

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Wednesday 11th September 2024, 7-9 pm
Pennypit Centre, Prestonpans**

Members (and substitute members) present:

Ben Morse, Chair (BM)
 Cllr Colin Yorkston, East Lothian Council (CY)
 Cllr Neil Gilbert, East Lothian Council (NG)
 Pamela Fraser, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Gala (PF)
 Sandra Bell, Chairperson Port Seton Centre Management Committee (SB)
 Carla Allan, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (CA)
 Helen York, Longniddry Community Council (HY)
 Sandy Darling, Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council (SD)
 Janis Wilson, Prestonpans Community Council (JW)
 Graeme Hutchison, Prestonpans Children's Gala (GH)
 Sheila Chambers, Cockenzie & Port Seton In Bloom (SC)
 Stuart Thomson, Pennypit Community Development Trust (ST)
 Euan Stratton, Pennypit Community Development Trust (ES)
 Hannah Montgomery, Lighthouse Central (HM)

Others in attendance:

Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager, ELC (EB)
 Shirley Gillie, Business Support, ELC (SG)
 Jo Gibb, East Lothian Climate Hub (JG)
 Martin Hayman, ELC, Project Officer – LHEES (MH)


Apologies:

Robin Hill, Longniddry Parish Church (RH)
 Lyn Marshall, Deputy Lieutenant (LM)
 Jordan Irvine, ELC Community Development Officer (JI)
 Sarah Torrence, Preston Tower Parent Council (ST)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS
1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies	
	BM welcomed everyone and apologies were noted.
2. Minutes of previous meeting	
	BM thanked everyone for replying to email votes re minutes and funding as we were not quorate at last meeting. Minutes from previous meetings 10 th June 2024 were approved by PM and seconded by SB.
3. Matters Arising	
	BM advised most matters arising would come up during this agenda.

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	
	BM reiterated that the New Area Plan is a living document. We should continue to discuss action and update.	
4. Heat and Energy Strategy		
	<p>Have asked MH for notes to go into minutes</p> <p>There was an engaging discussion following MH presentation and topics included, the cost and investment required, contribution to Community Wealth Building, the coverage of rural areas and the potential for housing a unit at Cockenzie site.</p>	
5. Roads and Amenities		
	<p>BM advised members of the 4 suggested projects from the Road Team to be discussed tonight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1348 Prestonpans (west for 200m) – Footway Resurfacing - £36k • South Seton Park, Port Seton – Carriageway Resurfacing - £45k • Gardiner Road South, Prestonpans – Carriageway Resurfacing – 47k • Douglas Road, Longniddry – Carriageway Resurfacing - £37.5k <p>A discussion took place and Members voted for the Footway Resurfacing B1348. With the extra money left over looking at repairing or replacing the speed reactive sign at Cockenzie site.</p> <p>Members asked how these 4 projects were decided and a discussion took place. EB to request more information from Roads.</p> <p>Amenities</p> <p>BM reminded members to continue to identify potential projects. JW to take back discussion on Preston Tower beds to Friends of Preston Tower group. SC highlighted that Port Seton & Cockenzie In Bloom have already had discussions with Amenities. They have requested that there is no further cutting back of planting at the War Memorial. A discussion continued arounds concerns relating to street cleaning particularly outside the chemist in Port Seton. A member of staff had commented that they hadn't been supplied with a brush. CY to raise this with Amenities team. EB will feedback to the Amenities Team on proposals.</p>	<p style="color: red;">EB</p> <p style="color: red;">CY/EB</p>
6. Funding		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pennypit Trust - £2,600 ring fenced The additional information requested has been submitted and EB read out the details. After a discussion and questions answered by Stuart and Euan on line it was agreed by the majority of members to release the remaining £2,600. - Preston Lodge Learning Foundation – change of funding 	

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	<p>EB advised of the request for change of funds as the washing machine was supplied without a charge instead this is to be used for storage bins, shelving, wellbeing packs. Members agreed to this change.</p> <p>Pennypit Family Centre – additional bus EB updated members on the very successful trips and due to a lower cost for the transport they have been able to deliver 3 trips rather than 2.</p> <p>EB advised members of the funding dates 28th August - 18th September Funding Open; 3rd October 7.15pm Port Seton.</p> <p>Skylark – EB advised this funding was ringfenced but their application has now been withdrawn.</p>	
7. Blindwells Update		
	<p>A new Tenants and Residents group is currently forming with their next meeting 25th September 2024. We have use of a small portacabin for community activities including Councillors surgeries, play rangers, stay and play, community drop ins including the foodbank, library and nutrition sessions. A new Community notice board is to be installed outside the portacabin.</p> <p>The Primary School will be completed around April 2025. There will eventually be a bus service with residents still awaiting the installation of a bus stop on the main road which is linked to the contract for A1 slip road and Active Travel route to rail station.</p>	
8. Vice Chair Recruitment		
	<p>BM asked if you know anyone who may be interested in the position and would like some more details to please get in touch.</p>	
9. Sub Groups		
	<p>Sustainable PSG BM highlighted that their last meeting was face to face which really aided the discussion. There was a focus on Community Rail Partnership following issues with train capacity for local commuters. They plan to work with the CRP on a survey as well as gaining data from Scot Rail around which communities are accessing which rail stations. There were concerns raised regarding the resurfacing of the dual carriageway into Longniddry which the group had previously raised. CM provided a good update at the last meeting including introduction of the new Sustrans officer. NCR 76 is still under discussion.</p> <p>Children & Youth Network At the last meeting we focussed on two priorities in the Area Plan. Producing a children friendly version of the Plan and a family’s leaflet. SB updated on the development of a new youth organisation after meeting with VCEL and looking at a number of options. The 4 Management Committees have progressed a constitution for a new organisation. EB highlighted that the 1st festive provision meeting had taken place with partners and it was agreed to include a question on the referral form for</p>	

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	<p>food vouchers instead of physical food. This is a great piece of partnership work. It was agreed at the last H&W meeting to direct £1,000 of the Community Benefit funding to festive provision. Key dates are 23.12.24 and 30.12.24 for food delivery. 20.12.24 for Christmas presents and vouchers and 24.12.24 for social bite plated meals. The Pennypit Trust will have a Christmas Day delivery.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing SB advised at their last meeting they agreed to £1,000 for festive provision and £500 for Community Garden through CDO GH from Community Benefits. There was discussion around extending the current locations of the information and wellbeing HUB which is located at the Community Hospital. There is a survey currently live to consult on topics and needs. The 1st HUB will take place in Port Seton centre. The sub group is exploring constituting as a group to access funding.</p> <p>Heritage JI is currently on annual leave. EB provided an update on the activity of Heritage groups included archaeological fortnight and the opening of Preston Tower. The Friend of Preston Tower have undertaken a huge amount of work delivering two open days which sold out almost immediately and another planned. A knitting craze has begun around PSG and wider in East Lothian to knit pigeons to fill every hole in the Doocot. There has been low attendance at the Heritage network meetings and they are reviewing the way forward.</p>	
10. The East Lothian Partnership		
	<p>EB presented on the direction suggested for the East Lothian Partnership including the time frame for review of the current plan, self assessment with improvement service and development of a new Plan 2026-2036. The presentation is attached. Members were asked to complete the survey. See link below. CA raised concerns around the timeline and EB updated that we had listened to feedback and extended the timeline to the end of 2025.</p> <p></p> <p>AP Group no notes.zip</p> <p>https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/policy-partnerships/b02bcc94</p>	
11. A.O.C.B		
	<p>JG highlighted the work of the East Lothian Climate Action Network around heat energy. Information will be circulated following the meeting however the ask is for 2 volunteers to give a few hours a week in October, January and February. Please get in touch if you are interested.</p>	
12. Area Partnership Proposed Meetings Dates for 2024		
	<p>9/10/2024 20/11/2024</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to - psg- ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>