

Almond Neighbourhood Network

NOTE OF MEETING - Thursday 22nd April 2021, online via Teams

PRESENT

ORGANISATION

Percy Fekete	Almond Neighbourhood Network Rep- NW LCPP / Almond Community Safety Panel
Bert Scott	Almond Community Safety Panel
Laura Donnelly	Community Renewal
Georgina Wylie	Cramond & Barnton Community Council
Ian Williamson	Cramond & Barnton Community council
Rod Alexander	Davidsons Mains & Silverknowes Association
Paul Vaughan	Gateside Tenants & Residents Association
David Buchanan	Kirkliston Community Council
Pauline Nicol-Bowie	Muirhouse Millennium Centre LIFT (Low Income Families Together) Project
Keith Giblett	Queensferry & District Community Council
Graeme McKinley	Queensferry & District Community Council
Judy Wightman	Ratho & District Community Council
Steve Kerr	Co-Chair NW Locality Community Planning Partnership / Corstorphine Community Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

Evelyn Kilmurry	CEC NW Locality Manager
Helen Bourquin	CEC NW Lifelong Learning Service Manager
Elaine Lennon	CEC NW Lifelong Learning Development Officer
David Stevenson	CEC NW Housing Team Leader
Kelly Bonner	CEC NW Housing Team Leader

Apologies:

Cllr Graham Hutchison	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Louise Young	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Kevin Lang	City of Edinburgh Council
Liz McIntosh	Voluntary Sector Forum / Queensferry Churches Care in the Community
Gillian Smith	Queensferry Churches Care in the Community

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>INPUT/DISCUSSION</u>	<u>DECISIONS / ACTIONS</u>
1. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Helen welcomed the group and introductions were made.</p> <p>She explained that this group last met in Dec 2019 and the note of that meeting had been circulated.</p> <p>Helen passed on condolences following the sad news that Andrew Mather, Chair of Cramond & Barnton Community Council has recently passed away.</p> <p>Helen then introduced Steve Kerr who co-chairs the NW Locality Community Planning Partnership (LCPP).</p>	
2. Overview of Neighbourhood Network (NN) / Locality Community Planning Partnership (LCPP)	<p>Evelyn talked to a slide show giving an overview of the NN and the LCPP and the relationship between the two (copy attached) and her key points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NNs aim to build on the success of the Neighbourhood Partnerships and provide a space for community groups and representatives to work together with the support of service providers to develop solutions that improve the lives of local people particularly those living in our most disadvantaged communities. • Membership of the NN is wide and reflects the local community, including formally constituted bodies such as Community Councils or Tenants & Residents Associations, as well as groups representing communities of interest e.g. young people, people from black & ethnic minority communities, parents councils, parks groups etc. • The NNs belong to the members, they can be defined and developed by you in a way you think they can work best. • The NNs will play an important role in influencing the priorities for the city, in developing and delivering the LIP's and in making decisions about local funding such as Community Grants Fund. • NNs are not a place to make service request or complaints as there are other ways to do that, and they're not about tackling individual and specific issues that should be managed by the statutory services. 	Presentation to be circulated.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NNs allow a partnership, collaborative approach for local people to work together to engage & involve others in the community. • Almond NN members could for example prioritise a theme to focus on that could link with the LIP, or concentrate on a theme that is of local relevance where there is evidence that is a particular problem for local residents, particularly those who are disadvantaged. • CEC Officers are here to support <p>Evelyn then took questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can anyone attend? Membership is open to anyone representing a community group either based in Almond or providing a service in Almond but is not a public meeting where individuals can attend to discuss individual issues unless they're invited to do that by the Network. A list of Network members to be circulated so members can highlight any gaps or updates. • How will these groups know about us? It was agreed that Communications will be discussed to ensure that information is shared as widely as possible using mail list, members own networks etc. 	EL to circulate list of known community groups.
3. Chair of the group and way forward	<p>Steve explained that Western NN for example has identified Social Isolation and Loneliness for people of all ages as its key issue, which has relevance to the work of many local groups, and that they have decided to meet monthly at this time to get a sub group structure established and to drive the work forward.</p> <p>He added that leadership was vital and that he had taken on the role of Chair. A discussion followed and it was agreed that a Chairperson for this group would be beneficial.</p> <p>Keith Giblett was nominated as Chair, as was Cllr Hutchison who was not in attendance. Keith agreed to take on the responsibility to chair this meeting to allow members to consider their position for the longer term. Further discussion required.</p> <p>Keith chaired the meeting from this point.</p>	To agree Chair moving forwards.

<p>4. LCPP Representative Update</p>	<p>Percy (Almond NN Rep on the NW Locality Community Planning Partnership – LCPP) informed the group that the LCPP had met mainly to revise the Locality Improvement Plan (LIP).</p> <p>Evelyn added that the LCPP had agreed the revised LIP to run until 2022. This will direct the work of the subgroups that have been set up to drive the three priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Isolation, health & wellbeing, Lead Officer Mike Massaro-Mallinson of CEC Health & Social Care, aiming to improve lives of those most isolated in the community 2. Employability, Lead Officer Nick Croft of Edinburgh College, aiming to work with key partners to equip people with lifeskills, in and out of school 3. North area, Lead Officer Dawn Anderson of Pilton Community Health Project / Voluntary Sector Forum, aiming to establish robust mechanisms to combat poverty and inequality in North Edinburgh <p>The LCPP also heard an update from the elected Representatives from the 4 NNs across North West:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Almond – group was due to meet 2. Forth – food poverty was the theme it had agreed to focus on 3. Inverleith – parks and greenspace, including food growing was the priority for now in Inverleith 4. Western Edinburgh – Steve gave an update on the work being done by subgroups to tackle isolation <p>Questions were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would Almond get involved if there seem to be no issues local to them in the LIP that was now agreed? The essence of the original LIP still remains and any single service issues were directed to relevant Departments, and some actions also removed as they had been achieved. The revised LIP aims to be more focused and achievable with actions that require partnership working, tackle poverty and inequality or were ‘thorny issues’ that were complex. Advised members to read through the revised LIP and identify any areas are of most local importance or identify any key issues that do not fall under LIP but which this group would like to tackle through partnership working. • How do we ensure that pockets of poverty in this area are not overlooked? Core service providers will continue to target these areas and any specific issues or needs should be reported 	<p>Members to come to next meeting with ideas for the Almond NN to prioritise.</p>
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	<p>via normal communication channels. If issue is one from LIP, the workstream lead could be invited to this group to discuss.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the NN only a top down approach i.e. LIP? The NN is about more than the LIP and gives an opportunity for local organisations to identify concerns at local level. These can then be forwarded to more appropriate forum or tackled through bringing partners together. 	
5. Neighbourhood Environmental Projects (NEP)	<p>The NEP consists of two strands: transport projects and projects that fall on Council Housing land (HRA).</p> <p>David Stevenson explained his role to consult and cost proposals, and that he would circulate a list of what has been done and what remains in project bank. Evelyn explained that funds unspent at end year will not be lost and that this group are encouraged to put forward any ideas for projects.</p> <p>It was agreed that the work around the Walker Drive garages was a good example of NEP best practice.</p>	David to circulate HRA and roads NEP lists
6. A.O.C.B,	<p>The Neighbourhood Partnership was very successful. Why have there been so many changes? NNs can be successful too if communities get involved, and there is scope for community groups at every level to get involved. The Networks are to build on the success that NP's achieved by broadening out membership and remit.</p> <p>It's all too confusing. Can we get updated contact list? Evelyn agreed to circulate an organigram / contact sheet with key local contact names included. Officers are currently working on pulling this together.</p>	Organigram and contact sheet to be circulated
7. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 12 th May, 6pm. Please send any agenda items to Keith at giblett@btinternet.com, who will meet with Officers to finalise papers.	