



**LIBERTON/GILMERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
YOUTH ISSUES GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2011
IN 13 NEWTOFT STREET, EDINBURGH, EH17 8RG.**

PRESENT

Douglas Jeffrey	CEC, C & F – Community Learning and Development
Jane Denmark	CHILDREN 1 ST - Bfriends
David Hayden	Moredun Library
Jade Mooney	CEC C& F – the Base/Youth Forum
Andy Chittick	Liberton Kirk – Youth Worker
Adam Smith	Lothian & Borders Police
Kevin Hollis	CEC Community Safety Concierge
Gilbert Clark	Kaimes Neighbourhood Forum
Scott Donkin	CEC Services for Communities (Chair)

1 APOLOGIES

George Mackenzie	Gilmerton Library
Brian Jennings	CEC, C&F
Kirsty Hughes	Action for Children - HYPE
Helen Munro	Princes Trust
Paula Gaunt Richardson	Action for Children
Gayle Henderson	WEACT - Employability
Stewart Laird	CEC Services for Communities
Robert Ure	Fernieside Football Club
Cllr Norma Hart	City of Edinburgh Council
Niki Powers	Health Opportunities Team

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17th NOVEMBER 2010

2.1 These were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW/DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Following discussions at the recent meetings of the Youth Issues Group, Scott confirmed that the proposed priority for the new plan will be 'Positively Engaging Young People'. This would replace the existing 'young people and alcohol' priority which was felt to be too negative. The work of taking forward the alcohol issue will continue but as an identified action within the new action plan.

- 4.2 The other sub groups have also promoted new priorities and these will be presented as proposals at the Partnership Board meeting on 9th March. If agreed, a full community consultation exercise will begin. Scott added that it will be vital to obtain the views of young people as part of the wider consultation and he will be looking for suggestions and ideas from the group members in the coming months.
- 4.3 Jane highlighted that Bfriends were working with a group aged 11-12 yrs who will be discussing as part of their development, issues affecting young people in the community. It is hoped that the group will come together between May – October with a view to identifying the most important issue affecting them.
- 4.4 Scott acknowledged this and suggested that it was exactly the type of groups we should be consulting etc.
- 4.5 ***Young People & Alcohol Strategy Group***
- 4.1.5 Scott informed the group that work was progressing well on the Strategy itself and the group is scheduled to meet on 25th February. It is hoped that all being well, the Strategy will be presented to the Partnership for formal adoption in June. This will provide sufficient time to identify all required baseline data etc.

5. YOUTH ISSUES GROUP ACTION PLAN

- 5.1 The group noted the action plan previously circulated. Scott added that he felt that should the proposed priority be agreed and accepted by the wider community, the current action plan could be adapted to suit the needs of future monitoring and reporting.

6. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM PRIORITIES

- 6.1 The SNT Priorities were agreed at the Better & Safer Communities Group meeting held on 3rd February. The priorities agreed were:
- (a) ***Gracemount Drive & Priesthill Street:*** This has been carried forward from the previous priority setting process. Whilst things have quietened down significantly, it has been suggested that more is required to stabilise work to date.
 - (b) ***Ravenswood Avenue:*** There are issues surrounding 2 tenements in the street which requires a focuses approach involving different agencies.
 - (c) ***Parking – Gracemount Primary School:*** Parking at all schools has become a major issue with indiscriminate and double parking an example. Pupils are being put at risk and the SNT will work with the schools and the pupils to re-educate parents about the dangers around schools.

6.2.1 The group noted that it was positive to see only one issue directly involving young people and it was commented that the balance appears to have improved.

7. WeACT YOUNG PEOPLE & EMPLOYABILITY

7.1 Scott informed the group that Gayle Henderson had intended to be present but had to support the recruitment of young people onto a Just Do It course in the Oxfords area. Gayle provided Scott with a report as follows:

7.1.1 The Just Do It course held at Gilmerton Community Centre ran for 3 days a week for 5 weeks with some additional days for snow disruption. Finishing in the first week of January. We started with 10 young people and finished the course with 6, and we continue to work with those young people afterwards.

7.2.1 During the course the participants visited Broomlee Outdoor Education Centre and Jewel & Esk College, as well as meeting guest speakers from Princes Trust, Edinburgh Job Fund, Project Scotland and the Police. Throughout the course we worked on building confidence, addressing comfort zones and attitudes as well as job searching, CV and interview skills.

7.3.1 The participants worked towards their Bronze level Youth Achievement Award. Completing 4 employability related challenges each taking 15 hours.

7.4.1 Outcomes from the course have been:

- 1 mechanics apprenticeship
- 1 Pre Get Ready for work Course
- 3 College courses
- 1 Project Scotland nursery placement

7.5.1 The next Just Do It course in Gilmerton will take place in May. I am helping out with Just Do It Oxfords for the next 7 weeks on a Tuesday and Wednesday. However I will continue to see Liberton/Gilmerton young people on a 1:1 basis the rest of the week.

7.6.1 If members are working with any young person who could benefit from support in moving towards employment, college or training please contact me Gayle on 07733225532.

7.7.1 Scott thanked Gayle in her absence for her report.

8. LIBERTON GILMERTON SPORTS FORUM

8.1 In Stewart's absence Scott provided the group with an update.

8.1.1 The Forum met the previous evening and are now working towards the creation of a 'Festival of Sport' event to take place on 10th June. A number of providers locally are involved and it has been positive to bring so many providers together for a common purpose.

8.2.1 Scott tabled a mock poster for the event which clearly highlighted the number of activities which will be available as 'taster' activities for anyone turning up. The goal is thereafter to build on the day and increase the involvement of young people of all ages in sports based activities.

8.3.1 The group welcomed the initiative and congratulated Stewart and the group on the work undertaken to date.

8.4.1 Scott added that it would be good to see as many providers in attendance as possible either to provide information or to support the day itself.

8.5.1 Those in attendance agreed that this was a positive opportunity to engage young people.

9. LIBERTON GILMERTON YOUTH FORUM

9.1 Jade informed the group that the forum currently involves 7 young people from all over the neighbourhood.

9.1.1 The forum is currently participating in 'involvement training' which involves 3 key stages. The first is to participate in group work skills and learn ground rules etc. this is followed by a residential to learn more team building and discuss issues etc which then culminates in holding an event in the community, possibly over summer.

9.2.1 An example was an event held in the 3M's which involved a number of young people coming together to discuss local issues.

9.3.1 Jade added that funding is being sought to support this element of the programme.

9.4.1 The group congratulated the Youth Forum and wished them every success for the development of the training.

10. MEMBERS UPDATES

10.1 **Stage & Slam:-** Andy highlighted that following last summers Stage and Slam in the Gracemoyunt High School, the activity will happen again this year. The programme involves sports activity in and around the school with drama at the Hub. Last year 66 young people participated over the course of the week.

10.1.1 The programme will run from 18 – 22 July with food etc. Flyers will be produced nearer the time.

10.2 **Gracemount Youth & Community Centre:-** Douglas informed the group that management control of the centre had now returned to the Council.

10.1.2 Community Learning & Development has been tasked with identifying how best the facility can be used however, it is suggested that a minimum of 3 youth clubs per week will take place. Dialogue with partners and other potential users will begin soon.

10.2.2 Douglas asked that if anyone had any suggestions to contact him to discuss further.

10.3 **Moredun Library:** A multi agency group including the Library, HOT, Jade and We Act have held early discussions to develop an activity/information based programme involving football, fitness, dance etc for the first hour to be followed by employability, alcohol/drug awareness, health issues information sessions.

10.1.3 Craigour Primary School all surface pitch has been identified as an ideal outdoor venue with the Moredun Library supporting the other activities. It is proposed that this could operate on a Monday evening.

10.4 **Bfriends:** Jane informed the group that a city wide review of Bfriending services will be undertaken soon.

10.5 **Youth Event:** On the back of last year's successful Youth Engagement Event, Scott highlighted that those involved had felt that the event should be replicated.

10.1.5 Douglas agreed and felt that an opportunity exists, based on lessons learnt, to engage more young people in the process and at the event itself.

10.2.5 Jade highlighted the recent HOT event which had over 80 young people in attendance. It involved inspirational presentations followed by workshop activities.

10.3.5 The group agreed that an event should take place with a target of August/September. The working group will comprise: Andy, Scott, Douglas, David, Police and Jade. Jane also offered to assist as and when she is available.

10.6 **Work Plan:** Andy asked if there are any plans to develop the Youth Issues Group work plan into a youth friendly version.

10.1.6 Scott suggested that this was possible and if Andy wished to make a start Scott would be willing to assist.

10.2.6 Andy agreed.

11. DATES AND VENUE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday 25th May 2011 at 2.00 pm - 13 Newtoft Street, Edinburgh