

FORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK (NN) - NOTE OF TEAMS MEETING: - Wed 1st Sept 2021

Present

Fred Marinello (Chair) - Granton and District Community Council
 Ama-zing Harmonies - Ama Shallangwa / Dave Stainton
 Circle Scotland - Mark Kennedy
 Fresh Start - Biddy Kelly
 Trinity Community Council – Tim Parker / Bill Atkinson
 Trinity Academy – Nick Burge
 West Pilton West Granton Community Council – Willie Black
 Cllr Ellie Bird
 Cllr Jim Campbell – City of Edinburgh Council
 Cllr George Gordon - City of Edinburgh Council

In attendance:

Helen Bourquin - CEC NW Lifelong Learning Service Manager
 Elaine Lennon - CEC NW Lifelong Learning Development Officer
 Fay Butler – CEC Granton Waterfront Development Project
 George Norval – CEC Project Manager / Housing, Family & Fair Work
 Mike Massaro-Mallinson - Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership, NW Locality Manager
 Katrina Smith - Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership / NHS Lothian, Public Health
 Lynn Loudon and Victor Blanco, Edinburgh College

Apologies:

EVOC – Heather Yang
 Pilton Youth & Children's Project (PYCP) – Lesley Ross
 Prentice Centre – Moira Fenning

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>INPUT/DISCUSSION</u>	<u>DECISIONS / ACTIONS</u>
1. <u>Minute of 30th June 2021 and matters arising</u>	There were no queries or matters arising raised and the minute was approved by Fred and seconded by Cllr Gordon	.
2. <u>LCPP Social Isolation Subgroup update</u>	<p>Mike explained that the sub group has representatives from the third sector, NHS, Police Scotland, Fire Scotland and CEC, and their immediate aim is to harness all the good work already going on to reduce social isolation in the locality, and make sure that these activities and services are widely known about and good practice shared.</p> <p>Katrina presented a shared outcomes framework (circulated) which has been developed to allow organisations to see how work they are doing contributes to a shared aim of reducing social isolation, recognising no single organisation or group can achieve this outcome on their own. This is a living document and will be continually reviewed. Anyone with thoughts or comments, or with an interest in getting involved in the working group is welcome to contact Katrina at any time (katrina.smith@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk). She added that Biddy was also on this subgroup so any comments could also be fed to her at any time.</p>	

	<p>Katrina explained that public health took a life-course approach to social isolation – that is that it can affect anyone at different points in their lives. Some transitional periods in life pose more risk, and some particular population groups were more at risk – the subgroup has tried to reflect this in the shared outcomes framework.</p> <p>The next stages include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering feedback from NNs and VSFs • Looking at immediate work that can be done. Good practice being shared and opportunities to build on these where relevant being explored. • One example of this is Crewe Health Centre, where GP can prescribe Health Walks in partnership with third sector organisation. The subgroup plans to use this as a case study to encourage more practices to set up similar models in their own area. • Another example is identifying suitable community venues to hold anxiety management courses (e.g. those offered through Thrive by Health in Mind) and looking at ways to offer more courses if these prove popular. • Katrina added that the group was also promoting the Keep Safe initiative. This is a Police Scotland initiative in collaboration with I Am Me, to create a network of safe spaces across the city that can help vulnerable people in getting out into their community. This has been progressing well and through one of the connections at another NN meeting Costa Coffee had become involved. Katrina will send round further information about the scheme. <p>Questions / comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clr Gordon – how would referrals be made to the Managing Anxiety course? Mike explained that Health in Mind is running these courses on behalf of Thrive Edinburgh and that they are open for referrals from GPs or from groups themselves. • Biddy added that locations were being looked at locally so that participants would feel comfortable entering the doors and may in turn feel open to accessing additional services taking place at these venues. • Lynn - asked how the college could get involved in this work? Katrina's email is above for any group interested in discussing this more. 	
<p>3. <u>Community information portal</u></p>	<p>www.Communitynorth.scot</p> <p>Lynn gave some background to this project which aimed to provide an information portal to help local people know what is going on in the area, how to access it, and to help circulate this information from projects to wider community (background paper was circulated). The geographical area being covered initially was a focus the small North area i.e. Pilton, Muirhouse, Granton, Drylaw.</p>	

	<p>She added that student groups had carried out questionnaires with local groups and that once feedback was gathered, they took the findings back out into the community and showed a beta site. Post COVID restrictions, they have now been working to develop the site and Victor an ex-student is now managing this development.</p> <p>They explained that it was very much a work in progress and needed everyone here to give information on their services and a activities so that the site help as much local info as possible.</p> <p>Comments and queries included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ama – how do we get info updated? Lynn explained that any updates could be sent to Elaine at any time • Cllr Gordon – what is the link to this project? www.Communitynorth.scot • Katrina – Could you split the helplines section so that emergency `numbers were immediately visible on every page, not just home page e.g. a ‘Get Help Now’ button? Lynn / Elaine / Victor to look into this • Fay – Is this now live? What are next stages? Lynn explained that this feedback will help develop site and that new version will be widely circulated. <p>Please email any suggestions to Elaine.lennon@edinburgh.gov.uk for now</p>	<p>Any comments/suggestions to Elaine.lennon@edinburgh.gov.uk</p>
<p>4. <u>Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP)</u></p>	<p>George N gave a summary snapshot of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) section of the NEP budgets. The budget for Forth Ward is approx. £300k, which could deliver a huge local environmental change, and examples of the type of project that could be done include growing, planting and fencing.</p> <p>HRA funds must be spent on Council Housing land and the projects circulated had been proposed / decided at October 2019 meeting, and that these projects had been scored at that time.</p> <p>He explained that he was seeking authority from this group to progress Ferry Road Gardens project, and a decision on how best to discuss and agree projects to improve local council housing land.</p> <p>Project 3 on report, 35 Ferry Road Drive, to improve communal drying area was estimated at £32,250 for a first phase, with 2 adjacent back greens to follow in phase 2. He has received advice from contractor saying that it would be best to carry out both phases together to reduce impact on</p>	

	<p>tenants and that total cost would be £150k. He added that, as the balance was not spent past year, that this is possible within budget available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Campbell asked that ongoing maintenance is taken into account. George N acknowledged the importance of ongoing maintenance following environmental investment. Where pavements, access routes or other areas of public realm are improved, it was recognised that the location would need maintained by Roads/ Grounds Maintenance and adopted where not part of the roads / pavements network. We would be reluctant to carry out improvements where regular maintenance couldn't be arranged. • Willie thanked George N for the excellent summary and added that there had been progress since the initial walkabout that took place. He asked how we increase responsibility of tenants in the upkeep of their space? He also said that he thought the proposed working system where Housing Officers developed relationships with tenants in their 'patch' was positive. George advised that Estates Management, particularly given the gaps during Covid restrictions would be a priority as we return to some semblance or normality. • Willie added that the potting shed that was funded by NEP had been destroyed in recent bad weather and asked if we could rectify this? George will speak to Housing Property to see whether a shed could be gifted through community benefits. • Cllr Gordon asked what impact would be if we deferred looking at this in more depth? George N agreed to circulate more info unless a panel meeting could be set up? • Cllr Bird asked how we get the community voice at the heart of decisions in Granton Medway? George N explained that lots of positive engagement work was carried out to get bins off the street, but some stairs did not want to lose a bit of their garden space. George agreed to look again at the street and undertake further consultation in possible locations, also taking into account the possibility of larger communal bins.. <p>It was decided to set up a funding panel as soon as possible to discuss options in more detail.</p> <p>George N to bring more detailed info including aerial photography and timescales.</p> <p>Cllr Campbell asked if we could look at void spaces at back of Ferry Road Avenue to make them less problematic? George N said that this was mixed tenure housing and that he could look into it and also into getting residents more involved</p>	<p>Funding panel to be established and meeting organised asap</p> <p>George N to bring detailed info for projects to be discussed</p> <p>Ferry Road Avenue to be looked at by George N</p>
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	Willie pointed out that flytipping had been happening again and that we could possibly learn from discussions at IMP (Improving Muirhouse and Pennywell) looking at solutions. He added that the earlier amnesty skip initiative had been successful and asked if this could be considered even quarterly?	Willie to get chair of IMP to share info with this group
5. <u>Forth NN priority update (Poverty)</u>	<p>Biddy explained that funding had been successful to support a Holiday Hunger project over Summer holidays></p> <p>The COVID Response and Recovery Group had developed 5 working groups to take forward the priorities, and that a full report back on these would be available after their workshop on 30th September.</p>	Biddy to feed back to next meeting
6. <u>Community Grants Fund (CGF)</u>	<p>Helen explained that one application for funding had been circulated to existing funding panel, and asked for guidance in how Forth NN would like these comments / recommendations managed?</p> <p>It was decided that one new funding panel would look at both NEP and CGF proposals, and that this would meet as soon as possible to consider this application. The invitation would be sent to all NN members</p>	Elaine to send out proposed date plus invitation to be part of this funding panel
7. <u>Community Involvement in NN and in LIP activity</u>	<p>Helen presented a paper on 'How does this NN contribute to Locality Improvement Plan (LIP) priorities?' that Scott Donkin had produced as agreed at last meeting.</p> <p>She explained that the North West LIP progress update was provided to the Forth Neighbourhood Network at it's meeting in May 2021. The 3 key priorities and high level actions from the plan are provided in the circulated report with suggested contributing activities the NN may wish to consider.</p> <p>She summarised the three priorities in LIP and added that there were opportunities to engage and input in these as in the circulated paper:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>North Edinburgh specific priority - Develop a robust mechanism for engaging with the community to articulate and develop plans to combat poverty and inequality in North Edinburgh</u> <p>Comments included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How we reach seldom heard groups? • How do we increase the reach of this network? • Do we need a small working group? • How do we capture what's already happening? • The website portal could help with this? • How do we share findings and agreed actions? 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biddy added that the COVID Response and Recovery Group which led on the first priority included around 30 local organisations and that they would be happy to give an update on this as a standing agenda item. Willie added that This group encourage other organisations to come along and share their work at this time where groups are moving back towards meaningful activity <p>2. <u>Locality wide - Work with key partners to ensure that pupils and students (especially those most likely to experience negative destinations) and the wider community are equipped with suitable life skills, to make informed choices about their futures and be better prepared for existing and emerging labour markets</u></p> <p>This is a more service led priority and examples of plans include a jobs fair and that the NN could help with the promotion of this</p> <p>3. <u>Locality wide - Vulnerable members of our communities will feel less isolated and more engaged with community life and key organisations, helping improve mental and physical wellbeing</u></p> <p>Comments included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike and Katrina's presentation gave an update on this group Other NNs have identified Social Isolation as their key priority and work on mapping was already taking place there <p>It was agreed that the COVID Response and Recovery Group and also the Social Isolation subgroup updates would be regular agenda items.</p> <p>It was agreed that this conversation would be continued at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Priority group updates to be regular agenda items</p> <p>To add this item to agenda of next meeting</p>
8. <u>AOCB</u>	<p>Trinity Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nick Burge, Head Teacher at Trinity Academy introduced himself and explained that the school was keen to listen to broader issues, in particular where in relation to the school. He explained that the work on the school was progressing and that the PE Dept hoped to be finished by Easter break, and that phase 2 was in a consultation stage. He had a specific request as to how the school could help deal with the litter issues in Victoria Park, some of which he knows is due to a minority of pupils. Contact with Trinity Community Council was encouraged. 	<p>School to contact TCC</p>

