

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 18th January 2023, 7-9 pm
Pennypit Centre/Hybrid meeting**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Ruth Davie, Chair (RD)
Ben Morse, Vice Chair (BM)
Cllr Neil Gilbert, East Lothian Council (NG)
Cllr Lachlan Bruce, East Lothian Council (LB)
Helen York, Longniddry Community Council (HY)
Sandra Bell, Chairperson Port Seton Centre Management Committee (SB)
Tracey Redpath, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (TR)
Pamela Fraser, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Gala (PF)
Sheila Chambers, Cockenzie and Port Seton in Bloom (SC)
Graeme Hutchison, Prestonpans Children's Gala (GH)
Stuart Thomson, Prestonpans Community Sports Hub (ST)
Andy Castle, Preston Tower Primary (ACa)

Others in attendance:

Shirley Gillie, Business Support Administrator, ELC (SG)
Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager, ELC (EB)
Ashley Gray, Citizens Advice Bureau (AG)

Apologies:

Claire Jamieson, Preston Lodge High School Parent Council (CJ)
Cllr Colin Yorkston, East Lothian Council (CY)
Alan Sneddon, Prestonpans Children's Gala (AS)
Marlene Love, Cockenzie and Port Seton in Bloom (ML)
Debbie Reynolds, Co-Chair Health & Wellbeing (DR)
Natalie Moir, Support from the Start (NM)
Lesley Mohammed, Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Council (LM)
Jordan Irvine, ELC Community Development Officer (JI)
Owen Smith, Prestonpans Management Committee (OS)
Jill Brown, Preston Lodge High School Parent Council (JB)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies		
	RD welcomed everyone along to the meeting. Introductions and apologies were noted.	
2. Minutes of previous meeting		
	Minutes from the 23 rd November 2022 meeting were approved	
3. Matters Arising		
	RD informed members that the following items are from the meeting 23.11.2022:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New logo – Still keen to do this and expand it to other cluster areas. Pass this Sustainable PSG sub group who meet on 16.2.23 to take this forward 	BM

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Shelter – A standard Bus Shelter costs £3,500 but due to various reasons we have still not been able to get an up to date cost for the Anti Vandal Bus Shelter. EB will feedback once she receives any information. • Pavements – EB reported that there has been great feedback through social media for people to report any potential places that we can improve the pavements. Other suggestions were a walk around in Cockenzie & Port Seton. SB highlighted she was happy to take part in this. • Community Clear Up Day – RD suggested Friday 24th and Saturday 25th March 2023. Amenities would clear up the area in the morning and suggested Community and Partnership groups ie ELPA/Youth Provision/In Bloom/Garden project at the Doctors surgery could all maybe be asked to be involved. It would be great to get the schools involved too maybe P7s. Possibly someone from Forrest School to look at walks in the surrounding area. We discussed a steering group to take this forward but agreed this fitted with the Health & Wellbeing sub group. Their next meeting is 8.3.23. • BM updated members that he had asked previously for usage data regarding the charging points but the only information they can give is the amount of hours the charging stations are used. He will let members know once he receives information. BM added the charger at Prestonpans Station is now fixed. A good discussion took place regarding electric cars. 	<p>EB</p> <p>BM/SB</p> <p>NM/DR</p>
4. Funding		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Wellbeing £10,000 devolved – EB presented a slide with all the projects that have been awarded funding through the H&W. ELC Port Seton Centre Hardship Fund £1,500, We are With you Community Link Workers £2,500, Pennypit Development Trust Hardship fund and Benefits Training £1,500 and yesterday they awarded Pennypit Development Trust £1,000 for pantry essentials. Port Seton Management Committee Community Cinema has still to be decided. EB asked members if the remaining budget should go to another round of funding or if members felt this could be used on another project say Cuthill Park. Members had a strong view that remaining funding should support local pantries and Cuthill Park project. Members agreed to take this back to Health & Wellbeing for another round of funding. • Amenities and Roads Budget Cuthill Park Clear up day has been discussed earlier in the meeting. Date 24.3.23 and 25.3.23 been suggested. Pavements to be identified/reported have been discussed earlier in the meeting 	<p>DR</p>
5. Area Partnership self-evaluation		

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	<p>RD split everyone up into 4 separate groups to each take a topic and discuss further and feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding/Evaluation process The funding process we have is really good but could still do with being sharpened up on. Great funding open twice a year and this works really well. Scrutiny group works really well assessing all applications and makes recommendations. Could do with more members in this group. Evaluations could be sharpened up a bit. Suggest when awarded funds they are told they need to send evaluations half way through and then a final evaluation at the end. Still some people who do not know what the AP do? Need to raise awareness, publicise more regarding who receives funding etc and raise the profile of the AP. EB asked members what they would like done with the evaluations. How would they like to see them done? Suggestions of videos/photos as well as the important stats etc all discussed. Look at other platforms to raise the AP awareness galas, community days etc. - New Voices/Youth Voices Still some people who do not know about the AP. Need to raise awareness Discussed various ways to involve youths in the AP. EB confirmed the youth forum has started up again and this will help once it is more established. Maybe setting young people a certain themed project may help attract youth participation. Schools have had representatives come along to meetings previously but all members agreed instead of young people coming to our meetings we could go to them whether schools, scouts, guides, youth clubs etc. Also discussed maybe students from QMU, Colleges, and universities becoming involved. A great discussion with good ideas. - Communication of AP what we do and who we are A lot of discussion from previous groups have covered raising awareness through many different platforms should be looked at. EB advised there used to be a communications sub group that covered social media etc may be worth restablising. TR/SB/BM happy to set up a new communications sub group to look at this. RD is happy to be involved and offer support helping with a promotional video and could as Jonathan and Anna from Pennypit for the expertise. Could also look at universities/schools/college helping with this too. 	<p>EB</p>

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	<p>- Influence – Discussion flipped the question around from How the AP influences Council Policy to How the Council can engage more effectively with the Area Partnerships. There were frustrations about the last minutes nature of community feedback and consultation. Members felt there were too many questionnaires. Could council departments attend more meetings? There was recognition of the value of AP joining Community Council and wider Community Voice for greater impact. Like other groups there was discussion that the Community don't fully understand Aps and think it's just about meetings and budgets. Members do not fully understand the consultation processes. We need help to translate Council jargon.</p> <p>There was feedback that these areas for improvement were shared by Chairs across the Area Partnerships at a recent meeting. There is another meeting on 6.2.23 for all the chairs and RD will feed back at the next meeting.</p> <p>Members expressed they are not always clear on Area Partnership processes and EB will send out the PSG handbook to members.</p>	<p>RD</p> <p>EB</p>
6. Sub Group Reports related to Area Plan Priorities		
	<p>Health & Wellbeing – EB updated members that they allocated another £1,000 at the meeting yesterday to Pennypit for Pantry Essentials from the £10,000 devolved funding. They discussed the courses offered through Changes and looking at the possibility of running these courses through the GP centre. The Garden project was discussed at the meeting and how to move this forward. Sue Northrop from Dementia Friendly attended the meeting and discussed rolling out training that had been provided to ELC Connected Communities in January to other community groups. At the training 4 members from Cockenzie Friendship Group came along to talk about their experience and this was found very useful/powerful.</p> <p>Children & Youth Network – EB advised the group met yesterday with two interesting guests Charlann Peggie who is working on the Transforming Children Services Review mapping provisions in the area. EB advised this has already been done by SftS and will link with Charlann. TR advised she is going to a meeting tomorrow about this. The second guest was from Woodland Learning Adventures. Phil presented the support he can offer with Forrest School skills. The network has been discussing better ways to coordinate support for young people.</p> <p>Heritage Network – EB informed members the group had a good meeting on Monday night. Would welcome more members and they discussed how they better communicate on Heritage in the area. They are looking to utilise the Salt of the Earth Website and blogging feature. There is a Guardianship meeting on 24.1.23 at</p>	

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	
	<p>6pm till 8pm regarding the future oversight of Preston Tower. There have been similar discussions with Prestongrange Heritage Park by establishing a community steering group.</p> <p>Sustainable PSG – BM advised the group have not had a meeting yet.</p>	
7. A.O.C.B.		
	<p>Community Benefit Check List – EB/RD asked members to look over the list that had been emailed and to let us know if there is anything you would like added/removed from the list. EB clarified this is a wish list and we need to manage expectations. A discussion took place. It was agreed to remove Air Fryers for pantries. EB will attend monthly meetings to manage the East Lothian wish list and a traffic light system will prioritise projects.</p> <p>TR advised new NHS procurement portal that could possibly help and suggested getting Lorna involved. RD suggested this goes on agenda and possibly invite Lorna along. BM will check City Deal.</p> <p>BM highlighted the Association of East Lothian Community Councils meeting he had attended this evening and the potential East Lothian wide funding through windfarm generated income.</p> <p>TR raised the cost of living crisis Scottish Windfarm Fund and the help there is available if they wish to apply for this through CAB. They can ensure they are applying for everything they are entitled to. PM advised Welfare Rights in Haddington are very helpful.</p> <p>RD advised the agenda for our next meeting on 8.3.23 will need to include funding timescales and evaluations as our meeting on 10.5.23 will include voting for projects. The Area Plan needs to be revised for 2024 considering common thread so this will also be on our agenda.</p> <p>RD thanked everyone for coming along tonight.</p>	
8. Area Partnership Meetings Dates for 2023		
	<p>08.03.2023</p> <p>10.05.2023 AGM</p> <p>07.06.2023</p> <p>06.09.2023</p> <p>11.10.2023</p> <p>22.11.2023</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to -</p> <p><u>psg- ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</u></p>