

## **Tyne & Esk Rural Communities Development Fund**

### **Local Action Group Meeting**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2023, The Craigie Hotel, Penicuik**

#### **Members Present:**

A McDonald (Chair), H Smith (Community - North Berwick Area Partnership); Karen Calvert (Independent/Business, S Pettigrew (Edinburgh College), D Bowen (Midlothian Council Elected Member), P Playfair (Independent/Business),

#### **Members Apologies:**

A Hastie (Vice Chair), S Poole (Independent/Business), Andrew Bayne-Jardine (Independent/Business), L Wyper (Scottish Enterprise), J McMillan (ELC Elected Member), K Parry (Midlothian Council Elected Member)

#### **Observers Present:**

E Carmichael (East Lothian Council ED), L Kelly (MC Community Planning Partnership Rep/Midlothian TSI),

#### **Observers Apologies:**

A Watt (Midlothian Council ED), M Allan (East Lothian TSI), C McCorry (East Lothian Council),

#### **In Attendance**

J Adamson (CLLD Officer)

AMcD welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all to introduce themselves.

Observer LK declare an interest in the Midlothian Voluntary Action Project.

JA Confirmed the meeting was quorate. EC had been given approval by JMCM to vote on his behalf. Emails were sent to AMcD and JA.

Minutes of previous meeting (8<sup>th</sup> December 2022). **Approved.**

## 1. Matters Arising From Previous Minutes

None

## 2. CLLD Programme -Governance Matters

Memorandum of Understanding had been approved and sent by East Lothian Council.

**Action:** AMcD gave approval for JA to add his electronic signature to the document

## 3. Projects Updates

JA gave the following update on the Projects approved on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### TECLLD02 John Bellany Day Centre

- 12 month lease of bus has been acquired

### TECLLD04 Kings Meadow Development Association Dunbar

- Notices up with information about the grant. The contractor had purchased all the equipment and supplies, and has confirmed they are on track and can meet the deadlines

### TECLLD06 Whiteadder Watersports Trust

- Consultant approved
- Two quotes received from web design companies for the new website
- Prices received from the internet for equipment and a trustee detailed to select and acquire the best value.

### TECLLD07 Yarrow Cookery School

- Since securing the funding we have ordered all our pop up cookery equipment and professional signage, and have created three pop up events in March. Two of these events will be run from the Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick and One event from the new Carfrae Farm shop (near Garvald).
- Two community cooking workshops for the Gullane Food Festival, have been arranged.
- Newsletter sent out regarding kids classes, specially offering any East Lothian village associations to get in touch for reduced rate places on our classes for vulnerable or under privileged people.
- Organised 3 days of kids cookery over the February half term where are new signage and equipment will massively improve our service.
- Advertised for a new role at The Yarrow Cookery School to help at events.
- Finalise booking of training courses that are set out as part of the grant application

#### TECLLD12 Volunteer Centre Midlothian

- started both projects.
- included a News Article update on their website to publicise this work at [Volunteer Midlothian Archives - Midlothian Third Sector Interface \(thirdsectormidlothian.org.uk\)](http://Volunteer Midlothian Archives - Midlothian Third Sector Interface (thirdsectormidlothian.org.uk))

#### TECLLD13 Fringe By The Sea

Cups are designed, but we have yet to press 'buy' as we are awaiting Plongeur Ltd confirmation that they can meet the deadlines for delivering the washing facilities. Deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January for this, would allow them to deliver the other elements in the timeframe left.

#### TECLLD14 Carfrae Farm Shop

- ordered the milk refill machine and are looking forward to taking delivery week commencing 13th February.
- starting to promote the milk refill in a few weeks and will include the funding received to facilitate the purchase of the equipment in the publicity.

#### TECLLD15 Ez Riders NB Ltd

- three electric bikes arrived safely

#### TECLLD16 Penicuik House

As a brief update to the works progress, the Penicuik Estate in-house team have undertaken extensive ground clearance of the area over the Christmas break, covering the full area to be installed with the deer fencing

#### TECLLD17 Midlothian Sure Start

Have met with their IT provider to discuss the purchase of the software to ensure that they are sourcing the best product and any unintended consequences. They are on track to make purchases by the planned date.

#### TECLLD20 Aviation Preservation Society, Scotland

- Kit needed identified and getting support from Eastern Reprographics. They are happy to send along people to talk to our trainees and demonstrate software. They're also happy to offer apprenticeships to any trainee who shows promise.
- Linked up with East Lothian Works who are delighted to offer us 4 trainees plus any backup we need.
- Finding someone to run the course had proven problematic for a number of reasons, largely timing. Lecturing will be undertaken by a member with experience.

**Action: JA to enquire about the LAG Members visiting Projects**

**JA to connect SP with Viarama (TECLLD01) to build on their project idea.**

#### 4. Budget

JA gave the following update:

- 16 Projects were approved on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 totalling £95,028.09
- Midlothian Council Area had 6 Projects (£27,553.85) and East Lothian Council Area 10 Projects (£67474.24).
- Funding Allocated to Tyne & Esk for Oct 2022- March 2023 £204,382
- There was an underspend of £64,651 needing to be allocated.

The LAG Members were asked to identify areas and ideas of expenditure

- LK work with foodbanks and computers needed for third sector.  
**Action: LK to contact JA with costs, which would cover the whole Tyne & Esk Area**
- Commission the creation of a toolkit to advise Projects to improve their grant funding publicity
- Tyne & Esk wind-up torches as part of a “winter kit” for people
- Pre paid East Lothian gift card to purchase food (cost of living crisis), therefore helping local businesses.
- Projects, that recently received CLLD funding in December 2022, are to be asked if they would like to apply for additional funding  
**Action: JA to contact projects**
- Grant Finder is to be looked at as a resource to enable communities and businesses to enquire into other funding streams.  
**Action: SP to send JA details on Grant Finder**

LK informed the LAG of issues that the third sector are having in receiving funding and timed approval of funding. This is causing a “ripple affect” when the Scottish Government are not actioning finance on time. It is affecting the bottom and will therefore have added impacts.

**Action: LK to update on Co-operation Fund and impacts on other areas**

#### 5. Scottish Government Update:

JA gave the following update

##### 5.1 Next CLLD Programme (22/12/2023)

Budget announcement of £11.6m shows ongoing support for Community Led Local Development. This presents new challenges and also opportunities that can be explored

##### 5.2 FLAG

Email from Scottish Government wanting clarification on seaside tourism funded projects in East Lothian and how FLAG previously operated. East Lothian, Fife and Borders. No further details.

### 5.3 Scottish Community Tourism Roadshow

SCOTO is a network of community tourism enterprises located throughout Scotland and led by a team of dynamic individuals who each have extensive and varied experience in community tourism

13<sup>th</sup> February 2023. ½ day event, possibly in Midlothian

Meeting with TCarron Tobin, 17/01/2023

Inspiring Scotland funding – Ideas into Action

Aim:

1. Raise awareness of SCOTO
2. Raise awareness of Community Led Tourism
3. Community don't always know what to do e.g. how to involve Visit Scotland

Outcomes:

1. Highlight how important community/voluntary tourism is to the sector
2. What are the national issues for these groups
3. How to have a web presence/ blog

### 5.4 LAG/CLLD Meet up

Unclear if this will be in this year's budget. Therefore possibly April onwards.

## 6. CLLD Programme Update

JA gave the following update

### 6.1 Update on activities

- Meet with Caroline Davis, East Lothian Council, Dialogue Youth Co-ordinator, Communities & Partnerships. Re Scottish Borders Council creating a *Youth LAG*.

If this is something Tyne & Esk would like to do in the future it would require a lot of work and possible an East Lothian and Midlothian area, not a Tyne & Esk group

- *Social Value Engine, Ivan Annibal*

All Projects set up and ready for output information to be recorded.

- Attended the SLAED Rural Group

Discussion of the Land Reform and Land Use Consultation. Cost of Living Survey on Rural exchange, looking at business and personal.

- Website training with Ewan re data gathering with Anne
- SG Claim, Oct 2022 – January 2023. Projects are to be claimed under themes and also either capital or revenue. Additional work again.

## 6.2 Martin MacManus interview and Social Value Engine Training

- Awaiting document. AH and JA met with Martin 24/11/2022

## 6.3 SCSG Meeting Update from December 2022

- Possibility of SCVO taking on next funding programme website. Would have applications, etc on it. Similar to LARCS

- LAG would also score on website

There would be core questions within the applications but flexibility to add more to be more localised for area.

Who pays for this? Similar to Social Value Engine. Would initially be SG but could come from the CLLD fund in the future.

\* Anne volunteered to join group for this moving forward.

Next meeting late January but no indication from SG as yet. JA had emailed but no response.

## 6.4 Publicity

- Pop-up banners. Being designed by Snowball and printed by East Lothian Council. Cost £350 roughly
- Media release

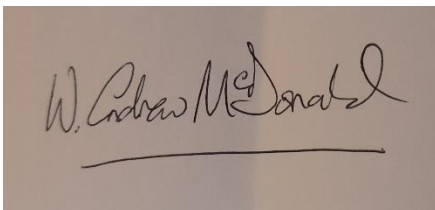
**Action: JA to contact East Lothian and Midlothian Council publicity departments**

## AOCB

It was agreed at the next meeting the following items were to be discussed:

- How much will the grants be for the next year? To be kept the same or increased?
- Possible conference regarding funding opportunities and climate issues

**Date of next meeting** 26<sup>th</sup> April, Gullane Village Hall, 10am



W. Andrew McDonald

**Approved 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023**