

Committee Minutes

Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership

Edinburgh, 25 January 2011
in Colinton Primary School, Redford Place

Present:- Councillors Rust (Convener), Elaine Aitken, Barry and Paisley; Ken Shade (Balerno Community Council), Norman Tinlin (Fairmilehead Community Council), Judy Wightman (Ratho and District Community Council), Heather Levy (Firrhill Community Council), Helen Ogg (Juniper Green Community Council), Stuart Campbell (Longstone Community Council), Alex Stewart (Colinton Amenity Association) and Lynda Cowie (Edinburgh Community Health Partnership).

Apologies: Councillor Ricky Henderson, David Bewsey (Colinton Amenity Association) and Sue Wilson (Community Learning and Development).

1 Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed the audience to the meeting. The Chair also introduced Stewart Farquhar as the acting South West Neighbourhood Manager whilst Mike Avery is on secondment.

2 Order of Business

There were no notices of motion submitted.

3 Declarations of interest

Alex Stewart from Colinton Amenity Association declared a non-financial interest in a public question that was submitted to the meeting.

4 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the meeting of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership of 28 September 2010 as a correct record.

5 Neighbourhood Partnership Community Grants Fund/ Community Engagement Fund

Details were given of applications to the Community Grants Fund. The provisional budget for 2010/11 was £47,373.

Decision

- 1) After consideration of the applications:
 - (a) Not to award **Pentland Community Centre Management** £2,800 towards a bonfire and fireworks display for the local community.
 - (b) Not to award **Puppet Animation Scotland** £400 to contribute to the costs of two day animation workshop including all materials and expenses.
 - (c) To award the **Scottish Storytelling Centre** £4,530 to provide 50 storytelling & supported reminiscence activities to older people living in the Pentland Partnership Area.
 - (d) To award **Tryst Patchwork Group** £750 to stage one evening and two day quilt exhibitions & shows.
- 2) A grant of £3,000 was raised under Standing Order 63 to **Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust** towards upgrading a set length of a path (400Metres) leading from Swanston into the Pentlands Regional Park.

(References – report by the South West Neighbourhood Manager, submitted.)

Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

6 Fairer Scotland Fund

Christine Doherty (Partnership Information Manager) gave an update on proposals for the transition of the Fairer Scotland Fund (FSF) to mainstream funding. Information was being gathered on local priorities in accordance with the national FSF themes and evidence required to support continued funding in the Pentlands area.

Concerns were raised on the possible reduction in FSF funding, its absorption by the Council's service departments and the ability of Partnerships to influence funding decisions.

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Decision

- 1) To note with concern the possible reduction of Fairer Scotland Funding and the importance of devolution of funding to take into account local needs and priorities.
- 2) To request that the Partnership be kept fully updated on developments with regard to Fairer Scotland Funding.
- 3) To ask the Council to note the Partnership's concerns.

(Reference – updated by the Partnership Information Manager.)

7 Public Questions

Alex Stewart (Colinton Amenity Association) tabled a question the criteria under which the Association's application for funding for signage for Colinton Village was refused by the Pentlands Funding Panel.

Judy Wightman (Ratho and District Community Council) brought to the attention of the partnership the difficulties experienced by local residents in Ratho during the recent severe weather.

Heather Levy (Firrhill Community Council) raised the issues which residents of Oxgangs had experienced during the severe weather.

Decision

- 1) To discuss the minute of the funding panel at which this application was declined at the next Pentlands business meeting.
- 2) That in February Community Councils should report local issues with regards the recent severe weather to Stewart Farquhar.
- 3) A consultation event be held with all Community Councils in the summer recess to develop a local plan for severe weather based on the lessons learned from the past couple of months.

8 Pentlands Local Community Plan & Development of Community Conferences - Presentation

Graham Budd and Scott Neill (Partnership Development Officers) gave a presentation on the Pentlands Neighbourhood Local Community Plan 2009-11 and the proposals on future consultation to develop the 2011-14 plan.

In his presentation, Scott Neill described the remit of the Local Community Plan, its aims and principles. The importance of the plan being a living document developed through strong engagement with the wider community was stressed.

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Graham Budd presented the proposals to hold both Community Consultations and a Community Council Conference. The Community Consultations would capture the wider community's priorities for the next four years. The Community Council Conference would be a good practice sharing event looking at the work of the Partnership over the past few years and how this work can be built on in the future.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- distribution of the Council's Outlook paper
- possible venues for the consultation events
- the mediums used for such engagement
- transport for the events
- the number of meetings required for these events

The Convener thanked the officers for their presentations.

Decision

- 1) To take forward the proposals from the presentations.

9 Date of Next Meeting

Decision

Tuesday 22nd March 2011 at 7 pm in Fairmilehead Parish Church, Frogston Road West the theme to be Employment and Employability.