

Almond Neighbourhood Network

NOTE OF MEETING – Wednesday 8 November 2023, online via Teams

PRESENT

Keith Giblett	Queensferry & District Community Council (Chair)
Percy Feketey	Almond NN Rep NW LCPP / Almond Community Safety Panel
David Buchanan	Kirkliston Community Council
Rod Alexander	Davidsons Mains & Silverknowes Association
Liz McIntosh	Queensferry Care in the Community (QCCC / VSF)
Anne Mitchell	Queensferry & District Community Council
Graeme McKinley	Queensferry & District Community Council
Judy Wightman	Ratho & District Community Council
Lyndon Cane	RRT Rapid Relief Team
Adrian Hopwood	RRT Rapid Relief Team
Tim Mitchell	Neighbourhood Watch Davidsons Mains
Aileen Aitken	LAR Housing

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Bourquin	CEC Community Empowerment & Engagement Manager
Elaine Lennon	CEC Community Empowerment & Engagement Officer
Miriam Leighton	CEC Community Empowerment & Engagement Officer
George Norval	CEC Housing Operations Manager
Dave Sinclair	CEC Road Safety and Local Traffic Improvement Manager
Neil Wilson	Chief Insp, Police Scotland
Sandra Watt	Seargent, Police Scotland

APOLOGIES

Georgena Wylie	Cramond & Barnton Community Council
Charlotte Cowe	Davidsons Mains & Silverknowes Association
Pauline Nicol Bowie	LIFT Muirhouse Millennium Centre

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>INPUT/DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
1. Welcome and Introductions	Keith G welcomed the group and introductions took place	
2. Minute of previous meeting and any matters arising	The minute was proposed by Davd Buchanan and seconded by Judy Wightman. Matters arising not on the agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Helen has structure diagram to be circulated	Helen

3. RRT (Rapid Relief Team)	<p>Lyndon and Adrian were present to tell the group about RRT (Presentation attached).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRT aims to deliver hope and relief to people across the globe. Whether it be fire, flood or humanitarian need, RRT expands their support services to meet the need at hand • Emergency & Disaster Relief • Health & Disability • Youth • Homelessness - Poverty & Hardship • One way they can support is with donations of food packs etc • schoolcrossings@edinburgh.gov.uk <p>Comments / queries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we work better together with existing groups, for example working in homelessness? • How can we link this in with existing groups working to tackle food poverty? • A number of groups would like to talk to RRT eg Joint Almond and Western Social Isolation sub group • RRT will share our contact details and would love to hear from anyone to discuss these things. • RRT currently looking at a main office in Edinburgh and are currently looking at Milton Farm between Kirkliston and Queensferry • We will invite RRT to a Queensferry & District Community Council meeting. <p>Contact for RRT is edinburgh.uk@rrtglobal.org</p>	
4. Roads structure update	<p>Keith informed the group that he and David B had met with Paul Lawrence and Gareth Barwell, who had agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate an organigramme of the new structures with names, contacts and roles. • Look at NEP projects remaining in the project bank and work to create a new plan • To look at Section 75 funds (Dave explained that he is working on this and will be able to share in a few weeks) <p>Dave Sinclair described his new team which has three main roles - Road Safety, Local Traffic Improvement and School Crossing Guide Teams</p> <p>Road Safety team:</p>	<p>Dave</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Safety priorities include the delivery of statutory functions in terms of collision and casualty reduction. Team priorities include: • Accident investigation and prevention (AIP) • Identifying Speed Reduction Sites, investigation and intervention to change driver behaviour • Undertake speed limits reviews and deliver appropriate interventions • Pedestrian crossing infrastructure (develop citywide framework / manage delivery programme) • Safe infrastructure around schools including School Streets zones where appropriate • Provide Road Safety Audit service (external consultant currently) • Developing road safety policy and predictive risk modelling • Delivering annual Young and Old Driver education events and Junior Road Safety Officer event • transport.roadsafety@edinburgh.gov.uk <p>School Crossing Patrol team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of School Crossing Patrol Service • Deployment and supervision of school crossing guide staff • Crossing Guide site audits to consider infrastructure improvements • Engagement with Roadworks Co-ordination team to manage interaction with roadworks. • schoolcrossings@edinburgh.gov.uk <p>Local Traffic Improvement team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee approved project criteria to improve local mobility and mitigate the impact of intrusive traffic on • This team is a legacy of the historical Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEPs) and is expected to deliver local projects that would not otherwise be included in traditional active travel, 20-minute neighbourhood or road safety programmes. • our communities (TEC approval expected early 2024) • Engagement with local community representatives to build up a “Project Bank” for criteria assessment and • local project delivery. • localtrafficimprovement@edinburgh.gov.uk <p>Contacts above are best first point of contact but Dave can be contacted if ongoing issues</p>	
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	<p>Comments / queries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there any update on the height of the banner at car park? • Dave explained that existing projects will be delivered then consultation will be started for new projects to be identified. • Can presentation be circulated. Dave's slide is added above. 	
5. Policing update	<p>Neil Wilson and Sandra Wall gave an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change in resourcing and Gillian Young continuing to cover Queensferry / Kirkliston as well as Corstorphine areas • Recent challenges included Bonfire Night, although no major issues in North West • Other issues of Boy Racers and calls re Hawes Pier have reduced <p>Comments / queries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will CCTV cameras be reinstated at Hawes Pier? Resp – CCTV has been essential in supporting policing of Boy Racers • Will new defibrillators be coming to this area? Resp - Neil said that locations are mapped by police so that they can respond quickly • Police reports to Community Councils are lacking detail. Resp - Neil to look at this to see what can be done within information sharing constraints. • Police attendance at Community Councils still lacking. Resp - Neil replied that due to timings, its not always possible but reports should be being sent. 	<p>Neil</p> <p>Neil</p>
6. Estates Improvement Service (EIS)	<p>George Norval told the group that he had two walkabouts planned locally to try to identify areas where improvements could take place.</p> <p>He gave a short presentation on wo projects:</p> <p>Current project - Muirhouse Community Garden Nomination</p> <p>Pleased to say that the fencing is now installed with next steps preparation of land to arrange good accessibility and raised beds.</p>	

Muirhouse Community Garden

Nomination received from Edible Estates regarding the development of an area of land at Fidra Court for Community Growing.

Pleased to say that the fencing is now installed with next steps preparation of land to arrange good accessibility and raised beds.

Edible Estates has also requested the use of community garages which are attached to the site that are currently not in operation. We have instructed an asbestos survey so that further guidance may be given to Edible Estates who intend to fund raise for the renovation and use of these units.

Edible Estates will also have a shipping container arriving in the coming days which will be placed locally and used as a meeting point and tool shed until the future of garages is decided.

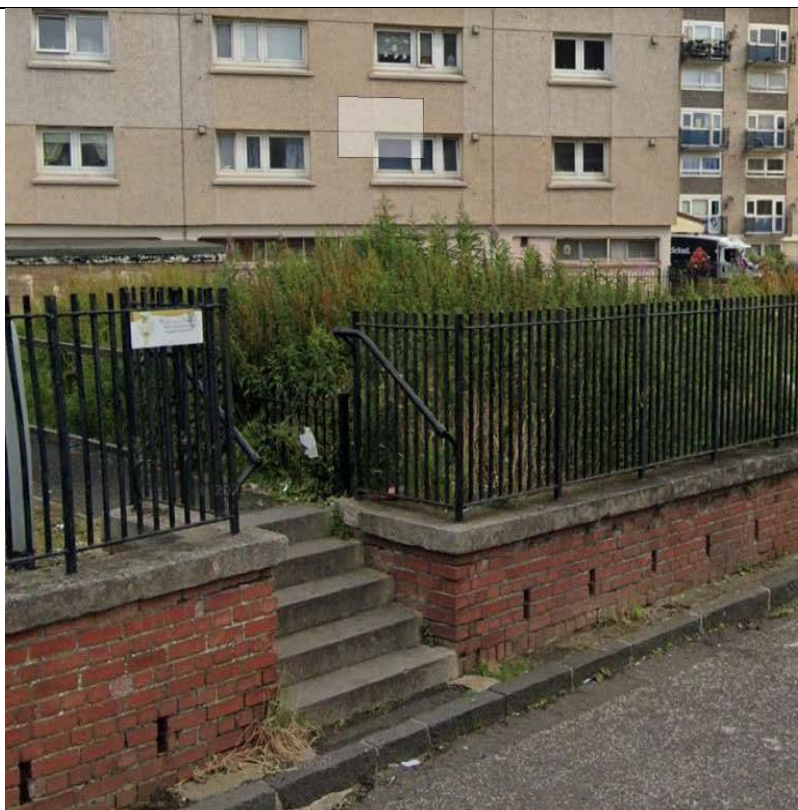
Further updates as the area progresses



New project proposal - overhaul and improvement to shrub beds – Birnies Court

- Opportunities to use open space too.
- It was agreed to take this forward to design phase.

George



Project proposal - overhaul and improvement to shrub beds – Birnies Court

A project referral has been received by a tenant in Birnies asking whether we can improve this site to make it more visually appealing and more accessible to residents, possibly as a place to relax, surrounded by sensory shrub/ plants and potentially with a small orchard of both small fruit bearing trees and shrubs that local people may benefit from. However, several options will be available to discuss

The site is currently secured by fencing without gates and with much of the area now badly overgrown and in poor condition.

We ask Almond NN to approve moving to design proposals before providing future estimates/ options. Thereafter, depending on estimates and further agreement, to move to resident engagement where necessary.





Following the referral, we've seen a suggestion that also incorporates the 'dead' space to the south of Birnies Court and including garages that have now reached the end of their lifespan and not economically suited to upgrade?

So, we're seeking further approval for our landscaping architects to provide a series of options aimed at improving pedestrian access from the south, a more visually pleasing landscape for local residents and some new trees (fruit and native) just to try and create a much more attractive location.

This space serves no purpose at the moment. Would be nice to try and soften up the route using low maintenance, natural materials and more greening? Project proposal - overhaul and improvement to shrub beds - Birnies Court



Comments / queries

- Ongoing maintenance has often been a problem for new NEP projects. George said that they commit to a 2-year maintenance contract and select projects to be low maintenance

7. NN Priority: Health Wellbeing & Social Isolation

Anne and Liz reported that

- There is still Warm Welcoming activities happening in Churches
- There are also pantries in Kirkliston, Dalmeny and Queensferry
- Transport is a major issue

subgroup update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Volunteering and befriending is being discussed at the Joint Almond and Western NN . VSF Social Isolation Group, and working with Vintage Vives to extend their befriending into WesternQCCC’s Lunch Club in Kirkliston is going well with an average of 15 people attending <p>Helen added that the Warm Welcoming website is still live and any activities can be added. Link to this is: https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/warmandwelcoming</p>																					
8. Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP) Meeting	<p>Percy reported that the previous meeting also discussed the Environmental Improvement Service and that George had made a presentation.</p> <p>Other items discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">LIP developmentEdinburgh Partnership annual reportUpdates from all from Neighbourhood Networks in NW <p>Minute of LCPP plus NN meetings can be found here: https://www.edinburghpartnership.scot/community-planning-family Any questions, please contact elaine.lennon@edinburgh.gov.uk</p>																					
9. Community Grants Fund Update	<p>David, Chair of Almond NN Funding Panel gave a short summary of new awards recommended, and the following shows total allocations 2023-24, and a closing balance of £10,459</p> <table><tr><th colspan="4">PROJECTS AWARDED TO DATE</th><th>£27,586</th></tr><tr><th>APPLICANT</th><th>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</th><th>REQUESTED</th><th>RECOMMENDED</th><th>BALANCE</th></tr><tr><td>ANN01/2023-24 Ferry Fair</td><td>To contribute to the family fun evening element of Ferry Fair week by bringing in inflatables, owls and alpacas.</td><td>£1,700</td><td>£1,700</td><td>£25,886</td></tr><tr><td>ANN02/2023-24 Kirkliston Community Gala</td><td>To pay for inflatables and bands for the gala to offer accessible and affordable for the whole community</td><td>£1,250</td><td>£1,250</td><td>£24,636</td></tr></table>	PROJECTS AWARDED TO DATE				£27,586	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED	BALANCE	ANN01/2023-24 Ferry Fair	To contribute to the family fun evening element of Ferry Fair week by bringing in inflatables, owls and alpacas.	£1,700	£1,700	£25,886	ANN02/2023-24 Kirkliston Community Gala	To pay for inflatables and bands for the gala to offer accessible and affordable for the whole community	£1,250	£1,250	£24,636	
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	ANN03/2023-24 Kirkliston Community Centre	To support summer programme of activities across Kirkliston, South Queensferry & Dalmeny for young people aged 11-14	£2,494	£2,494	£22,142
	ANN04/2023-24 Church of the Holy Cross (Davidsons Mains)	To refurbish their kitchen area to allow them to comply with new EHO standards Partial award	£2,895	£1800	£20,342
	ANN05/2023-24 Queensferry Community Association	To replace centre chairs with lighter, stackable ones Full award	£1,512	£1512	£18,830
	ANN06/2023-24 Cramond Barnton Community Council	To improve communication by replacing 4 noticeboards and producing a newsletter Partial award	£2,207	£1200	£17,630
	ANN09/2023-24 Sabash	To deliver a 5-day 'Edinburgh Durgotsav' festival in Cramond, to bring together Bengalis and other communities NIL award as city wide event.	£4,750	NIL	£17,630
	NEW APPLICATIONS				£17,630
	APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED	BALANCE

	ANN10/2023-24 Edinburgh Agroecology Coop (Lauriston Farm)	To develop a community orchard in partnership with Forth NN Full award	£1,181	£1,181	£16,449
	ANN11/2023-24 LIFT@ Muirhouse Millenium Centre	To provide a Christmas meal, entertainment and treats for 130 adults and children Full award	£2,185	£2,185	£14,264
	ANN12/2023-24 Queensferry History Group	To create a new IT system to allow more efficient archiving system Full award	£1,700	£1,700	£12,564
	ANN13/2023-24 Cramond Playgroup	To develop the playgroup by investing in an enhanced register system Full award	£568	£568	£11,996
	ANN14/2023.24 Libertus Services	To develop groups for over 50s in Muirhouse / Silverknowes. Partial award for training element	£1,184	£792	£11,204
	ANN15/2023-24 Society of the St Vincent de Paul (SSVP	To support a fun Christmas meal and entertainment for local elderly people Full award.	£745	£745	£10,459
	CLOSING BALANCE £10,459				
David thanked the funding panel members					

10. A.O.C.B.	<p>David thanked Keith for his work as Char.</p> <p>Helen reported that her team would be looking to engage with NNs who are meeting (ie. Those in North West) and those not presently meeting to discuss how they are operating.</p>	
11. Date of next meeting	<p>Date of next meetings Please send any agenda items to Keith at giblett@btinternet.com at least one week in advance of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Feb 2024, 6pm, face to face in Rosebery Hall • 8 May 2024, 6pm • 7 Aug 2024, 6pm, face to face, venue to be agreed • 6 Nov 2024, 6pm 	