

## Tyne Esk LEADER Local Action Group

### Minutes of the Assessment meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008, 9.30am at Silverburn Village Hall

#### Present

Frank Beattie	Scottish Enterprise
John Beveridge	Midlothian Council
James Bruce	ELVON
Robert Conway	East Lothian Tourism Forum
Allison Cosgrove (chair)	Ass. of East Lothian Community Councils
Tom Hobbs	Forestry Commission
Cllr Russell Imrie	Midlothian Council
Graham McCulloch	LAYC
Andrew McDonald	Midlothian Tourism forum
Scott Murray	Scottish Agricultural College
Archie Pacey	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils
Cllr Barry Turner	East Lothian Council
Margaret Winthrop	SWRI

#### In attendance

Jayne Adamson	Tyne Esk LEADER Project Officer
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#### 1. Apologies

Robert Dale (NFU), Ian Davidson (SG/ Forth RPAC), Myra Galloway (East Lothian Council) and Margaret Nisbet (MVA)

#### 2. Minute of the last meeting

AGM Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

First: Robert Conway

Seconded: Andrew McDonald

#### 3. Matters Arising

Pentland Hills Regional Park Representative: currently Alan McGregor has been seconded into the position of Park Manager and the post is due to be advertised late September. It is anticipated that a representative will be present at the LAG meeting in December 08.

Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce: the Chamber is currently trying to find a representative for the LAG. It was agreed that the Chamber would become an Advisory Member until a suitable representative was found.

#### 4. LEADER+ Update

The final report and claim had been sent to the Scottish Government on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008. All LAG members were given a copy of the report.

Main points:

- 90.6% of funding was committed
- 80 projects from 58 organisations were funded
- 87 approved projects, 7 did not commit their funding
- Action 1: 92% funding committed
- Action 2.1: 90% committed
- Action 2.2: 41% committed
- Operation Costs: 100% committed
- Repayment of £48,627.70 to the Scottish Government (this was due to the advancement given at the start of the programme.)
- £3,322.24 LAG Interest to be spent on LAG activities
- £4,859 to be carried forward to the LEADER programme from East Lothian Council, Midlothian Council and Scottish Enterprise match funding

#### 5. Budget Report

It was reported that the LEADER programme had not received its advancement from the Scottish Government (SG). This was due to Finance in the SG and a Service Level Agreement being written.

Scottish Enterprise will not be contributing to the operational costs of the Tyne Esk LEADER programme (or any LEADER programme). It was noted that match funding is available from Scottish Enterprise for projects but details have not been confirmed. Susan Smith and Jayne Adamson had a meeting with Iain Matheson and Lorraine McEwan regarding the revised Tyne Esk budget. They had stated that they would have preferred the operational costs to be between 50% -55%. Jayne Adamson had sent a revised budget to the SG stating that the costs could not be reduced further and that 63% would have to be claimed from the programme for operational costs. Decisions on the LEADER budgets were to be announced in September. It was agreed that the LAG interest would be used to pay for LAG events to assist with the revised budget.

Expenditure from the budget during April to July 2008 was for publicity materials, launch of the programme and employment of the LEADER Project Officer.

#### 6. Update on LEADER Activities

- Application Workshops: 18 people attended both the June and July workshops. An additional workshop in September had at the date of the meeting 14 people attending
- The Project Officer had attended two Action 2 meetings: Dumfries and Galloway, Borders, west Lothian and South Lanarkshire and the other meeting was with Stirling, West Lothian and Fife. It was agreed at both meetings that once an Action 2 project comes in to the LEADER areas it will be up to the areas involved to agree on the process of claims and management.
- Iain Matheson and two people from the Scottish Government Finance Department were visiting the Tyne Esk programme on 5<sup>th</sup> September to look at our financial systems for the new programme.
- 17-18 September Allison Cosgrove, Frank Beattie, Tom Hobbs, Maida Ballarine and Susan Smith will be attending the LEADER Networking Event, Perth
- Scottish National Rural Network: meeting has been arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> September. The LEADER Project Officer is to attend in the place of Allison Cosgrove.

Action

Frank Beattie to update LAG on SE match funding

- Forth RPAC/ LEADER meeting: It was agreed at the meeting that the Forth LEADER areas are to agree on two representatives from the Councils to become members of the Forth RPAC. It was agreed that the Forth LEADER areas, Forth RPAC and SCVO should meet at least twice a year to discuss progress.
- Website: May (launch) 69,305 hits  
July 12,569 hits

**Action**

**7. Forth RPAC Update**

Ian Davidson was not present to give an update on RPAC activities.

JA to provide the LAG with a diagram of LEADER/ RPAC and SRDP

**8. AOB**

- West Lothian LEADER Project Officer will attend the LAG meeting in December to see how the Tyne Esk scoring process works
- The LAG agreed to give a donation of £45 to Silverburn for the use of the hall
- The LAG agreed that play parks would not be eligible unless it could be proven as being part of a larger community development. It was to be noted that Marks and Spencer give funding for play parks.

**9. Date of next meeting**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008.

## Tyne Esk Local Action Group, Decision on Projects, Assessment Meeting 1

Project Ref	Project Title	Area	LEADER funding requested	LAG Decision
TEL001	Exhibiting East Lothian	East Lothian	£3,600	Approved
TEL002	Homecoming Events Grants Programme	East Lothian	£50,000	Approved
TEL003	Renewal & Upgrade of Audio-Visual System	East Lothian	£13,625	Approved
TEL004	Conserve & Explore Group	East Lothian	£2,950	Declined
TEL005	Musselburgh Farmers' Market	East Lothian	£10,050	Withdrawn
TEL006	Continental Café Project	East Lothian	£2,700	Approved
TEL007	Cranstoun Community Development Project - Phase 1	Midlothian	£35,000	Approved
TEL008	ELC & QMU Joint Training for rural Micro Business and SME'S	East Lothian	£24,600	Declined
TEL009	Edinburgh Festival Fringe Production August 2009	East Lothian	£4,640	Declined
TEL010	East Lothian Community Council Development Fund	East Lothian	£51,670	Approved
TEL011	Restoration of Yester Kirk to provide a Community Venue	East Lothian	£50,000	Deferred
TEL012	Performance Athletes in School (PAiS )	East Lothian	£12,500	Declined
TEL013	East Lothian Food & Drink Small Producers & Suppliers Initiative	East Lothian	£25,000	Deferred
TEL014	First for Families	East Lothian	£50,000	Approved
TEL015	Workshop Roslin Glen	Midlothian	£5,749	Deferred
TEL016	Aberlady Heritage Project	East Lothian	£25,674	Approved
TEL017	Garvald Village Hall Upgrade	East Lothian	£34,055	Approved
TEL018	All-Inclusive Country College Curriculum	East Lothian	£49,067	Declined
TEL019	Homecoming Grant	Midlothian	£50,000	Approved

**Total LEADER Funding Committed: £316,324**

**East Lothian Funding Committed: £231,324**

**Midlothian Funding Committed: £85,000**

**Amount Declined £93,757**

**Amount Deferred £80,749**

**Amount Withdrawn £10,050**