

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of Meeting of the TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 4 October 2023 at 9.30 am

- Present:- Councillors C. Ramage (Chair), S. Marshall, N. Richards and A. Smart together with 7 Community Councillors and Members of the Public.
- Apologies:- Councillors J. Cox, and W. McAteer.
- In Attendance:- Community Engagement Officer (S. Culverwell), and Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership.

2. FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There had been circulated the Minutes of the meetings held on 14 June 2023 and 19 September 2023. The Chair explained that the consultation on the draft Community Planning Partnership Plan and the Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028 had closed. There had been a good response to both consultations. The Local Housing Strategy would be presented to the Executive Committee in November.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minutes for signature by the Chair.

3. TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE FUNDING TABLE 2023/24

There had been circulated copies of the Teviot and Liddesdale Funding Table 2023/24. The Community Engagement Officer, Ms Sarah Culverwell, presented the table and highlighted that a fast-track application from Hawick Boxing Club for £500 had been awarded.

DECISION

NOTED.

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND 2023/24

4.1 There had been circulated copies of the Neighbourhood Support Panel recommendations for three applications.

4.2 Burnfoot Community Futures

The application from Burnfoot Community Futures was for £3084 to develop and provide an events programme following a number of previously successful events. A breakdown of the proposed events, which included 10 events and 2 trips had been provided. £2184 of the grant was planned for staffing costs and £900 for bus hire. The Burnfoot Panel had considered the application and recognised that the project was beneficial and would serve an underprivileged area. They had recommended to grant £1500. In response to a question regarding whether the applicants would be able to proceed with their plans if they were not granted the full amount, Mr Culverwell explained that the funding would allow some of the events to proceed, and that Burnfoot Community Futures were in the process of seeking alternative sources of funding. Members unanimously agreed to approve the recommendation.

DECISION

AGREED to grant Burnfoot Community Futures £1,500 from Pot A of the Teviot and Liddesdale Neighbourhood Support Fund.

4.3 Southdean Village Hall

Southdean Village Hall had applied for £800.06 to help cover additional costs for an artist to provide their services at the Southdean Village Hall Craft Evenings. The funding would ensure that the events were more affordable and allow the provision of 2 free places per class. The Panel had considered that the events provided considerable benefit to the local and wider community. Members unanimously agreed to approve the recommendation for £800.06.

DECISION

AGREED to grant Southdean Village Hall Craft Evenings £800.06 from Pot A of the Teviot and Liddesdale Neighbourhood Support Fund.

4.4 Interest Link Borders

An application to Pot B of the Neighbourhood Support Fund had been received from Interest Link Borders which requested £4500 to assist costs associated with volunteering and Group costs, comprising tutor costs, venue hire and an overnight trip. The Panel had considered the application and noted there was much evidence of many other funding applications, either secured or had been applied for. Interest Link had also applied to the four other Area Partnerships for funding. The Panel had unanimously agreed to recommend to grant £4500.00 to Interest Link and there were no conditions attached to the award. Feedback to the Panel would be appreciated in the first instance relative to the group tutor events and secondly in 2024 in respect of the proposed trip to Kielder. Panel members had expressed comments such as Interest Link providing a valuable and fantastic organisation much needed within Scottish Borders for those with learning difficulties but not just for the children themselves but also family carers. Great consideration was given by the Panel to the application, particularly in respect of current and potentially future funding for the work involved. Mr Andrew Findlay of Interest Link was present at the meeting and confirmed that he was happy to provide feedback following the events. It was unanimously agreed to approve the grant in full.

DECISION

AGREED to grant Interest Link Borders £4500 from Pot B of the Teviot and Liddesdale Neighbourhood Support Fund.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND 2022/23

There had been circulated copies of a recommendation from Hawick Community Council which requested a reallocation of the balance of £1,664.25 towards the Christmas Event fund. The funds were an underspend from the £2,916.25 Williestruther Pathways Project from the NSF 2022/23. The reallocation would be used to assist with the running of the event and fund the purchase of new Christmas lights and Santa gazebo. Members acknowledged the importance of Christmas lights events to the community of Hawick and unanimously agreed to approve the recommendation.

DECISION

AGREED to allow Hawick Community Council to reallocate the underspend of £1,664.25 to the Christmas Event fund to assist with the running of the event and to buy new Christmas lights and Santa gazebo.

The meeting concluded at 10.00 am.