

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 2 FEBRUARY 2023.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Peter Heggie, Maria MacAulay and Moira McKee Shemilt

Apologies – Mary Benson (Ladywell Community Council) and Diane Loughlin (Livingston Village Community Council)

In Attendance

Greg Welsh, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Lesley Keirnan, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council
Andrew Brown, Head Teacher, Harrysmuir Primary School
Elaine Carder, Principal Teacher, Harrysmuir Primary School
Sergeant Lee Brodie, Police Scotland
James Robertson, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
David Lees, Operational Services, West Lothian Council
Gordon Brown, Service Manager, Operational Services, West Lothian Council
John Hughes, Bellsquarry Community Council

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2 ORDER OF BUSINESS

The committee agreed that agenda item 10 (*Spaces for People Consultation*) would be taken as read and its recommendations noted without further consideration.

Agenda item 12 (*Place Based Investment Programme 2022/23 Town Centre Capital Fund*) was considered before agenda item 11 (Report on Progress of Local Regeneration Planning).

3 MINUTES

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on Thursday 10 November 2022 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4 HARRYSMUIR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

The committee heard a presentation (copies of which had been circulated) by Harrysmuir Primary school on the Harrysmuir Learning Community Environmental Projects. The Head Teacher, Principal Teacher and pupils from the school were in attendance to deliver the

presentation and answer questions from members.

The school participated in the John Muir award scheme, which encouraged awareness and responsibility for the natural environment, and had received the award after completing a series of structured challenges. The school was also had also been taken part in a UK-wide Hedgehog Friendly campaign to become a Hedgehog Friendly School, for which they had won the Gold Award. The pupils also spoke about their participation in litter-picking activities around Ladywell and how their Junior Road Safety Officers had helped raise road safety awareness and promote road safety issues to the school and the wider community. Finally, the pupils and teachers explained their activities through their involvement in the community garden.

The teachers and pupils then answered a series of questions from members on their environmental activities.

The members congratulated the pupils on their initiatives and on their presentation, and wished all the best for their future endeavours.

Decision

To note the presentation.

5 POLICE WARD REPORT - REPORT BY POLICE SCOTLAND

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 December 2022.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

6 FIRE SERVICE UPDATE

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 31 December 2022.

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

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 Livingston South Ward.

It was recommended that the committee note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 3 – 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8 SERVICE 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 October 2022 – 31 December 2022.

It was recommended that the committee:

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9 SPACES FOR PEOPLE CONSULTATION

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services consulting with members in accordance with the amendment approved by Council on 22 November 2022. The approved amendment provided an opportunity for the committee to provide feedback on whether the council's remaining temporary Spaces for People measures should be permanently retained or removed.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the contents of this report and provide any appropriate feedback on the remaining temporary Spaces for People measures contained within the report; and
2. Note that officers would report back to a future meeting of the Environment and Sustainability PDSP with any feedback received.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10 PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2022/23 TOWN CENTRE CAPTIAL FUND

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 the Place Based Investment Fund Town Centre Fund projects and inviting members to agree the allocation returned of allocation of £6,451.68 as set out in the report.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the return of £6,451.68 for reallocation from DED22-03 (£6,000) and LAD22-01 (£451.68);
2. Agree that funding be reallocated to projects DED22-01 (£3451.86) and in principle to BEL22-01 (£3,000) as set out in the report; and that any underspend from BEL22-01 be redistributed to DED22-01;
3. 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;
4. Notes that as projects were implemented the detail and associated costs might change and so delegate responsibility to 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
5. Note the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

11 REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) informing members on locality planning within the ward.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. The progress of the two local plans; and

2. The progress and development of actions.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

12 WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan.