

**Dunbar and East Linton Area Partnership Meeting
Held on Monday 28 November 2022 at Bleachingfield, Dunbar**

Meeting Chaired by:-

Jacque Bell, Chair of the Dunbar and East Linton Area Partnership (JB)

Members (and substitute members) present:

Barry Craighead, Vice Chair AP, (BC)

Allison Cosgrove, Dunpender Community Council (AC)

Cllr Donna Collins (DC)

Maggie McCole, The Ridge (MM)

Kate Darrah, The Ridge (KD)

Pippa Swan, Dunbar Community Council (PS)

Gill Wilson, East Lothian Association of Day Centres (GW)

Anne Lyall, East Lammermuir Community Council (AL)

Fiona O'Donnell, VCEL, Locality Officer (non-voting member) (FO)

Daniel Wight, Dunpender Community Council (DW)

Scott Marjoribanks, Small Schools, (West Barns Primary School Parent Council) (SM)

Andrew Ashton, West Barns Community Council (AA)

Nigel Bird, Dunbar Grammar School Parent Council Rep (NB)

Stephen Bunyan, Dunbar Community Council (SB)

Mark James, Sustaining Dunbar (MJ)

Others in attendance

Stevie McKinlay, ELC, Connected Communities Manager (SMc)

Helen Faulds, ELC Business Support (Minute) (HF)

Apologies received

Cllr Lynne Jardine (LJ)

Lorna MacLennan, ELC Business Support Administration (LM)

Katy Pollock, Support from the Start (KP)

Invited Guests - Funding Requests:

Elizabeth Wilson, Insulate Innerwick (EW)

Naomi Barnes, Belhaven Buddies / Pledgehog Project (NB)

Craig Stebbing, Dunbar Community Woodland Project (CS)

Dunbar Cath Finlayson, Dunbar Craft Studio (CF)

Hazel Gray, West Barns Village Hall (HG)

	Agenda Items	Key Discussion points	Action
1.	Chairman's and Introductory Remarks	JB opened the meeting and welcomed all members to Bleachingfield. Full agenda for tonight's meeting. 1 st attempt at holding a meeting to go over applications for funding.	

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		Welcome to HF, stepping in for LM to take meeting note. Special mention and congratulations to BC & his wife on their recent diamond wedding anniversary.	
2.	Apologies	As noted above.	
3.	Notification of Declarations of Interest	These would be declared as each application is considered. These would be noted as each funding application was considered.	
4.	Funding Applications	<p>Funding Applications (Invited Guests)</p> <p>Insulate Innerwick (Parent Org Sustaining Dunbar) – Elizabeth Wilson (EW). Declarations of interest – JB, MJ, KD. Summary of application (EW):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding application for initial feasibility study into proposed insulation pilot/demonstration project for all homes in the Innerwick parish. • Project would be overseen by sustaining Dunbar. • Some Windfarm funding already granted through East Lammermuir Community Council • Innerwick has a variety of housing types, and a range of construction methods. Also a social mix in the village. • Felt that Innerwick is sufficiently representative of coastal villages across Scotland. <p>Questions from members: AC – Have individual householders applied to Home Energy Scotland for funding/grants? EW – newsletter recently issued which contains information on Home Energy Scotland and BeGreen grants available. Collaboration planned with The Ridge to train people to undertake retrofitting as not currently enough people to do the work. KD - important not to replicate what's already happening – lots of houses which are not entirely appropriate for the sort of insulation made available by aforementioned organisations. EW would like to see a situation where every house in area could be done. PS: Insulating buildings can be expensive. Local Authority housing stock should be looked after by</p>	

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		<p>East Lothian Council, privately rented houses should be looked after by landlords. What would the funding cover? EW – feasibility study initially. The predominant type of house in Innerwick is single storey hoses which require specialist insulation. Also a need to investigate how to scale up.</p> <p>Belhaven Buddies (Sustaining Dunbar) – Naomi Barnes (NB) Declarations of interest: JB, MJ. Summary of application (NB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belhaven Buddies – community resilience project aiming to connect people in the community and bring them into the outside world to improve wellbeing and life chances • Some funding already secured to start the buddying project between Dunbar Grammar and Dunbar Nursery, taking place in beehive nursery. • Some of the group have completed a child development course to supplement their class learning. • Initial feedback on the project has been positive. • DELAP funding would enable buddying to be rolled out at Belhaven Hospital linking with dementia training. • The hospital project will directly support the most vulnerable in the community. • The impact will be to connect with others in the community, which is particularly important to teenagers. Volunteers take responsibility and an active interest in the natural world. • Nursery project will develop confidence and resilience in young people. <p>Questions: AC – Has the group contacted Knox Academy, who undertook a similar project a number of years ago? NB will follow up. KD – Numbers involved? NB – in the course of one year it will likely be approximately 60. Dunbar Grammar School has committed to continuing the course, with two teachers taking over the project. FO'D – What will the funding cover? NB – funding already in place to cover salary costs. DELAP</p>	

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		<p>funding will support purchase of materials, public liability insurance, refreshments, printing.</p> <p>The Pledgehog Project (Sustaining Dunbar) – Naomi Barns (NB). Declarations of interest: JB, MJ, SB. Summary of application (NB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding requested to support the community taking steps to increase the number of hedgehogs in the area, by improving habitats and creating green networks. • Pilot already run by Dunbar Hedgehog group. Residents of one street in Dunbar have created a hedgehog highway. • Funding will support awareness raising activities (maps of wildlife corridors etc.), loan of cameras for members to film hedgehog activity, and supporting people to make their garden accessible to hedgehogs. • Funding already secured for cameras and hedgehog tunnels. <p>Questions: FO - What will the hedgehog officer do? NB – officer will collate and present data, liaise with members of the public using a variety of communications/social media etc. KD – Is this an existing post? NB – not existing post. Pilot was carried out by someone in their free time. 6hour post/week. DW – Which of NB’s two project applications does she feel is more vital for funding? NB – would prioritise the buddying project.</p> <p>Chainsaw Purchase (Dunbar Community - Woodland Group - DCWG) – Craig Stebbing (CS). Declarations of interest: JB, MJ. Summary of application (CS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCWG requesting £1,000 to purchase a professional chainsaw. • Project is the ongoing maintenance and development of Lochend woods. • Woods sustained damage during Storm Arwen caused in 2021, causing some large trees to fall. • CS and another member of the group will be obtaining their tree felling certificate in an 	

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		<p>attempt to make the group more self-sufficient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of work carried out with local community - ParkRun, Muddy Buddies, Dunbar Primary, Dunbar Grammar, Active Schools (Forest Schools), Scouts, local Dementia Group. • Hoping to be able to provide more materials to local groups as trees are felled. • Chainsaw will also process the timber. <p>Questions: AC – Safe storage arrangements for the chainsaw? CS - will be securely stored offsite. DW / DC – what type of chainsaw is required? CS – chainsaw with 28inch cutter bar. DW – Any consideration given to purchase of an electric chainsaw? CS – this was investigated but current battery powered chainsaws do not meet requirements. MM – Will PPE be required to use chainsaw? CS – group already have adequate safety equipment. FO – Does the group have a H&S policy? CS – this is in place, as is risk assessment and public liability insurance. BC – Safety certificates? CS has City & Guilds in tree felling, nobody will use the equipment without full safety training and insurance. CS – will also enable income to be generated. MJ – reiterated the safety measures put in place by the Woodland Group. CS – there will still be a requirement to use professional tree felling companies to carry out more complex work.</p> <p>Dunbar Craft Studio Build & Growth (Dunbar Craft Studio) – Cath Finlayson (CF) Declarations of interest: None. Summary of application (CF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In an effort to be more energy efficient and environmentally friendly, group looking for funding for new lighting. • Also looking to roll out more funded classes for people. • Considering establishment of a free soup/lunch followed by craft group on a Tuesday to get people together. • Studio has experienced a period of growth for and they are keen to progress and be more energy efficient and environmentally friendly. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some funding received from Coop and National Lottery. <p>Questions: JB – Has BeGreen been approached for funding for lighting? CF – not yet but will consider this. AC – Application mentions purchase of equipment but CF talked about funding to run a Tuesday Group. CF outlined the activities taking place at the centre each day. Funding would support the purchase of craft materials to use at the Tuesday soup/craft session. PS – Where is the lighting for? CF – lighting is for the shop on High Street, rental of Spott Road location is private and includes all utilities/facilities. FO – How will Studio team identify who is in need of the free Tuesday session? CF – liaison with RVS link worker at Dunbar Medical Centre to discuss referrals.</p> <p>A Wee Bite & Blether (West Barns Village Hall) – Hazel Gray (HG) Declarations of interest: MJ Summary of application (HG):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bite & Blether meet 12-2 on Monday in West Barns Village Hall. • Pilot project which setup after COVID to get people to get together. • Free food provided (homemade soup, scones/baking). • The desire is for local people to have a warm, safe, accessible, local place to meet. • Averaging 20-25 people each week, some with health issues, some looking for companionship. • Evidence of strong social connections being made, social isolation and mental health issues being supported. • Referrals and connections now being made to local organisations as a support. <p>Questions: AC – Can't this be a self-funding project? Large amount of money already spent on the renovations of the hall. HG - donations are accepted in a confidential way from those coming along.</p>	

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		<p>PS – Sounds like this is becoming more than a lunch club, with referrals and contacts being made. Is anyone paid to run the group? HG advised she is paid an hourly rate as she manages the project and arranges/makes the refreshments.</p> <p>FO –Is project sustainable if there is no income? How much has already been taken? HG – varies week to week. Averages around £20 per week. With cost of living increasing HG stressed the donation box is covered to maintain confidentiality of donations and dignity of users. Only been running as a pilot for 4 months.</p> <p>SB – Important project in terms of connections being made.</p> <p>KD – Commended HG on the project. This type of project is important in local communities like West Barns. There is a possibility that if people had to pay weekly they may not be able to attend.</p> <p>JB thanked all attendees for their project summaries, and for answering group questions.</p>	
5.		Comfort Break	
6.	Funding Applications	<p>Funding Applications (Area Partnership Members)</p> <p>IT Funding & Emergency Crisis Response (West Barns Primary Parent Council) – Scott Marjoribanks (SM)</p> <p>SMc advised this application had been altered as the IT element of application has been funded from elsewhere.</p> <p>Summary of Project (SM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding request to keep West Barns Primary School hall open on a Friday for families to access a heated space for lunch and social activities (e.g. films). • Targeted at families who need it. • This application has the support of the School. <p>Questions:</p> <p>DW – How will families be identified as in need of this project? SM – 10-15 families identified in liaison with the Head Teacher. One teacher would staff this project.</p>	

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		<p>Empire Close & Garden Lane (The Ridge) – Maggie McCole (MM) & Kate Darrah (KD) Declarations of Interest: JB, MJ, DC Summary of Project (MM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden lane now gifted to the Ridge by The Coop. • Over the past year work carried out has been very well received both by local businesses and residents. <p>BC – Cost of clothing purchase seems excessive. MM - A number of people coming to work with The Ridge during the winter months cannot afford heavy outdoor clothing adequate to need. PS – How much gardening work can be done in the winter months? MM - ground preparation work to be done over the winter.</p> <p>Fleshers Close – Therapeutic Centre and Crisis Accommodation (The Ridge) – Kate Darrah (KD). Declarations of Interest: JB, MJ, DC. Summary of Project (KD):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning application submitted & currently available online via East Lothian Council planning portal. • Plan is to break the work down into phases. This application relates to west phase. • Ridge recently won an award for sustainable heritage work. • Funding will support creation of downstairs therapeutic room and affordable upstairs accommodation off Black Bull Close for those most in need. • Looking to roll out training in retrofit work for young people. • Ridge aiming to increase tourist footfall as people come to see and hear more about the project. • Online counselling service already in place, this space could be used for face-to-face sessions to enhance the wellbeing of the local community. <p>Questions: DW – It’s a large and impressive project. Which area will the funding focus on? KD - primary goal is the remaking of the building, but the Ridge</p>	

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		<p>model is working on the different pieces that fit together for an end use that meets local need. PS – how much of the Ridge’s own cash reserves will be put towards this project. KD – hoped that as little as possible will be used as this will impact on the ability to support other services (e.g. counsellors).</p> <p>JB thanked all members for their project summaries, and for answering group questions.</p>	
7.	Minutes of the meeting held on 03/10/22	<p>MJ – requested point of clarification re cycle rack (Stevie to check – I missed this bit!). MJ will send in his amendments. Amendment – Works from 2023 onwards - SK to be amended to SM Following clarification & amendment minute proposed (BC) and seconded GW.</p>	MJ
8.	Area Partnership Notifications	<p>Health & Wellbeing Event (03/12/2022) at Bleachingfield. Will promote a range of services, information & activities in the area. Light refreshments available. Your Town Your Audit (Proposal) – JB repowered this was discussed at Community Council last week. DELAP, Dunbar Traders and Community Council expressed an interest. Roads Budget Proposals (Email Vote). Discussion on the funding of projects from current financial year budget. JB reported spend to date was £24,500, leaving £25,500 unallocated. Discussion on projects to be considered for funding, including a charging point requested by Dunder Community Council and improvements to the main road in Stenton costing £12,000. AC stressed that Preston Road should be the priority for funding. JB confirmed not enough money in this year’s budget to fully fund this work. AC asked if it will be in next year’s budget and JB advised it will be in the mix for 2023/2024 funding. PS asked whether installation of car charging points were part of ELC county wide rollout. Also, if it’s a charging point it should be a fast charging point.</p>	

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		<p>JB confirmed there would still be a vote to approve car charging point and road in Stenton for funding. The funds need to be spent by 31 March 2023.</p> <p>DW asked for clarification on what decisions are taken by the Council and SMC confirmed that DELAP can bring forward its priorities and work with Roads team before a decision is taken.</p> <p>SMC advised Stenton does not form part of this work in the current financial year.</p> <p>KD asked about the possibility of funding being split over two financial years? This was not felt to be achievable.</p> <p>SMC advised the meeting that the time taken to reach decisions has led to work not being carried out in the financial year, and funding being lost. He stressed the importance of planning and prioritising projects DELAP would like carried out, so this can be achieved in a more strategic way. Discussions on priorities should include the decision making process.</p> <p>JB advised there would be enough funds in current year budget for car charger point and Stenton road works.</p> <p>MJ asked about repainting of pinch points on traffic islands (red surface paint and white line paint). Agreed MJ will send in details.</p> <p>Climate Action East Linton (CALE) have requested to be members of the DELAP. JB confirmed they need to apply to become a member, this would be added to a future agenda with a request that they be added to membership.</p> <p>PS asked group to note the production of Local Place Plans.</p> <p>2023/24 Area Partnership Meetings.</p> <p>JB advised meeting dates are still to be confirmed. An AGM will be part of the meeting schedule (likely to be early February) and priority setting meeting in March.</p> <p>JB thanked everyone for their attendance and input and closed the meeting.</p>	