

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 8th March 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 Colin Yorkston, East Lothian Council (CY)
Helen York, Longniddry Community Council (HY)
Sandra Darling, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (SD)
Janice Wilson, Prestonpans Community Council (JW)
Sandra Bell, Chairperson Port Seton Centre Management Committee (SB)
Pamela Fraser, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Gala (PF)
Sheila Chambers, Cockenzie and Port Seton in Bloom (SC)
Andy Castle, Preston Tower Primary (ACa)
Claire Jamieson, Preston Lodge High School Parent Council (CJ)
Natalie Moir, Support from the Start (NM)
Michelle McKinney, Support from the Start (MM)
Jill Brown, Preston Lodge High School Parent Council (JB)
Maureen Allen, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (MA)

Others in attendance:

Shirley Gillie, Business Support Administrator, ELC (SG)
Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager, ELC (EB)
Jordan Irvine, ELC Community Development Officer (JI)
Lorna Bellany, NHS (LB)

Apologies:

Tracey Redpath, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (TR)
Graeme Hutchison, Prestonpans Children's Gala (GH)
Alan Sneddon, Prestonpans Children's Gala (AS)
Heather Higgins, Prestonpans Community Centre, Centre Head (HH)
Lyn Marshall, Deputy Lieutenant (LM)

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 18 th January 2023 meeting were approved	
3. Matters Arising		
	RD informed members that most of the actions would be discussed later in the agenda but advised:-	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chairs meeting had to be postponed and a new date is being looked at. RD will feed back when more details are available RD confirmed the Handbook has been sent out to members 	
4. Funding		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Process/Evaluations BM advised members that he proposes that we open the funding on the 27th March 2023, a little earlier than normal, to allow more time for groups/organisations to apply when the Easter Holidays fall into the time line. There will be a small overlap with evaluations as the deadline is 31st March 2023. New applications will only be considered if previous evaluations are complete. The Scrutiny group need time to look at all applications before our AGM on 10th May 2023. All members were in agreement to open the funding slightly earlier. Possible date for Scrutiny Group to meet is Tuesday 2nd May 2023. EB asked previous members of the Scrutiny Group if they still wished to be on the group and everyone was in agreement. HY will represent Longniddry for the time being. Roads Budget BM updated members on the potential Roads/Pavement projects been raised. It was proposed to have a walk around in CPS to identify projects. Port Seton management Committee and Community Council to take this action forward. HY fed back that feedback via facebook was now out of date as work on Kings Road had been undertaken and will discuss Roads projects at their next Community Council meeting. Two Roads projects have been costed by Morag Haddow. The 1st was requested at a Prestonpans Community Council meeting where a small section of pavement will be added to the journey hub to allow crossing over the Jonny Cope Road to the station. This will cost £10,000. The 2nd was requested by the roads team to join the walking route form the other side of Jonny Cope Road to the new path which Hargreaves are funding from Blindwells to the station. This will cost £15,000. All members voted in approval. Proposal to improve bus shelter opposite Cockenzie House was already agreed last year but there has been a delay with suppliers. EB will ask if this can be carried forward into next years budget. There was a request if suppliers are changed to see if they can have a Sedum roof. SC mentioned the bus shelter at Inglis Avenue needing a replacement glass pane. EB will action these two points. There had also been agreement to replace a bus stop Preston Road/Hawthorn Terrace with an anti-vandal bus stop. Still awaiting costs. On the handout provided to members there was also pavement improvements, dropped kerbs and cycle racks. EB confirmed that this list had been identified for a while and was work that can be completed when the roads team are quitter. Some of the work may have already been completed by Roads which is great and doesn't come out of the devolved Roads budget. 	<p>SB/LS/SD</p> <p>EB</p>

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	<p>BM updated news hot of the press that Morag Haddow (MH) advised that for additional charging points there is match funding available. 60% - 40% split. MH had identified a list of locations in residential streets where there were no drive ways and people had no way to charge their cars. The list will be circulated. A good discussion took place.</p> <p>Amenities Cuthill Park Clear up day has been discussed at previous meetings. This is on 24.3.23 and 25.3.23. Amenities Team will clear the area prior to the clear up day and they will work with the community in the morning and will return on the Monday morning to remove everything. The Rangers have requested 2 fixed metal posts if possible so that if ELPA or the Rangers are doing projects in the park they can add a tarpaulin or hammock etc. This is still to be confirmed. EB explained the £100,000 is “time” and not money.</p> <p>BM advised it was discussed at the Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council meeting about the concerns regarding Whin Park. The wall is really badly damaged and dangerous. BM suggested this could possibly be looked into for next years budget.</p>	
5. New Area Partnership Plan		
	<p>RD drew people’s attention to the priorities update sheet which had been circulated at the meeting and requires further update from sub group Chairs.</p> <p>We need to look at the new Area Plan as the current plan runs till 2024. RD wanted members to be aware of this and start looking at a time line to progress this. A good discussion took place and it was agreed to look at this more closely after the AGM and that anyone interested in taking this forward to please get in touch. RD asked members to take this to their groups and feedback any ideas.</p>	
6. Community Benefits		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Edinburgh City Deal EB shared a video explain the Edinburgh City Deal. ● What are Community Benefits? (esescommunities.org) EB advised members that at the last Area Partnership meeting there was a list of suggestions from the PSG and these were taken to a ELC Community Benefits meeting this week and £3,000 has been awarded - which is brilliant. Still lots of things to be ironed out with the process, but great to have had a response from our list. ● Lorna Bellany, NHS LB gave a presentation regarding the NHS Lothian Community Benefit Gateway and explained how to access the portal. A good discussion took place and LB will find out if Community Councils and Parent Councils can apply. <p>EB advised that David the architect for Blindwells Primary School will come back with the contractor directly to our June meeting and the work has started on the new school at Blindwells. Please keep a note of any questions you would like to ask.</p>	
7. Sub Group Reports related to Area Plan Priorities		

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	<p>Health & Wellbeing – NM updated members that they allocated another £1,000 at the meeting on 28th February 2023. £500 to Cuthill Park Clear Up and £500 to Lighthouse for additional Foodbank and café vouchers. Meetings have been well attended but we need to work on getting the local community attending. We have been getting some new faces along which is brilliant. Everyone is welcome. A Bereavement training course by Tom Gordon is running from the 25th April 2023 for 4 weeks from 1-3pm. There is also a course running just now at Port Seton Centre. Surf therapy is being set up at Port Seton and looking to help promote this as much as possible. Hydro therapy sessions are also happening and people are seeing the benefits of this. EB mentioned the courses running through Changes and looking at running a managing and understanding anxiety course through Prestonpans surgery. We have had good feedback for these courses. Dementia Friendly Scottish Book Trust Reading is caring – sharing stories. NM will circulate this and can we share on facebook ad twitter etc. MA mentioned training opportunities that are open to everyone particularly the ASSIST and the Mental Health First Aid courses.</p> <p>Children & Youth Network – EB advised there is a meeting net Tuesday and will be focussing on new locality group for children where they need additional support not being met by their current Child Plan. We have been updating the Area Plan priorities with the range of activities and agencies in PSG. We will be considering one funding application for Patchwork from the Support from the Start budget.</p> <p>The network has had Peggy, Charlann from the transforming Children’s Services Team to build on mapping exercise carried out by Morven Ross. MA asked if there could be feedback from the VCEL Children & Youth network to the PSG sub group. Someone form the Pennypit Trust should be able to provide this link.</p> <p>MA highlighted event on 16.3.23 Commission Service for Children – Esk rooms Musselburgh 9am till 1.30pm. No tickets left.</p> <p>Heritage Network – JI advised there was a meeting last week. Looking to increase membership and promote the group through social media, web sites and try and raise awareness. Work is focussed around Heritage curriculum in schools fully utilising the Salt of the Earth website, Preston Tower Guardianship group and potential Friend of Prestongrange Heritage Park.</p> <p>Sustainable PSG – BM confirmed the group met on 16/02/2023. This was a small meeting but we did have representation from all 3 community councils which was great. Good discussions around Hargreaves and active travel routes. There was discussion about current consultation on Jonny Cope Road. A positive action to link up active travel routes across council areas in particular with Faside and Musselburgh.</p>	

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	<p>There was a discussion about the impact of re routing the John Muir Way whilst work takes place on the Cockenzie site.</p> <p>It was noted that the National Cycling route 76 2020/2021 was degraded due to the amount of traffic. BM has made contact with Sustrans through Morag to possibility of restoring route 76 Cuthil Park</p> <p>AC asked about the pedestrian crossing for the new shared use path from Blindwells. BM confirmed still happening and going through planning. Work starting summer time – traffic light system – 2 pedestrian crossing points along that way.</p> <p>Communication Sub Group – SB updated members that the group met last week and are looking at how to raise awareness of the PSG Area Partnership through social media, facebook, twitter and trying to get the public more informed. One idea was to give the chair of each sub groups access to the PSG facebook/twitter page so they can put up their own information. It was suggested that 2 or 3 points could be agreed at the end of the sub group meeting. We could also use the courier if appropriate and local radio stations or make a wee video to promote the Partnership. We will have stalls at local galas and open days at Community centres. Communications group to meet quarterly.</p>	
8. A.O.C.B.		
	<p>Discussion around the extra £30,000 Holiday Hunger money that is split between all 6 Area Partnerships. East Lothian funding is in the budget for 2023/2024. Pennypit Trust are looking for funding for this Easter and we are asking for agreement to put any applications we receive for this out to members for an urgent email vote. £5,400 is the amount for PSG. This is NOT from the general budget. This is specific for Holiday Hunger. If we do email out can we ask members for a quick response please.</p> <p>All members were in agreement for any applications received to be sent out urgently for an email vote.</p> <p>Inspiring VECEL Awards – Great opportunity to showcase- different categories – please look on the website and nominate. The awards are a great event and makes people feel valued. Encourage everyone to put forward nominations from the PSG Area. We are so grateful for all our volunteers.</p> <p>SC Advised members that since the Cockenzie & Port Seton In Bloom was vandalised there has been a go fund me page which has been amazing. All the work is just about finished including all the additional security work. A 2 day Open Day is planned for Friday 17th & 18th March from 11am till 3pm and everyone is welcome. Come along and see all the great work that has been done.</p> <p>A reminder that the AGM nominations are requested.</p> <p>RD thanked everyone for coming along tonight.</p>	
9. Area Partnership Meetings Dates for 2023		
	<p>10.05.2023 AGM</p> <p>07.06.2023</p> <p>06.09.2023</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to -</p> <p><u>psg-</u></p>

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	11.10.2023 22.11.2023	ap@eastlothian.gov.uk