

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 20 JANUARY 2023.

Present – Councillors Anne McMillan (Chair), Alison Adamson, Robert De Bold and Andrew Miller

Apologies – Diane Loughlin, Livingston Village Community Council

In Attendance

Jim Jack, Lead Officer

PS Lee Brodie, Police Scotland

Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

Christopher Nelson, Income Maximisation Manager, West Lothian Council

James Robertson, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Sandy Ross, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council

Simon Scott, Open Space & Cemeteries Manager, West Lothian Council

Stevie Egan, Eliburn Community Council

Julie Henderson, Knightsridge Community Council

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda item 10 – Community Regeneration Update

Councillor Alison Adamson stated that she had taken part in various meetings where funding had been discussed but would participate in the item of business.

Councillor Andrew Miller stated that he was a Board member on the Vennie and a volunteer with Food Bank but would participate in the item of business.

2 MINUTES

The committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 15 September 2022. The Chair thereafter signed the minute.

3 LIVINGSTON NORTH MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE 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 Livingston North Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30 September 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note and provide comment on

the Livingston North Multi-Member Ward Performance Report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

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 1 October 2022.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5 SERVICE UPDATE – OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services appraising members of the Operational Services activities for Livingston North from 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. Note the work carried out by the 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.

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 Livingston North Ward.

It was recommended that the committee note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 2 – 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7 ANTI-POVERTY SERVICE UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services informing members of the work undertaken by the Anti-Poverty Service from April 2021 to March 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note:

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 and the Planning Partnership's Anti-Poverty Strategy 2018–23.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8 COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

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

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee notes updates on:

1. The Vennie's activity, particularly the Food Outlet, Community Garden and Bike Lending Library;
2. Outreach youth work across Livingston North;
3. Livingston North Partnership Centre;
4. Developments around Dechmont Law;
5. the Community Connections initiative that has launched a drop-in service within the ward; and
6. Updates on the council's access2employment and Business Gateway services.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9      PENSIONERS GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2022–2023

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education Planning and Economic Development) informing members of the final allocations that had been made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2022–23 to groups in the Livingston North Ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups. The committee was asked to note that applicants had been offered, as they had been in 2020 and 2021, an additional option of a pre-prepared chilled Christmas meal as an alternative to a direct grant award.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. Six groups in Livingston North ward have been supported through the
2. Pensioner's Christmas Fund 2022-23; and
3. The continued inclusion of a pre-prepared meal option.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10      WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan.