

MINUTE of MEETING of the FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 4 OCTOBER 2022.

Present – Councillors Craig Meek (Chair), Cathy Muldoon and Pauline Clark

In Attendance

Alice Mitchell, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council  
Douglas Benson, Community Regeneration Officer  
Bryan Bell, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service  
Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council  
Nicola Hughes, Community Housing Officer, West Lothian Council  
Pat McArdle, Operational Services, West Lothian Council  
Ronnie Fisher, Roads Design Manager, West Lothian Council  
Patrick Welsh, Corporate Finance Manager, West Lothian Council  
Craig McCorrison, Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration, West Lothian Council  
Allan McLaughlan, West Calder & Harburn Community Council  
Shaun Davison, Addiewell, Loganlea & Breich Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 12 (Place Based Investment Programme) - Councillor Craig Meek declared an interest in that he was the Chair of West Calder Community Hub, which had submitted an application to the Town Centre Capital Fund. He would therefore not participate in this item of business.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair ruled in terms of Standing Order 11 that he would consider agenda item 13 and 14 before agenda item 12.

3. MINUTE

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 14 June 2022 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. POLICE SCOTLAND WARD REPORT

The Clerk advised committee that due to technical reasons it had not been possible for PS Mike Harte to connect to the meeting.

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 3 July 2022.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5. SCOTTISH 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 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30 June 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note and provide comment on the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward Performance Report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

6. 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 Fauldhouse & Breich Valley ward.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. SERVICES UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising members of the recent activity of the NETs, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1 April to 30 June 2022.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the work carried out to date and future planned work; and
2. Advise of any areas that require further investigation or inclusion in future work plans.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.

2. To agree that a report on the implementation of the council's weed management policy was to be brought back to the next meeting of the local area committee.

#### 8. STONEYBURN TO FAULDHOUSE CYCLEPATH

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing members with an update on the progress made to date on the provision of cyclepaths from Stoneyburn to Fauldhouse.

It is recommended that the committee note the contents of this report.

##### Decision

1. To note the content of the report.
2. To agree that a report be provided to the next meeting of the local area committee providing an update on ongoing discussions with landowners in respect of the land required for the bridge and the subsequent cyclepath.

#### 9. 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 local area committee notes:-

1. The progress made in delivering the approved general services capital programme within the Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley 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 2023/24 to 2027/28 to specific programmes attributable to individual wards will be undertaken as part of the development of the new ten year programme;
4. Progress in delivery of the 2022/23 programme will be reported to Council Executive following detailed budget monitoring exercises during the course of the year;
5. An updated capital investment programme will be presented to Council for approval in early 2023.

Decision

To note the content of the report

10. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising of progress on partner activities, regeneration planning and other activities within the ward.

With respect to the update contained within the report on the A71 roundabout the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration provided an explanation with regards to planning obligations and undertook to continue to provide ward members and the community with relevant information on the Gavieside project including any necessary road infrastructure requirements.

It was recommended that the committee note the report.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.
2. To note the explanation provided by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration with respect to planning obligations.
3. To note that the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration undertook to keep local ward members and the community informed of progress with the Gavieside project including any necessary road infrastructure requirements including a roundabout on the A71.

11. WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note content of the workplan

12. COVID-19 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 14 December 2021. The report also provides an update on projects from the original list that were to be funded from resources available under the Town Centre Management Fund.

It was recommended that committee notes the update on the approved projects.

Decision

To note the content of the report.

13. PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2022/23 TOWN CENTRE CAPITAL FUND

Councillor Meek having previously declared an interest took no part in the following item of business

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning Economic Development and Regeneration) inviting committee to consider the allocation of the additional £5,353.69 available to support the Place Based Investment Town Centre Fund projects and to agree the allocation as set out in the report.

It was recommended that the local are committee :-

1. Notes that the Council Executive on 21 June 2022 agreed an additional£5,353.69 to support projects in the ward;
2. Notes the three-step process to be used to decide the allocation;
3. Agrees to award funding as set out in the report;
4. Notes that some of the funding costs remain as estimates and delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
5. Notes that as projects are implemented the detail and associated costs may change and so delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that becomes available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remain within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals; and
6. Notes the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report.

The Clerk advised committee that as only two members were present the matter would have to be referred to Council Executive for approval.

Decision

1. To note the content of the report; and

2. To note that the item of business would be referred to a future meeting of Council Executive with the recommendation from the local area committee that it be approved.