

Committee Minutes

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership

Edinburgh, 2 June 2010

Present:- Councillors Work (Convener) and Kate MacKenzie; Inspector John Cooper (Lothian and Borders Police), David Small (Lothian Community Health Care Partnership), Patricia Eason (Cramond Community Council), Tom Martin (Queensferry and District Community Council), Paul Douglas (Ratho and District Community Council), Kate Kasprowicz (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council) and Rod Alexander (Davidson's Mains and Silverknowes Association, non-voting).

1 Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of meeting of 2 December 2009 as a correct record.

2 Safer Neighbourhood Teams

The Convener welcomed Superintendent David Carradice, Inspector John Cooper and Inspector Nadine Aliane to the meeting. Superintendent Carradice was invited to present information on the roll out of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams to the partners.

Superintendent Carradice explained that community policing would change from 20 September 2010 with more police officers operating on a community beat basis. There was a need to balance the need for community policing together with the need for emergency response policing. It was also important that the differences between urban and rural policing be recognised and also that city-wide needs were taken into consideration.

Lothian and Borders Police had decided to introduce Safer Neighbourhood Teams. No area would lose any community beat officers but all areas would gain a proportion of the 62 extra officers to be appointed across the Lothian and Borders area. The Almond Neighbourhood Partnership was currently served by

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

one sergeant and three community beat officers and this would be augmented by six additional community beat officers. Neighbourhood Action Teams would continue to supplement the work of the beat officers. There would be a noticeable increase in officers on the streets.

The Police and Neighbourhood offices would build up area profiles, build plans to deal with key issues identified, and monitor effectiveness. There would be an engagement process with local communities. It was recognised that there were different problems in different areas. Working with Council colleagues, problems would be tackled in the most appropriate way.

On a question raised regarding the possibility of holding a joint event with the Police in the Cramond area, it was suggested that discussions with Cramond Community Council would be held to decide how this might be taken forward.

Following a brief question and answer session, the Convener thanked Supt Carradice for the presentation and the other police officers present for their input.

Decision

- 1) To note the presentation.
- 2) Lothian and Borders Police to discuss with Cramond Community Council the possibility of holding a joint event with the Police in the Cramond area.

3 Consultation on Edinburgh Community Healthcare Partnership Arrangements

David Small, Edinburgh Community Healthcare Partnership (ECHP), was invited to present information on revised management arrangements for the ECHP. A report had been circulated detailing the changes proposed. It was hoped that the changes would mean that ECHP would be able to work better with neighbourhood partnerships. It was clarified that there would be no change to community nurses or local GPs but would rather focus on how ECHP could work together with communities to tackle issues such as health inequalities. The views of partners were sought, with consultation continuing through to the end of June. The implementation of the changes would take place in September or October.

The Convener thanked David Small for the presentation and asked partners to submit any comments to the Neighbourhood Manager who would forward these on.

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

Decision

- 1) To note the presentation.
- 2) To submit partners' comments to NHS Lothian.
- 3) To consider comments submitted during, and following, the meeting.

(Reference – report, dated 8 April 2010, by David Small (General Manager, Edinburgh CHP), submitted.)

4 Public Question Time

The following issues were raised and responded to at the meeting:

- Open space at Cramond Campus
- Information in libraries on Almond Neighbourhood Partnership

Decision

To note the questions which had been raised and the responses given at the meeting.

5 Community Grants Fund**a) Current Applications**

The Neighbourhood Partnership's budget amounted to £23,810 in 2010/11. Community applications for support from the Partnership's Grants Fund were detailed.

Decision

- 1) To award a partial grant of £1,500 to Almond Area Disability Forum to organise a conference to establish an Almond Disability Forum and to develop social, recreational and educational programmes for people with disabilities and their families and carers. The grant to be awarded on the condition that the applicant should make every effort to ensure that the proposed Forum was representative of as wide a spectrum of appropriate groups as possible and was developed across the whole Almond Neighbourhood Partnership area.

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

- 2) To award a partial grant of £1,400 to North West Edinburgh Eco Club to assist in the activities association with the 'Environment Day – Involvement and Fun' event planned to take place on the foreshore at Cramond on 15 July 2010.
- 3) To award a grant of £400 to Dalmeny Church to assist with the publishing and printing of a new, up to date, guide book for visitors.
- 4) To award a grant of £937 to Almond Mains Initiative to assist with the hire costs of accessible transport to develop and extend their existing programme of summer outings for older people with limited access to social opportunities.
- 5) To award a partial grant of £1,000 to Davidson's Mains Children's Gala towards the costs of staging the event. The grant to be awarded on the condition that the applicant was encouraged to make every effort to attract future Gala funding from other sources, and to note that as this was a recurring event, this award did not establish a precedent for repeated grant funding.
- 6) To award a partial grant of £2,039 to Friends of Davidson's Mains Park Association to assist with funding for an education and community project involving local school children in surveying and researching Davidson's Mains Park with the view to producing a family friendly information leaflet.

b) Arrangements for Managing Community Grants Fund

The Neighbourhood Manager outlined a supplementary report on arrangements for managing the Community Grants Fund.

Decision

- 1) To support the proposal to delegate authority to the Almond Neighbourhood Partnership Business meetings to advise the Neighbourhood Manager on the approval of Community Grants Fund grant recommendation.
- 2) To support the proposal to phase the funding of grants as follows:
 - 60% of the Community Grant Fund could be awarded to applicants within the first 6 months of the financial year until the end of September
 - The remaining 40% of the grant allocation could be distributed during the second part of the financial year

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

- Where 60% of the grant allocation had been awarded in the first six month period, new applications within that same period would be considered only in exceptional circumstances.
- 3) To note that a grant of £472, awarded to the Almond Mains Initiative, had been returned as they were unable to proceed with the project the grant had been intended for.

(Reference – report and supplementary report by the Neighbourhood Manager, both submitted.)

6 Children and Families Update

a) **Youngedinburgh Viewfinder 3 Equalities and Social Deprivation Report**

Claire Murray, Children and Families, summarised a report on the responses of young people from equalities groups and those living in the most deprived areas. Attitudes, priorities, and experiences reported by young people from these groups differed significantly from the norm, particularly in relation to education, safety, health, leisure opportunities, and overall quality of life. The young people in the groups surveyed reported fewer positive experiences and more concerns than their counterparts.

It was hoped that by highlighting these gaps and inequalities, the results of the report could be used to design better services which would meet the needs of all young people in Edinburgh.

Decision

To note the report.

b) **Youth Egg-stravaganza' Youth Forum Event**

Claire Murray, Children and Families, outlined a report on Easter Youth Forum Egg-stravaganza event, held at the Ratho Climbing Centre, which had been organised in response to falling numbers of young people attending Youth Forum meetings and difficulties in bringing young people together from across the West Neighbourhood. The event aimed to bring young people together to explore positive and negative aspects of their communities, to enable young people to take part in face to face discussion with Neighbourhood Partnership members, and to identify young people's priorities across the neighbourhood. Approximately 30 young people had attended the event.

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

Key actions/issues arising from the event were:

- Establish a group involving young people and partners to explore ways of making parks in west Edinburgh cleaner, safer and more young person friendly
- Explore ways of improving recycling and reducing littering within and around schools
- Explore ways to increase opportunities to walk/cycle to school
- Explore ways to reduce vandalism
- Explore ways to reduce intimidation caused by large groups of young people outside shops
- Explore ways to establish a community bonfire each year

It was hoped that these actions/issues could be progressed in the Almond and Western Neighbourhoods in partnership with young people across West Edinburgh.

Decision

To note the report.

c) Briefing on the Planned Summer Programme for Young People

A combined leaflet for West and Almond Neighbourhoods would publicise a number of activities organised for young people over the summer. The programme had been funded by Community, Learning and Development's holiday club budget. The information would be available on the Council's website and the leaflet would be distributed in schools, libraries, community centres and via youth workers.

Decision

To note the report.

(Reference – report to Youth Services Advisory Committee of 27 January 2010 by the Service Planning Manager, Planning and Performance, Children and Families, and Easter Youth Forum Egg-Stravaganza event report, dated May 2010, by Alan Stewart, Senior Community Learning and Development Worker, both submitted.)

7 Community Engagement Events Update

The Partnership and Information Manager gave an update on various community engagement events planned, including events at the Kirkliston Gala Day and the Davidson's Mains Gala Day. These events would be used to engage with people and get local views so that ideas could be incorporated into

Almond Neighbourhood Partnership
2 June 2010

future planning. These events supplemented “days and weeks of action”, and other ongoing methods of consultation and engagement, and should be seen as part of a rolling programme throughout the partnership area.

Decision

To note the update.

8 Review of the UK World Heritage Site Tentative List: Forth Rail Bridge

On 13 May 2010, the Planning Committee had agreed Edinburgh and Fife Councils work together to propose the Forth Rail Bridge for inclusion on the new UK Tentative List for World Heritage Site inscription. The report had been referred to Almond Neighbourhood Partnership for information.

It was proposed that the Partnership write to the Director of City Development, expressing support for this initiative.

Decision

To write to the Director of City Development in support of the inclusion of the Forth Rail Bridge in the UK Tentative List for World Heritage Site inscription.

(Reference – report by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services, submitted.)

9 Date of Next Meeting

Decision

- 1) To note that the date and venue of the next meeting of the Almond Neighbourhood Partnership would be confirmed.
- 2) To note that the date for the next Business Meeting would be 10 August 2010 (venue to be confirmed).