

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

**10th September 2024 7.00 -9.00pm, a ZOOM meeting**

**Chair**

Quorum 12

1. Chair Bill Axon (BA)

**Members and substitute members present:**

1. Debbie Middlemass, Vice Chair (DM)
2. Alan Bell, Recharge (AB)
3. Richard Kerr, Pencaitland CC (RK)
4. Loreen Pardoe, Ross High Parent Teacher Council (LP)
5. Mike Falconer, TECC, Chair (MF)
6. Russell McLarty, FaCTS Chair (RMcL)
7. Carla Allan, VCEL (CA)
8. Allan Lauder, Macmerry & Gladsmuir CC (AL)
9. David Todd, Macmerry & Gladsmuir CC (DT)
10. Cllr Colin Mcginn Elected Member, ELC (CMcG)
11. Cllr Lee- Anne Menzies, Elected Member, ELC (LAM)
12. Cllr Fiona Dugdale, Elected Member, ELC (FD)

**Others in attendance**

Simon Davie, Connected Communities Service Manager, ELC (SD)

Andy Cheshire, Connected Communities Manager - Fa’side, ELC (AC)

Tracey Redpath, CDO, Connected Communities – Fa’side, ELC (TR)

Emma Brown, Connected Communities Manager – Preston, seton, Gosford (EB)

Neil Bainbridge, Business Support Administrator, ELC (NB)

Ruth Davie, Pennypit Trust (RD)

**Apologies**

Carol Finneron, Pencaitland CC (CF)

Donald Grant, Co-opted member (DG)

Rosanne Woods, Chair of the Health, and Wellbeing Group (RW)

Kathryn-Jane James, Support from the Start

Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Elected Member, ELC (SA)

Cllr Kenny McLeod, Elected Member, ELC (KMc)

Cllr George Maguire, Elected Member, ELC (GMc)

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|  | **Key discussion points** |  |
|  | **Welcome**  BA thanked everyone for coming this evening. BA welcomed EB & RD. |  |
|  | **Apologies**  Apologies are noted above. |  |
|  | **East Lothian Partnership**   1. Refresh of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan – **Emma Brown** 2. Statement regarding ELP   BA sought for clarification whether EB was seeking a refresh of the current plan or the creation of a new plan for implementation 2025 / 2026.  EB confirmed it’s a new plan.  EB thanked the partnership for providing the opportunity to present the plan.  EB provided a summary of the East Lothian Partnership – it being a statutory requirement and contributing to the Local Outcome  Improvement Plan (LOIP) which should be for 10 years with the current LOIP existing from 2017 – 2027 (last reviewed 2019). It has 3 key themes which are Prosperous, Community Minded and Fair. The point of community planning partnerships should reduce inequalities, tackle poverty and work to prevent problems.  EB and Lucy Higginson (LH) (Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Officer) have been given the responsibility of reviewing the plan.  EB mentioned that through discussions with the EL plan working group, a refresh of the plan was not going to be enough for what is required.  EB then presented (Presentation papers circulated to members prior to the meeting and will be accompanied with these minutes).  EB commented that they had presented to all strategic groups apart from the Children’s Strategic Partnership, which will happen at the end of September.  BA thanked EB for the presentation and opened it up for discussion.  BA sought clarification that this was the first time the AP had been made aware of a review / replacement taking place. EB confirmed that her and LH took on this piece of work in July.  BA asked why the need to replace the current plan by April 2025?  EB answered that a full review would involve many people and become too time consuming.  EB also expressed that due to a range of factors the needs of communities have changed since the last Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA).  A general discussion was had regarding the operation of an Area Partnership. The consensus was that LOIPs should be bolstered by local plans and in this case, it doesn’t appear to be so with local communities having less say especially considering the time scales involved – less community participation.  The discussion centred around why we are restricting ourselves to 6 months participation?  EB - no plan to push ahead without community engagement. Mentioned strategic groups that make up the Community Planning Partnerships and how they are represented throughout the community. Also met with VCEL and discussed further community engagement outside Area Partnerships as well as Community Councils and TRA’s to ensure a collective approach and co-production.  EB admitted that communication hasn’t been great between ELP and AP’s and this is something they wish to rectify.  EB referred to SNA already being completed and that the time scale is realistic.  BA mentioned that FAP are currently undergoing their area plan and this might not align with the new LOIP given the timescales involved, especially given the AP is made up of volunteers.  CA said that VCEL would prefer meaningful engagement and the timescale involved will not allow for such.  CA also felt that a shorter cycle period would be more beneficial i.e. 3 – 5 years instead of 10 years given how much change has occurred in society since the last LOIP.  CA felt that this was rushing it instead of utilising the remaining 2 ½ years of the LOIP to conduct meaningful engagement.  EB answered that it would be reviewed annually with a 3 yearly refresh and update.  CA will bring response back to VCEL as she felt there was a misunderstanding with regards to the timescale involved.  LAM agreed that the EL Plan needs reviewed but this is meant to be led by communities and in this instance it doesn’t seem to be. This proposal seems to be directed by the council to the AP’s. Timescale too short, community engagement is a huge piece of work and traditionally the poorer communities are harder to engage properly, and this process could result us systematically ignoring those who traditionally find it harder to engage.  EB - the LOIP is the Community Planning Partnerships Plan. There is not a good link within the current plan between actions, the outcomes and priorities and how we’re measuring the difference we make.  EB mentioned that communities have been constantly consulted and that this new approach will bring together these findings to use as a basis to work in co-production meaningfully within communities.  EB mentioned that they are taking this presentation to all AP’s and Fa’side is the 4th out of the 6 with the purpose being AP’s part of Community Planning Partnership.  LAM asked what is the impact to those communities who may not manage to meaningfully engage within the set timeframe? Could they then opt out from the plan? Or will the LOIP be approved regardless?  EB responded that feedback / concerns from AP’s would be brought to the governance group but that all strategic groups to date were supportive of the new plan.    EB said that if the current LOIP is not reviewed within this timeframe then feedback will be gathered from communities as to what they feel is missing from the current proposals.  AB – on young people had already been mentioned - the impacts of covid – could this be an opportunity locally to look at the impact on Young People, (aware that national research has been conducted), but this is mainly school-based and with attendance within schools fluctuating so much a lot of the young people’s views will have been missed. Can this plan incorporate the needs of local young people and get baseline data from that.  EB answered that the plan would be to link with young people and organisations representing them with regards to what has changed for young people since the last SNA.  CMcG - What would be the problem or disadvantage if we didn’t do it within the proposed timeframe, especially given our Area Plan won’t be finished in time for inclusion (and with Christmas and New Year eating into the timeframe) and a range of community groups may not be engaged fully in the process.  EB mentioned that what we would be left with is a plan that has priorities that are no longer relevant, and this would need to be taken back to governance group.  CMcG mentioned that the consensus from the Partnership is a concern around timeframe and that as volunteers we need to be mindful of the pressure we put them under.  EB clarified that there is no expectations for Area Plans to be finished by April and in fact a lot of these findings and data are localised whereas the EL plan is East Lothian wide.  CMcG referred to AB’s point – that we need to capture the voice of the young people and to do that meaningfully within these timeframes is unrealistic.  LAM expressed that local area plans should be finalised and fed into the East Lothian Partnership plan and by not following that process the council is not working meaningfully with the communities to produce priorities that should be community-led. Marginalised communities will not have their voices heard and they will need it most. Agreed that the plan needs updated but it has to be right for our communities and by rushing and not having true community representation we will get it badly wrong for them for the next 10 years.  EB agreed and stated that LH is capturing marginalised voices.    EB reiterated that area plans are about local priorities and local needs whereas the EL plan is a Community Planning Partnership across East Lothian.  LAM responded that there is a crossover and without the local plans, the strategic overview will be directing to communities as opposed to listening and engaging with them.  LAM asked to slow down the process and ensure our most vulnerable communities have their local priorities set first.  BA thanked EB for coming along and summarised the points made by the Partnership. |  |
|  | **Pennypit Community Development Trust evaluation – Ruth Davie**   1. **Easter evaluation** 2. **Summer evaluation**   Technical issues with Summer Lunch Club evaluation video – Andy to circulate to the Partnership.  RD mentioned that summer evaluation is more concise because the engagement is for a prolonged period so you can capture base line data more effectively and evaluate the differences in beneficiaries.  RD referred to the two applications submitted to the Area Partnership for discussion; 1 for festive and 1 for October / February Lunch Club provision.  FD asked about elderly beneficiaries from the lunch club provision.  RD explained that support extends to wider family - whole family support.  RM commended PCDT on the level of volunteers and asked how they manage to recruit and maintain them.  RD explained that many are young volunteers who have previously benefited from the provision – continuing their support and providing them with skills to enhance their development. Skills include planning, mentoring & peer support. Recruit through word of mouth, VCEL etc.. Young people achieve saltire awards for their volunteering as well as contribution to DofE.  BA thanked RD for her time. | AC |
|  | **Declaration of interest for agenda items**  BA asked members to state if they felt there was any declarations going through the meeting.  LP RHS 70th Anniversary. |  |
|  | **Approval of Minutes**  BA went through the minutes of the 9th May 2024  Approved by **CA**  Seconded by **LAM** |  |
|  | **Matters Arising**  **Historic** – 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.* *AC to Follow UP***  **Historic – 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.](mailto:fasideck.info@gmail.com.Matter) ***Matter on going.***  **Historic –** 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.* ***Matter Outstanding. SD to Close matter.***  **Historic** – Consultation for Area Plan review – SD to reflect on feedback from members and update members at a future meeting. ***Matter Ongoing. Now with AC.***  **Page 13 Item 9c – 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 6, Item 3b** PCDT Summer evaluation video. ***AC to circulate to the partnership.***  **Page 19, Item 1** RHS 70th anniversary. Asking for members to promote RHS’s Birthday Bingo being hosted on 28th November 2024 and their afternoon tea on the 29th November 2024 – tickets £5. ***Matter ongoing.***  **Page 13 Item c** Positive stories of young people/changing the narrative – AC and AB to meet regarding the negative press of children and young people recently and what could be done to change this narrative. ***Matter ongoing.***  **Page 17** Question raised about where fuel top ups could be picked up from. CA to get back to the partnership on this.  **Page 17** Pencaitland Speed sign & Roads update. AC to provide update to the partnership as to the cost of the speed sign at Pencaitland. | SD/MA/AC  TR  SD  AC  AC/AB  AC  AC  AC/AB  CA  AC |
|  | **Connected Communities Team update**   * 1. Managers update (attached) SD   2. Tracey’s Officer update – (attached)   3. Andy’s Officer update – (attached)   BA acknowledged that this is SD’s last AP meeting until his temporary secondment has ceased and welcomed AC as SD’s temporary replacement.  SD thanked Bill and has stated it’s been a privilege working alongside AP.   1. SD’s report -   Meeting held regarding festive provision to explore methodology but agreed to continue in the same manner for this year. Acknowledged a cash first approach but agreed that benefits of food bags were better value to the beneficiaries (£7 a bag) contributed by discounts from local suppliers including George Andersons.  Huge support from local community in terms of volunteers.  Survey to local users assisted in the review of the service and the feedback was they preferred the bags.  Significant volume of work involved with the transition with my role from CCM to Service Manager and AC’s role from CDO to CCM - this is still ongoing.  Huge thanks to Carla and Maureen for a successful Inspiring Volunteering awards held at the Fraser Centre which celebrated and raised awareness of the community volunteers.  Thanked them for the opportunity to present an award.   1. TR report –   Launch of Planning Aid Scotland Walking Action Plan, still awaiting confirmation of funding for the FaCTS group.  FaCTS group have voted in principle that it’s something they’d like to look at, TR will keep members updated.  Remembering together – sculpture being placed at the Heugh outside the community garden, delivery expected in a few weeks.  TR sought volunteers for community day working group for May 2025. CA, DM and AB agreed to support working group, TR to reach out.  TR mentioned the Loch Centre may not be in use, asked membership to think of another venue.  TR mentioned Health and Wellbeing fund applications from Keep the Heid, FCK, Dementia Friendly, Macmerry Miners, Roots and Fruits, New Beginnings and the Bronx Boxing Club.  Scrutiny groups to consider applications.  FaCTS fund opens on Thursday 12th September – Micro grants up to £500 for climate, travel and sustainability objectives.  TR mentioned the Macmerry pantry opening on Saturday 7th September 2024 funded by H&W fund.  Next Fa’side Food Provision meeting is 3rd October 2024.   1. AC report – CDO up to mid-July & CCM thereafter.   Highlights – Transition event 217 P7’s from across all Primary Schools across Fa’side. Huge thank you to Meadowmill staff and Enjoy Leisure for the use of the centre.  Huge thanks to all supporting organisations (Active schools, East Lothian Orienteering, ELC Mental Health Youth Worker, Tranent Library, ELC Arts services, Bronx Boxing Club, and Recharge and their respective volunteers)  AC expressed this was all voluntary and without these Organisations the event wouldn’t go ahead. Thanks to Neil Bainbridge for pulling it all together.  Thanks to Tracey for her help on the day too.  AC mentioned CLD progress visit.  AC mentioned backfilling his CDO post, no successful applicants internally, permission to go external for a 21 hour back fill.  7 hours has been provided to TR until 31st March 2025 and 7 hours has been offered as a saving to the service and this is also until the end of the financial year.  Interviews to be held on the 23rd September.  Significant time involved for the hand over and huge time involved in Community Asset Transfer and supporting Zahra Hussain(ZH).  ZH working on procedural guidance document to support community transfer bodies and assisting our staff in understanding the processes involved.  SLA for Recharge agreed and signed off for 2 years. They will be taking on the specialist youth work delivery and universal youth work until March 31st 2026. Continual monitoring and evaluation will be shared with the partnership on a quarterly basis. AC thanked AB and his team for the work they’ve been doing in Tranent.  AC thanks TR for her hard work and support over the last few months.  DT mentioned the cessation of bowling club maintenance and the support required to local clubs.  AC aware of concerns. | NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE |
|  | **Consultation Hub –** no discussion unless groups seeking information.  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. **Information Hubs in your local area**   East Lothian Partnership are looking at bringing the information, advice and support you want to your local area. Building on the success of the Information Hub at Haddington Hospital, we want to know what information you seek. This could include health visitors, housing officers, or benefits advisors, we want to know what services should be involved. Please click [here](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Feastlothianconsultations.co.uk%2Fpolicy-partnerships%2Finformation-hubs%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cacheshire3%40eastlothian.gov.uk%7Cd49211fdaff641aa28ad08dcc73c5c2a%7C85e771afe90a4487b4071322ba02cc82%7C0%7C0%7C638604309249520818%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GWjMb3TFLoCpeVHlPaH01qS%2FegEYJP3DsnJzf3ExaA8%3D&reserved=0) if seeking more information – **closes 25th September 2024**  **b. The Brunton Audience survey**  The Brunton programmes arts and entertainment events and activities across East Lothian. To inform future programming, the Trust would like to ask what kind of events people would like to attend and where. They would like to hear from current bookers and those yet to attend an event. Please click [here](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Feastlothianconsultations.co.uk%2Fpolicy-partnerships%2Fthe-brunton-audience-survey%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cacheshire3%40eastlothian.gov.uk%7C9f72d808d7d544de53f508dcc73e2740%7C85e771afe90a4487b4071322ba02cc82%7C0%7C0%7C638604316956026985%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OF440dQ6N6sV5Lgs0rZA8lx8RBtKTwotNQDB6tJd7FQ%3D&reserved=0) if seeking more information – **closes 13th October 2024**  AC mentioned Council Website Consultation – Needs updated in the next 2 years - and agreed to share information with Partnership via email. | NOTE  NOTE  NOTE |
|  | **Subgroup/network updates**   * 1. Fa’side Climate, Transport and Sustainability (FaCTS) – Attached (TR)   RM mentioned the preparation of an action plan for Planning Aid Scotland and the ambitions for a walking network.  RM referred to Ralph Averbuch and associate who presented their e-bike initiative in Pencaitland and sought ideas as to how best to replicate this across our locale. Consensus was it was to capital heavy.  Last meeting held at Macmerry to demonstrate locality wide commitment.  Tree town initiative desire to extend to all of Fa’side - meeting Lorraine from The Heugh 17th September to map out ambitions in regard to the tree planting.  Tranent Wombles held a celebration event on Sunday 8th September at Foresters Park. Great transformation of space, wonderful pollinator and a lovely celebration which brought together different parts of the community. excellent inter-generational celebration.  Next meeting at end of November in recharge to engage with Young People.   * 1. Fa’side Health and Well Being – Attached (TR)   TR updated on behalf of RW.  Last meeting had Lorna Bellany to discuss community Benefits Gateway that the NHS offer and Pamela Mckinley from Roots & Fruits explained what they’ve been doing throughout the community.  Funding open and decisions will be cascaded to membership as they are made.   * 1. Fa’side Young Formers – Recharge – Attached (AB)   Now have 2x Young Formers groups. The S2 / S3 groups, assisted with FCK on an inter-generational project.  A Residential also held throughout the summer.  Now called the Young Reps.  Older group working on musical bingo fundraiser.  AB requested raffle donations from the partnership.  This group met with AC to look at local needs for young people.  Group went to Children in need event for youth social action.  TR thanked recharge for their engagement with FCK and said that many FCK participants expressed delight in their attendance.  AC mentioned about the engagement work TR has conducted with Tranent’s Ultra’s and the fact that at least one of those young people represented Recharge at FCK event.  AC made a point of highlighting the negative press young people locally have had recently and how important it is to celebrate the positive stories of the young people.  AC and AB will work together to challenge this narrative.  AC mentioned the Young Formers wanted to dispel the narrative also.  LP echoed AC comments, there is a real venom towards young people at the moment with all of them being herded into the negative bracket. It’s really worrying and there is a divide between generations. Mentioned Fa’side woman and girls group, the celebration of success night at Ross High & the success of Recharge. Encouraged the AP to work together to turn around the narrative and shine a light on the positive work the young people have been involved with, for example, the intergenerational work with Recharge.  BA acknowledged that the negative stories reflect a minority of young people and agreed that the majority of young people contribute positively.  AB – meeting with AC to take this on. Requested if there were any positives from anyone regarding young people to please share them. | NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  TR/RW  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  AC/AB  NOTE  AC/AB |
|  | **Third Sector update – Carla Allan**   * 1. Community Engagement Partner update (attached)   2. August 2024 funding update, please click [here](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmailchi.mp%2Fd15fb6d64834%2Fvcel-monthly-funding-update-august-2024%3Fe%3Def9989d7f0&data=05%7C02%7Cacheshire3%40eastlothian.gov.uk%7C7b67c78aea6f4dff1caa08dcc741b523%7C85e771afe90a4487b4071322ba02cc82%7C0%7C0%7C638604332221016109%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qdNfFNIEKW2rAdRR2EQudFLdFaofmeqc9O6Adf946%2B8%3D&reserved=0) if interested in finding out more.   3. Latest East Lothian Third Sector update, please click [here](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.volunteereastlothian.org.uk%2Fall-news%2Feast-lothian-third-sector-update-13082024&data=05%7C02%7Cacheshire3%40eastlothian.gov.uk%7C7b67c78aea6f4dff1caa08dcc741b523%7C85e771afe90a4487b4071322ba02cc82%7C0%7C0%7C638604332221030199%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yL%2F1dzwySlgtaNspqPaQj6Uey1hrTjqZpKy2U6wby6c%3D&reserved=0) to find out more.   CA mentioned latest newsletter and funding update.  Community Mental Health and Wellbeing year 4 fund opening on 30th September – encouraged partners to highlight this.  Easy fundraiser meet the funder training on 17th Sep.  Health in Mind trauma informed practice training – part 1 - 25th Sep and then part 2 - 2nd October  Community pantry closing. VCEL do have an emergency provision in place – pre-made bags as a trial at the moment.  VCEL don’t have the resource to deliver this in the same manner and are trialling this to see if they can still be of benefit to those in need.  TR – VCEL and Fraser Centre (Saturday pantry) both closed. TR has had conversations with Foodbank, Ruth from Pennypit and Alison from the Fraser Centre about how Tranent could have a ‘food-share’ at the Fraser Centre on a Saturday – for food that would end up in landfill.  Fraser Centre has baskets that people can take items from and the Foodbank will top them up regularly.  FD – expressed concern that there is now no provision in Tranent and asked about the resource at VCEL – financial or people.    CA – the running of a pantry is a full time job. Not enough consistent volunteers and no-one in a paid role to coordinate the pantry.  Agreed that the need is still there.  CA – pre-made bags for single person or two-person household, with limited items in the bags and has stressed that they are for emergencies.  TR – with the pantry closing, Pamela at Roots and Fruits saw a huge increase in demand at Elphinstone. Stock at Fareshare was limited. Referrals from Roots and Fruits to Foodbank. Pantry has just started at Macmerry (every 2nd Saturday), and Lily’s at Ormiston on Saturday’s too. Village pantrys are for village settlements only. Tranent needs addressed.  TR – needs to be sustainable. The model of the pantry in Musselburgh at MECLC might be the format to follow. Discussions ongoing. Foodbank has offered volunteers as long as a premise could be found.  CA offered VCEL as a premise.  TR referred to Lucy from Foodbank mentioning that Foodbank had offered VCEL support with this previously.    LAM – pantry’s are great if dealing with food scheduled for landfill. But there is a bigger concern – by wanting to do good we can do the wrong thing (for the right reasons). Pantry’s can enable chaotic lifestyles – foodbank has check ins, things in place for continued support.  FD – understanding the root cause is important, but not having provision in Tranent when our villages do, is not consistent.  BA then updated that MF had left the meeting. | NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE  NOTE |
|  | **Budget update**  BA handed over to AC.  AC reported on SfTS – KJ will give a review of the subgroup at Novembers meeting.  Low attendance at last meeting in May. Next meeting 29th Oct. AC requested someone from the AP to attend and report on SfTS.  AC mentioned the 2 applications the AP need to make a decision on.  BA asked the partnership. Meeting was still quorate. One application for Feb and Oct Lunch Clubs and one for Festive provision.  No objections to approval. Partnership agreed that both applications be approved.  LAM – clarification on Festive provision. Clarified that it is not a cash first approach and was happy the bags were to continue.  DT asked about other funding (last year required emergency funding). SD – confirmed that ELFFN secured funding through the Lintel Trust which will support the Festive Provision. TR confirmed that it was approved.  FD asked about hardship fund and fuel top ups and where they could be picked up from. Are VCEL going to be open for these to be accessed? CA will get back to the partnership on this.  Approval agreed on both applications.   * + 1. Financial year 2024/25 – update paper (attached)        1. Lunch Club Evaluation Scrutiny & Approval   **POST MINUTE NOTE – due to technical issues the AP couldn’t approve. Approval will be sought via email.**   * + - 1. Applications from PCDT       2. Roads (papers will follow)   AC – Roads – papers sent the day previous. AC mentioned the 4 schemes of work. AC asked for partnership to come to a decision to start one scheme of work within the financial year.  SD reminded the partnership about the Pencaitland Speed Reactive Signs.  AC acknowledged this and the cost will come off the £47,500. AC to share total costs for Pencaitland speed sign with the partnership.  LAM – we should consider those in areas of social housing/areas of deprivation.  DM proposed the works in Ormiston as three were in Tranent and one in Ormiston.  Full agreement was reached that the Ormiston project will be the priority.  CMG – concern about the lack of information on the schemes of work. CMG has been pushed about another area of work that is required by residents. If the AP are being asked to express an opinion, then CMG would like to see where the information sits and which projects are critical.  LAM – aware that it is only ‘influence’ over the small part of roads budget. Active participation should be community-led. Could AC please bring this to Roads – possibly have schemes of work that are brought to Roads by the AP.  FD – more information should be brought forward.  BA confirmed the AP only received the information from Roads at the last minute.  AC will seek clarity on this matter to ensure the AP have as much information as possible with as much notice, to make an informed decision.  BA sought clarity again on the Ormiston area of work and the partnership were still in agreement, but that in future as much detail should be provided as possible. | NOTE  ALL  NOTE  NOTE  CA  ALL  AC  NOTE  ALL  NOTE  AC  NOTE  AC  ALL |
|  | **A.O.C.B.**  AC has two items.  Item 1  Ross High 70th Anniversary this year. Asking for AP to promote RHS’s Birthday bingo that will be hosted on the 28th Nov.  Afternoon tea on 29th Nov – tickets are £5 and will include a drama performance. Asking for awareness to be raised.  Ask for small contribution for refreshments. £500 is the ask.  BA sought approval and this was unanimous.  Post minute note – LP is a member of parent council and with MF leaving the meeting then we need to get another member to ensure the decision is upheld.  Item 2  AC mentioned the statement from Amenities regarding a change in their planting methodology due to capacity issues.  A table of works (Autumn/Winter) was raised by AC and will be shared with the partnership after the meeting.  BA thank everyone for coming tonight.  BA wished everyone a good night and see everyone for the meeting in November 12th. Meeting will open at 1830 for a 1900 start. All information will be sent out in due course. | ALL  NOTE  AC  NOTE  NOTE |
|  | **Date of future Area Partnership Meetings**   |  | | --- | | Tuesday 12/11/24 | | ALL |