

FORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK (NN) - NOTE OF TEAMS MEETING: - Wed 03 November 2021 at 18:00 via Microsoft Teams

Present

- Fred Marinello (Chair) - Granton and District Community Council
- Ama-zing Harmonies - Ama Shallangwa / Dave Stainton
- Edinburgh Agroecology, Lauriston Farm - Lisa Houston
- Fresh Start - Biddy Kelly
- Pilton Community Health Project – Dawn Anderson / Carla Sayer
- The Prentice Centre - Mary Rae
- Trinity Community Council – Tim Parker / Bill Rodger
- Trinity Academy – Nick Burge
- Cllr Jim Campbell – City of Edinburgh Council
- Jack?

In attendance:

- Scott Donkin - CEC NW Lifelong Learning Service Manager

Apologies:

- EVOC – Heather Yang
- Pilton Youth & Children's Project (PYCP) – Debbie McMillan
- Prentice Centre – Moira Fenning
- Cllr George Gordon - City of Edinburgh Council
- Cllr Ellie Bird
- Circle Scotland - Mark Kennedy

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>INPUT/DISCUSSION</u>	<u>DECISIONS / ACTIONS</u>
1. <u>Minute of 01 September 2021 and matters arising</u>	<p>The minute was approved.</p> <p>Scott Donkin indicated that at the previous meeting, George Norbal – CEC Housing Operations Manager has agreed to establish a Funding Panel meeting to discuss NEP however, due to personal circumstances, George has not been in a position to establish the meeting as yet and will do so as soon as possible.</p>	George Norval to establish Funding Panel meeting to discuss NEP.
2. <u>Edinburgh Agroecology – Lauriston Farm</u>	<p>Following a visit to the project at Lauriston Farm, Fred invited Lisa to the Network meeting to inform members of the project and to raise awareness.</p> <p>Lisa presented an overview of the project which has involved establishing a cooperative approach to manage 100 acres of land adjacent to the Lauriston Castle. The land has been leased from the City of Edinburgh Council for 25 years to create opportunities across three key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community food production; • Improve bio diversity and • Support community engagement. 	

	<p>Lisa explained that the site has been divided to help support the thematic outcomes. This will include the creation of (phased) 150 allotments, expanding woodland in the area and expanding the existing wetland to encourage greater levels of bio diversity.</p> <p>A steering group has been established and is working to increase access to the space either as individuals or as local groups. Food growing will be one of the key areas of development and Lisa is working alongside local organisations, including the Covid Recovery Group to identify further opportunities to expand the activity across the neighbouring communities. On the site itself, a market garden will be created with a veg box scheme under development.</p> <p>Allotments will become available and initially this will see between 10 – 15 becoming available with a view to supporting others to also focus on food growing as a sustainable model. A community orchard is also planned.</p> <p>Lisa highlighted that one of the significant concerns is parking and whilst doing all they can to promote sustainable travel options, it is recognised that this may be challenging for some. Discussions are underway with the (Lauriston) Toby Carvery to support disabled parking.</p> <p>In 2020, 1225 responses were received in respect of an online engagement which has been viewed as very encouraging. Unfortunately demographics were not included as part of the response so there's no way of knowing how many may be local however, engaging with local groups to date has been very positive. Lisa encouraged everyone to pop along to find out more.</p> <p>All present were enthusiastic about the site and its potential. Fred thanked Lisa for her time and suggested that this was an excellent opportunity to document a historical video which can sit alongside other videos of the wider area and its ongoing transition.</p> <p>It was agreed to circulate the powerpoint slides.</p>	<p>ACTION: Circulate Slides to NN</p>
<p>3. <u>Forth NN</u> <u>priority update</u> <u>(Poverty)</u></p>	<p>Biddy provided an overview of Respond and Recovery (R2) activity to date including:</p> <p>Establishment of 5 working groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young people; • Mental Health; • Tackling Place; • Tackling Poverty; • Connecting the Dots. <p>Each of the groups is chaired by a lead individual from third sector or statutory sector.</p>	

	<p>The overall membership continues to be diverse with a wide range of organisations involved and a gathering took place on 30th September to begin shaping priorities for the coming year. This has identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gathering collective evidence of service delivery and how we report this to NN, LCPP, VSF in line with LIP.• Staff and volunteer training from Granton Information Centre for sign posting for debt management• Access to services and providing right opportunities at the right time for each individual• Cross sector referrals and internal referrals among partners.• Information / communication – how do we get the right info to people – different mediums.• Connecting the Dots group to meet ASAP about communication and also wider funding opportunities and we do this in a collaborative way. <p>Immediate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holiday hunger – collaborative approach to this over the school holidays within the pantry network.• Community meals happening with a variety of different partners – GCG, Scran, Stepping Stones and PCHP• Co-ordination of Christmas hampers across the area• Development of staff training from GIC to be rolled out.• Development of drop in advice and information places of access <p>Planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-ordinated funding applications• Chairs from working groups meet to agree key priorities for next year• Establishment of clear aims for Connecting the Dots• Clear and consistent communication with VSF, TSSG, LCPP regarding report activity from R2 group. <p>Fred thanked Biddy for her detailed and informative update.</p>											
6. <u>Community Grants Fund (CGF)</u>	<p>Scott informed the Network that decisions reached to date by the funding panel are:</p> <table><tr><td>Starting balance: £24,298</td><td>AWARDED</td></tr><tr><td>Ama-Zing Harmonies</td><td>£1540</td></tr><tr><td>Newhaven Heritage Community Garden</td><td>£3763</td></tr><tr><td>Friends of Granton Castle</td><td>£1540</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">New balance: £17,455</td></tr></table> <p>Two applications were received outwith a funding panel meeting and both were circulated electronically to Panel members to seek a view as follows:</p>	Starting balance: £24,298	AWARDED	Ama-Zing Harmonies	£1540	Newhaven Heritage Community Garden	£3763	Friends of Granton Castle	£1540	New balance: £17,455		
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	<p>Pilton Equalities Project (PEP) Seeking £1,132.78 to support a Christmas lunch outing for members. Costs include transport, entertainment and food. In normal operating circumstances, members would have fund raised when they met but Covid has prevented this. A couple of panel members raised some concerns around the cost of transport as it was PEP buses. It has been explained that PEP must manage the vehicles through full cost recovery therefore any group using the service must contribute.</p> <p>It was agreed to fund the project in full.</p> <p>Heart of Newhaven Seeking £519.80 to supply and install noticeboards external of Victoria Primary School. The organisation has been successful in purchasing the school as part of a Community Asset Transfer process and whilst the building is emptied, the organisation are keen to keep the local community and passers by up to date with information about what wil be happening.</p> <p>One of the Panel had highlighted that they were aware of the project being in receipt of substantial funding and queried whether or not they could afford to fund the noticeboards themselves. On this basis, this was discussed with the Locality Manager and it was agreed to obtain more information from the applicant. Scott will undertake this.</p> <p>As at this date, the balance is £16,322 as below and the following awards have been made:</p> <table><tr><td>Starting balance: £24,298</td><td>AWARDED</td></tr><tr><td>Ama-Zing Harmonies</td><td>£1540</td></tr><tr><td>Newhaven Heritage Community Garden</td><td>£3763</td></tr><tr><td>Friends of Granton Castle</td><td>£1540</td></tr><tr><td>Pilton Equalities Project</td><td>£1133</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">New balance: £16,322</td></tr></table> <p>The Network noted progress made on distributing the Community Grants Fund to date.</p>	Starting balance: £24,298	AWARDED	Ama-Zing Harmonies	£1540	Newhaven Heritage Community Garden	£3763	Friends of Granton Castle	£1540	Pilton Equalities Project	£1133	New balance: £16,322		<p>To fund PEP £1133</p> <p>Scott to contact Heart of Newhaven</p>
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7. <u>AOCB</u>	<p>Dawn highlighted that alongside the update provided by Biddy, further work is underway to evidence the impact of local activity to improve the lives of those experiencing issues associated with Poverty and Inequality. One aspect is to learn from case studies and a template had been circulated amongst third sector organisations. Dawn added that she, Morag Wilson and Scott were pulling this together as it helps to form some of the reporting to the Locality Community Planning Partnership. It was asked that the template be shared across the network membership also.</p> <p>Lauriston Farm Market Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tim and Bill asked that they can contact Lisa with a view to attending the facilities.	<p>Template to be circulated to the NN</p> <p>Elaine to forward Lisa’s contact details</p>												
8. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 19th January 2022, 6pm													