

MINUTE of MEETING of the FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 14 JUNE 2022.

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

Apologies – Allan McLaughlan, West Calder & Harburn Community Council and Shaun Davidson, Addiewell and Loganlea Community Council

In attendance

Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration
Douglas Benson, Community Regeneration Officer
Andy Johnston, Service Manager, West Lothian Council
Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda item 10 – Report on Progress of Local Regeneration Planning

Councillor Cathy Muldoon stated that she had a family connection in the Stoneyburn employability programme; she would participate in the item of business

Agenda item 11 – West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund – Update

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 agenda item 11 (*West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund – Update*) would be considered after agenda item 13 (*Workplan*).

3 MINUTES

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 8 March 2022 as a correct record. The Chair thereafter signed the minute.

4 POLICE SCOTLAND 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 31 March 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 31 March 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 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 January 2022 – 31 March 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

To note the terms of the report.

7 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 4, 1 January to 31 March 2022.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8 WEST LOTHIAN VILLAGES IMPROVEMENT FUND - UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising members of the application received from within the local area committee area seeking funding from the West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund (WLVIF) in 2021/22.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note that one application had been received for funding;
2. Note that the proposals met the eligibility criteria for supported project;
3. Support funding for the project; and
4. Agree that the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration should make an offer of funding as per the details set out in this report.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

9 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.

It was recommended that the committee note the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10 SCHEDULE OF LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE VENUES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Lead Officer advising of the process of agreeing venues for Local Area Committee meetings from August 2022 onwards.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the options available to the committee; and

2. Agree suitable venues for all meetings in the calendar from August onwards.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.
2. To agree that Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee meetings default location remain the Civic Centre with ad hoc meetings held elsewhere in the community if a specific need arises.

11 WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan subject to adding an update on the A71 West Calder roundabout for the next meeting of the LAC.

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

The Chair, having declared an interest, left the meeting at this item. The Vice-Chair, Councillor Cathy Muldoon, chaired the remainder of the meeting. The meeting proceeded with two members and as per the Scheme of Administration any decisions would be reported by the Lead Officer to Council Executive for ratification.

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 applications to the Place Based Investment Fund Town Centre Fund and to agree the allocation of funding for the settlements within the ward.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note that ten applications had been received for projects within the ward;
2. Note the recommendations provided by officers within each town within the ward;
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

As the meeting was inquorate, the Lead Officer would refer the report to the Council Executive for determination of the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward funding applications.