

Fa'side Area Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Fa'side Area Partnership

9th May 2024 7.00 -9.00pm, a ZOOM meeting

Chair

1. Chair Bill Axon (BA)

Quorum 11

Members and substitute members present:

2. Debbie Middlemass, Vice Chair (DM)
3. Rosanne Woods, Chair of the (RW)
4. Alan Bell, Recharge (AB)
5. Richard Kerr, Pencaitland CC (RK)
6. Loreen Pardoe, Ross High Parent Teacher Council (LP)
7. Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Elected Member, ELC (SA)
8. Kathryn-Jane James, Support from the Start (KJJ)
9. Mike Falconer, TECC, Chair (MF)
10. Russell McLarty, FaCTS Chair (RMcL)
11. Cllr George McGuire, Elected Member, ELC (GMc)
12. Cllr Colin McGinn Elected Member, ELC (CMcG)
13. Carla Allan, VCEL (CA)

Others in attendance

Simon Davie, Connected Communities Manager – Fa'side, ELC (SD)
Andy Cheshire, CDO, Connected Communities - Fa'side, ELC (AC)
Tracey Redpath, CDO, Connected Communities – Fa'side, ELC (TR)
Lorna MacLennan, Business Support Administrator, ELC (LM)
Lorna Bellany, NHS

Apologies

Carol Finneron, Pencaitland CC (CF)
Donald Grant, Co-opted member (DG)
Cllr John McMillan, elected Member, ELC (JMc)
Grace Stirton, Ormiston West TRA (GS)
David Todd, Macmerry & Gladsmuir CC (DT)
Marilyn McNeill, IJB (MMc)
Alan Lauder, Macmerry & Gladsmuir CC (AL)
Cllr Kenny McLeod, Elected Member, ELC (KMc)
Cllr Fiona Dugdale, Elected Member, ELC (FD)
Cllr Lee-Anne Menzies, Elected Member, ELC (LAM)

Voting members in attendance – 13present

	Key discussion points	
1.	<p><u>Welcome</u> BA thanked everyone for coming this evening. Ba welcomed LB.</p>	
	<p><u>Apologies</u> Apologies are noted above.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Declaration of interest for agenda items</u> BA asked members to state if they felt there was any declarations going through the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Approval of Minutes</u> BA went through the minutes of the 5th March 2024</p> <p>Approved by MF Seconded by AB</p>	
4.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Page 9, Item 7a – SD to meet with MA and discuss evaluation of the Lighthouse project. SD confirmed that following a change of staff at the church he had received the evaluation and will review it asap. Will contact MA to discuss. Matter ongoing.</p> <p>Page 6, Item 6, B, a – Junior Youth Work. AC will provide a finalised report from the outdoor education pilot to a future area partnership meeting. Matter ongoing.</p> <p>Page 5 Item 8 – Area Plan Consultation – AC will contact Susan Humble from ELPA. Matter Ongoing.</p> <p>Page 6 Item 6A – Consultation for Area Plan review – SD to reflect on feedback from members and update members at a future meeting.</p> <p>Page 4 item 5 – Festive Provisions – SD confirmed that PCDT are working on the evaluation. One item outstanding and then the report will be shared with all members. SD has this on the agenda. Matter completed.</p> <p>Page 4 item 5 – Fa’side Community Kitchen – SD reminded members that FCK are still seeking a community chairperson. Any interested parties please contact SD or fasideck.info@gmail.com. Matter on going</p> <p>Page 4 Item 5 – SD has spoken to Andrew Hogarth and conveyed our thanks. SD has yet to write to AH but will do so.</p> <p><i>SD forgot to raise with members whether or not we should obtain and provide a gift voucher to the sum of £50 each for AH, Isobel Berry and Margo MacDonald. All members present voted to provide all three with a gift card and a letter of thanks.</i></p> <p>Page 5 Item 5c – Transition Event – AC advised members that the dates for this year’s event are as follows: - Monday 10th June and Wednesday 12th June at Meadowmill. If any members are interested in visiting, please contact AC/AB. Matter completed</p>	<p>SD/MA</p> <p>AC</p> <p>AC</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>SD/LM</p> <p>ALL</p>

Page 8 Item 11 – KM asked if members would consider changing the Area Partnership meeting on the 4th June 2024 as this takes place during CIVIC week. A general discussion took place and all members agreed that we should move this date. BA asked SD/LM to consider another date in June. All members agreed to cancel our June meeting. **Matter completed**

SD/LM/
ALL

Page 4 Item 5a – Area Partnership application form – SD asked LM to circulate with papers. **Matter Closed.**

Page 5 Item 5a – letter and vouchers for IB and MM – **Matter completed.**

Page 5 Item 5 a – Tranent Library and Customer Services open day – TR confirmed this has been organised for the 17th July 2024 in the Ross High Rugby Club Playing Field. **Matter completed.**

Page 7 Item 7b – Fa’side Health and Being Sub Group – seeking an increased budget. This will be discussed later on the agenda. **Matter completed.**

Page 7 Item 7b – The Bronx Boxing Club – KM was seeking an update regarding their agreement. SD confirmed that their existing agreement has been extended for another year. **Matter completed.**

Page 8 Item 7c – Fa’side Young Formers – SD and LM discussed the setting up a face-to-face meeting in Recharge through discussions with AB. AB confirmed that Recharge were unable to assist due to exams for the young people. As a result SD will seek to organise a future face to face meeting with the young people and members. **Matter ongoing.**

SD/LM

Page 8 Item 9ii – SD and LM to arrange payment.
Post minute note – **Matter completed**

Page 9 Item 9iv – SD and LM to arrange payment.
Post Minute note - matter completed.

Page 9 Item 9v – SD to write to Head Teacher for Ross High to advise that Area Partnership are unable to support their request.
Post Minute Note:- SD has contacted HT and confirmed the same – Matter completed.

Page 9 Item 9 vi – SA advised that Pencaitland Community Council are in discussions with the Primary School to support their community garden. **Matter completed.**

Page 9 Item 9 vii – ELPA – BA and DM to meet and consider application. Application on the agenda for this meeting. **Matter Closed.**

Page 9 Item 11 – Meeting Dates – KM asked member to consider meeting dates for the rest of the year. Pot Minute Note:- LM

emailed all members and rescheduled our up and coming meetings are below. **Matter closed.**

5. **Boundary Commission**

BA advised members of the proposed changes to the National Electoral Boundaries. This would see Tranent and Elphinstone added to the Edinburgh Eastern ward for the Scottish Elections. A lengthy discussion took place and various members provided their view on the proposed changes. All of these views were negative with regards to the proposal. BA asked members to vote on whether Fa'side AP should submit a response to the proposal? 13 Members voted for Fa'side AP to object to the proposals.

BA asked SD to write to the Scottish Boundary Commission summarising the views expressed at our meeting tonight. SA asked SD to provide a list of Partnership members to evidence the reach of the area partnership.

POST Minute Note:- SD has completed the submission.

6. **Connected Communities Team update.**

A. **Managers update** – attached.

SD referred to the previously circulated report. He highlighted the following: -

- LM retires on 30th May 2024 following 22 years' service for East Lothian Council. SD thanked LM for all the support she has provided him during the last 9 years. SA commented that she would be sad to see LM go however wished her a long and happy retirement. SA described LM role as the 'glue' that keeps everyone together. CM thanked LM for her support to our communities during the last 9 years, he also wished LM a long and happy retirement. Various other members thanked LM for the support she had provided to them as individuals, and alongside their groups. BA thanked LM on behalf of Fa'side AP for her hard work, commitment, and passionate support for our communities.

Post Minute Note:- LM thanked everyone for the kind wishes for the future. LM will miss everyone and hoped that if anyone saw her in the street that they would say hello. It has been a pleasure to meet so many amazing, hardworking volunteers who do so much for their communities.

- SD advised members that he had been successful in securing a 12 month temporary contract as Connected Communities Service Manager. The post will commence in a few weeks, and he is still waiting to hear about the back fill. BA congratulated SD on his new role and wished him all the best.
- SD referred to the previously circulated Fa'side Festive Provision Evaluation 2023/24 – SD thanked all those who had supported the provisions whether this was finance or in kind. SD asked members if they had any comments, queries or changes they would like to see of part of the draft evaluation? Members agreed 13 votes in favour of the evaluation and signed it off. SA indicated that the

report clearly defined the need and the projects impact across our communities. Although ELC are exploring cashless options for festive provisions this example evidences the need for this type of approach.

- **Fa'side Community Kitchen** – SD referred the previously circulated annual report. He highlighted the excellent work of this small legacy charity. A number of members commented on how positive and impactful the event had been on 24th April 2024. MF noted that radio Saltire were hosting a community matters special on FCK. This will be aired on Wednesday 15th May 2024.
- **Education Scotland Inspection** – is due to take place on Tuesday 28th May until Thursday 30th May 2024. SD reminded members that if they are still to respond to his request for support to get back Neil Bainbridge as soon as possible.

B. Tracey's Officers update – attached.

TR referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following:

- **FaCTS** - TR noted that RMc will provide a fuller report further down the agenda, however we arranged the first meeting in April, and feedback has been very positive.
- **Fa'side Food Provision** – TR has hosted the first food provision. The feedback from the meeting has been really positive and they are hoping to build on this and become a fully pledged subgroup of the area partnership. TR also highlighted that East Lothian Food Friendly Network are hosting their first food summit on 23rd May 2024.

SA thanked TR for an excellent report and in particular wanted to say well done with regards to restarting the FaCTS subgroup.

C. Andy's Officers update – attached.

AC referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following:

- AC advised that he is preparing for the up-and-coming progress visit from Education Scotland.
- Part time youth work budget. – AC is still waiting on the final split and will share this and any impact with members. There had been a recruitment issue in Ormiston, but this matter has now been resolved.
- Transition Event – AC noted a huge thanks to Neil Bainbridge for coordinating this event. This is due to take place 10th and 12th June.
- The targeted work at Windygoul Primary School is almost complete and we hope to move to another primary in the very near future.
- SD, TR and AC have been meeting with Recharge Board on the

	<p>20th May 2024 to discuss possible gaps in youth work gaps in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Establishment – AC has arranged to user group meetings in the next few weeks to improve communication between ELC and different groups. <p>SA thank AC for his excellent report and maximising all resources in our ward area in order to benefit our communities.</p>	
7.	<p>For information on live consultations please visit: East Lothian Council - Citizen Space (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk). Consultations (<i>at time papers circulated</i>): -</p> <p>a. Justice Social Work Services play a vital role in keeping communities safe while ensuring that people can make reparation in a way that benefits communities and paves the way to desistence from offending. Please click here if seeking more information – <u>closes 26th April 2024</u>.</p> <p>b. East Lothian Council (<u>Greendykes Road, Macmerry</u>) (Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2024 – change in waiting times. Please click here if seeking more information – <u>closes 26th April 2024</u>.</p> <p>c. <u>Early Learning and Childcare: August 2024 Intake:</u> For parents or carers who have received an offer of a nursery place for August 2024. Please respond to confirm the acceptance or refusal of the place. The closing date for responses is <u>Monday 13 May 2024</u>. Consultation opens on 29th April 2024.</p> <p>d. <u>Poverty Plan consultation</u> – Consultation is live and it’s important that community groups and local residents have their say in how we can shape services to tackle this huge issue, which is happening on our doorstep.</p> <p>For context please click: here</p> <p>SD highlighted to members that there is a live consultation seeking views on ELC’s Poverty Plan. The consultation closes on 15th May 2024. Given that our area Plan priorities focus on tackling inequalities and impact of poverty he is asking members if they should respond? RMc indicated that we should especially when you see the increase in food parcels from our area that East Lothian Food Bank are providing. A general discussion took place and BA asked members to vote on whether or not Fa’side AP should respond to this consultation. 13 members voted to respond to this consultation. BA asked SD to respond on behalf of Fa’side AP.</p> <p><i>Post Minute Note: - SD has completed feedback on behalf of Fa’side AP.</i></p>	ALL
8.	<p>Subgroups/network updates</p> <p>A. <u>Fa’side Climate, Transport and Sustainability Subgroup (FaCTS)</u> – RM referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following: -</p>	

RM reported back on a really successful relaunch meeting for FaCTS. He hoped to the group will employ an artist to help with a potential interactive map. Although this might mean setting up a new SCIO. Planning Aid Scotland have indicated that there may be some funding to assist with the map TR will investigate this matter. There may also be funding available through the open 'Remembering together' project. RM is still keen on the tree nursery idea and seeking further input for local community member on the is matter. AB offered some assistance to RM on the potential tree nursery/biodiversity aspect.

BA thanked RM for the relaunching of FaCTS.

- B. **Fa'side Health and Well Being** – RW referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following: -

RW advised members that the next meeting is not until 15th May 2024. SD congratulated RW on being nominated for the Inspiring Volunteer Awards at VCEL. BA and various members congratulated Roseanne on her nomination.

- C. **Fa'side Young Formers – Recharge** – AB referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following: -

- AB advised members that the young people have agreed to continue to be a part of Fa'side AP through the Young Formers subgroup. AB advised that the young people have been developing a new chill/sensory room within the building. The young people hosted a celebration event for EID following Ramadan.

SD thanked AB for his report and noted that a previous conversation about supporting local Muslim residents through Ramadan. SD advised members that he had contacted the local Muslim prayer group and made them aware of potential support with regards to Muslim households in need. The Prayer group leader thanked SD on behalf of Fa'side AP and indicated that at present there was no need for support however, the group would bear this in mind if it arose in the future.

- D. **Support from the Start** – KJJ indicated to members that the next meeting in on 28th May so there was no update. This will be brought to the next meeting.

9.

Third Sector updates

CA reminded people of the Minds Matters Event, which will take place on the 22nd on May at the Loch Centre in the Fraser Centre, Tranent.

The Inspiring Volunteer Awards take place on 7th June 2024.

CA advised that VCEL had now employed a number of new staff members. Jane Ogden Smith Poverty & Equality Manager, also Robert Webb Community Engagement (policy & Networks).

10.

Budget updates

Financial year 2023/24 – confirmation of year end.

	<p>SD referred to the previously circulated spreadsheet. No questions or queries were tabled.</p> <p>Financial year 2024/25 – update paper SD advised members of the previously circulated papers. No questions or queries were tabled.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmation of email vote on 25/3/24 for ELPA and PCDT SD updated members and noted that the outcome of the email vote on the 25th March were 15 members voted to support ELPA for their summer of Play project and PCDT for their Easter Lunch Club. 2. Roads element – extract update paper to follow 3. SD referred to the previously circulated roads extract paper. A general discussion took place on the paper and the new position relating to roads projects. RK reminded the Area Partnership that they had previously voted to support Pencaitland Community Council in securing new and upgrading existing Speed Reactive Signs. BA indicated that we had previously voted for this project, do you we need to again? SD advised completeness it would be useful. 13 members voting in favour of Pencaitland Community Council obtaining their wish for new and renewed speed Reactive Signs. RK will update SD on the specific requirements. <p>SD asked all groups to clarify if they have any outstanding legacy project to email fa’side-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk before the end of May.</p> <p>SD still awaiting roads confirmation on the priorities for our local areas. One these are received we will circulate.</p> <p>Proposal to support existing Area Partnership subgroups – verbal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fa’side Young Formers – Recharge - £1,000 – 13 Members voted for this award. 2. FaCTS- £5,000 – 13 members voted for this award. 3. Fa’side Health and Well Being - £10,000 – 13 members voted for this award. <p>SD advised members that AC and AB have started a new children and young people’s network. They are at present creating their governance however would like to seek financial support from Fa’side AP. The group are seeking £4,000 and will also oversee the £1,000 that was awarded to the Young Formers subgroup. 13 Members voted to support this proposal.</p>	<p>LM/SD</p> <p>LM/SD</p>
11.	<p>A.O.C.B.</p> <p>BA thank everyone for coming tonight.</p> <p>This is Lorna’s last meeting on behalf of the Partnership for all you hard work, we could have not done it without you, enjoy your retirement.</p> <p>BA wished everyone a good night and see everyone for the meeting in</p>	

	September. All information will be sent out in due course.							
12.	<p><u>Date of future Area Partnership Meetings</u></p> <p>All these meetings will start at 7.00pm and will be online, using Zoom. We normally 'open' the meeting around 6.30/40pm and it will start at 7pm.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="387 338 1078 461"> <tr> <td>Tuesday 11/06/24</td> <td>Cancelled</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 10/09/24</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 12/11/24</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>MEETING INFORMATION – Join ZOOM meeting</p>	Tuesday 11/06/24	Cancelled	Tuesday 10/09/24		Tuesday 12/11/24		ALL
Tuesday 11/06/24	Cancelled							
Tuesday 10/09/24								
Tuesday 12/11/24								

FESTIVE PROVISION

FA'SIDE 2023/24

A PARTNERSHIP LED INITIATIVE
BETWEEN THE PENNYPIT TRUST &
CONNECTED COMMUNITIES FA'SIDE



INTRODUCTION



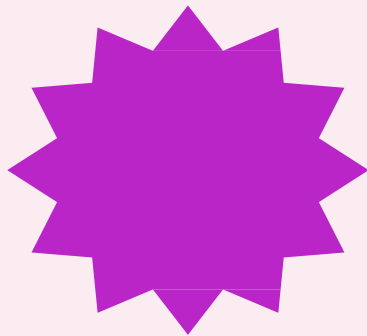
The Pennypit Community Development Trust offers support during the festive holiday season by providing food supplies and Christmas presents to families and individuals in the Fa'side area. The provision is a partnership led initiative with Fa'side Connected Communities, Pennypit Trust, and Fa'side Community Kitchen (FCK); supported by local volunteers.

To achieve this, we provide Christmas presents to families with children (0-18yrs old - in partnership with cash for kids mission Christmas), ensuring every child has something to open on Christmas day. Additionally, we distribute Jingle Bags and New Year Bags filled with ingredients for a complete Christmas and New Year dinner. Finally, we provide a Christmas meal for elderly individuals who are socially isolated on Christmas day.





Over **320 Households*** were supported through Jingle Bags & New Year Bags



Over **700 Individuals*** received support from festive provision, including over **340 children and young people**



65 Elderly and Socially isolated individuals received a cooked Christmas meal delivered on Christmas Day (across East Lothian - delivered by FCK and volunteers)



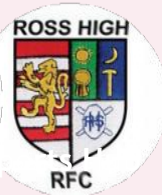
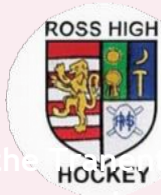
335 volunteering hours completed by our volunteer helpers and delivery drivers





We received support from community organisations and members of the community across East Lothian and the Fa'side area during the provision.





Jointed donation from the Ross High Hockey Club, Tranent Bowling Club, Tranent Golf Club and Ross High RFC



In partnership with Cash for Kids, we distributed over **1,000 presents** to **334 children and young people**. That is an **increase of 10** since last year and **over 42%** in referrals over the past 4 years!



The presents put a massive smile on my kids faces! I wouldn't have been able to get them anything so you guys really saved christmas!!
-Parent



Our jingle bags are food bags that we deliver, containing all the necessary components for a full Christmas meal. These include a whole chicken, fresh vegetables, and a dessert. All fresh produce came from local East Lothian businesses and producers! Additionally, the bags contain a recipe pack for making tomato pasta, along with other essentials. Jingle bags were delivered on the 23rd of December to **701 Individuals** across **170 households**, an increase of **25%** since last years provision.



The Jingle bag was such a relief for myself and my family. Being able to have a full christmas dinner with my family was just the best!

-Parent



NEWYEARBAGS



...n the
...duals
... year,
... bags
... n last
... e bags
... were not substantial. This year, we put more into the bags including fresh steak pies.

Our new year bags are food bags that we deliver, containing all the necessary components for a full new year meal. These include a whole steak pie and vegetables. All fresh produce came from local East Lothian businesses and producers! Additionally, the bags contain a recipe pack for making delicious leek and potato soup, along with other essentials.



On christmas morning, our staff and volunteers went out to deliver **65 cooked christmas dinners** to **49 socially isolated households** across East Lothian.

This year, our referrals for cooked christmas meal **increased by 34%** compared to last year

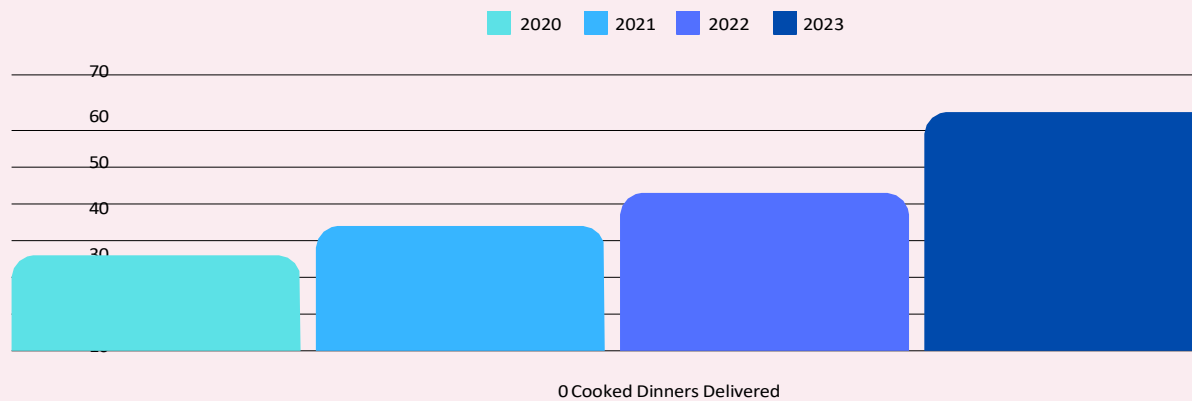
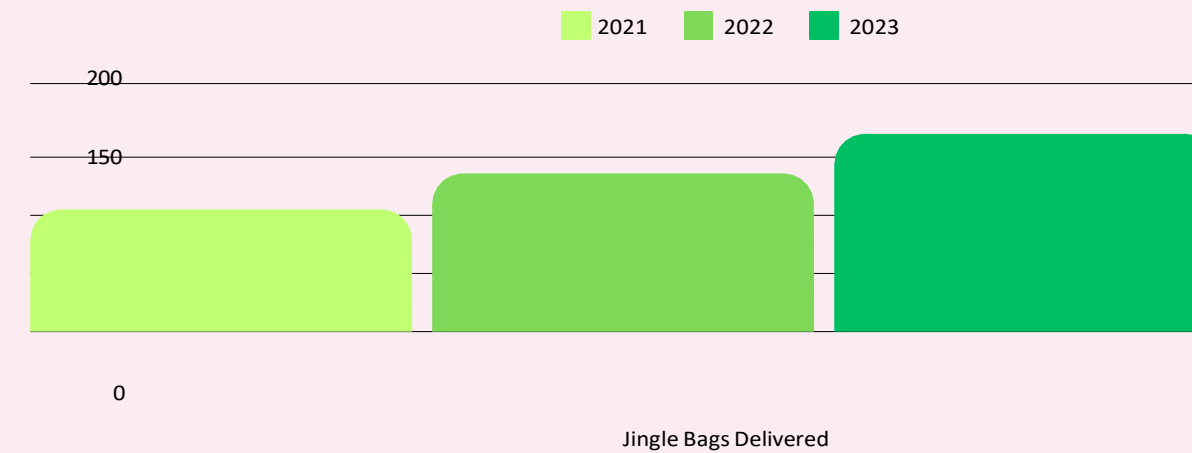
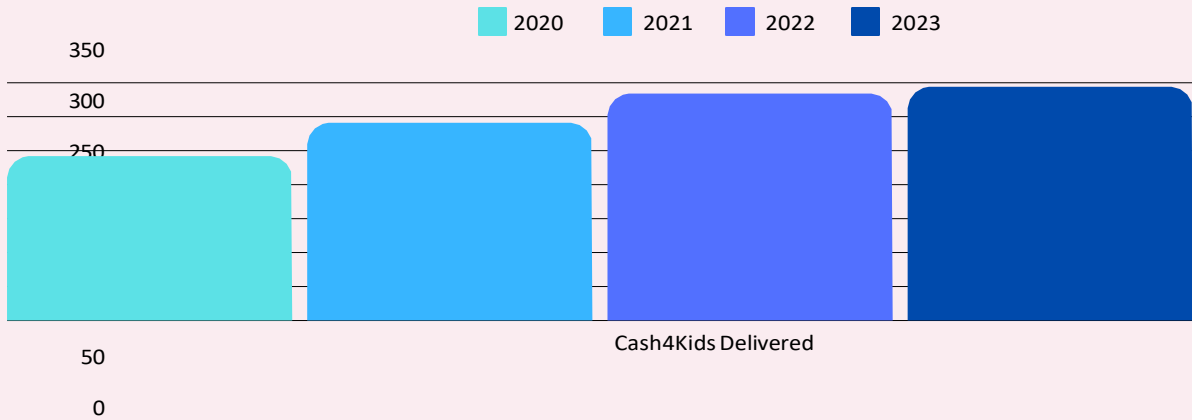
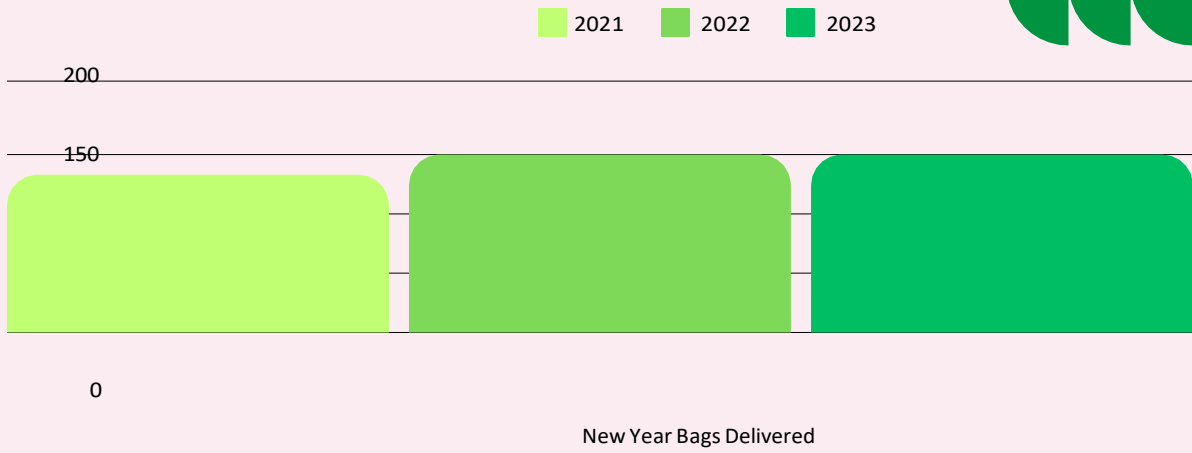




During the provisions, we also delivered to **5 supported accommodation s across East Lothian**, in conjunction with East Lothian's Homelessness team.

Across the the provisions for Christmas and New Year meals we supported **41 individuals** .







The food went down a treat. I wouldn't be able to have a Christmas dinner with

2 chickens I managed to

my kids as I don't go anywhere.

make 3 meals, chicken dinner added chicken to tomatoes pasta supplied and added to some of the veg to make soup. Just got steak pie today looks brow

-Single parent of 2

-Family of 6

This has taken some added stress of us for food shopping.

-Parent

As a result of last years feedback, we saw a reduction in New Year Bags. Reflecting on this years feedback, we are expecting numbers to increase again next year

the meal that you provided us encouraged us to cook together as a family and be more grateful for what we had.

-Family of 4



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED OR HELPED ORGANISE OUR PROVISIONS



**Thank you to Mike Falconer
who organises and co-
ordinates our volunteer
drivers**



**Thank you to The Potato Guys
who donated 625kg of
potatos**



**The Coop donated all our bread
and milk for new year bags**



Lyndsay & Lee from the Royal Bank of Scotland who helped us to pack fruit and veg bags for our jingle bags



Mike and Keith, Community Protection Officers, who helped us to pick up the donation of gifts and toys from Cash for Kids.

ACL Hire and East Lothian Council, Transportation & Waste Management team provided us with 2 hire vans

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR
VOLUNTEERS!**



THANKYOU

After an unexpected and last minute reduction in funding, Penny Pit Trust and Fa'side Connected Communities approached each of the five Community Councils and the Area Partnership who provided us with the necessary top ups in funding.



Macmerry and Gladsmuir Community Council

Pencaitland Community Council

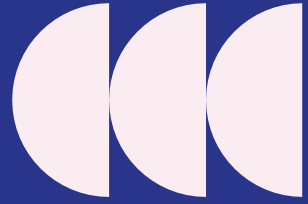
Ormiston Community Council

Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council

Fa'side Area Partnership

 Pennypit Trust & Fa'side Connected Communities

THANKYOU



@PennypitTrust

@Connected_fa

www.pennypittrust.com



Check out our
Christmas video
here!



Item 6 a – Meeting papers 9/5/24

Connected Communities Managers update as of 25TH April 2024

Covering period 16th February to 25th April 2024

1. Team update:

*****Lorna is retiring.....!** 😞 *Yes Lorna MacLennan will retire from ELC at the end of May 2024. Lorna has been our existing Admin support since the Partnerships commenced and will be huge loss to me personally, but also the team and I am sure our communities. Sure you will wish Lorna all the very best when you see or speak to her.*

My line manager, Caitlin McCorry retired at the end of December and her post has been offered as a temporary appointment. More information to follow on this mid-May hopefully. Our Head of Service, Sharon Saunders also retired at the end of April 2024 and her post was offered as a temporary appointment. Caroline Rodgers, currently Service Manager for Customer Services and Libraries was successful in obtaining this appointment. Both vacancies have created a void and work has been distributed across our management team to support these activities.

I am still spending a significant amount of my time focussing on Community Asset Transfers. ELC has received a large number of enquiries relating to this matter and work is ongoing around the governance that surrounds the process and seeking additional resources to support this activity.

We also had our annual planning day in February, where we as a team considered our priorities for the year ahead! Followed by our team Christmas night out at the Brigg Inn in Tranent, which was an excellent night even though we got strange looks for wearing our Christmas jumpers in March.....

2. **Community Facilities across Fa'side:** Please note the update below for the facilities that our team manages. Our facilities Management team are still in Business Continuity at present, due to staff shortages. This means we are not able to take on new lets for our facilities at present until this matter is resolved. I am still awaiting an update on this matter. *These matters have and continue to take up a significant amount of our time.*

As highlighted previously, our Connected Communities team rely upon Facilities Management staff to open, close and clean our facilities. Given the challenge we have around budgets, we are restricted in terms of our provision of activities and the time and spaces we can offer due to the established facilities management hours we have for each facility.

- A. **Tranent Town Hall:** The Bronx continue to operate from the Town Hall as per their agreement. I am pleased to note that our Corporate Asset Management Group (CAMG) met and agreed to extend their existing agreement for another year (taking them up to the end of March 2025), as the club develop their business plan. We are involved in

ongoing conversations with the club about seeking Trustees for their Community Interest Company. Any interested parties please contact Paul Huish or Tracey. Michael Campbell from our Sports Countryside and Leisure team has been advising the Bronx on a business plan and reviewing how they operate. **Matter ongoing.**

- B. Elphinstone Community Centre: No updates.
- C. **Ormiston Community Centre**: Primrose Day Centre (PDC) continue to operate from the Centre and I am pleased to say that CAMG representatives agreed to extend their existing agreement to 30TH September 2024. This will give their board and ELC the chance to meet and agree a 'licence to occupy'. Which should secure the groups use of the Centre going forward. **Matter ongoing.**
- D. Trevelyan Hall (Pencaitland): Working with the community council around their aspirations around community assets in Pencaitland. **Matter ongoing.**
- E. Macmerry Village Hall: Mensshed and Community Council are the only community groups using the hall at present, due to Facilities Management being in business continuity. Trusted key holder procedure in place and engaging with Community Council and local resilience team on this matter. **Matter ongoing.**
- F. **Booking live system**: ELC have procured a new Bookings system called Zipporah. We are currently engaging with colleagues on this system and how it effects our centres and halls. We are now updating back office information on each centre and facility to support the new Bookings system. **Matter ongoing.**
- 3. Engaged with Tranent Skate Park Foundation/ Pump track for Tranent – Awaiting update from colleagues in Sport, Countryside and Leisure on proposed Planning application for the site selected. Following the community consultation. Will update members once we know more. **Matter ongoing.**
- 4. Pavilion at Polson: Ongoing conversation on how this matter could be taken forward. Being leg by Sports. Countryside and Leisure. Will update members once more is known. **Matter ongoing.**
- 5. **Festive Provision**: Had a meeting with PCDT team and our team on the provision, as there was some suggestion that we should review how we co-ordinate and support the provision. There is also an ongoing discussion with other communities on their views of the provisions that take place in their areas. East Lothian Food Friendly Network are involved in the discussions, and we are seeking to create a survey for those households in all areas to engage and participate in a review of what they receive. Some suggestion that we should investigate a 'cash first' approach, as an alternative to the existing provisions. More information to follow on this matter and Tracey will make sure that community groups are aware through our new Fa'side Food Provision meeting.

Our team looked at two different options:

1. Organising a large-scale Christmas day meal for local communities – we felt this would be challenging for families to attend (for some, both with learning difficulties, mental health conditions and for some with children). Also not sure having one event would be possible, given the numbers but also the scale of catering that would be required.

2. We looked at vouchers for households, as an alternative to the food bags – we felt this was challenging as lots of food is donated to the provision or gifted from local people/groups. We get some discount and use a range of local providers to support the provisions. We worked out that roughly the cost per head in Fa'side is around £7. And were not sure that this level of voucher would be enough for one person to purchase a Christmas day meal, alongside the other food products that are included. There was also some concern that some family members might not know or ever see the vouchers, if they are sent to one household member and for example, that member chooses to spend it on something else. So very keen to ensure the voice of children and young people are heard in any survey we undertake.

Our team could not come up with any alternative solutions.

If you or your organisations could give this matter some consideration, I would be very much obliged.

As noted, we will complete a survey with those who receive the provisions to clarify their views on what they receive and update members.

Last years Fa'side Festive provision is attached with our papers for your information.

Matter ongoing.

6. Fa'side Community and Police Partnership (Fa'side CAPP) – attended the CAPP and contributed to the process and clarity around some of the issues raised. Discussion around a strategic approach to speed related matters across East Lothian. Members of CAPP will raise with Roads colleagues. **Matter ongoing.**
7. Review of Fa'side Area Partnership area plan – Phase 1 of face to face consultation has been concluded. Andy was leading Phase 2 that involved engaging with targeted or themed community groups seeking their input. This work has been concluded and one element is still under review. Following on from this, we will undertake Phase 3, which involves input from local professionals working in our area partnership area. **Matter ongoing.**
8. Review of Area Partnership application – linked to the area plan and general governance review, a number of applicants have fed back to us that the current application is not easy to use. As a result, Stevie McKinlay, Scott McKail and I have agreed to review the application and then present it to all Area Partnerships for consideration. Work is ongoing on this matter and we will share the draft with members shortly. **Matters ongoing.**

9. Blindwells – keeping in contact with the developer and other colleagues as the site develops. New Primary school is underway. **Matter ongoing.**
10. Local Housing Partnership (LHP) – The Tranent Community Housing team have a new manager, Raymond Rickis and he has re-started their Local Housing Partnership meetings. This is a useful partnership source of funding if it is connected to TRA's or indeed you are seeking environmental impacts in your community and the area is close to council housing. For more information, please see me. **Matter ongoing.**
11. East Lothian Play Association and Windygoul School – I attended a viewing of film made by local primary school children from the school on how they are developing play in their school grounds. Was an informative visit and now working with the school and Tony Brunton to see if we can aid them in upgrading some of their facilities. Tracey will lead on this project in the very near future. **Matter ongoing.**
12. Education Scotland inspection – we have been advised that Education Scotland will visit to inspect the Community Learning and Development element of the Connected Communities Service. This inspection will take place between September 23 and June 24. More information to follow on this. **Matter ongoing.**
13. Child Planning Framework for Fa'side – ELC have set up a framework to consider children who may be needing some additional support however, not to the degree of statutory intervention (such as social work input). These meetings will be hosted by Education colleagues at Ross High and our team will attend, alongside key local partners such as Recharge. The purpose of the group is to intervene early in the lives of our local children and provide supports where this possible. **Matter ongoing.**
14. Community Intervention Fund – The fund has now opened and new information on ELC's website. An email was sent to all members advising of the new budget. Matter closed.
15. Ormiston After School Club – Thrive CIC supported at our last meeting. Club is now operational, and we will get an update through AC at our next meeting. Matter closed.
16. Natural Connections – Matter has been paused and will be re-visited through TR by our next meeting. Matter closed.
17. ELC's Child Poverty Plan – ELC considering a self-assessment tool to ascertain how we are performing in tackling child poverty in East Lothian. Currently working with the Improvement Service to take this matter forward. **Matter ongoing.**
18. **Fa'side Community Kitchen (FCK)** – A very successful 2nd Annual Report celebration took place at ELCO BC on 24th April. It was well attended and feedback has been really positive from a range of sources. A copy of the 2nd Annual Report is attached for information and sharing purposes. The charity is still seeking a new Community Chair. If you are interested please contact me or email fasideck.info@gmail.com. Matter closed.

19. Meeting with new CIC in Ormiston – caught up with a new CIC based in Ormiston. Hoping to expand their services in the new year and will share more information with members once they are able to partner and develop. ***Matter ongoing.***
20. **Short Life Working Group – Community Asset Transfer** – working alongside Zahra and a range of other colleagues discussing ELCs policy and procedures and drafting suggestions for review. ***Matter ongoing.***
21. **Tranent recovery café** – The café re-launched on 1st March and now meet at VCEL every Friday 2-4pm. The café is for people who want to address their drug and alcohol consumption and some positive outcomes for local residents. If elected members or groups would like to visit to see the Café in action please contact SD or TR to arrange. ***Matter ongoing.***
22. **Recharge and Youth work in Fa'side** – really positive meeting with Recharge and their board on issues around Youth work in Fa'side. As Council budgets reduce on this matter and challenges increase, we are going to look at Youth work provision across Fa'side. Will revert back to members with the outcome of these early discussions. ***Matter ongoing.***
23. **East Lothian Climate Change Hub conference** – I attended the conference on behalf of the partnership and to support our FaCTS group who had a presence at the conference. Lots of good idea which could be implemented in Fa'side and these will be taken to FaCTS for future consideration. *Matter closed.*
24. **Tranent Business Association (TBA)** – I attended their 3rd meeting, where they agreed to formally constitute as a Business Association. Dominic McNeill from the Tower (Inn and Café) is the new chair and is keen to drive things forward. Economic Development colleagues were present, and they have some funding for shop fronts in the future. I have also set up a meeting with ELC Roads colleagues as the Association want to look at parking on the High Street. Really positive meeting. Economic Development staff supporting TBA with governance and supporting documentation. ***Matter ongoing.***
25. End of Financial year 23/24 – Working alongside ELC colleagues in Finance and my wider team, reviewing and reconciling budgets for the end of the Financial year. *Matter closed.*
26. ELC poverty plan – Representing our Connected Communities teams in assessing our Child Poverty Plan, Poverty Self Assessments and Crisis planning. ***Matter ongoing.***
27. **ELC Roads team and AP Roads element** – Met with colleagues from our Roads team to discuss the budget that AP members can influence going forward. Our allocation will be £50,000 less the £2,500 for the design support we receive from colleagues. I will update members at our meeting, under the Roads budget element. *Matter closed.*

Simon Davie

Connected Communities Manager – Fa'side

25th April 2024

Item 6 a i - FAP 9/5/24

FA'SIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024 ANNUAL



Fa'side Community Kitchen is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation
SC050754



SIMON DAVIE

Chair

Welcome to our second Annual Report and my last as Interim Chair of FCK. We have had a busy year, with changes in staffing, volunteers and hosting our first Annual General Meeting!

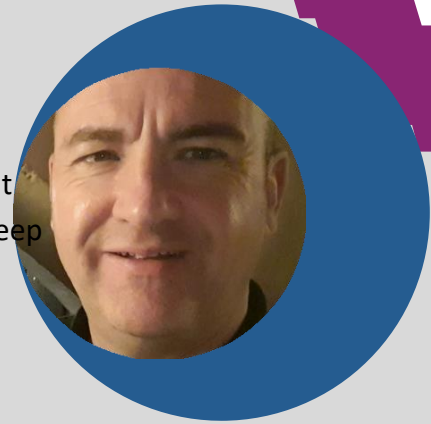
Like most households and charities at the moment we have seen a significant increase in our costs for both food and heating etc. Our Trustees, staff and volunteers are looking at ways of increasing our financial contributions and helping keep our costs down.

I am pleased to report that we have been successful in securing Communities Mental Health and Well Being Fund for adults, so a huge thank you to Volunteer Centre East Lothian and the Scottish Government for investing in us for another year.

Both these strands of funding are helping us to be sustainable and we have other plans to further increase the contributions we receive, to help us continue to support local residents.

The charity has continued to grow this year and we have increased our Trustees and are beginning to grow our list of volunteers, without whom we would not exist. So a HUGE thanks to all those who volunteer for our amazing wee charity and all those who have contributed to it this year; whether financially or otherwise.

I leave the charity in a strong position and with great local people involved. I want to thank everyone who has worked with or supported FCK over the years of my involvement. I am looking forward to seeing it grow from strength to strength and if you would like to get involved or help us please contact fasideck.booking@gmail.com



MEET THE TEAM

Joyce Thomson
Kitchen Officer

MEET THE TEAM



Joyce has been involved from the start, and with all her community connections is a great asset to FCK.



Fiona O'Donnell
Development Officer

Fiona joined FCK in December. She brings a wealth of third sector experience to the role.



OUR MISSION

"To tackle social isolation and address food inequalities across the Fa'side area by providing a social café approach to connect people through food and activities. Promoting wellbeing through engagement in our service."

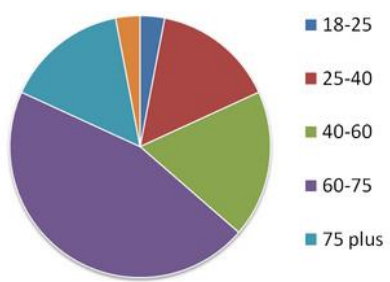
It has been a successful and busy year for FCK. The Tuesday and Thursday lunches are well attended and we continue to deliver meals in Fa'side to ensure vulnerable people in our community have access to a hot meal twice a week.

Listening to our customers

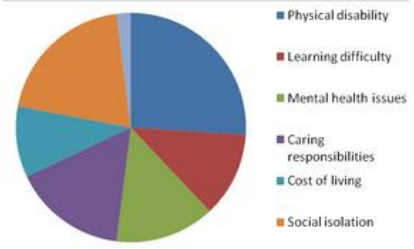
We regularly seek feedback and suggestions from our customers. In our previous annual report bingo topped the chart for activities. Tuesday prize bingo is now a regular feature and a big hit.

This year in a recent survey we learned more about the people who come to FCK.

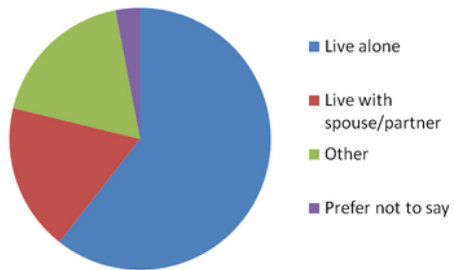
Age Range



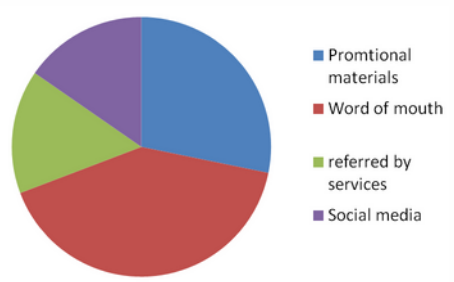
People chose which of these descriptions they identified with



Living Situation



How you heard about FCK





"It gets me out of the house to meet people."

"The volunteers are fabulous and food is lovely"

MORE THAN 1,500 MEALS SERVED

"I have made new friends here and everyone, staff & volunteers are friendly and welcoming to everyone who comes along"

"Living alone is very isolating. The lunch at FCK is the highlight of my week."



We are working in partnership with MELDAP to provide food at the recovery cafe in Tranent. Good food and peer support are important parts of recovery.

Over 250 meals delivered across Fa'side

65 CHRISTMAS DINNERS COOKED & DELIVERED ON CHRISTMAS DAY



Graham and Ryan deliver meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Graham then joins us for lunch.

Our delivery service - "When something is made for you it seems better to eat."

*service is important to me of
"because I don't keep well, because cancer I can't get out myself."*



OUR VOLUNTEERS

The volunteers are the heart and soul of FCK, led by Joyce in the kitchen. Recognising their contribution, we have invested in our volunteers. All our kitchen volunteers who work in the kitchen have completed their food hygiene and handling training and will be taking part in First Aid training in April 2024.

ROWAN IS OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEER.

As a carer he says he benefits from taking a break from that role. He hopes the experience of volunteering with FCK may lead to other opportunities



Thank you to all our volunteers. You gave more than 1500 hours this year!





“As someone new to Tranent I was keen to meet people and get involved in a local community based charity. FCK brings a range of people together to meet, socialise and eat a home cooked meal. I really enjoy being a FCK volunteer. I have made new friends and it’s great to see and share in the positive impact FCK has for so many people. The buzz in the kitchen and among diners is great to be part of.”

- Rob Buchan



Our average attendance is 22, ranging from 17-33 customers

“My employer allocates 3 days a year for volunteering. I was keen to do this in my own community. I heard about Fa'side Community Kitchen and thought it sounded like a great service. It was easy to arrange and I was made to feel welcome and part of the team. There was plenty to do and it was so rewarding seeing how people enjoy not just the food, but the company too. Please think about helping this great local charity as it can't make a difference in our community without volunteers.”

- Alison



Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2023-24



Fa'side
Area Partnership



CHANGEWORKS.



CONTACT US



07598 227332



fasideck.info@gmail.com



www.fasideck.com



ELCO, Blawearie Road, Tranent EH33 2BG

And a huge thank you to all the people and organisations who have supported us over this period. We couldn't do what we do without you.

Item 6 b – 9th May 2024

Connected Communities Fa'side – Community Development Officer (CDO) Update

Report on work completed since March.

1. Introduction

This report focuses on the work I have been carrying out since our last Area Partnership meeting in March.

I have attended various meetings with different community groups, colleagues, and partners. My main priorities have been re-invigorating Fa'side Climate, Travel and Sustainability subgroup, setting up Fa'side Food Provision and the restarting of the Apogi/ Local Voices project.

Andy and I have also covered for each other when we have had annual leave. And when required I have provided my other colleague, Zahra Hussain with community knowledge and passed on my knowledge about NHS community benefits.

When I worked with VCEL I was involved in updating the ELC Management committee's handbook along with Emma Brown and Lorraine Congalton. I have continued to support with this, and I am pleased to say we have now completed the work and it will be uploaded to ELC website.

I have been chasing up evaluations that are due from groups who have been funded through the H&W sub group, and supporting them to collate information required.

2. Area Partnership Subgroups

Health and Wellbeing subgroup

The group have not met since the AP meeting. Andy and I will be going out during May to visit the groups who received funding.

Fa'side Community Kitchen have successfully organised the First Aid training that was funded and we now have 22 people (both volunteers and staff) from various community groups who have been trained and are now able to keep people safe and respond to first aid emergencies.

Roots & fruits have started their gardening group, with numbers of attendee's growing each week.

Our next meeting will take place on the 15th May.

FaCTS (Fa'side Active Climate Travel & Sustainability)

I am delighted to report that we have held our first FaCTS meeting and it was well attended.

Prior to the meeting I had contact with Richard Kerr, ELC Active Travel who was keen for us to hear about a project that Planning Aid Scotland are keen to deliver in Fa'side. Planning Aid Scotland can support the local community to deliver a Walking Action plan with no cost to the Partnership. This is still being investigated, but if anyone would like to see the presentation, I can send it on. An expression of interest needs to be submitted before the end of May.

Bobby Pembleton from East Lothian Climate Hub attended the meeting and spoke about his new role, managing the Hub.

The Chairs report for the group goes into more detail about some of the idea's that were discussed at our first meeting.

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, 20th June at Macmerry Village Hall.

3. Head of Establishment Duties

No issues at Elphinstone Community Centre, monthly audits are ongoing. Andy and I will be spending time next month to review Head of Establishment procedures.

4. Capacity building in Fa'side

A. The Bronx

Work has been done to renew the groups lease for the Town Hall for another 1 year. Over the next few months, I will be working with Paul Huish and Michael Campbell to ensure the group are sustainable and Michael will be supporting them to produce a business plan. Hopefully once we have all this in place, the group can look at their long-term future.

B. Tranent FC

I set up an initial meeting with Tranent FC, along with East Lothian Works and Active Schools to address some of the anti-social behaviour associated with the "Ultra's". The initial meeting was productive, and we agreed a plan for the upcoming matches, arranging for the police and CCTV van to be in attendance. This didn't go to plan as the police weren't visible, and there was a disturbance after the game. The young people have now been banned from all games unless accompanied by an adult. We have planned future meetings with key partners and Police to see how we can move forward and also support the club.

C. Friends of Polson Park

Friends of Polson Park has been dormant since pre Covid but they are ready to relaunch the charity. I have supported the group to set up a new social media account to allow them to advertise for new members with the view to setting up an AGM in the next couple of months.

I have started pulling together a document detailing various funding streams that the group could look to apply too.

D. Apogi/ Local Voices

I have been meeting with Lorna to help me understand the Apogi project and what work still needs done to bring the remainder of the project to life. I have also met with Liz Hutchison to make sure she is involved and aware of what I am doing. This is a mammoth task, and I will require support from Neil, our Senior Business Support Officer and may need to involve library staff.

I have also arranged to meet with Steve Byrne for an update, as I will be starting work on the Local Voices project.

E. Fa'side Community Kitchen

Supported FCK to organise and advertise First Aid training, funded through the Health & Wellbeing. The sessions were for FCK staff & volunteers and other community

groups to access. We now have 22 people trained from various local organisations who can respond in first air emergencies.

I also supported Fiona, their Development Officer to produce their annual report, gathering information and helping to pull things together for their annual report launch event.

F. Fa'side Festive Provision

I have liaised with staff from Pennypit Trust to pull together information for the annual evaluation report. We have also started discussions about the provision for this coming Festive period.

G. Fa'side recovery café

Met with partners for an update. The weekly café is going really well and there have been up to 12 people attending regularly. It was decided to conduct a survey to see what food the attendees would like to see on the menu each week. During the time it has been up and running the MELD staff have triaged 2 people successfully in to rehab.

H. Fa'side Food Provision

First meeting taking place on the day I am writing this report. I have had a good response from all the groups I have invited and hope to have a good attendance. Having attended the East Lothian Food Friendly Network this week, it will be a good chance to pass on useful information locally.

I can report verbally on this.

I. Tranent Library Communities Day

Working with library staff to arrange this year's community day which will be held in July. I have contacted various organisations that weren't in attendance last year to see if they would like to come along and provide an activity. I have been providing advice around where they could access funding for food/ snack and licenses. This work is ongoing, and we hope to make it a really interactive event for all ages.

5. Work priorities for the next few months

- Focus on Apogi and Local Voices – will work with Lorna, Liz, Library staff and Steve Byrne to finalise both projects. - **Ongoing**
- Work with Tranent Football Club around a celebration/ event of the car park, renovations, and plaque/ sign, thanking Area Partnership and other funders for their support. - **Ongoing**
- Discussions around the logistics of moving Cairns at the bottom of Church Street. - **Ongoing**
- Seeking to organise a public meeting at the end of the year around Area partnership performance. I will be looking to set up a short life working group to support. – **Ongoing**
- Investigating the possibility of a Communities Day for Fa'side in 2025. - **Ongoing**

Tracey Redpath

CDO, Fa'side

Email: tredpath@eastlothian.gov.uk

Mobile: 07855 994 524

12/2/24

Item 6 c – 9th May 2024

Connected Communities Fa'side – Community Development Officer (CDO) Update

Report on work completed since 5th March 2024.

1. Introduction

This report focuses on the work I have been carrying out since 5th March 2024 and is being typed on 12th April 2024 due to annual leave between then and the meeting in May. There are many different strands of work ongoing at the moment and it is key that some areas take priority over others to allow me to make a positive impact locally. These decisions are becoming harder due to budget constraints and capacity issues.

We are expecting a progress visit from the Inspectorate and as such there has been a recent focus on ensuring all monitoring and evaluation is up to date. We have submitted the Community Learning and Development stats for quarter 4 of 2023/2024 and have identified some days when I return from annual leave to bring everything up to date.

Our youth work programme is continuing to grow in terms of the number of young people we are engaging with. We have completed the issue-based youth work in Ormiston PS and are halfway through the same work at Windygoul PS. We are looking forward to welcoming all P7 pupils from across Fa'side at Meadowmill in June and we are still working closely with Recharge to develop services for our local young people.

I am responsible for 3 buildings and have completed the relevant monthly tasks associated with this role. I had allocated time in March to look at Head of Establishment responsibilities with Tracy Redpath and our business and administration support, Neil Bainbridge, but we have now had to set a date in May to go over this thoroughly.

2. Children/Youth Work

Due to budget constraints, I have been working tirelessly on how I can maximise outcomes for local young people with the resources at hand. I will hold a meeting with all our youth work staff when I return from annual leave (1st May) and will verbally report to the Area Partnership about what our intentions are for the year ahead.

Ormiston Youth Club has, on average, 35 young people attending each Tuesday evening and we have approximately 22 attending Pencaitland on a Wednesday evening. Numbers at Elphinstone are approximately 24 across the two groups that operate out of Elphinstone Community Centre on a Thursday.

I mentioned in my previous report that our youth work staffing compliment has reduced. We would like to publicly thank Aaron Waugh for his commitment and positive youth work delivery over the last year and wish him well for his new start in America.

My last report alluded to a range of discussion that were ongoing about how we protect and advance youth services/provision in Fa'side. Simon and I have met with the board of Recharge to discuss the gaps in provision and try to work together to forge a positive path for all young people in our community. There will be a planning meeting in May with the board of Recharge, Alan, Tracey and I to look at priorities and how we can best serve our local children and young people. We will keep the Area Partnership up to date with developments.

Neil Bainbridge has been pulling together the Transitions event for this year and has done a great job, with a range of providers assisting us. Activities will be provided by Recharge, The Bronx Boxing, Active Schools, ELC Arts Services, ELC Library Services, the

Mental Health Youth Worker and East Lothian Orienteering. We look forward to welcoming all P7 pupils from across our 7 primary schools this June.

We are halfway through the issue-based group work that is delivered in Primary Schools now in Windygoul PS. We have completed the group work in Ormiston PS and will be starting another group at Windygoul in the coming weeks.

Our support to the library has had to cease and I have met with colleagues from Families Together EL as well as those in library services and EL Works to try to come up with a collaborative approach to assisting the children and young people. This situation is ongoing, and Recharge will be a support too in coming up with a workable solution. In my previous report I said that evidence could be provided with regards to the impact our work has had on the library as well as the young people attending, and this can be shared via email to all partners after the AP meeting.

Tranent FC – I have been involved in a working group with EL Works, Recharge, Active Schools, and Tranent Football Club with regards to a group of young people who have been involved in some instances over the season. This is an ongoing issue and we will continue to connect organisations together to look at engaging with the young people positively.

3. Child Planning Framework Locality Team Meeting

I have attended two of these meetings and there have been various actions deriving from the meetings. These early intervention meetings are led by Education and EL Works and are to prevent children and young people from entering into formal social work referrals. They are hosted every 8 weeks and to date we have reviewed 6 cases. The next meeting is in May when I return from annual leave.

I have included this in my report as there have been various actions for me to take from the meetings and it will be an area of work that will be prioritised as we progress through the year.

We have delivered 4 x 1:1 session with a young person that came through this process and will continue to support until the Summer with the hope of a positive destination for the young person.

Service Legal Agreement (SLA) with Recharge Youth Project

The SLA has been awarded at the same amount for the upcoming year. The work plan and actions are currently being arranged between myself and Alan and we hope to have the signed off in the coming weeks.

The specialist youth work role has been a real success to date. Outcomes are reiterated below.

These outcomes are as follows:

- 1) Young people will have increased engagement with local services, giving them more structure and support.
- 2) Young people will have improved mental wellbeing and long-term plan to support them.
- 3) Increased attendance/attainment in school and or in community settings.

Alan and the team at Recharge continue to be a positive and essential partner when it comes to engaging with young people in Tranent and Fa'side. The evaluation is currently up to date and a case study of one of the young people who has benefitted

massively from the intervention has been captured on video and has been used to give an understanding of the impact this service has had and the importance of it being further funded.

4. Area Partnership Subgroups

Health and Wellbeing subgroup

Tracey and I will meet with the successful applicants to the Health and Wellbeing subgroup fund to conduct progress visits in May.

The meeting in February had presentations from Anna Taylor from Eastspace and Fiona O'Donnell from Fa'side Community Kitchen.

The next meeting will be held at VCEL's offices on Tranent High Street on Wednesday 15th May from 0930-1130.

Children and Young People's Practitioners Network

The subgroup met on Tuesday 6th January 2024 and there were a range of organisations/services represented at the meeting. The meeting really went well, with some actions coming from the meeting.

Neil and Alan will arrange the date of the next meeting and will notify members. Minutes from both subgroup meetings can be made available to Area Partnership members on request.

5. Head of Establishment Duties

Monthly audits are ongoing and have been completed for March 2024.

There are still ongoing issues with Facilities Management with regards to Head of Establishment duties and this does take up some of my time each week.

The introduction to this report alluded to the fact that I need to allocate some time to meet the demands of my Head of Establishment responsibility, and this is an area of development for the first quarter of 2024.

I have held a centre user group meeting at Pencaitland and there is one set for Ormiston CC when I return from annual leave. This is for all centre users to come together and share ideas as well as understand how to most effectively share space.

6. Capacity Building

I continue to support a range of community groups and organisations locally. Funding has been secured for many of them as per the previous report and I will continue to work with the groups to assist them in building their capacity.

7. Community Facilities in Fa'side

J. Macmerry village hall

1. Macmerry Men's shed – Secured funding from the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. Arranged meeting for my return.
2. User Groups – Still can't bring in any additional groups to Macmerry due to Facilities Management being in business continuity.

K. Ormiston Community Centre

1. Primrose Day Centre – met with their board with regards to the lease agreement and will collect the signed agreement when I return.
2. Ormiston Youth Club – Established and running well to date.
3. Thrive CIC – the afterschool club has been operating since February and a holiday club has been facilitated throughout Easter holidays. I will meet with the manager of Thrive when I return to work.
4. Centre users – Meeting arranged for Monday 6th May.

Trevelyan Hall, Pencaitland:

1. Toddlers – There are no issues – the toddler’s group are operating very well since coming back into the building.
2. Pencaitland Lunch Club – All fine at the moment.
3. Pencaitland Youth Club – Been a huge success to date.
4. Centre users – Meeting has been held and minutes require to be circulated.

Andy Cheshire

CDO, Fa’side

Email: acheshire3@eastlothian.gov.uk

Mobile: 07855 986 897

12/04/2024

#HaveYourSay

East Lothian Poverty Plan 2024-2027

You are invited to have your say on East Lothian Partnership's plans for tackling poverty in the county. This consultation is a key opportunity to ensure your experience is heard within the Poverty Plan.

We will be consulting on the Plan's 4 key outcomes:

- **Good jobs that pay fairly**, where we support people to gain the skills and training needed to find and maintain work, in flexible jobs that pay fairly.
- **Enough money from benefits**, our social security system should provide people with a fair income, but millions of pounds go unclaimed each year. We will support people to claim the income that they are entitled to.
- **Cost of living support**, daily essentials can be a financial burden that drives people into poverty. We will provide advice and support to those who are struggling with high living costs.
- **Climate change ready**, climate change will impact vulnerable and low income communities the hardest. We will take preventative action to protect and support these communities.

The way we will work will promote these outcomes.

- Making sure that poverty is **everybody's business**, and that actions to tackle poverty are part of every service plan. We will make sure that those making budget decisions understand how poverty affects people in East Lothian.
- Working in a way that is **stigma- and trauma-informed**. We have heard very clearly that stigma is preventing people from reaching out for support. We will make sure that our services are approachable, discreet and offer dignity and choice. We will help our workforce understand the impact of trauma and poverty.
- Working effectively as a **partnership**, we will build on our existing strong partnership in East Lothian. We will share data, resources and knowledge more effectively, and work towards a collective vision for East Lothian.

This will be underpinned by specific **improvements we need to make** to our current ways of working. These include actions around our housing, transport, childcare, and economy. It will require changes in the ways we work with people with lived experience of poverty, how we evaluate our projects, share our data and shape our places. It will also shape how we deliver our services, communicate about our work, and advocate for East Lothian residents.

How to get involved

Online consultation [Have Your Say: East Lothian's Poverty Plan \(communitychoices.scot\)](https://communitychoices.scot)

- Respond to the key outcomes and themes of the plan by answering our survey questions in "[debate](#)" section
- Comment directly on the plan using the "[comments](#)" section.

In person at our drop-in session: Monday 13th May 2024 9.30-5 at Volunteer Centre East Lothian in Tranent

- Drop-in at any point throughout the day to comment on the plan and our priorities
- Aimed at third sector organisations and other groups, members of the public are very welcome
- Teas and coffees will be provided. Event address: 56 High Street, Tranent, EH33 1HH.



Please feel free to share with anyone that you think might be interested. For any questions please contact Lucy

lhigginson@eastlothian.gov.uk

Item 8 a – FAP 9/5/24

FaCTS Subgroup Report – Fa’side Area Partnership

1. FaCTS RELAUNCH EVENT

The meeting was held in The Fraser Centre in Tranent from 7-9PM on Thursday 4th April. There was a really encouraging attendance (14 people) and constructive round the table sharing, development and support for ideas including The Local Interactive Map Project and idea for a Tranent Tree Town initiative as detailed below.

Bobby Pembleton, manager of the recently launched **East Lothian Climate Hub**, spoke about what ELCAN / SCCAN can offer and is looking to achieve as one of 20 Climate Hubs funded by The Scottish Government. With funding now established for 2 years the Hub will work to support local initiatives and build a strong network in East Lothian.

Bobby encouraged any groups with environmental focus to join ELCAN and information was distributed with details

NEXT MEETING

Given the very positive spirit of this Relaunch Event it was agreed to keep a forward momentum and look to meet again in 2 months’ time.

Areas to be taken forward are

2. LOCAL INTERACTIVE MAP TO ENCOURAGE ACTIVE EXPLORATION OF TOWN & VILLAGES

As an Active Travel initiative this builds on ideas from pre-Covid meetings where initial funding had allowed purchase of a drone + camera + license and domain name for the project though licences will need to be renewed.

SUMMARY

- a) We will need to get funding to commission someone to carry out this work and part of the FaCTS budget might be used as seed funding.
- b) The mapping will involve connecting with local groups and individuals to collect a rich collection of information and stories on our local natural environment, local history and many good local initiatives
- c) The map would lay out a number of walks and cycle routes – some short and suitable for people with limited mobility and others more extensive
- d) QR codes placed throughout the town and villages will allow people to access information

3. TRANENT TREE NURSERY

The Heugh Community Garden (Natural Connections) might best lead on this project with possible land and partnership from Carlaverock Farm on the south of Tranent.

SUMMARY

- a) The area has one of lowest tree cover in East Lothian where Ash Dieback will fully engage the East Lothian Tree Officer and Forestry Squad in cutting down trees over the next few years with no capacity for replanting.

- b) There is opportunity to involve many people in the wider community with the whole process of new native trees and other native bushes and groundcover. This would involve sowing and care for seeds, tending saplings, planting and then watering and weeding for a period of 5 years

Russell McLarty – Chair of FaCTS Subgroup – 23rd April 2024

Item 8 b – Health & Wellbeing Sub Group

Summary

The Health and Wellbeing subgroup last met on Wednesday 14th February 2024, with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15th May 2024.

Presentations at the next meeting will be from Kat Prangle from Breastfeeding Lens and Fiona O'Donnell from Fa'side Community Kitchen. Jane Cunningham, from East Lothian Health and Social Care will also be giving a presentation on Collaborative Mental Health & Well-Being Information HUBs

Rosanne Woods

Chair

Fa'side Health and Wellbeing Subgroup

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Tranent Youth & Community Facility | Company No. SC287166 | Charity No. SC036626

Fa'side Area Partnership April 2024 - Young Formers Update

Since the last meeting the young formers have continued to meet up weekly.

The young people have been planning how to get more involved in the social media produced by Recharge.

They are happy to continue as a sub group of the area partnership and are exploring how they can be best connected and the most effective, they have arranged to meet with Andy Cheshire in advance of future partnership meetings. They are happy to be involved in face to face partnership meeting but unfortunately due to other commitments they would be unable to do this until after the summer holidays.

They have continued to be involved with the development of the Recharge building particularly with the development of the chill/sensory room.

During the Easter holidays the young people done a trip to Edinburgh Zoo and had food at Mr Basrai's World Cuisine.

They have also made contact with another youth project TD1 in Galashiels and are in the process of arranging a visit to see what learning we can take from their to use in the Recharge and the Fa'side

The young people have also just ran a celebration event for EID after a variety of young people participated in Ramadan and the group are helping Recharge to plan events for other religions and cultures throughout the year to help all young people feel included in the local community.

Over the next couple of months we will be having a more relaxed focus to the sessions with the young people involved sitting school exams so our main focus will be supporting them with this and wishing them good results in the exams they are sitting.



Recharge is Supported by

Fa'side Item 10 a - Meeting 9-5-24									
Budget Allocation 2023/24									
FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY			A	R	G		ExF		
			Amenity Services *1	Roads *2	General	SG funding	External funding		Notes
Date Approved	Organisation	Project	£100,000	£50,000	£50,000			Paid	
01/04/22	ELC - Roads	Admin fee		2,500.00				Y	Admin fee for supporting and designing project
01/04/23	PCDT	Easter Lunch Club					5,032.50	n	Approved by delegated authority on 15-3-23 due to timing of Easter and need to plan and get staffing in place. Used holiday hunger funding to support this request. Still have £1,567.50 to allocate from budget.
11/04/23	Recharge	Faside Young Defenders (Youth sub group)			1,000.00			?	Approved 11/4/23
11/04/23	ELC - Connected Communities Fa'side	Fa'side Active Travel Sub group *3			4,999.37			Y	Multiple awards given by Sub group, approved by AP on 5/3/24
11/04/23	ELC - Connected Communities Fa'side	Fa'side Health and Well being Sub group			10,000.00			Y	Approved 11/4/23
11/04/23	ELPA	Summer play activities			6,211.00			Y	Approved 11/4/23
11/04/23	Can Do	Transport costs - Summer and Youth clubs			9,289.00			Y	Approved 11/4/23
01/05/23	Roads external contractor	Signage and bollards - Tranent and Gladsmuir		2,000.00				y	Approved by AP 1/5/23 - Requested by TECC and Cllr Menzies
06/06/23	PCDT	Lunch clubs for Oct 23 and Feb 24			5,785.00			Y	Approved 6/6/23

06/06/23	PCDT	Faside Festive Provision 23			4,750.00				Approved 6/6/23 - pending last years evaluaton being circulated and checked
22/08/23	Roads external contractor	Speed reactive sign, Church Street Tranent		6,000.00				Y	Approved by AP - 22/8/23 - Requested by TECC
07/11/23	Natural Connections	Ash Die Back			0.00			N	Agreement in principle to support any shortfall in sum needed. Project on hold, may come back to a future meeting.
07/11/2023 / 5/3/24	PCDT	Jingle Bags - Festive provision			1,000.00		1,500.00	Y	Full AP supported JB's req on 7/11/23 - additional request for support (which was agreed in principle on 7/11/23). Email vote circulated to members on the additional spend - confirmed at AP meeting 5/3/24
05/03/24	Thrive CIC	Ormiston Explorers			6,965.00				Approved at AP meeting on 5/3/24
05/03/24	East Lothian Play Association	Summer play activities			0.00			N	Agreed to consider in next financial year
		Total Spend	£ -	£10,500	£49,999.37	£ -	£6,533		
		Balance	£100,000	£39,500	£ 0.63		£(6,533)		
			Amenity Services	Roads	General				
			A	R	G				
Notes	PLEASE TURN OVER								
*1	Resource Allocation	Labour and Machinery - need to secure funding for materials							

*1	Resource Allocation	Labour and Machinery - need to secure funding for materials							
*2	Funding managed by Roads	Needs early discussions to be added to Roads planned maintenance programme							

Extract of Members Library Report: Funding for Communities 2024/25

April 2024

3.13. The Roads Service produces a works programme which sets out the planned capital works for both its internal and external workforce. This is based on schemes which have been identified through the needs assessment process and those projects ranked highest are included within the operational programme. The Roads Service will share the works programme with the Connected Communities Managers and Area Partnerships. This will identify the priority projects included in the operational programme as well as those schemes that are not on the priority list but are projects that the service would be looking to undertake in the future. It is these projects, alongside other local priority projects determined by Area Partnerships, that Area Partnerships can influence the Roads Service for inclusion in future works programme where possible and or when funding becomes available.

Following a meeting with Roads colleagues to discuss the above and what it meant practically for Fa'side Area Partnership and its members, the bullet points below identify some additional detail which may be useful to community groups/communities in their considerations of how to best to engage with this influential spend.

- Generally, the principle should be that we are seeking to improve the existing Roads network and its infrastructure, for example paths, roads, street furniture – such as bollards etc.
- Roads will compile a list of projects in the Fa'side area which will be not included in their current capital works programme. These projects are ones which members can consider and then either rank, in terms of priorities or agree; depending on the amount of proposed spend. *As soon as I receive this list, I will share it with all AP members.*
- Communities can seek to influence projects that are over their budget (£47,500 per annum). Whether this means thinking about when work can be undertaken across two financial years. Or indeed, where Roads can use their existing Capital programme to supplement the project, there is scope to discuss increasing our impact across the area.
- There is scope for legacy projects which were either approved or in discussion to be included – this could include the speed reactive signs in Pencaitland. Although there was discussion

about adding extra speed signage, as there is evidence that the more you see a sign, the easier it is to ignore. Also, there was a reminder that community groups can request that a sign is moved, to widen impact.

There are two key messages to be considered by community groups and members:

1. What projects do communities have in mind and how quickly can you present these to me?
2. Are there any legacy projects that communities have which we need to make Roads aware off and seek clarity on whether these will be taken forward?

Simon Davie

Connected Communities Manager – Fa'side
29th April 2024