

MINUTE of MEETING of the LINLITHGOW LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 2 NOVEMBER 2021.

Present – Councillors Tom Conn (Chair), Tom Kerr and David Tait

In attendance -

Graeme Struthers, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Dougie Grierson, Community Regeneration Team Leader, West Lothian Council
Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland
Paul Harvey, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Andy Johnston, Service Manager, West Lothian Council
Phyllis McFadyen, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
Christopher Nelson, Income Maximisation Manager, West Lothian Council
Hans Edgington, Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair welcomed Hans Edgington from Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council to the meeting. The committee agreed to record appreciation to John Kelly for all his activities as the former community council secretary and for his involvement with the Local Area Committee.

The Chair agreed to bring forward agenda Item 12 (NETS, Land and Countryside) and hear it immediately before Item 11 (Workplan).

3. MINUTE

The Committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 24 August 2021. The minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. POLICE WARD REPORT

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Scotland which provided an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period to 3rd October 2021.

The Committee was invited to note the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5. FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE WARD REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Scottish Fire & Rescue Service providing an update on activity across the ward to 30th September 2021.

The committee was asked to note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the content of the report

6. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE -

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 Linlithgow ward for the period Quarter 2 1st July to 30th September 2021.

The committee was invited to note the service activity as details in the ward report for the period 1st July to 30th September 2021.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF REGENERATION PLANNING

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

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report

8. ANTI-POVERTY SERVICE UPDATE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services detailing the work undertaken by the Anti-Poverty Service from April 2020-March 2021.

The Committee was invited to note:-

1. The Anti-Poverty Service provision in the ward; and

2. The impact provision was having in terms of supporting the outcomes of the Community Planning Partnership's Anti-Poverty Strategy 2018-23.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. PENSIONERS GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2021/22

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration setting out the final allocations that were made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2021-22 to groups in the Linlithgow ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups. The committee was asked to note the continuing impact that COVID – 19 had had on the application and allocation process regarding the fund. The panel was also asked to note that applicants were offered, as they were in 2020, an additional option of a pre-prepared meal as an alternative to a direct grant award.

It was recommended that the committee:-

- i. The effect of COVID-19 on the arrangements regarding the Pensioners Groups Christmas Fund in 2021-22;
- ii. The continued inclusion of a pre-prepared meal option; and
- iii. Four groups in the Linlithgow ward were being supported through the Pensioners' Christmas Fund 2021-22.

Decision

To note the terms of the report

10. SERVICE UPDATE – NETS, LAND & 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 NET's, Land and Countryside teams for the period 1 July 2021 – 30 September 2021.

It was recommended that the Committee:

1. Notes 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.

11. WORKPLAN

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan.