

# North-West Locality Community Planning Partnership

# Monday 6 February 2023

10:00 - 11:30

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting
- 3. Action Tracker
- 4. Priority Updates
- 5. Warm and Welcoming Initiative
- 6. Neighbourhood Network Updates
- 7. Empowerment Team Update
- 8. Locality Improvement Plan
- 9. Edinburgh Partnership Update
- 10. AOB
- 11. Date of Next Meeting



Number	Date	Topic	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Status	Comments
			Nick to liaise with		uale		
		Locality Improvement	Council colleagues re				
1	05/02/2021		linking into schools	Nick			
			Bridie to come back to				Steve will extend an
0	27/05/2024	Presentation by Bridie	subsequent meeting to		Mar 00		invite to Bridie for next
3	04/10/2021	Ashrowan from EVOC	update on progress Steve to provide minute	Steve Steve	Mar-22		LCPP
	04/10/2021	ЛОВ	Lynn and Scott to link re	Oleve			
		My Community North	on-going partnership				
4	10/12/2021	presentation	and funding.	Scott			
		Locality Improvement	Dawn to share social				
_	10/12/2021	Plan Priorities - Social	isolation case study.	Dawa			
5	10/12/2021	isolation	-	Dawn			
		Locality Improvement	Anna to look into training				
		Plan Priorities - North	of VSF staff in carrying out assessments				
6	10/12/2021	Edinburgh	out assessments	Anna			
			Anna to provide				
		Locality Improvement	statistics on assessment				
		Plan Priorities - North Edinburgh	backlogs as a means of				Anna will report to nxt
7	10/12/2021	Lamburgii	managing expectations	Anna	Apr-22		LCPP
,	. 5, 12,2021	Neighbourhood	Almond NN to invite Lisa				Percy will provide invite
8	10/12/2021	Networks Update	to future meeting	Percy	Mar-22		at next mtg
			Steve to raise issues of				
			lack of representation at				
			LCPPs and inconsistency of				
			community council				
			policing reports with				
			appropriate				Steve will provide
9	10/12/2021	AOB	representatives.	Steve	Apr-22		update to next LCPP
			20-minute				
		00 : ( NIII - I	neighbourhood team to	20-min			
10	20/02/2022	20 minute N'hood presentation	come back with workshop ideas	N'hood Team			
10	20/02/2022	presentation		20-min			
		20 minute N'hood	Workshop on definition	N'hood			
11	28/02/2022	presentation	of 'hub' to be scoped	Team			
		LIP Update - social	Look at structure of the				
12	28/02/2022	isolation	VSF in NW	Tommy			
		LID Lindoto pagisi	Meeting between VSF Chairs and Head of				
13	28/02/2022	LIP Update - social isolation	Empowerment	Tommy			
13	2010212022	iooiduori	Call for support around a	Comming			
		LIP Update - social	venue for Andy's Man				
14	28/02/2022		Club	Tommy/All			
			Scott to ask Living in				
4.5	20/02/2022	NN Undatas Familia	Harmony to circulate				
15	20/02/2022	NN Updates - Forth	report Cost of living crisis	Scott			
			paper to be circulated to				
16	29/04/2022	EP Update	members	Michele			
		LIP Update - social	Tommy and Anna to	Tommy/Ann			
17	29/04/2022		liaise re Health in Mind	a			
		Light to the	Dawn to forward				
4.0	20/04/2022	LIP Update - social	evaluation details to	Dowe			
18	29/04/2022	isolation	Tommy  NN Leads to contribute	Dawn			
19	29/04/2022	NN Updates	1-page reports	NN Reps			
19	2010-12022	in a Opuales	i pago ispoits	1414 170h9			
			Tommy and Andrew to	Tommy/And			
20		NN Updates	liaise re communications				
			New lead officer for				
21	29/04/2022	LIP Updates	priority 1 required				

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			Michele to circulate EPB				
			papers on Cost-of-Living				
			Crisis and Review of				
			welfare rights and debt				
			advice services in				
22	18/11/2022	Cost of Living Crisis	Edinburgh	Michele			
			Helen to circulate				
			information on Warm				
			and Welcoming initiative				
			and link to web pages				
23	18/11/2022	Cost of Living Crisis	when available	Helen			
			Michele to share				
			Eleanor Cunningham's				
24	18/11/2022	Cost of Living Crisis	details with Tommy	Michele			
			Molly and Tommy to				
			meet re Cost-of-Living	Molly/Tomm			
25	18/11/2022	Cost of Living Crisis	Crisis	у			
			NW LCPP to host a				
			meeting between all				
			deputy head teachers,				
			early years managers,				
			CLD managers, and				
			college managers to				
			improve sharing of the				
26	18/11/2022	Priority 2	learning estate				
			Dawn and Vicky to link				
			in re input to other High				
27	18/11/2022	Priority 3	Schools				



# North-West Locality Community Planning Partnership

18 November 2022, 10am

#### Microsoft Teams

# Minute

Members Present: Dawn Anderson (Forth & Inverleith Voluntary Sector Forum Representative), Helen Bourquin (City of Edinburgh Council), Nick Croft (Edinburgh College), Stuart Dobbin (City of Edinburgh Council), Percy Fekety (Almond Neighbourhood Network – NN), Andrew Field (City of Edinburgh Council), George Gordon (Forth Neighbourhood Network – NN), Steve Kerr – part (Western Neighbourhood Network – NN) Liz McIntosh (Western & Almond Voluntary Sector Forum rep), Tommy McLean (Western & Almond Voluntary Sector Forum rep), Councillor Vicky Nicolson (City of Edinburgh Council), Councillor Norman Work (City of Edinburgh Council), Heather Yang (Volunteer Edinburgh)

In Attendance: Molly Page (Poverty Prevention and Transformation Team) – Presentation, Michele Mulvaney (City of Edinburgh Council), Julie Dickson (City of Edinburgh Council – note)

Apologies: Anna Duff (Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership), Councillor Euan Hyslop (City of Edinburgh Council), Mark Landels (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – SFRS), Joyce McAree Millar (Skills Development Scotland – SDS), Morag Wilson (Forth & Inverleith Voluntary Sector Forum Representative)

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

George welcomed everyone to the meeting. He invited first the new members of the LCPP to introduce themselves and then round table introductions were made.



# 2. Minute of previous meeting

The note of the previous meeting was approved.

# 3. Cost-of-Living Crisis

Michele reported that the cost-of-living crisis is an area of focus for the Edinburgh Partnership (EP). The December EP Board (EPB) meeting will receive a stocktake of all partner action under LOIP priority 1 – Enough money to live on. Michele will circulate the papers.

There will also be a paper on the Review of welfare rights and debt advice services in Edinburgh. This is also sits under LOIP priority 1 Michele will circulate this paper to members.

Tommy spoke about warm and welcoming centres. He explained that the VSF are trying to coordinate activity in West Edinburgh. They are looking to produce leaflets and posters with information. He has a meeting arranged with Uta Cochrane, Project Manager for the warm & welcoming initiative, City of Edinburgh Council to discuss wording for the communications material.

Dawn added that the Response and recovery Group and VSF are both undertaking work in this area and that Warm Spaces UK and the Granton Churches have come together to collaborate. City of Edinburgh Council Libraries have approached Dawn about carrying out wellbeing events, including Income maximisation information events. From liaison with Community Link Workers in GP Practices Dawn said that they are reporting food, energy, clothing and travel costs as the main reasons for presentations. Furthermore, the Granton Information Centre have reported people coming to them with concerns about how to cope in future.

Helen reported that a key strand of the communications strategy will be the creation of a 'Warm and Welcoming' webpage on the Council's website which will link to the existing Cost of Living webpage Cost of living – The City of Edinburgh Council. There will be a map of activity around the city. Helen explained that the Council is taking a non-stigmatising approach and as such there will be activities within these spaces for citizens to take part in as well as accessing a warm, welcoming space.

In Queensferry Liz advised that a number of organisations had come together to look at Health and Well-being. A steering group has been convened to coordinate activity. A leaflet has been produced detailing activities. Changeworks will be involved and offering information. The Men's Shed will be opening up to citizens and the Dalmeny Café is hosting a regular toy swap. The Kirkliston Community Pantry is up and running. Liz added that some groups who were suspended due to Covid have re-started.

George added that Empty Kitchens, Full Hearts are looking to accommodate drop-ins as well as deliveries.



Tommy raised concerns about food poverty. He explained that there isn't any infrastructure to support this in West Edinburgh, although Edinburgh Food Project host a couple of afternoons at St Andrews Church in Drumbrae.

The VSF plan to launch a Christmas Support Project, including a foodbank and Christmas gifts. Referrals in the main come from schools with some self-referrals and currently Tommy reported they expect to support approximately 100 families. He said that this isn't structured but is a group of volunteers. St Thomas' Church will support the group as an umbrella organisation. Tommy raised a number of questions including – how to get information out to people and how to support people who are struggling to pay for electricity to cook food without giving out cash payments.

Michele referenced the work of End Hunger Edinburgh and said she would forward Eleanor Cunningham's details to Tommy to link in with this work.

Molly advised that there is a communications campaign around the Cost-of-Living Crisis and <a href="webpages">webpages</a> linked to this. She advised Tommy to link in with the <a href="Edinburgh Food Project">Edinburgh Food Project</a> who can assist with food parcels and holistic advice. There are pages that can help people look at options that are available to them in their financial situation. Molly reported that over £80m in benefits is unclaimed every year. Social Security Scotland are promoting available benefits and Home Energy Scotland can provide fuel advice.

Heather welcomed the support available but highlighted that some people do not have access to broadband to use online facilities and it would be helpful to have information on cheaper providers. In relation to foodbanks she stressed that for families with multiple members or those that are unable to carry food parcels it can be difficult and transport must be considered. Private spaces should also be considered within the Warm and Welcoming initiative for people who might otherwise not have a space to make a telephone call. Molly reported that the Council are looking at how assets can be used differently for IT and phone-calls.

Dawn referred to the Poverty Commission report, commenting that it advocated a cash-first approach.

Tommy commented that it can be difficult make links and connections if the area isn't considered by people to require input. Molly provided a link to the Edinburgh Cost-of-Living toolkit (attached).

Michele said that she is happy to help any members of the LCPP by making introductions or linking people up and facilitating the process within the Council and EP. She added that there is a proposal for the EP to visit each of the localities as they don't hear enough from people with lived experience or grassroots organisations. It's hoped that this will link up the local and strategic.

### Decision

 Michele to circulate EPB papers on Cost-of-Living Crisis and Review of welfare rights and debt advice services in Edinburgh



- Helen to circulate information on Warm and Welcoming initiative and link to web pages when available
- Michele to share Eleanor Cunningham's details with Tommy
- Molly and Tommy to meet re Cost-of-Living Crisis
- 4. Poverty, Prevention and Transformation Team Molly Kerr, Presentation (included please see presentation)

Molly provided a background to the Team explaining that she and her colleague, Becky Cropper, service innovation lead, had been seconded to the team following recommendations in the Poverty Commission report – A Just Capital – Actions to End Poverty in Edinburgh. She gave background on the statutory and Edinburgh targets and the case for action. The presentation covered poverty prevention pathways and work underway to design poverty prevention service models as well as workforce development and culture shift. The internal governance programme for preventing poverty was presented.

In relation to collaboration Molly advised that early indicators of people experiencing poverty could include council tax debt.

There is a tests-of-change being designed for 'reach out' services with Customer Contact Teams and multi-disciplinary teams with a pilot at Tynecastle. This is looking at what services could be delivered in the Tynecastle community wing. A stakeholder event is being planned for those services who use the building or have an interest in its use. This will explore how the use of the building could be improved to meet the needs of the community. No date is set but interest in attending can be noted directly with Molly.

The 'Money Counts' training has been developed and will be delivered to support staff with skills and signposting, this is linked into a public communications strategy. This work was linked into the Advice Service review which recognised the strain that advice service staff under. It is aimed at helping people to self-navigate and assess what they can do versus what they need additional support in relation to financial issues.

# 5. Priority updates

<u>Theme 1 – Social Isolation</u> – Anna Duff had provided a comprehensive written report for the LCPP that was circulated with the papers. Liz advised that a wealth of information had been collected on social isolation and the best way to present this looked to be in map form but there is a cost to this. This issue would be taken to the Neighbourhood Network for discussion.

Tommy referred to the Mental Health First Aid Training for smaller voluntary organisations, arranged by Almond & West VSF in conjunction with Edinburgh College and advised that confirmation of the funding for this was still to be received but it was hoped to hold these sessions in January 23.



In terms of a directory, Almond and Western are operating separately on this so as to be as effective as possible. Tommy acknowledged the EVOC Red Book adding that some of the details were out of date and they would work with EVOC to update this.

<u>Theme 2 – Employment & Skills – Nick reported that the unemployment rate in Edinburgh slightly up from previous month from 3.3% to 3.5%.</u>

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) Participation measure for Edinburgh is 92% - national level 92.4% for latest period. Of the 7.6% not in training or employment or other activity, 4.3% are unconfirmed. This group is of interest to all agencies working in NW Edinburgh.

Vacancies are slightly down compared to last month and wages are slightly up, but nowhere near inflation, so cost of living crisis persists.

With regard to locality improvement plan aims for priority 2:

- Schools and life skills work continues with curriculum for excellence and DYW / SDS activity
- Work based training through apprenticeships continues to grow in the area
- Lots of focus on Christmas school leavers at present with college working closely with SDS and DYW advisors
- Support for vulnerable pupils continues with 16+ group arrangements in all three secondary schools in NW
- Community app action is closed as JU4J website lists all employability and training providers Directory | JUFJ Joined Up for Jobs
- Jobs fairs continue with health and social care recruitment fare on 24 November at Tynecastle and Edinburgh Airport recruitment fair on 26 November, specifically targeted at equality communities of interest
- Learning estate agreed action for LCPP NW to host a meeting between all deputy head teachers, early years managers, CLD managers, and college managers to improve sharing of the learning estate
- Progression pathways agreed that work should continue to map out learner journeys for digital provision, maths provision and English provision in NW

#### **Decision**

 NW LCPP to host a meeting between all deputy head teachers, early years managers, CLD managers, and college managers to improve sharing of the learning estate

<u>Theme 3 –North Edinburgh</u> – Dawn advised that the COVID Response and Recovery Group (R2) met on 6 October and 21 groups attended. New priorities will be agreed, and a working group set up.

A Who's who event organised between the Voluntary Sector Forum and Health &Social Care took place. Kate Barrett (EVOC) has an up-to-date directory of organisations.



The work with Craigroyston High School continues and over 10 organisations are going in to talk to parents wk commencing 21/11/22.

Vicky asked if Craigroyston was the only High School using the approach in the case study. Dawn advised that Craigroyston had reached out for support but she would be happy to link in with Vicky off table about potential input with other High Schools.

The Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund will go ahead in year 2 and Dawn advised that she has applied for funding for a chat café and language exchange.

# Decision

Dawn and Vicky to link in re input to other High Schools

## 6. Neighbourhood Network (NN) Updates

# **Forth**

Forth NN have met twice since April. George is now the NN representative on the NW LCPP and Stuart attends as the elected member. George had a Community Grants Funding (CGF) breakdown circulated prior to the NW LCPP detailing spend.

#### <u>Almond</u>

The last meeting of the Almond NN took place on 31 August. A new community police officer attended the meeting. Areas covered included NEPs, CGF and issues with public transport.

#### Western

Steve reported that Western NN met last week. Reports were not received from the Council. A CGF application for a Christmas Support project from St Thomas' was approved and the panel decided to increase the offer due to the relevance of the application. £5k has been ringfenced for Youth Decides and applications are being encouraged through voluntary organisations.

#### Inverleith

Inverleith NN are due to meet on Monday and identifying a new representative for the NW LCPP is on the agenda.

### 7. Empowerment Team Update

Andrew reported that the organisation review had been extended until 25 November and he would, therefore, provide an update at the next meeting with details of staff size and structure of the Empowerment and Engagement Team.



# 8. Forward Planning

Michele advised that the Locality Improvement Plans (LIPs) were extended from 2022 to 2023. Consideration will need to be given to developing the new plans. These are due to be reported to the EPB in Autumn 2023 so should be given a place on future meeting agendas.

9. DONM

TBD



#### LIP quarterly progress report

Date of LCPP group for consideration: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Lead officer: Dawn Anderson / Morag Wilson (NVSF) (Supported by CEC Lifelong Learning)

Priority theme: North Edinburgh

Actions Completed in the last quarter (Since the last report)

# Overarching High level outcome: 'Develop a robust mechanism for engaging with the community to articulate and develop plans to combat poverty and inequality in North Edinburgh

Following on from a very successful networking /development day held in October by R2 with 27 people in attendance representing a range or local organisations and services, a development group meeting will pull recommendations of how best to work together in the coming year. These will be approved at the full R2 meeting in Jan 2023. R2 will then work up a charter with guiding principles.

#### Winter provision

R2 have co-ordinated our response to winter and the cost-of-living crisis. All R2 members info is on the CEC Warming Welcoming website. A variety of joint funding applications have been successful for additional provision for people over the Christmas period. 15,000 newsletters will be produced with info for people and these will be delivered through doors as not everyone will know where to look online or will have access.

R2 were contacted by West Granton Housing Association who have funds to fund additional activities to support people through the cost-of-living crisis. R2 co-ordinated their applications to ensure no duplication and approx. an additional £30,000 will be allocated for clothes, air fryers, additional funds to open community spaces more and provide more community meals, providing free school breakfasts for a whole primary school for a year etc. This is funding that without this partnership the R2 organisations would not have been able to access. On-going talks continue to see this as a future way to fund

#### **Scottish Government meeting**

Some representatives of R2 met with Scottish Government to discuss how we could apply for funding at a local wide level rather than individual organisations – they are keen to work with us to look at different ways that funding could reach NW. In this context we will be exploring Community Wealth Building in the coming month

#### **Support with Cost of Living Crisis**

The need and demand for food and other basic household items continues to grow. People and families already affected by long term health inequalities are faced with the rising cost of living, especially rising food, heating, and travel costs. Long term isolation and loneliness is affecting mental health and wellbeing. Local third sector organisations are finding it harder to source and provide the amounts of food needed, many depending on FareShare subscriptions that cannot always be fulfilled due to changes in use by dates/lower supermarket excess, food donations or raising funds to purchase food that can meet cultural, religious, dietary, and allergy needs.



As well as sharing tables, pantries, community meals and food served at groups and activities there are regular seasonal events for people to cook, share food and socialise.









#### North Edinburgh Winter Solstice food sharing event

Local partners Pilton Community Health Project and Granton Community Gardeners collected a vast quantity of long life and fresh food for a seasonal Winter Solstice event with fresh produce provided by Lauriston Farm, and the Botanics Edible Gardening Project held in Royston Wardieburn Community Centre on 21 December. The event started in the Granton Community Garden with Scran Academy's Scran Van serving a delicious hot meal to 90 people while enjoying the sounds of Ama-zing Harmonies singing in the Garden. Royston Wardieburn Community Centre hosted the food sharing, with 189 adults visiting sharing tables, many taking food for neighbours & friends.

## Comment from a local person who came along on the day:

"Please thank everyone involved in today's generous event. The hot food was most welcome - the lovely music uplifting and the huge variety of groceries most welcome. I brought some back to a sick neighbour and have shared some items with others in the stair - so the love is spreading exponentially! Well done, all. I am very proud of the quality of community spirit you are all maintaining and promoting here in Granton in these sad and difficult times. God Bless and Peace to you all and to your families. Happy Christmas!!!

#### North Edinburgh Community Ceilidh

The annual ceilidh and burns supper returns this year on Saturday 28 January after a lull of two years due to the pandemic. Local partners and people volunteer to make decorations, cook and serve the Burns Supper, entertain and manage this much loved multicultural event at Royston Wardieburn Community Centre. This event attracts around 250 people, cooking and sharing food, taking a turn on the stage, connecting and reconnecting after the pandemic.

#### **Warm and Welcoming**

Many third sector organisations in North Edinburgh are registered with the City of Edinburgh Council's Warm and Welcoming Spaces, offering hot drinks, charging facilities, food, wifi and computer access. <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/warm-welcoming-spaces">https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/warm-welcoming-spaces</a>

#### **Housing issues**

Many more people are highlighting poor living conditions in council housing including excessive dampness, leaks, long waits for repairs, overcrowding and vermin. This affects mental health and wellbeing, recovery from illnesses and family life. Third sector continue to make contact and work with our statutory partners to try to support people and families as they seek help, support and improvements in their living conditions.



# Barriers/challenges (physical, partnership, financial etc)

The cost of living and energy crisis continues to have the double impact of increasing the demand for services from local projects as well as impacting on our ability to meet that demand due to our own costs increasing . We are committed to supporting local people and where possible are taking opportunities to both share resources and bring in more resources to the community as exemplified by utilisation of funds from West Granton Housing Association.



Case study examples – please complete for any examples of success/good practice that has been achieved to date under this priority

Within a Locality Operational Group (LOG) meeting, the North West Social Work Practice Team manager identified the need for a multidisciplinary approach towards the vast needs of Roma, Romanian families residing at Almond House Lodge. With a sudden influx of families fleeing Romania, the City of Edinburgh Council has been inundated with families looking for refuge. In December 2022, Almond House lodge were hosting 90 adults and 28 children all from the Roma community. However, due to various legalities, many families would be in receipt of a 28-day eviction notice prior to January 2023. The level of help needed for families was extensive and Almond House Lodge was at capacity. Roma families continued to gather regardless and, in some of the worst cases, outside in cars during the depths of winter.

The NW social work team began to receive reports that young children were being left unsupervised whilst their parents went out to work. The families were also experiencing high levels of poverty. Some LOG members volunteered their time to meet with Social Work and Housing outside of the LOG group to see what supports could be put in place for the families. This in turn would help reduce the burden on the local Social Work team. The group discussed a drop-in service highlighting the importance of building trusting relationships and consistency with families.

The team leader from Family and Household support took a lead on organising the weekly drop-in, committing a member of staff to attend alongside a Family Wellbeing Practitioner from Stepping Stones during the month of December. The aim of the drop-in was to promote parenting, health, well-being, basic English tuition, as well as other universal services that help families and individuals. The area manager from Almond House Lodge helped to facilitate the drop-in services, offering a safe space with wi-fi access. This was key to facilitation, as staff from various sectors had expressed feeling unsafe when visiting Almond Lodge House.

As many of the Roma families did not speak English, an interpreter was essential. This was organised through the Interpretation and Translation service with additional access to language line if needed. It was identified that it would be useful to collaborate and link in with Streetwork, as a member of staff had already built up a good report and trusting relationship within the Roma community. Once this link had been established, the drop-in was in high demand with 8-10 families attending during the hour and a half. Staff listened to families, assessing their needs. Refreshments were provided, with some individuals attending solely for a hot drink. Working collaboratively, staff spoke with every individual separately using an interpreter. Every week, more and more families presented often desperate and destitute, asking for essentials such as clothing, toiletries, nappies and formula milk. After each drop-in, staff became proactive in sourcing items requested by families, utilising local contacts and organisations to maximize donations.

Some families did not have recourse to public funds, and it became apparent that children attending the drop-in were not enrolled in school. Instead, children were spending their days in merged age groups often caring for younger siblings. Staff put together art packs and gathered toys for children, however, the need for education became paramount to staff. Considering this concern, an English as an Additional Language Teacher was organised by Family Household Support to provide remote educational assistance to children at the drop-in mid-January.



Fundamental to the success of the drop-in, was pulling in supports from different statutory and voluntary organisations, many making time to attend sessions. Family Group Decision Making offered support and engaged with families who would benefit from their service and the head of health visiting teams engaged with staff, with the aim to respond positively to the needs of the families and health-related issues raised. Every Friday, the drop-in remains highly attended and continues to proportionately take steps to engage with other services as part of a planned approach. Stepping Stones has recommitted to attending the drop once a month alternating with the North West Social work team. All services and organisations acknowledge that working together has provided an experienced, multidisciplinary approach to supporting the Roma community residing at Almond House Lodge. Families continue to thrive from access to services and local organisations they may have not known about, had access too or engaged with before.



For LCPP delivery group to complete
Date considered:
Is the priority on track? Y/N
Any decisions to be taken? (i.e. change of actions, escalation)
Feedback to lead officer (if any)

#### NOTES OF ALMOND NN MTG 30 NOV 2022 HELD BY TEAMS

Keith Giblett welcomed the Group and opened a discussion on local policing contacts and the format of Police Monthly Reports. Cllr Younie reported on Item 7 of previous mtg that work was progressing.

# **NEP Projects:**

There was discussion on progress with uncompleted speed bumps. Lloyd Richardson reported that 3 o/s Kirkliston Projects had been completed.

#### Other Roads Issues:

Cramond Car Park Barrier, S75 Agreements contacts, Next Steps for NEPs and Kirkliston Public Realm were discussed.

# Community Grants Fund Update:

4 out of 5 Awards amounting to £3446 had been made and one of £2884 was on hold awaiting further discusson.

# Health Wellbeing and Social Isolation Sub-Group:

Problems with 'warm spaces' were raised, Dalmeny Church and Cramond Kirk were venues and the Golf Club in Barnton offered space to a men's Group. D/Mains Parish Church space and refreshments. Helen Bourquin said a new w/site would provide a city-wide activities map, more than just warm spaces. and would link to the CEC 'cost of living' support w/site. Queensferry Friendship Group revived. VSF want Mental Health First Aid Trg, Edin College would run with funding. Men's Shed working well in Q/Ferry. Chairman mentioned CEC publication 'Nights are Fair Drawing In' available at <a href="https://www.edinburghthrive.com">www.edinburghthrive.com</a>

#### Transport Discussion:

Alan Dean (CEC) attended, but McGill's GM David Phillips could not make contact so Mtg postponed. Cllr Younie asked about Bus Tracking by McGills, Alan said system was being updated. Discussion then centred on unreliable services such as the No 20. Also the future of Ratho, Ratho Station and The Gyle service. Alan said that alt ways using smaller buses etc might be more suitable. RBS at Gogarburn could perhaps have their service extended. Cllr Work wondered if services could be allocated to an area rather than being tendered-for. Alan felt that open market tendering was more efficient.

Future Proposed Meetings: Weds 22 Feb/ 10 May/ 23 Aug/ 8 Nov 2023 at 6pm