

Musselburgh
Area Partnership

**Minutes of Musselburgh Area Partnership Zoom Meeting
Monday 28th November 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. Andrew Forrest, Elected Member (AF)
Alister Hadden, Wallyford Community Council (AH)
Irene Tait, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (IT)
Natasha McInninie, Bridges Project (NM)
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)
Cathie McArthur, Vice Chair, Health & Wellbeing Network (CMc)
Sharon Brown, Musselburgh Business Partnership (SBr)
Veronica Noone, Fisherrow Harbour & Sea Front Association (VN)
Tina Pollock, First Step (TP)
Pauline Crerar, Sustainability sub group (PC)
Alan Steven, Musselburgh Conservation Society & Active Travel (AS)

Others in attendance:

Stuart Baxter ELC Connected Communities Manager (SB)
Shirley Gillie, ELC (SG)
Jade Hall, ELC, Active School coordinator (JH)
Scott McKail, ELC Connected Communities Manager (SMK)
Marilyn McNeil, IJB (MM)
2 Students invited to observe with Cllr. Cher Cassini

Apologies:

Fiona O'Donnell, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (FO)
Callum Maguire, Queen Margaret University (CM)
Cllr. Shona McIntosh, Elected Member (SM)
Barry Turner, Musselburgh Conservation Society (BT)
Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)
Anna Potter, ELC, Active School Coordinator (AP)
Cllr Leanne Menzies, Elected Member (LM)
Pamela Martin, ELC Community Development Officer (PM)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
1. Welcome , Introductions and Apologies		

	GA welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduce Scott McKail the new Connected Communities Manager for Musselburgh from the 5 th of December 2022 who is attending as an observation capacity. Introductions were made and apologies 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. TP, AF, and NM all declared a conflict of interest in the poverty applications that were to be discussed later in the meeting.																									
3. Approval of Minutes																										
	SKB highlighted an amendment to the minutes clarifying that Junior Road Safety Officer worked with primary schools and not Musselburgh Grammar School. Minutes from meeting 03.10.2022 were approved by IT and seconded by JM.																									
4. Matters Arising																										
	<p>GA advised members that Musselburgh Grammar School Parent Council had withdrawn their application for funding.</p> <p>GA discussed the 12 applications that had been received for the Poverty, Inequalities and Cost of Living Crisis funding initiative and the recommendations provided by the assessment group. GA explained to members the scoring matrix used to evaluate the applications.</p> <p>Following a discussion on the merits of each projects members unanimously decided on the following:-</p> <p><u>Successful Projects</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>First Step</td> <td>£3,018.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pennypit</td> <td>£2,945.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Our Families</td> <td>£15,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>People Know How</td> <td>£4,550.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Musselburgh Burgh PS</td> <td>£3,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ELOSCN</td> <td>£7,560.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Share the Care</td> <td>£2,107.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wallyford</td> <td>£9,811.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whitecraig PS</td> <td>£681.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Unsuccessful Projects</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Bridges Project</td> <td>£14,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fisherrow Trust</td> <td>£15,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stoneyhill PS</td> <td>£15,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>While members of the assessment group were happy with the application from the Bridges Project the timescales for this was outwith the guidance for the project. GA undertook to contact Bridges Project to see if there were other ways this project could be achieved possibly through consideration from the general fund or for the application to be considered in the next financial year.</p>	First Step	£3,018.00	Pennypit	£2,945.00	Our Families	£15,000.00	People Know How	£4,550.00	Musselburgh Burgh PS	£3,000.00	ELOSCN	£7,560.00	Share the Care	£2,107.00	Wallyford	£9,811.25	Whitecraig PS	£681.00	Bridges Project	£14,500.00	Fisherrow Trust	£15,000.00	Stoneyhill PS	£15,000.00	
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5. Sub Group Update																										
	<p>Health & Well-being Subgroup (H&W)</p> <p>JM advised members that the majority of work of the group had been focussed on Dementia Friendly Musselburgh and had just finished a 2 day conversation/consultation session to raise awareness and gather information. JM added that the intention was to provide information</p>																									

to organisations to encourage them to improve their environment to be more Dementia Friendly.

GA enquired about Musselburgh Grammar School becoming a Dementia Friendly School. JM replied that while this was still the aim that unfortunately the Dementia Friendly Worker currently does not have the capacity to progress this.

Children & Youth Network Subgroup – JM advised members that a recent meeting had been held at Musselburgh Grammar School and had been attended by the Head Teacher and several young people from the school. Included in the discussions had been PEF Funding, Youth Workers and Free School Meal Entitlement.

Members discussed the PEF funding and whether parents should be encouraged to apply for free school meals and whether this would have an impact on the funding available to the school.

Active Travel Subgroup – Unfortunately BT was unable to attend the meeting and had given his apologies. The next Active Travel Subgroup meeting is on Tuesday 6th December 2022 at Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre at 6pm.

Communications Subgroup

GA advised members that she intended to examine the remit for this group and asked members if anyone had any help/suggestion to please contact her.

Sustainability Subgroup

PC advised members that she is involved with two groups.

The Esk River Improvements Group – This group is chaired by Colin Beattie. The current improvement being progressed at the moment is with the Coal Board who are about to start work on a filtration system to remove Iron from the old mineworks, this will be housed in a new building at the edge of Woodburn in Dalkeith.

SEPA and Scottish Water also attend and update us on any events that have been reported over the period and also progress on the cleaning of the Eastfield Pumping Station. In early April 2022, wet wells at the pumping station were cleaned out removing over 25 tonnes of debris. Maintenance and repair work was carried out whilst the wet wells were empty, ensuring that the assets were operating effectively. They have also been cleaning the pipework in the station and have confirmed that they will start a regular cleaning and maintenance regime.

They are also continuing to sample the Brunstane Burn and confirmed that it is still affected by urban pollution from a range of sources.

Misconnected properties are thought to be a significant source of this pollution.

No bacterial load was identified from the former Newhailes Landfill leachate but there were high bacterial counts from the surface water outfall pipe on the beach. East Lothian Council have been involved with this issue.

The diesel spill in the Esk last January is still being investigated by the police.

We still don't have a bathing status at Fisherrow however we were told that the meetings with SEPA are to restart. So hopefully that means good news.

	<p>Riverfly on the Esk – This is a citizen science project lead by Rebecca Lewis from Buglife, with around 6 Musselburgh volunteers. We collect monthly samples from the river and check for a variety of different groups of Mayfly. There are two sites in the Musselburgh section of the river, one under Olive Bank road bridge and the other further up near cowpits. We have been collecting from these sites for around a year so should have some data to show you at the next meeting. My observations from doing both sites for most of the year is that the cowpits site contains a lot more of the insects and that they are more active, however there is still a decent amount at Olive Bank.</p> <p>GA added the following information:-</p> <p>Beach - Following on from the last meeting about Fisherrow East Beach, GA met with Andy Forrest and Mark McGrath to discuss a better plan for the seafront. Mark said we needed a longer term plan rather than doing bits and pieces, it would be better to link this all together. GA had a meeting with Eamon John, with Alan Stubbs, Conor Price and Cllr Shona McIntosh. Eamon agreed to extend the five year plan for the lagoons area and new reserve to include the beach and is to arrange a further meeting with all invested parties, such as Mark, McGrath, the managers, FHSA, the flood protection team.</p> <p>Community Orchard - We have funding for a further 16 trees at the community orchard in Lewisvale park and these will be pear and nut trees. GA to organise this.</p> <p>Tool library – this will stay at the Fisherrow Centre as long as it is agreed to use one of the council’s allocated rooms.</p> <p>Community Garden – GA spoke to the Fisherrow Centre as no community groups came forward to take one of the plots at the centre. GA suggested Sustaining Musselburgh tried to fundraise to create a community allotment/garden here and to maybe try and get some money for someone to be paid to organise this for a few hours a week until this was established. This could possibly have an outreach element that would include education and community events. All members agreed to support GA to look for suitable funding.</p> <p>Budget, Priorities & Scrutiny Subgroup (BPSG) GA advised members that she is hoping to arrange a meeting in the next few weeks.</p>	
6. Chairs Report		
	<p>GA provided the following report for members:-</p> <p>Cost of Living Crisis – I have continued to visit organisations, which are helping the people most in need and we have spoken about a pantry and holiday hunger. Andy Forrest has secured provision for a pantry at MECCA, which will be up and running by December 1. Discussed holiday hunger and agreed to do some mapping and find out what provision is provided through schools and any plans from Pinkie St Peter’s to provide this.</p> <p>Two things after Christmas – GA has spoken to Hanna Lundstrom (ELC climate change officer) about a meeting with MAP to help incorporate climate change into the Area Plan. Anyone will be invited to attend. Also would like to set up a meeting about the cost of living crisis with groups like Changeworks, Social Security Scotland and Green energy network on what we can do to ease costs. Main focus on energy efficiency.</p>	
7. Connected Communities Managers Report		

	<p>SB presented a spreadsheet to members with an update of the current budget position for this year.</p> <p>SB advised members of the increase in costs for the Wallyford Community Council Notice Board that members had agreed at the previous meeting. New costs £420. All members agreed still to fund this. AH provided members with more details as to why the Notice Board is so important. AH also mentioned that MAP has provided many great projects in the Wallyford Area and has enhanced the Community. Amazing. Brilliant.</p> <p>SB outlined an application had just been received from Stoneyhill Primary School Parent Council for a sum of £20,000 for play park equipment. He made members aware that there was insufficient funds remaining in the general fund to consider this project at this time. Following a discussion where members had queries about this project it was agreed to forward the application to the C&Y Network for them to both consider the application and to contact the parent council regarding any issues/concerns they may have before reporting back to the MAP.</p> <p>SB advised members that we may receive a refund for the £1,000 that was paid for the venue for Communities Day.</p> <p>Roads Budget SB advised members that the agreed project for the year at Links Street, Musselburgh (Footway Reconstruction - Estimate: £56,000) was programmed for a start date of 6th March 2023 to the 31st March 2023.</p> <p>Amenity Services SB presented members with an update and slides indicating work in progress at the project at Edenhall Field.</p> <p>A discussion took place among members regarding the remits of the various sub groups including the Budget, Priorities and Scrutiny group. GA asked Chairs of sub groups interested in proposing the remit of their groups to forward these recommendations to her directly.</p>	
8. Vacancy Vice Chair		
	<p>The post of vice chair was meant to be advertised, but this has been delayed due to a need to discuss with the new connected communities manager and draw up an application form.</p> <p>GA advised members there was still a need to fill the vacancy of Vice Chair. GA added that she was happy to provide any further information or have a chat with anyone interested.</p>	
9. Consultations		
	<p>GA informed members of the current consultations on the East Lothian Councils Consultations Hub.</p> <p>Community Arts Consultation https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/policy-partnerships/community-arts-survey/</p> <p>Print and Mail Consultation</p>	

	<p>https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/policy-partnerships/print-and-mail-communications-2022/</p> <p>Rent Consultation Survey 23/24 https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/housing-environment/rent-consultation-survey-23-24/</p> <p>Budget Consultation https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/council-resources/budget-consultation/</p> <p>East Lothian Licensing Board Consultation https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/council-resources/east-lothian-licensing-board-consultation-review-o/</p> <p>SKB advised members of Putting Councils first.org.uk</p>	
10. A.O.C.B		
	<p>BT had asked for the work of Musselburgh Twinning Association to be placed on the agenda. However as BT is unable to attend tonight he will provide an update at next meeting.</p> <p>SBr wanted to bring the Boundary Community Consultation to everyone’s attention as in her opinion it had not been well publicised. She added that the consultation is still open for 4 weeks and encouraged members to respond.</p> <p>GA highlighted to members that it was SB last meeting and wanted to thank SB for all his magnificent work over the years for the Musselburgh Area Partnership and will be really sad to see him go. GA added SB has been a huge support to her over the past few months. AH wholeheartedly agreed with GA. JM added as an area partnership they have achieved a huge amount of work thanks to SB’s support, when the MAP was 1st established no one really knew how things would go. AF added that he has worked with SB for over 20 years and he has an amazing “can do” attitude and is always very honest although he doesn’t know when his hours start and stop. SMK added he will be relying on SB at lot.</p> <p>All dates for 2023 meetings are below.</p>	
2023 Meeting Dates		
	30.01.2023, 13.03.2023, 12.06.2023, 21.08.2023 APM, 02.10.2023, 27.11.2023	Apologies to be sent to Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk