

Tyne Esk LEADER Local Action Group

Minute of the Assessment meeting held on Monday 7th June 2010, 9.30am at John Muir House, Haddington

Present

Frank Beattie	Scottish Enterprise
John Beveridge	Midlothian Council
Ian Davidson	Scottish Government/ Forth RPAC
Tom Hobbs	Forestry Commission
Robert Hogg	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils
Russell Imrie	Councillor Midlothian Council
Andrew McDonald	Midlothian Tourism Forum
Margaret Nisbet	Midlothian Voluntary Action
CLlr Stuart MacKinnon	East Lothian Council

In attendance

Elaine Carmichael	East Lothian Council Acting Tyne Esk LEADER Project Officer
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1. Welcome

Andrew McDonald chaired the meeting in Allison Cosgrove's absence and welcomed everyone. He introduced Elaine Carmichael who was carrying out part of the Project Officer's role until a replacement maternity leave appointment was in post.

2. Apologies

Allison Cosgrove (Association of East Lothian Community Councils), Sandra Duncan (SWRI), Robert Dale (NFU Scotland), Scott Murray and Susan Smith (ELC).

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

1st March 2010

The minute was accepted as a true record.

First: Robert Hogg and Second: Ian Davidson.

Matters Arising

Elaine Carmichael gave an update on progress with filling the maternity cover post. Billy McKissock had taken up a full time position with Scottish Enterprise and the position had to be re advertised. An appointment had been made and Graham Young would be starting on 30th June.

4. Budgets Report

Elaine Carmichael had prepared a report up to and including the quarter to end of March 2010. The latest quarter report showed that in line with previous quarters the estimated budget expenditure varied from the actual. This was to be expected as projects' anticipated claim profiles changed with some quarters being under and some over the estimate. Overall the actual claims to the Scottish Government for both Action 1 and 3 were higher than predicted – Action 1 proposed £190,200, actual £274,192 and Action 3 proposed £43,495, actual £50,328. Russell Imrie asked whether the maternity cover and recruitment costs would be included in the claims for Action 3 and Elaine Carmichael confirmed that they were and would continue to be.

In relation to projects Elaine Carmichael advised that all of those awarded funding in Round 7 had accepted with the exception of Haddington Farmers Market who had withdrawn as they were unable to secure match funding. Three projects had been granted extensions :

TEL047 Online Grants Database Project until April 2011 from July 2010 to enable them to have a second round of publicising and promotion and to better evaluate the results;

TEL038 Macmerry Lives from August until November 2010 to enable them to interview all those who were interested in recording their memories and include them in the final book and exhibition;

TEL016 Aberlady Heritage Project from June to September 2010 due to difficulties in extracting the stone and progressing with the preferred sculptor.

Sederunt Councillor Stuart McKinnon joined the meeting.

There was a discussion on the 90% funding issue. Those involved with other LAGs confirmed that they too were unclear as to how this should operate. Frank Beattie and Ian Davidson felt it would be a pity to potentially miss good projects. It was decided not to promote this as an option at present and that Andrew McDonald would seek clarification at the meeting in Aberdeen on 18th June. There had been nothing in writing to confirm the 90% and how it would operate.

5. AOB

There was no other business.

6. Date of next meeting

The previously agreed dates for the next 2 meetings, 7th September and 7th December 2010 were altered to Monday 6th September and Monday 6th December.

7. Round 8 Project Assessments

TEL056.1 Skateraw Infrastructure Development - Approved

It was agreed that this project had met the terms of its deferral from the previous round and approval given. Evidence that the Skateraw Foundation was registered with OSCR was required.

TEL058.1 Rural Skills Programme - Approved

It was agreed that this project had met the terms of its deferral from the previous round and approval given.

TEL062 Amisfield Stables Feasibility Study – Approved

This project was approved with the condition that the feasibility study ensured that the local community were consulted.

TEL063 Empowering Stenton To Go Green – Approved

There was a discussion on the issue of feed in tariffs in relation to this project and to the next. Neither had indicated this as a possible source of match funding, however it was agreed that clarification on the question of double funding if projects did anticipate the feed in tariff was required. Ian Davidson confirmed that this issue was still unclear.

TEL064 Renewable Projects In East Lothian – Approved

This project needed to show more on community involvement and how it linked with the previous project, also being supported by Community Windpower Limited. The LAG wanted to know what the lifespan was on the LIDAR equipment and what would happen to it at the end of the project.

TEL065 Lennoxlove Book Festival Family & Cabaret Elements – Approved

This project needed to revisit its budget to show the project's own contribution and to confirm the projected match funding.

TEL066 Plans for Roots & Fruits to Become More Socially Enterprising - Deferred

There was a discussion on this project and it was agreed that this application needed to show how it differed from previous and that it had not just cut and pasted information from before which was no longer relevant e.g. LEAFER Plus. There also needed to be more on the environment and strategic sections. It was agreed to defer this application and invite the project to resubmit and present to the next meeting.

TEL067 Temple Village Hall Refurbishment Phase 2 – Approved

The project was approved. Confirmation was required on the date of the WREN decision.

After a re-cap all application decisions were agreed. It was noted that the amount awarded for Round 8 was £261,013.