

**Minutes of the meeting of the Fa’side Area Partnership**

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

**Chair**

Quorum 11

1. Chair Bill Axon (BA)

**Members and substitute members present:**

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

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|  | **Key discussion points** |  |
|  | **Welcome**BA thanked everyone for coming this evening. BA welcomed LB. |  |
|  | **Apologies**Apologies are noted above. |  |
|  | **Declaration of interest for agenda items**BA asked members to state if they felt there was any declarations going through the meeting. |  |
|  | **Approval of Minutes**BA went through the minutes of the 5th March 2024Approved by MFSeconded by AB |  |
|  | **Matters Arising****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.*** **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.******Page 5 Item 8 –*** Area Plan Consultation – AC will contact Susan Humble from ELPA. ***Matter Ongoing***.**Page 6 Item 6A** – Consultation for Area Plan review – SD to reflect on feedback from members and update members at a future meeting.**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.*****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*****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.*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.* **Page 5 Item5c – 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*****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*****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 17thJuly 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. Will revisit this matter in the future. ***Matter ongoing***.**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 Completed.*****Page 9 Item 11 –** Meeting Dates – KM asked member to consider meeting dates for the rest of the year. **Post Minute Note:- LM emailed all members and rescheduled our up and coming meetings are below. *Matter closed.*** | SD/MAACACALLALLSD/LMALLSD/LM/ALLSD/LM |
|  | **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 tool 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.***  | **Note** |
|  | **Connected Communities Team update**.1. **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 year. 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.

(6a Cont.)* **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.
1. **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 meeting. 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. 1. **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 20th May 2024 to discuss possible gaps in youth work gaps in the area.
* Head of Establishment – AC has arranged user group meetings in different facilities in the next few weeks to improve communication between ELC the respective groups.

SA thank AC for his excellent report and maximising all resources in our ward area in order to benefit our communities.  | **ALL**NoteALLNoteNoteNoteNoteNoteNoteNoteNoteNote |
|  | For information on live consultations please visit: [East Lothian Council - Citizen Space (eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)](https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/). Consultations (*at time papers circulated*): -1. **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](https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/adult-wellbeing/justice-social-work/) if seeking more information – **closes 26th April 2024**.

**b.** [East Lothian Council (**Greendykes Road, Macmerry**) (Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2024](https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/infrastructure/east-lothian-council-greendykes-road-macmerry-proh/) – change in waiting times. Please click [here](https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/infrastructure/east-lothian-council-greendykes-road-macmerry-proh/) if seeking more information – **closes 26th April 2024**.1. [**Early Learning and Childcare: August 2024 Intake**](https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/education/august-intake-2024/)**:** 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 **Monday 13 May 2024**. Consultation opens on 29th April 2024.
2. **Poverty Plan consultation –** 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.

For context please click: [here](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/news/article/14272/have_your_say_poverty_plan_consultation_launched)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. ***Post Minute Note: - SD has completed feedback on behalf of Fa’side AP.***  | NoteNoteNoteALLALLSD |
|  | **Subgroups/network updates**1. **Fa’side Climate, Transport and Sustainability Subgroup (FaCTS)** – RM referred to the previously circulated report and highlighted the following: -

RM reported back on a really successful relaunch meeting for FaCTS. He hoped the group will employ an artist to help with a potential interactive map. Although this might mean setting up a new SCIO. 8a (Cont.)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 this matter. AB offered some assistance to RM on the potential tree nursery/biodiversity aspect. BA thanked RM for the relaunching of FaCTS. 1. **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 Rosanne on her nomination. 1. **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 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.1. **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.
 | NoteTRRM/ABNoteNoteNoteNote |
|  | **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). | NoteNoteNote |
|  | **Budget updates*** + 1. A. Financial year 2023/24 – confirmation of year end.

Item 10 a (Cont.)SD referred to the previously circulated spreadsheet. No questions or queries were tabled.* + 1. b. Financial year 2024/25 – update paper

SD advised members of the preciously circulated papers. No questions or queries were tabled.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.1. Roads element

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 for 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. 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. ASD still awaiting roads confirmation on the priorities for our local areas. One these are received we will circulate.* + 1. Proposal to support existing Area Partnership subgroups – verbal
			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.

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. | NoteNoteALLALLRKALLSDALLALLALLALL |
|  | **A.O.C.B.**BA thank everyone for coming tonight.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.BA wished everyone a good night and see everyone for the meeting in September. All information will be sent out in due course. | ALLNote |
|  | **Date of future Area Partnership Meetings**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.

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| Tuesday 12/11/24 |

**MEETING INFORMATION** – Zoom meeting (invite onagenda) | ALL |