

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 19th January 2022, 7-9 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Ruth Davie, Chair (RD)
 Cllrs Fiona O'Donnell, East Lothian Council (FO)
 Helen York, Longniddry Community Council (HY)
 Sandy Darling, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (SD)
 Pamela Fraser, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Gala (PF)
 Alan Sneddon, Prestonpans Children's Gala (AS)
 Sandra Bell, Chairperson Port Seton Centre Management Committee (SB)
 Stuart Thomson, Prestonpans Community Sports Hub (ST)
 Lisa Kerr, Co-Chair Health & Wellbeing (LK)
 Philippa Barber, Chair Sustainable PSG (PB)
 Owen Smith, Prestonpans Management Committee (OS)
 Tracey Redpath, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (TR)

Others in attendance:

Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager, ELC (EB)
 Shirley Gillie, Business Support Administrator, ELC (SG)
 Aniqah Chaudhry, ELC Community Development Officer (AC)
 Karen Wilks, Chief Officer Musselburgh CAB (KW)

Apologies:

Bryan Hickman, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (BH)
 Lorraine Stevenson, Poverty Champion (LS)
 Natalie Moir, SftS Family Worker & Fundamental Foods (NM)
 Andy Castle, Preston Tower Primary (ACa)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies		
	RD welcomed everyone along to the first meeting of 2022. Introductions and apologies were noted.	
2. Minutes of previous meeting		
	24.11.22 – PF proposed and FO seconded	
3. Matters Arising		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 2 – RD welcomed TR and confirmed VCEL are now members of the Preston Seton & Gosford Area Partnership and now have voting rights. Page 4 – Sustainable PSG will feedback later in the meeting but don't have any parent representation for the smarter choices. Covid memorial – no update yet. EB will follow up with Lesley Smith 	EB

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster competition logo PSG sustainability. AC was following up with school. Keen to use representation of young people. Waiting feedback. • Hoping to have young people representatives in some of the sub groups which would be great and we are working on this. We previous had a youth forum and that will be back on the cards too. Keen to get young people’s views on their needs. 	AC
4. Area Partnership Priorities		
	<p>EB confirmed there are no current application in progress at the moment.</p> <p>A decision was previously taken to devolve £10,000 to the Health & Wellbeing sub group to tackle issues such as mental health and financial insecurities.</p> <p>EB advised we have £5,320 which was returned from Heavy Sounds from the main general budget which was awarded to do targeted work with young people. A discussion took place to see if anyone had any ideas regarding this money and if everyone felt it should be kept for young people. AC advised it would be good to do more intensive youth work in the area and had some good ideas. FO highlighted it would be good to see some targeted intervention/diversionary work and keep this money to work with young people. PB advised some of the cycling/learn to ride sessions could be adapted and could work closely with Preston Lodge High School even looking at Easter/Summer holiday programme. EB/PB will meet tomorrow to look this further. TR agreed that there isn’t much support available for the young people and also agreed it would be great to keep the money and work with young people. FO asked PB if all the young people would have access to a bike for cycling and PB confirmed equipment is covered by East Lothian Council. Members were asked to vote to devolving the £5,320 funds to the PSG ASB group to work with the young people in the PSG community. Members voted unanimously to this.</p> <p>RD advised members of the Digital additional allocation. PSG have been awarded £4,500 from Scottish Government funding to improving digital inclusion across PSG area. As part of the Area Plan a digital audit is due to take place. The two proposals have been received:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pennypit Centre Management Committee to upgrade computers. 2. Port Seton management Committee to buy additional digital equipment which can be accessed in the café whenever the centre is open. <p>We have tried to contact the John Bellany centre but have not heard anything back so far.</p> <p>Members were asked to vote to split the £4,500 between the 2 applications. Members votes unanimously.</p>	

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	<p>RD highlighted Individuals can seek support through People Know How.</p> <p>EB advised Connected Communities had received an extra allocation for £11,000 for funding for youth work from Scottish Government. EB advised there is a current vacancy advertised internally for a 25 hours contracted youth worker post which closes on the 30th January 2022.</p>	
5. Sub Group Reports		
	<p>Sustainable PSG group PB advised the group haven't met this year but are working on the Preston Tower Primary School project regarding the concerns of parking/driving to school. PB asked if anyone has an interest in this to please come along and they would be made really welcome. PB looking to progress talking to other area partnerships and create stronger links between all partnerships.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing network The group have not met yet.</p> <p>Children & Youth Network EB advised the group will meet 7.2.2022. The main focus of the group has been the Christmas and New Year provision. Over 200 families were supported and RD worked hard providing foods, winter jackets and Christmas presents. Feedback received was very positive and great partnership working. Very well coordinated by the Pennypit Trust. Supported by Cockenzie & Prestonpans Resilience Team Pam & Lyn, coordinated by volunteers, Longniddry Church and Longniddry Community Council who funded social insulation with presents, plants, food. A full team effort. RD mentioned LS Poverty Champion had received positive feedback from families.</p> <p>RD highlighted that the go fund me page had raised an amazing amount of money for winter jackets and there are still some funds available if anyone knows someone who would benefit from this they would just need a referral made or contact RD direct.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding extra funding available to help with energy increases. TR will share information re Citizens Advice £40 and possibly up to £100.</p> <p>KW advised Scottish Welfare can give £100 towards utilities which would be a one off payment and only if you are eligible and meet the criteria. Musselburgh CAB have a small pot of funding and can allocate £50 for energy crisis as a one off payment.</p> <p>FO asked Musselburgh CAB have a breakdown per ward as to who is accessing this support. KW confirmed anyone from across East Lothian can access this easily. Mainly people from Musselburgh, Whitecraig and Wallyford at the moment.</p> <p>EB confirmed that members had previously agreed to devolve money to the local pantries for food/hardship/utilities. £2,000 being allocated between the four pantries in PSG; Lighthouse, Pennypit, Port Seton Centre and Longniddry Centre. £2,000 being allocated regarding</p>	

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	<p>energy/scotmid cards for gas/electricity. £1,000 for Prestonpans managed by Pennypit Trust. £1,000 for Port Seton and Longniddry managed by the community centres.</p> <p>EB highlighted the period poverty initiative that goes live next week in Longniddry to award £10 voucher which can be used in Port Seton Chemist and Longniddry Chemist. More local access for people.</p> <p>RD advised the Pennypit received £4000 from STV for winter hardship fund for family who are finding it difficult. Voucher and cash payments are available. If you know any families who are struggling please get in touch.</p> <p>There is also cash for Kids who are offering £100 towards utilities/hardship.</p> <p>Aberdour Trust offer a hardship payment for families in financial crisis. Link will be shared.</p> <p>Rd advised the figures from the foodbanks confirm a rise of 40% which is a steep increase.</p> <p>FO mentioned the Pennypit Development Trust issue annual reports. Do the Lighthouse do this? EB didn't think they do an annual report but will follow up for an update.</p> <p>KW advised that Musselburgh CAB are offering a similar voucher for period poverty £30. TR advised these vouchers need activated today. Today is the last day to active them. This was a pilot run by Steph Kerr and not sure what the next steps will be.</p> <p>Salt of the Earth No representative at the meeting tonight. EB advised the web site is live and the Heritage group have a meeting next week. The funding runs out at the end of March 2022 and are working on transition work.</p> <p>RD thanked everyone for their update and asked if anyone would like to be involved in a sub group please just let us know.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EB</p>
6. A.O.C.B.		
	<p>TR reminded everyone that applications for the Community Health & Wellbeing fund closed this Friday 21.1.2022. £278,000 Scottish Government money available for Mental Health & Wellbeing. It is an easy application form and the link was added the meeting chat. Apply for between £500 - £25,000. RD added it may be worth checking with other organisations/partners to try and join up and strengthen any working connections which would make a huge impact on our community.</p> <p>EB asked if the isolation funding applications had been decided yet and TR confirmed yes and applicants have been advised.</p>	

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	RD thanked everyone for coming along tonight and please look after yourselves.	
7. Area Partnership Meetings Dates for 2022		
	9 th March 2022 11 th May 2022 8 th June 2022 14 th September 2022 (changed from 7.9.22) 12 th October 2022 23 rd November 2022	Apologies to be sent to - psg- <u>ap@eastlothi</u> <u>an.gov.uk</u>