
 Vincent Barron, Longniddry Community Centre Management Comm(VB)
 Phillipa Barber, Chair On The Move (PB)

Others in attendance:

Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager, ELC (EB)
 Andrew Cheshire, Community Development officer (ACH)
 Shirley Gillie, Business Support Administrator, ELC (SG)
 Marilyn McNeil, IJB (MM)
 Lyn Marshall, Depute Lord Lieutenant (LM)
 Eileen Morrison, Service Manager – Customer Service (EM)

Apologies:

Pamela Fraser, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (PF)
 Natalie Moir, Support from the Start (NM)
 Christine MacLean, Port Seton Centre Management Committee (CM)
 Lorraine Stevenson, Poverty Champion (LS)
 Cllr Willie Innes, East Lothian Council (WI)
 Leanne Ward, Prestonpans Community Council (LW)
 Marlene Love, Cockenzie & Port Seton in Bloom (ML)
 Tracey Redpath, Volunteer East Lothian (TR)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies		
	RD welcomed everyone along to the meeting. Introductions were made and apologies were noted. RD advised the meeting would be recorded and everyone was in agreement with this. RD welcomed VB to his first Area Partnership meeting and EM for coming along to discuss Prestonpans Library.	

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2. Minutes of Previous Meeting		
	Minutes of meeting on 20.01.2021 were approved by HY and seconded by NG.	
3. Matters Arising		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face book live – proposing to make part of the AGM on 5.5.21 live. The majority of members indicated they were happy with this. • Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities for Resilience Team – If you are working with volunteers please register through VCEL Volunteer Community Task force. This is important to provide safety for volunteers. Contact Tracey redpath direct for more information. • Radio Interview – RD has still to contact DBW to organise a date for this • Free School Meals – RD highlighted that this 2nd lockdown is different and payments have been sent directly to families. A survey will be done for feedback from any families regarding their experience. • Towns & Villages – EB advised this is on hold just now due to COVID. • Scrutiny Group – received 4 votes from members to continue with members voting on new applications rather than a public vote just now. Clause 33 as no one voted for the alternative option it is down to the chair. RD confirmed she has looked at the budget and at this moment in time due to COVID restrictions the partnership should continue to have members voting for next years budget. If anyone has any objections to this please email and let us know. • Feedback – regarding applications from this years budget we have written to all applicants for an update re restrictions and requested full evaluations by 31st March 2021. Some have mentioned their projects will carry on into next financial year due to COVID. • Standing Orders – all completed • Activity pack/Wellbeing Pack – BP advised no update from Support from the Start. Next meeting is tomorrow 11.3.21 and will feedback • Applications Health & Wellbeing – LK advised 2 successful applications and will give more information in the update later in the meeting • Evaluations – RD advised the evaluation for the PSG Christmas Festive period is still ongoing but will hopefully be finished and circulated at the end of this week • Youth Forum – LB fed back that due to COVID some young people that were keen to get on board are no longer on the radar. Due to this the process of establishing a youth forum will be restarted. AC advised 5 young people from Pennypit going to Port Seton for Easter provision. EB suggested that the Youth Forum could be a new subgroup and can feedback to the partnership meetings. 	<p>RD</p> <p>RD</p> <p>RD</p>
4. Conflict of Interest		
	There are no applications up for decision tonight.	

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5. Scrutiny Group/AP General Funding Update		
	<p>The group met to discuss the previous funding process and forms. They also explored how things have been funded in the past and looking at some applications that needed further clarification as to possibility of being funded by East Lothian Council. To speed up this process it was suggested that having a councillor involved in the group would really help. LB had a good conversation re priorities and is keen to see how we can have better communication and that having a councillor as an observer at these meetings would be beneficial. LB would be happy to come along to the next meeting which is on 19.4.21. A replacement was need to replace the Prestonpans representative. OW said he was happy to attend meetings as the Prestonpans rep.</p> <p>EB advised that the scrutiny group looked over the application and evaluation forms and felt they were not fit for purpose. It was agreed that the scrutiny group could look over them and put forward their suggestions to the other area managers. This has been done and EB reported back to the managers meetings. There are a few tweaks to be made but hopefully be ready to send to the partnership at the end of next month. A suggestion was made that you cannot apply for new funding until an evaluation has been completed for previous funding. All projects have been emailed saying evaluations are needed by 31st March 2021. We are also requesting for a short video/photos to be sent so we can feedback to the partnership members the great work being done and the benefit for our community. Discussed timing for next financial years applications being the first 2 weeks in April for the deadline. Look at applications and then bring recommendations forward to AGM on 5.5.21. Also suggestion made that training could be given and date set for 28.5.21. SC mentioned maybe need to have some flexibility built in depending on the progress re COVID. Members acknowledged different delivery models maybe required in the next financial year. RD suggested due to this that in 2021 we should allocated funding in two time periods in April/May and Sep/Oct. Members agreed with this proposal. EB advised that the scrutiny group suggested the following guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects must address inequalities meeting the area plan • Evaluation forms must be completed but additional attachments are welcomed. Evaluations forms must be returned before new funding application can be submitted • Projects must bring community benefit and relate to the Area Plan rather than other council priorities and budgets such as Education • Applications should not focus on funding posts but rather contribute towards sessional staff costs to deliver projects. This is due to the fact it is short term funding and doesn't make these posts sustainable. <p>It was discussed that we need to raise awareness of how the Area Partnership contributes to communities and SC suggested maybe an article for the East Lothian newsletter to let everyone know.</p>	
6. Area Plan Review – sub group feedback		
	<p>The new sub group LBE/PF/HY/EB/JD have met to look at changes the plan to include issues regarding COVID. It was a good meeting and feel that it would be better to email everyone the outcomes from that</p>	

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	meeting so that the information can be shared with all subgroups and once feedback has been given we could share the document with everyone.	RD/EB
7. Prestonpans Library		
	<p>EM came along to the meeting to discuss Prestonpans Library and proposals to enhance the service. A working group has been looking at different ways to use the library to help increase educational attainment, support children with ASN and families. A consultation process will begin shortly on focusing services as a Children & Families Library. This would be targeted support for vulnerable families and work in partnership with other agencies. Shortly an advert for a qualified community librarian will be released to link, support and structure work across PSG. The library will remain open to the general public certain days</p> <p>EB mentioned a 2 stage approach to consultation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey to Identifying any gaps in provision and ways to work in partnership 2. Online Event To allow community to highlight what vital library services need to be retained <p>BW expressed his view that this was an excellent initiative but he had concerns for the services to be retained and possibly transferred over in particular those from Aldhammer house. EM confirmed these services would be retained. The library is currently closed due to COVID and no date yet to re open. Hoping for May possibly. RD mentioned older people and feeling isolated and wondered if possibly books on wheels could maybe be an idea. EM confirmed that a click and collect service is available and urge people to share this information. LM asked if this is solely for the Prestonpans area and wondered about Longniddry. EM said the need identified at the moment is for the PSG catchment area and the post would meet the needs across the area not just Prestonpans if required and this could be a pilot for other areas. CJ expressed concerns re Port Seton Library and EM confirmed there is no risk to this library and they want to develop it but the priority just now is Prestonpans library. EM looking at workshops to get as many people as possible involved including schools and health visitors. RD thanked EM for coming along to the meeting tonight. EM thanked everyone for their comments and confirmed that there is no fixed idea at the moment just gathering as much information as we can.</p>	
8. Road Budget improvements		
	<p>EB updated the meeting regarding a rolling programme of work for the roads department.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Rope Walk – Paul Iannetta is taking this forward as not adopted Road and to be completed 2021/2022 2) Preston Road drop off – consultation with community, school and parent council to be undertaken. It was also mentioned by PB in Outdoor Ed that Olga is undertaking a project around drop off and encouraging families to walk/cycle to school. EB will follow up 3) Dean Road – EB agreed to meet with HY from Longniddry Community Council to look at the issues in person 4) Bus Stops – EB updated the cost of replacing a bus stop is £5,000 and asked if there were particular bus stops in need to 	<p>EB</p> <p>EB</p>

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	<p>replacement. BH agreed to send EB the bus stop audit. Two bus stops were agreed for replacement – outside Cockenzie House, Chemist in Cockenzie & Port Seton. There was a query re; if the £5k includes the removal of the unit and installation which EB will clarify.</p> <p>5) Drop Kerb at John Bellany Centre – SC raised that this proposal had previously been highlighted once again EB will follow up.</p>	<p>BH/EB</p> <p>EB</p>
9. Reports from Sub Groups & Groups		
	<p>Support from the Start BP advised that there is a meeting tomorrow as the last meeting prior to that had been postponed. There are a few things on the horizon that the group are looking to get involved in and will feed back at the next partnership meeting.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing LK advised there is a meeting tomorrow. 2 projects have been funded through the H&W subgroup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike Project – Pennypit & PL school looking at bike maintenance using an outside agency. Looking at non attenders and engaging learning which has continued to go on through COVID. • Early Years reducing nutritional inequalities and looking at social isolation. The buggy walks are on hold just now due to COVID. A parents cooking from scratch project has been set up and has been well attended. Recipe packs are available and you join in live with the cooking sessions. <p>Children & Young People EB was not at the last meeting. AC confirmed there was nothing to report back to the partnership at this time</p> <p>Heritage Connections AC stated that the sub group met on Monday and had a very good meeting. The following points were discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new web site will hopefully be up and running soon • The project Salt of the Earth has been extended due to COVID until March 2022 with Jill reducing to part time hours • The next stage of applying for small grants through Participatory Budgeting will be opening soon • An online talk around Morrison’s Haven was well attended and old photographs were shown • A report on the Preston Tower Mining Museum is progressing at a relative pace through COVID • Another on line talk re archaeology from Seton Palace – discovered original foundations which is really interesting <p>RD asked if the talks were recorded. AC advised they were. Looking into doing more of these regularly. Heritage plays an important part and these are very interesting times just now. Need to look at how we use our coastline and how we can improve these. Lots of visitors using the area just now.</p> <p>Active Travel/On The Move</p>	

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	<p>PB mentioned they would be having a meeting in the next few weeks but wanted to highlight East Lothian Climate Change strategy. Looking for more members to join this sub group. Discussed using social media to raise awareness and maybe attract some young people who may be interested and want to get involved. Discussion took place re wild swimming, using our coast water, toilet block and lack of shower facilities, pressures on our coast, car packs, promote historic culture, economic development looking at a number of different strands and trying to bring everything together. LB mentioned the consultation re land management which has now closed. LB mentioned Tom Reid would be happy to still hear from anyone or come along and speak to the group. RD will contact Tom Reid.</p> <p>CJ asked if anyone had contacted to RNLI coast guard regarding keeping people safe. It was suggested that this item be carried over to next meeting agenda to discuss further as this is really important. RD will contacted services to get some responses and if anyone has any questions or concerns please email RD/EB. Year of the Coast and Water that there is funding available and definitely worth having a look into this.</p> <p>Communications There was no need for this group to meet</p> <p>Cockenzie Forum This group has been replaced with a new network including Area Partnership and Community Council chairs in PSG, Faside & Musselburgh to cover Blindwells, Cockenzie and the Climate Evolution plans.</p> <p>CAPP Meeting Minutes have not yet been circulated and PC Fiona Cunningham is currently on leave.</p> <p>Community Rail Partnership The group have not met however funding has been achieved to update the murals at Prestonpans railway station. AC suggested that anti-graffiti paint or varnish was used to extend the life period of the murals. BW will feed back</p> <p>Youth Forum This has not met yet. Awaiting COVID guidelines relaxing</p>	
10. Climate Change		
	<p>RD highlighted that the partnership had agreed prior to COVID to launch a design competition with primary schools. This would aim to create a logo for PSG and vouchers would be given to the winning pupil's school. With schools returning it was agreed to restart this competition.</p>	
11. A.O.C.B		
	<p>BW raised that Prestonpans Gala had asked to join the Area Partnership as a voting member. Members agreed to give all three galas a voting place on the partnership.</p> <p>There was much discussion around whether area partnership will return to face to face meetings. Whilst it was recognised that on line meetings have benefitted many members, especially those with families It was also recognised that some are digitally excluded. LM suggested a blended approached of people attending in person and others on line. It was thought this may be difficult and that perhaps a blended model where one meeting is online and then the next in person to make meetings more inclusive and also accessible to</p>	

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	<p>members of the public. This can be discussed at the June meeting when there will be a clearer picture of the COVID restrictions.</p> <p>RD reminded members to have a think about the elections for the AGM.</p> <p>RD thanked everyone for their attendance and participating in the discussion tonight. RD asked everyone to stay safe</p>	
12. Agree dates for Area Partnership Meetings 2020		
	<p>The agreed dates for 2021 meetings are as follows. They will remain zoom meetings at the moment.</p> <p>Wednesday 12th May 2021 AGM – New rescheduled date</p> <p>Wednesday 9th June 2021</p> <p>Wednesday 8th September 2021</p> <p>Wednesday 13th October 2021</p> <p>Wednesday 24th November 2021</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to -</p> <p>psg-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>