

Musselburgh  
Area Partnership

**Minutes of Musselburgh Area Partnership Zoom Meeting  
Monday 23rd August 2021, 7.00pm – 9.00pm**

**Members (and substitute members) present:**

Iain Clark, Chair (IC)  
 Janice MacLeod, Support from the Start (JM)  
 Cllr. Stuart Currie, Elected Member (SC)  
 Margaret Stewart, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (MS)  
 Irene Tait, Musselburgh & Inveresk CC (IT)  
 Alister Hadden, Wallyford Community Council (AH)  
 Tanya Morrison, Whitecraig Community Council (TM)  
 Barry Turner, Musselburgh Conservation Society (AS)  
 Natasha McInninie, Bridges Project (NM)  
 Gaynor Allen, Musselburgh GS Parent Council (GA)  
 Christine Shaffer, Levenhall TRA (CS)  
 Pauline Crerar, Fisherrow Waterfront Group (PC)  
 Linda Finlayson, Beach Lane TRA (LF)  
 Ryan Patterson, Beach Lane TRA (RP)  
 Callum McGuire, Queen Margaret University (CM)  
 Cathie McArthur, Vice Chair, Health & Wellbeing Network (CMc)  
 Tina Pollock, First Step (TP)

**Others in attendance:**

Stuart Baxter ELC Area Manager (SB)  
 Shirley Gillie, ELC (SG)  
 Pamela Martin, ELC (PM)  
 Jane Cummings, ELC (JC)  
 Marilyn McNeil, IJB (MM)  
 Tracy Redpath, VECL (TR)

**Apologies:**

Cllr. Katie Mackie, Elected Member (KM)  
 Cllr. John Williamson, Elected Member (JW)  
 Sharon Brown, Musselburgh Business Partnership (SBr)  
 Emma Stewart, Musselburgh Churches Together (ES)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION
<b>1. Welcome , Introductions and Apologies</b>		
	IC welcomed everyone and apologies were noted. IC advised that the meeting would be recorded.	
<b>2. Conflict of Interest</b>		
	This is a standing item on the agenda. Please declare a conflict of interest when projects are being discussed or when voting on funding applications. IT/GA/PC declared a conflict of interest in the application from Eskmuthe Community Rowing Club.	
<b>3. Minutes previous meeting</b>		

	Minutes from meeting 14.6.2021 were approved by MS and seconded by CS.	
<b>4. Membership</b>		
	<p>As this meeting forms part of the annual public meeting there is a requirement for all members to confirm whether they still wished to be part of the Musselburgh Area Partnership or if others were to replace them as representatives of their groups. Members present confirmed their membership. IC stated that emails would be sent to members not present for them to confirm membership.</p> <p>TR from Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL) asked if they could be considered as member of the MAP. A membership list will be attached to the minutes.</p>	<b>IC/SB/SG</b>
<b>5. Election of Chair/Vice Chair</b>		
	<p>IC handed over the chair of the meeting to SB to carry out the election of officer bearers for the next two years. SB confirmed that an email had been sent out to all members and that one nomination had been received for Chair from Iain Clark. IC election was put to members and GA proposed and CMc seconded, no objections were received and IC was duly elected chair for the coming two years.</p> <p>SB informed members that Janice MacLeod wished to stand down as Vice Chair and that no new nominations had been received. Members were asked if anyone was interested in this position. No nominations were received and therefore the position currently remains vacant. A discussion took place regarding the role of vice chair. SB informed members that the vice chair's role is to cover for all elements of the chair's role should this be required and therefore the job description is the same as that of the chair. SB added that in reality the role required far less time and effort than the role of the chair. Succession planning was discussed and the role of vice chair was an ideal opportunity for a member to gain experience on the role of the chair that would assist in the opportunity to become chair at a later date.</p> <p>SB agreed to email members once more regarding the vacant position of vice chair. IC advised that he would be happy to support anyone interested in taking on the role of vice chair and happy to have a private chat if anyone is interested.</p> <p>IC wanted to thank JM for all her hard work and commitment to her role as Vice chair over the last few years.</p>	<b>SB</b>
<b>6. Sub Groups</b>		
	<p><b>Active Travel</b> – BT advised members that the group had not met for some months but BT assured members that he was still active and had recently commented on the Musselburgh Active Toun proposals.</p> <p>BT mentioned the vandalism of some of the hire bikes and perhaps Just Eat won't continue in Musselburgh if the vandalism continues. SB advised that recent press articles had indicated that Just Eat bikes would no longer continue in Edinburgh and as the Musselburgh bikes were tied to that contract it was likely that that this would also affect Musselburgh.</p> <p>BT mentioned the issue of people cycling on the pavements in the town and expressed a need for more information be made available to cyclists to ensure that not only was cycling limited to shared use paths but that cyclists also kept to appropriate and safe speeds.</p>	

	<p>BT made members aware that he had been recently supplied with information on the use of E Bike. SB agreed to send a copy of the report to members. Copy attached.</p> <p>AH raised the issue of drivers parking their vehicles on cycle lanes and enquired if this was legal. SB replied that this depended on whether the cycle lane involved had an enforceable traffic regulation order otherwise the cycle lane would be advisory only and not enforceable. A discussion took place regarding parking on pavements and the Transport Scotland Act which prevented parking on pavements although Local Authorities still awaited guidance from the Scottish Government. Further discussions took place on the need for enforceable cycle lanes particularly at busy junctions and the Musselburgh Active Toun (MAT) proposals. All agreed that MAT project was a great opportunity for Musselburgh and would encourage more people to take part in more active forms of travel. BT assured members of his intention to arrange a sub group meeting prior to the next area partnership meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021.</p> <p><b>Communications</b> – IC advised after two years without a Communities Day due to the pandemic that the Brunton Hall had been booked for a Communities Day on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and a date was being considered for September 2023.</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Wellbeing (H&amp;W)</b> – JM advised members that the sub group have met a number of times and on 20/07/2021 decided to prioritise the needs of the elderly. The amazing work done through COVID and the relationships built up during that time identified this need. JC made members aware that a new Bite &amp; Blether group for the 65+ has started at Whitecraig Village HUB and was proposed to start shortly at Wallyford Community centre. She added that the numbers are growing at Whitecraig and that there had been a great deal of interest for the group starting in Wallyford. The groups provide soup and sandwiches along with a chat and some activities each week. These sessions will develop and are addressing the needs of social isolation which were identified through the work of Resilient Musselburgh. JM is hoping to work with Caroline Davis (CD) and the Musselburgh Grammar School (MGS) to look at effective ways to involve young people. CD will lead on this.</p> <p>JM and other members of the H&amp;W sub group along with the support from the Integrated Joint Board (IJB) have been involved with meetings to look at the possibility of a new Meeting Centre in Musselburgh. JM would like to thank everyone for their support to help make this a reality. She added this is in the very early stages and followed the stage by stage procedures highlighted in the guide book developed by the University of Worcester. JM mentioned they started off with assessing 27 possible venues in Musselburgh which has resulted in two clear preferred locations. JM added that she hoped to visit both of these on 2.9.21. One is the Hollies and the other the Fisherrow Centre. JM highlighted the importance of involving both people living with dementia and their carer’s in this process and that anyone interested in getting involved or would like regular updates please to let her know. A meeting has been arranged on 4.10.21 where people who have previously set up meeting centres can outline their experiences and provide an opportunity for those attending to ask questions and benefit from this experience.</p>	<p>SB</p>
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	<p>IC thanked JM for all her hard work pulling this together.</p> <p><b>Budget &amp; Priorities (B&amp;P)</b> – IC advised the B&amp;P group have not met since the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 however IC has been working on preparing for this year’s Annual Public Meeting.</p> <p><b>Sustainable Musselburgh (SM)</b> – GA provided an update to members. A meeting is due to be held soon. GA made members aware that she had received an email from MS regarding setting up a Community Heating System. She added that this was forwarded to PC from the River Esk Group as they were best placed to offer help and advice. PC confirmed this had been received and was being considered. GA mentioned that the Community Orchard was slowly maturing and she will contact Andrew Hogarth regarding replacing the two stolen trees. GA also added that she will be meeting Lesley Smith of East Lothian Council regarding Climate Beacon funding and discussing COP 26. GA undertook to keep members updated on progress. GA also added that they are still working on the Sustainability HUB and are consulting with the owners of a shop Haddington (Lower Impact Living) <a href="http://Lil(dolilthings.org)">Lil (dolilthings.org)</a> that sells eco products and raises awareness of sustainability in local schools. She added they are an excellent organisation that SM may be able to work with going forward. SC asked GA if she was aware of the National Lottery Together Planet Fund which may be worth a look.</p> <p><b>River Esk Group (REG)</b> PC advised the group have not met and there is nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>7. Proposed Amendments to Standing Orders</b></p>		
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Proposed Amendment to the Musselburgh Area Partnership Standing Orders</b></p> <p>Proposed by Iain Clark, Chair, Musselburgh Area Partnership</p> <p>After a discussion at a recent meeting of the Musselburgh Area Partnership regarding the application process for funding, the following addition to the current standing orders is proposed in relation to the receipt of an application for funding. If considered and agreed, this proposal should be inserted as point 32, and the current point 32 renumbered 33.</p> <p><b>Proposed amendment -</b></p> <p>32. Any application for the funding of a project or initiative which supports the aims and objectives of the Musselburgh Area Partnership can be submitted by any group, organisation or individual serving the communities of Musselburgh, Old Craighall, Wallyford and Whitecraig. Applications will also be considered from National, Regional and local organisations where the outcomes of the project are delivered wholly or partly within the communities of Musselburgh, Old Craighall, Wallyford and Whitecraig.</p> <p>32.1 Applicants must meet the following criteria:  <b>A</b> – Be a Constituted Group and have a bank account, or  <b>B</b> – If not a Constituted Group, have a sponsor organisation to receive funds on their behalf.</p> <p>32.2 Applications will not be considered for Party political, lobbying or religious activity, although applications can be accepted from faith groups if they are for wider community work.</p>	

	<p>32.3 Any application received which appears to the Connected Communities Manager in consultation with the Chair Person to be primarily for Party political, lobbying or religious activity may be responded to accordingly without the need for discussion at a full partnership meeting.</p> <p>32.3 Such an application may be raised at a full meeting if it is felt that further discussion and a decision by members is required.</p> <p>32.4 In any case, members will be made aware of such an application for the purposes of transparency.</p> <p>Members unanimously voted for these amendments. SB/IC/SG will amend the Standing Orders.</p>	<b>SB/IC/SG</b>
<b>8. Chair Report</b>		
	<p>IC advised that the application for a MacDonald’s restaurant had been refused and added this in his opinion this was great result for Musselburgh.</p> <p>IC discussed the COVID Pandemic and the focus of the Musselburgh Area Partnership (MAP) on working with other partners including Community Councils to provide a Resilience effort in the Musselburgh area. IC added that he was now looking at updating the MAP and will meet with SB to discuss this and bring recommendations back to members.</p> <p>IC made members aware that both he and SB had recently met with People Know How to provide help and support for any digital issues across the Musselburgh area. He added that if anyone had any old devices this company will take them and recycle them for use within the community.</p> <p>IC made members aware that both he and SB had also met with PC Kevin Hughes the new School Links Officer for Musselburgh. Discussing his new role and how we can work together. IC also added it was his intention to meet the new Head Teacher at Musselburgh Grammar School.</p> <p>IC explained he is keen for members to get actively involved in bringing forward project ideas. He added that a few years ago the Area Manager did a walk about Musselburgh, Wallyford and Whitecraig town centres identifying areas for improvement and possible projects. He suggested that it may be possible to do this again once it is safe to do so and any members interested in becoming involved should contact the MAP mail box <a href="mailto:Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk">Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</a></p> <p>IC advised that since March 2020 all meetings have been held virtually. Discussion took place re returning to face to face meetings and possible venues. IC asked members to let him know by contacting the MAP mailbox of their preference to continue with virtual meetings or if they prefer face to face meetings or a possible hybrid model with both.</p> <p>IC made members aware that he had recently met with SB/PM/JC regarding the allocation of £30,000 food and welfare funding to discuss the way forward. Discussions are now ongoing with third sector organisations to provide cooking classes, this will help deliver more sustainability moving forward.</p> <p>IC highlighted due to the recent pandemic we have been unable to hold our last two annual public meetings in the normal fashion, however to ensure our community are kept up to date of the work of the MAP a video presentation has been prepared to highlight the work and projects delivered over the last two years. The link will be shared</p>	

	with members and through social media which members should feel free to share. <a href="https://youtu.be/rSjdOAbwTVQ">https://youtu.be/rSjdOAbwTVQ</a> .	
<b>9. Connected Communities Manager Report</b>		
	<p>SB informed the meeting of the current budgetary situation for Musselburgh Area Partnership.</p> <p>Musselburgh Rugby Club - £8,000  Summer Planters £1,230.60</p> <p>SB informed members of the need to discuss the bid tonight for £10,000 from Eskmuthe Community Rowing Club (Felicity Cameron)</p> <p>SB reminded members that the club promoted social and competitive rowing plus boatbuilding for members and that they want to increase water-related activities and promote health and wellbeing, partnership and community involvement at Fisherrow waterfront. They plan to build a boatshed in the car park at the Back Sands to be used as a club building and a boatshed to maintain their boats, build a third skiff and act as a hub for the club. The building will also be used for the wider harbour and seafront community, to provide a hub for community events such as the Loony Dook, Fisherrow Waterfront Group family days, beach cleans etc. The boatshed could also be used by East Lothian Council rangers and the Fisherrow Harbour and Seafront Association.</p> <p>GA provided members to the background of the bid and highlighted that the club were keen to work with young people in the community ie Barnardos, Scouts, Spark of Genius and Who care Scotland. SC also supported the project and was happy that it had received funding from Sports for Scotland.</p> <p>IT/GA/PC all declared a conflict of interest and IC moved them to the waiting room while the voting took place.  Members voted unanimously to support this project.</p> <p>SB made members aware of additional funding available to MAP to support food and welfare as a result of the pandemic. This was for an additional sum of £30,000 to be used by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022. He added that we are looking at a couple of projects one involving cooking classes involving the Cyrenians at Wallyford, Whitecraig and Musselburgh. SC added he is really supportive of this approach to build up confidence, learning new skills and focussing on sustainability. SB undertook to keep members informed of progress on this work.</p> <p>SB also made members aware of additional funding of £6,250 for digital inclusion and that we are currently working on a bid for additional devices to be shared between Wallyford Community Centre and Whitecraig Village Hub. He added that bids were also welcome from members or other groups that may be struggling with digital connectivity or the necessary digital equipment to engage with their group.</p> <p>Amenity Services  SB highlighted that work was ongoing to identify projects for this year’s funding. As previously highlighted agreement had already been given to continue to renew planting in the High Street / Bridge Street.</p>	<p><b>SB</b></p>

	<p>Regarding extending planters into North High Street SB advised members that it has not been possible so far to find someone interested in watering these, although Amenities have been asked to renew the existing planters at Beach Lane.</p> <p>SB made members aware that as requested at the last meeting he had arranged for the planters at the Citizens Advice Bureau to be re done. Unfortunately the new planting had lasted only one week before being vandalised and SB had forwarded members copies of before and after photographs.</p> <p>In the 2019/20 budget we carried over a project to revamp the Levenhall Roundabout with a variety of bulbs from snowdrops/ bluebells and other flowers for continuous colour through to summer wildflower.</p> <p>The cost of this work was for a total of £12,689.50 to include both Amenities £2,215.5 and general budget £10,474.00 and enquired if this is a project members still wish to carry out. He added that although this work would not be undertaken until winter there was a need to order the bulbs to allow this to progress.</p> <p>No objections to this proposal was received from members and SB agreed to progress the purchase of these bulbs.</p> <p>IC made members aware that at our most recent Budget and Priorities sub group meeting it was agreed to look at a project which provided opportunities for members of the community to try out various activities.</p> <p>He added the last 18 months of restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on many members of the community as well as local groups and organisations.</p> <p>This combined with health issues and social isolation may have a long-lasting impact on our community.</p> <p>This proposal looks to identify local groups and organisations who provide intergenerational activities across the communities of Musselburgh, Old Craighall, Wallyford and Whitecraig and provide an opportunity for them to offer free taster sessions to try something new or different or simply provide an opportunity to meet other members of the community in an environment which may open up new experiences and opportunities.</p> <p>This proposal, if agreed in principle, would see the Musselburgh Area Partnership seek to provide an amount of funding for groups and organisations to advertise, promote and deliver free taster sessions to the community.</p> <p>He added that at this point there is no set funding proposed as this will be determined as the project develops.</p> <p>The community has many groups and organisations who can help contribute to a positive impact on mental wellbeing and social isolation.</p> <p>This proposal could offer many benefits to both clubs and members of the community:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It would provide the opportunity for members of the community to try a new experience.</li> <li>2. It would offer an opportunity for members of the community to meet new people and build new confidences.</li> <li>3. It would offer those in the community who have had no real connection with local groups, the opportunity to do so.</li> </ol>	<p>SB</p>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. It may help those in the community who feel isolated and marginalised</li> <li>5. It may help those with their mental well-being.</li> <li>6. It would offer local groups and organisations the opportunity to engage with the community.</li> <li>7. It would offer groups and organisations the opportunity to increase their membership.</li> <li>8. It would also offer opportunities to new residents in our communities.</li> </ol> <p>AH mentioned he had worked with some of the local groups previously and thinks this is a great initiative for engaging new support for these local groups.</p> <p>SC agreed this is value for money and groups may be able to attract other funding streams from this initiative. It will raise awareness of all the local community groups and may even provide future leaders. SC is very supportive.</p> <p>PC advised this will help with mental health and encourage more people to try new experiences.</p> <p>Members agreed to fully support this proposal.</p> <p>IC/SB undertook to work on this further and come back to members with more details. IC reminded members that a draft list of potential groups and organisations had been circulated to members together with the outline of the above proposal. He asked members to inform him if any groups were missing from the list.</p>	<b>IC/SB</b>
<b>10. A.O.C.B</b>		
	<p>There was no other business.</p> <p>IC thanked everyone for coming along tonight and thanked all who were involved in the Resilience effort over the last 18 months. Members also wished to thank those involved.</p> <p>We will have 2 presentations at the next meeting. More information will be sent with the agenda.</p> <p>IC then showed members the video presentation as highlighted in his report.</p>	
<b>2021 Meeting Dates</b>		
<p>Area Partnership meetings for 2021 are as follows:</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021</p>	<p>Apologies to be sent to <a href="mailto:Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk">Musselburgh-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</a></p>	