

Musselburgh
Area Partnership

**Minutes of Musselburgh Area Partnership Zoom Meeting
Monday 3rd October 2022, 7pm – 9pm
Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Gaynor Allen, Chair (GA)
 Cllr. Cher Cassini, Elected Member (CC)
 Cllr. Ruairh Bennett, Elected Member (RB)
 Cllr. Fiona Dugdale, Elected Member (FD)
 Cllr. Colin McGinn, Elected Member (CMc)
 Cllr. Shona McIntosh, Elected Member (SM)
 Cllr. Andrew Forrest, Elected Member (AF)
 Alister Hadden, Wallyford Community Council (AH)
 Irene Tait, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (IT)
 Barry Turner, Musselburgh Conservation Society (BT)
 Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)
 Natasha McInninie, Bridges Project (NM)
 Callum Maguire, Queen Margaret University (CM)
 Emma Stewart, Musselburgh Churches Together (ES)
 Linda Finlayson, Beach Lane TRA (LF)
 Janice MacLeod, Support from the Start (JM)
 Christine Shaffer, Levenhall TRA (CS)
 Shona Blakeley, Musselburgh Grammar School Parent Council (SKB)
 Fiona O'Donnell, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (FO)

Others in attendance:

Stuart Baxter ELC Connected Communities Manager (SB)
 Shirley Gillie, ELC (SG)
 Jane Cummings, ELC (JC)

Apologies:

Cathie McArthur, Vice Chair, Health & Wellbeing Network (CMc)
 Jade Hall, Active School coordinator (JH)
 Cllr. Kenny McLeod, Elected Member (KM)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome , Introductions and Apologies		
	GA welcomed everyone to her first meeting as Chair of the Musselburgh Area Partnership (MAP). Introductions were made and apologies were noted.	
2. Conflict of Interest		
	This is a standing item on the agenda. GA asked members to declare any conflict of interest when projects are being discussed or when voting on funding applications.	
3. Approval of Minutes		

	Minutes from meeting 22.08.2022 were approved by MS and seconded by CC.	
4. Matters Arising		
	No matters arising from previous minutes.	
5. Sub Group Update		
	<p>Health & Well-being Subgroup (H&W)</p> <p>JM advised members the H&W group have been very busy. JM added that she was proposing that the group split into two; Children & Youth Network (C&YN) and Health & Wellbeing 50+ so that each group can focus their work accordingly. Members were in agreement to support this proposal. The C&YN have their 1st meeting arranged for 13.10.2022 with the youth network at Musselburgh Grammar School. One of the objectives of the group will be to seek to improve the youth provision in the Musselburgh area. The group will also focus on poverty and the costs of the school day. JM added the Dementia Friendly Worker will work closely with these groups towards the Musselburgh Grammar School becoming a Dementia Friendly school. JM added that she would welcome suggestions from members for an alternative name for the H&W 50+ sub group.</p> <p>JM advised members that the H&W sub group have discussed the two funding applications as previously requested by members and gave an outline of the sub groups recommendations:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olive Bank - Developing young parents personally and become more active within their community - £1,000. After further discussion the amount was reduced to £878.25. The H&W sub group would recommend awarding the funding. Following this report members voted on this project. Members voted: 17 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Conflict • Musselburgh Grammar School Parent Council MGS matters £11,834. GA noted that SKB as the applicant had a conflict of interest and asked SKB if she wished to address members prior to a vote being taken. SKB agreed and highlighted to members the difficulty young people had in acquiring calculators for homework. These were costing up to £30 and prices are increased due to a shortage of microchips. She also reminded members of her offer to only apply for the funding for the calculators, a sum of £6,204. SKB added calculators would be purchased through school procurement. At this point SKB was asked to leave the room due to conflict of interest. JM advised that the H&W sub group considered the previous concerns expressed by the members of the AP and the responses provided regarding these concerns. JM added that on this occasion the sub group could not recommend funding this application. The main reasons for this were:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The universal nature of the application it was felt that a more targeted approach would have been preferred. 2. It was unclear how much of a priority this was for the school and also how this fitted with the schools allocation of PEF funding and the cost of the school day. 	

3. It was felt that the application had not evidenced the need for this support.

Following a discussion members asked that a decision be deferred until a discussion could take place at the next Children & Youth Network meeting on 13.10.22. Members wanted to express their gratitude for the work that SKB had put into this application.

Active Travel Subgroup

BT advised members there had been a special meeting on 21st July 2022 to look at plans of the Musselburgh Area to help identify potential improvements including the possible locations for shared paths. BT added that external funding could be available for this. Liz Hunter from ELC attended the meeting and has been sent copies of the marked up plans. BT mentioned the meeting was well attended and was pleased to see some new faces attending. BT will arrange another meeting for the end of October 2022 and will feed back to members any recommendations. BT added that everyone was welcome to attend these meetings and encouraged more members to take part. GA made members aware of her intention to raise at the next C&YN meeting on the 13.10.22 the possibility of young people being more involved in the work of the Musselburgh Area Partnership and the best way that this could be achieved. SB suggested that the MAP Roads Budget for next year could potentially help progress some of the suggested recommendations that may come from the Active Travel sub group. SKB suggested that young people maybe be encouraged to participate if they receive points on their Young Scot Cards. SKB added that consulting the Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO), who work with Primary Schools, may be of assistance to the work of this group. JM asked if there is still a pupil council at the school. MS advised there is and it is now called Pupil Voice. IT added they have always had young people come along to the Community Council meetings before Covid which is brilliant.

Communications Subgroup

GA advised this group had been working on the Musselburgh Communities Day which had to be postponed at the last minute due the Queen's death. SB added it was a very difficult decision to make and to postpone the event at that late stage. SB will look at other possible dates but realistically It may not be possible to rearrange and may need to be carried over until next year's date in September 2023.

Sustainability Subgroup

GA advised members that the group have had a few problems as it had its first meeting just before COVID and has met online ever since. GA added that in her opinion the group would benefit from meeting in person. GA asked SG to update the voting membership to show PC as the voting member for the sub group. GA added they are interested in incorporating Climate Change into the Musselburgh Area Plan and has been speaking to Hannah Lundstrom the Sustainability and Climate Change Officer for East Lothian Council. GA highlighted that North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership are also doing this and it would be good to liaise with them and share good ideas. GA would like to organise a meeting soon to push this forward. GA advised that the Sustainability group have joined ELCAN East Lothian Climate Action Network and will be attending a meeting on Wednesday to find out

more information, GA will feed back to the MAP. GA added she walked with Restoration Forth along Fisherrow East Beach and noted a few things that required further investigation, particularly the invasive species Japanese Rose, which is stopping native species from thriving. GA informed members that she met with the ELC officers to speak about this and that she was currently working with Citizen Esk who may be able to provide assistance.

GA informed members there were still ongoing issues with SEPA and Scottish Water regarding the quality of bathing water and undertook to keep members informed.

GA informed members that the Musselburgh Tool library is back up running again thanks to JC and that Dad's work/Men's Shed are looking at taking this forward. JC added that East Linton Tool Library had provided advice and assistance and new volunteers have also come on board and the storage of tools is currently being investigated. JC mentioned the need for a workshop to learn how to use the tools properly and we will keep MAP updated on progress. SB added his thanks to JC & FO for all their great work on this.

GA mentioned the possibility of Community Garden plots at the Fisherrow Centre and was keen to see if community groups would be interested in any of these small plots, she also thought this area could be used for intergenerational work and asked members to feedback if they have any ideas.

BT advised he was aware that the idea of shared gardens had come up through TRA's including sharing large gardens where owners found it difficult with the upkeep.

BT will look into how this could possibly work and report back as he felt there were possibilities of matching people who would like a garden with those who were struggling with the upkeep.

CS added that one of their principles is sustainable community and helping support each other and she would also look into this further. GA raised concerns regarding safety, PVG checks and capacity but added this was definitely an initiative worth considering.

Budget, Priorities & Scrutiny Subgroup (BPSG)

SB advised members they had not met since the last MAP meeting. GA made members aware that she had agreed to take over as Chair of this group in the meantime and encouraged more members to join. CS suggested that the sub groups should meet prior to the MAP meetings so they can report back. SB added that while this was ideal that it was not always possible for sub groups to meet prior to the meeting. CS suggested that as this group now looks at evaluations that these should be added to the remit of this sub group. GA advised that in her opinion the sub groups were best placed to review applications as they have a wider membership including stake holders who can bring additional knowledge and experience to the discussion. SB added that he was currently working on a member's handbook. This will include several suggestions including the possibility of asking groups and organisations to submit applications that will help achieve the

	<p>objectives in the Musselburgh Area Plan. It may be necessary to consider having 2 dates for funding applications possibly August and January however members will be made aware of the content of the member's handbook and given the opportunity to amend its contents prior to adoption.</p> <p>GA stated that in the past funding applications had been looked at by the relevant sub group as the sub groups have a wider membership with more detailed knowledge and experience on particular subjects who are then able to advise on the applications. The sub group then fed back their recommendations for members to consider. GA added that members could choose whether to maintain this process or to change to allow consideration of all applications to the BPSG. GA agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. SKB enquired if members could bring forward alternative suggestions. GA welcomed this suggestion.</p>	
6. Chairs Report		
	<p>GA advised members of the need to focus on the cost of living crisis and a joint multi-agency meeting had been held on 26th September 2022. GA added that this was a successful meeting and focussed on food insecurity. GA added at the meeting it highlighted the need for a pantry for Musselburgh. ES added that while the churches had considered providing pantries they felt they couldn't manage this at this time.</p> <p>GA reminded members of the existing pantries at Whitecraig, Wallford and First Step. CC asked if the churches had been invited to the meeting and FO advised they had been invited and added that some people felt if a pantry was located in a church that that could be a barrier for some people. CC mentioned the churches could possible help with storage if required. GA advised members that as previously indicated there was still a need for an additional pantry in Musselburgh and had contacted the Fisherrow centre to enquire if it was possible to have one there and will feed back to members with any updates on this.</p>	
7. Connected Communities Managers Report		
	<p>SB presented a spreadsheet to members with an update of the current budget position for this year indicating spend to date of £40,500. SB made members aware of the need to focus on Poverty, Inequalities and the current cost of living crisis and suggested providing a sum within the general fund to address this.</p> <p>He suggested sending out a pack to a wide range of groups and organisations containing an application form and guidelines. This would enable those groups to apply to the MAP for funding to address these objectives.</p> <p>Following a discussion members agreed to allocate a sum of £50,000 for this initiative and agreed a timescale that would allow successful applications to be presented to members at the next meeting on the 28.11.2022.</p> <p>SB agreed to develop a scoring matrix to enable assessments of these applications.</p> <p>SB made members aware that a variety of groups had made enquires about applying for funding including:- Musselburgh Oral History</p>	

	<p>Society, Fisherrow Trust, Musselburgh CAB and Our Families however to date no applications had yet been received.</p> <p>SB added that an enquiry had been received from Wallyford Community Council for the provision of a notice board. This was for a fairly small sum of around £150. Members agreed to fund this notice board for Wallyford Community Council.</p> <p>Roads Services SB presented a slide indicating the suggested Roads projects for last year. He added that he had contacted Roads Services and the only suggested addition to this list was Ash Grove but as the majority of this street was already on the Roads programme for this year they had suggested from the remaining list of projects that Links Street had the highest needs assessment. GA asked members if they supported carrying out the work in Link Street as this year's Roads Budget allocation. Members were in agreement and SB undertook to contact Roads Services to ensure this was added to their programme of work.</p> <p>Amenity Services SB presented to members a suggested trial project at Edenhall Field in conjunction with housing. He added that the total expected project cost was in the region of £100,000 but asked members to consider an area partnership contribution of £20,000 from the general fund to assist with this project. Members were all in agreement to make this contribution. SB agreed to take this forward. Copy of presentation included.</p>	
8. Vacancy Vice Chair		
	GA advised members there was still a need to fill the vacancy of vice chair. It was her intention to send an email out asking them to consider applying for this vacancy. GA added that she was happy to provide any further information or have a chat with anyone interested.	
9. Consultations		
	GA informed members that there were no current consultations on the East Lothian Councils Consultations Hub but made members aware of the need to monitor the hub for any future additional consultations.	
10. A.O.C.B		
	IT mentioned that the annual Torch Light Parade would be held again this year on Sunday 27.11.2022. The parade leaves the Old Town Hall and proceeds to the Brunton Hall where the Christmas lights will be switched on and there will also be carol singing and selection boxes for all the children.	
2022 Meeting Dates		
Area Partnership meetings for 2022 are as follows:		Apologies to be sent to Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk
28-Nov 2022 Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre 7pm till 9pm		
2023 suggested dates 30.01.2023, 13.03.2023, 12.06.2023, 21.08.2023 APM, 02.10.2023, 27.11.2023		