

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 15 SEPTEMBER 2022.

Present – Councillors Anne McMillan (Chair), Alison Adamson, Robert De Bold and Andrew Miller

In Attendance

Greg Welsh, Lead Officer

PS Lee Brodie, Police Scotland

Ronnie Fisher, Design Engineering Manager, West Lothian Council

Pat McArdle, Grounds Maintenance Manager, West Lothian Council

Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

James Robertson, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Sandy Ross, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council

Tracy Tonner, Accountant, West Lothian Council

Stevie Egan, Eliburn Community Council

Julie Henderson, Knightsridge Community Council

Diane Loughlin, Livingston Village Community Council

Michael Rae, Carmondean & Deans Community Council

Prior to the start of the meeting the committee observed a two-minute silence in honour of the passing of HM Elizabeth II.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 7 – Community Regeneration Update

Councillor Andrew Miller stated that he was a trustee of the Vennie and a volunteer at the food outlet; he would participate in the item of business.

Agenda Item 8 – Place-Based Investment Programme 2022/23 Town Centre Capital Fund

Councillor Alison Adamson stated that she had been present on several community council meetings when the Town Centre Capital Fund applications were discussed and had taken part in discussion but had not made any comments; she would therefore participate the item of business.

Stephen Egan stated that he had been involved in the submission of the Eliburn Community Council application but would participate in the item of business.

Diane Loughlin stated that she had been involved in the submission of the Livingston Village Community Council application but would participate in the item of business.

Michael Rae stated that he was the Chair of the Carmondean & Deans Community Council and had been involved in the submission of some of the applications but would participate in the item of business.

Agenda Item 11 – Covid-19 Local Recovery and Renewal Fund

Councillor Alison Adamson stated that she had been present on several community council meetings when the Recovery and Renewal Fund applications were discussed and had taken part in discussion but had not made any comments; she would therefore participate the item of business.

2 MINUTES

The committee approved the minutes of its meeting held on 10 June 2022.

3 POLICE WARD REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Scotland providing an update on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 3rd July 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

4 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE WARD REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the Livingston North Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30 June 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note and provide comment on the Livingston North Multi-Member Ward Performance Report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5 COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) providing an update on Economic Development and Regeneration activity to support communities across the ward.

It was recommended that the committee note updates on:

1. The Vennie's Food Outlet and their recent adoption of a SCIO legal

structure;

2. Carmondean Library activity; and
3. The Community Connections initiative that was launching a drop-in service within the ward.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

6 PLACE-BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2022/23 TOWN CENTRE CAPITAL FUND

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) inviting members to consider the allocation of the additional £8,836.41 available to support the Place Based Investment Fund Town Centre Fund projects and to agree the allocation as set out in this report.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note that the Council Executive on 21 June 2022 had agreed an additional £8,836.41 to support projects in the ward;
2. Note the three-step process to be used to decide the allocation;
3. Agree to award funding as set out in the report;
4. Note that some of the funding costs remained as estimates and delegate the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
5. Note that as projects were implemented the detail and associated costs might change and so delegate the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that became available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remained within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals; and
6. Note the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.
2. To agree to allocate funding as set out in the report.
3. To include the actual and final project costs in a future report.

4. To note that comments from the committee would be forwarded to Council Executive for consideration when further funding streams were discussed in future.

7 SERVICE UPDATE - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an update on activities for Livingston North from 1 April 2022 – 30 June 2022.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the work carried out by the service within the local area; and
2. Advise of any areas that required further information or investigation.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8 HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services providing an overview of the service activities within the Livingston North Ward.

It was recommended that the committee note the Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 1 – 1 April 2022 – 30 June 2022.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9 COVID-19 LOCAL RECOVERY AND RENEWAL FUND

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Lead Officer providing an update on the projects allocated funding from the £150,000 COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Fund approved by the committee on 03 December 2021.

It was recommended that the committee note the update on the approved projects and determine which of the alternative options for LN15 were to be progressed.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.

2. To agree that option 3 (appendix 4 in report) should be progressed, on the proviso that the amendments proposed by Carmondean & Deans Community Council in correspondence sent to the council be implemented.
3. To provide an update to a future meeting of the LAC regarding any excess funds.

10 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing an update on general services capital investment in the ward during 2021/22 and planned investment for the six year period 2022/23 to 2027/28, subject to the review of future expenditure requirements as part of the process for preparing the next ten year capital programme for 2023/24 to 2032/33.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. The progress made in delivering the approved general services capital programme within the Livingston North ward in 2021/22;
2. The approved capital projects planned for the ward in 2022/23 to 2027/28, subject to the review of expenditure requirements as agreed by West Lothian Council on 15 February 2022;
3. That detailed allocations of block budgets for the period 2024/25 to 2027/28 to specific programmes attributable to specific wards would be undertaken as part of the development of the new ten year programme;
4. Progress in delivery of the 2022/23 programme would be reported to Council Executive following detailed budget monitoring exercises during the course of the year; and
5. An updated capital investment programme would be presented to Council for approval in early 2023.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

11 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2022/23 - AMENDED FOR APPROVAL

An amended timetable of meetings had been circulated to members for approval.

Decision

To approve the amended timetable.

12 WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

1. To note the workplan.
2. To continue to provide updates on Deans South estate as part of regular reports.