

Minutes

DRAFT

Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership

7 pm, Tuesday, 11 June 2013

Present

Cllr. Jason Rust	CEC (Convener)
Cllr. Elaine Aitken	CEC
Cllr. Ricky Henderson	CEC
Cllr. Dominic Heslop	CEC
Helen Ogg	Juniper Green Community Council
Heather Levy	Firrhill Community Council
Peter Gray	Colinton Amenity Association
Judy Wightman	Ratho and District Community Council
John Aitchison	Wester Hailes Community Council
Norman Tinlin	Fairmilehead Community Council
Maud Wylie	Housing Area Board Chair

Supporting Officers

Shona McAllister	City Development
Christine Doherty	Partnership and Information Manager
Andrew Wallace	Property & Estates Officer
Scott Neill	Partnership Development Officer

1. Order of Business

Order of business remained as per the set agenda, no notices of motions or any other items of business were received.

Councillor Rust thanked the school management team at Currie Community High School for use of the school library for the purposes of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership meeting in public.

2. Declaration of Interests

No notes of interest were received

3. Deputations

None

4. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership meeting of 29 January 2013 as a correct record.

5. Neighbourhood Partnership Business

5.1 Community Grant Fund Report was submitted for noting by the Neighbourhood Manager.

Decision

1) To note report

5.2 Pentlands Partnership Annual Review 2012/ 13 presentation

Content:

- **Welcome & Introduction** – Convener
- **Economic Forum** – Shona McAllister, Chair
- **Housing Area Board** – Maud Wylie, Chair and Andrew Wallace NEPs report, Team Leader Housing Property & Estates

Members asked what the feedback was received with regards areas that have benefited from NEP's projects?

Andrew Wallace responded that currently very little feedback and that tends to include the pre-consultation phase of some of the larger proposed projects. A questionnaire is sent out but as a standard procedure but few replies is forthcoming.

Christine Doherty asked if it would be worthwhile to set a period time specifically to encourage residents receiving NEP's project to feedback, particularly on the benefits through this investment of funds?

Andrew Wallace though this was possible to use a set period of time to canvas public opinion on projects that are delivered.

- **Funding Panel** – Judith Wightman, Chair

Shona McAllister requested information on the background of organisations that had attended the recent funding workshop?

Judith Wightman responded by confirming that all groups invited to the workshop fell into two categories:

- 1) groups that had requests declined by the panel or
- 2) groups that had submitted poor quality applications.

Christine Doherty confirmed that a follow up piece of work would take place to promote wider funding options from external sources.

- **Environment, Infrastructure & Transport** – Scott Neill, PDO

Christine Doherty advised members that a meeting was due to take place to address the on going issue regarding the transport to and from the new Healthy Living Centre in Wester Hailes. This meeting will explore the feasibility of extended existing services into the new health facility.

This arrangement will be for an interim period until the new affordable house project is near completion which will require a service review of the transport in the area.

Invitations have gone out to members of the Wester Hailes Community Council who have been party to previous meeting with key officers throughout the lengthily discussion process.

Norman Tinlin expressed disappointment that action was not taken at least two years previously when transport issues were raised with representatives from NHS Lothian after viewing the proposed development plans.

Convener offered to write to the Lothian Transport expressing the concerns of the partnership on this matter.

Norman Tinlin noted that the presentation focused on environmental issues and very little on transport, would this be addressed in the coming session?

Scott Neill confirmed that the sub group were in the coming session 2013/ 14 starting to look at the current review being carried out by the Council on Community Transport. Clearly this will have an impact on rural areas of the Pentlands and areas that don't benefit from regular Lothian Transport services. The report has to be concluded by 1 April 2014 and there will be a number of channels for the public to express their views on this essential service.

- **Health & Wellbeing** – Heather Levy, Chair

Maud Wylie informed the members that Edinburgh Tenants Federation (ETF) have been developing a similar project round mental health. A number of ETF officials have carried out training and would be willing to assist the sub group develop this project in the Oxfords area.

Heather Levy was aware of the ETF initiative on this topic, however at this time the issues around this sensitive subject are unique to Oxfords. The group will focus on the developing a new strategy round the Choose Life consultation process, by perfecting

the skills before rolling it out across the rest of the partnership which will be to involve organisations such as ETF.

- **Community Safety** – Cllr Elaine Aitken, Chair

Norman Tinlin expressed concern regarding the change of structure in the newly formed Scottish Police Force. This change seems to have lowered the standards of policing with less emphasis on local issues, which is worrying local people across the partnership area.

Cllr Aitken assured members that as a representative on the Police, Fire & Rescue Services Board (PFRSB) these concerns had been raised previously prior to the restructuring of the new force, focusing on the effects the new service would have. To date change has been slow and senior officials representing the police service have assured PFRSB members that local crime prevention is still their highest priority and will remain so. There will be a number of changes but these will be publicised as they are rolled out.

- **The Pentland Partnership's Influence** – Christine Doherty, Partnership & Information Manager

Norman Tinlin wanted to know what influence, if any, the partnership would have on the Fairer Scotland Fund (FSF) initially handled via each partnership's funding panels?

Christine Doherty replied that while the three strands of the FSF have been passed to the three lead departments, the set-up of the partnership's economic forum should allow the SW & P NP's to develop stronger relationships with these lead departments. The focus of the economic forum are those partners who will bid for this funding. It makes sense for the lead departments to work closely with partnerships and improve their own effectiveness by using the knowledge on the ground in each local area.

Shona McAllister added that there is clear potential in more joined up projects and processes delivered locally by organisations receiving FSF as well as the lead departments working together with local Economic Forums.

- **Communications** – Christine Doherty, Partnership & Information Manager
- **The Way Ahead** – Cllr Rust, Partnership Convener

Decision

- 1) To note presentation
- 2) To thank officials and officers delivering reports
- 3) To send an electronic copy of presentation to all Board members.

5.3 Public Questions

Norman Tinlin submitted a written question to the Convener regarding Forums particularly the Transport and Licensing Forums.

6. Date of Future meetings

The Convener announced that dates of future meetings would be provided at a later date.