

MINUTE of MEETING of the BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 22 NOVEMBER 2021.

Present – Councillors Harry Cartmill (Chair), Willie Boyle, Charles Kennedy and John McGinty

In attendance -

Carol Johnston, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Nairn Pearson, BID & Town Centre Manager, West Lothian Council
Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland
Gordon McGuire, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Andy Johnston, Service Manager, West Lothian Council
Lorraine Donnelly, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
Graham McKee, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
Christopher Nelson, Income Maximisation Manager, West Lothian Council
Ronnie McLeod, Bathgate Community Council
Donald Stavert, Bathgate Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Boyle declared an interest in Agenda Item 10 as he was a volunteer at Boghall Drop In Centre.

2. MINUTE

The Committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 23 August 2021. The minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. 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.

4. FIRE 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 and provide comment on the Bathgate Multi-Member Ward Performance Report.

Decision

To note the content of the report

5. ANTI-POVERTY SERVICE UPDATE

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

It was recommended that the committee notes:-

1. The Anti-Poverty Service provision in the ward; and,
2. The impact provision is 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.

6. 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 to 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.

7. 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 Bathgate ward for the period Quarter 2 - 1st July to 30 September 2021.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. REPORT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION ACTIVITY

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration which provided an overview of the economic development, regeneration and local partners activities within the Bathgate ward.

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

Decision

To note the content 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 and Regeneration advising of the final allocations to be made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2021-22 to groups in the Bathgate Ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

It was recommended that the committee notes:-

1. The effect of COVID-19 on the arrangements regarding the Pensioners Groups Christmas Fund in 2021-22;
2. The continued inclusion of a pre-prepared meal option; and
3. Seven groups in the Bathgate Ward were being supported through the Pensioner's Christmas Fund 2021-22.

Decision

To note the terms of the report

10. WORKPLAN

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the Workplan.