

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of Meeting of the TEVIOT AND
LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP held in
Via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 8 June
2021 at 6.00 pm

Present:- Councillors N Richards (Chairman), W McAteer, D Paterson, C Ramage, G
Turnbull.

17 representatives of partner organisations, Community Councils, and
members of the public

In attendance:- Service Director Customer & Communities, Communities and Partnerships
Manager, Locality Development Co-ordinator (G Jardine), Democratic
Services Team Leader

1. **WELCOME AND MEETING PROTOCOLS**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership held remotely via Microsoft Teams, which included Elected Members, guests attending and those watching the live stream.

2. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING OF 9 MARCH 2021**

The Minute of the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership held on 9 March 2021 had been circulated and was noted. The Chairman encouraged everyone to complete the request for evaluation following the meeting. Regarding the comment on bringing back representatives from Police Scotland and Fire & Rescue, views were sought as to whether it would be desirable. Those present generally welcomed their inclusion on future agendas.

3. **PLACE MAKING – CO-PRODUCING THE FUTURE OF OUR PLACES**

With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of 9 March 2021, the Chairman welcomed Diarmaid Lawlor from Scottish Futures Trust to the meeting. Mr Lawlor had been invited by Scottish Borders Council to work with Area Partnerships to assist with the development of Place Making proposals. Mr Lawlor had already worked with other areas and had a wide experience of place making. Mr Lawlor gave a short presentation and advised that from an understanding of local need and ambition, and using Covid learning, there was an opportunity for a different way of working between communities and public agencies. A 'place based' approach sought to co-produce an understanding of local priorities and co-deliver action. The format for the workshop was based on three areas namely what were the key issues, what would success look like and how could we work together better. Mr Lawlor led the discussion and made real-time notes to summarise the comments and points made. Those present contributed to the discussion and expressed their concerns and frustrations. The importance of not losing the gains in communities working together during the Covid pandemic was highlighted. The need to listen to all generations was also emphasised. Mr Lawlor advised that his notes summarising the key points of the discussion, would be circulated following the meeting and are also attached as an appendix to this Minute. Jenni Craig, Service Director Customer and Communities advised that Mr Lawlor was visiting all Area Partnerships and a summary of all the workshop discussions across all the five area partnerships would inform a report to Council at the end of August setting out the detail of the place-making approach. The Chairman thanked Mr Lawlor for his facilitation.

4. **AREA PARTNERSHIP CONSULTATION**
Gillian Jardine, Locality Development Co-ordinator advised that the consultation was now live, the link to which was included on the agenda. The consultation would close on 1 August with a report to Council in the Autumn.
5. **TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE AREA COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE HUB**
Information on the Community Assistance Hub had been circulated with the agenda and Gillian Jardine, Locality Development Co-ordinator gave an update and advised that the Hub was currently focussing on mental health and wellbeing.
6. **TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE COMMUNITY UPDATE**
With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of 9 March 2021, Philip Kerr asked for feedback following the flooding in March. He advised that other Chairs were attending meetings of Southdean Community Council. He also requested that the extension of the railway should be included on every agenda, that the Area Partnership should be a forum for shared learning on items such as windfarms and forestry traffic. A wider discussion on roads issues was also required.
7. **COMMUNITY FUND PROJECT EVALUATION**
The Chairman welcomed Sian Snowden from Escape who was in attendance to give an evaluation of the funding that had been received for the Escape Youth Café Community Lunch Club. Sian advised that outdoor tables, a pizza oven, foldable tables and chairs had been purchased from the funding. Help was being provided by the young people and they were looking for volunteers who would be working towards a Saltire Award. Work had been carried out in the garden area and the produce would be used for the lunch club. Lidl and Aldi were also providing surplus food which was helping to keep costs down. On-line cookery sessions had been started during lockdown which allowed young people to cook in their own home. Drop in baking sessions were also being held. Over the summer the promotional material would be finalised and there would be information stands to raise awareness. The club would be promoted to existing users of the centre with a view to getting a wider group to come along. If successful it was hoped that the club could move from monthly to weekly if more funding could be obtained and they were keen to get started. Shona Smith thanked Sian on behalf of the Community Partnership Team.
8. **COMMUNITY FUND WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION**
Gillian Jardine, Locality Development Co-ordinator shared the slides produced by the Working Group, thanked the Community Councils for their time and input and outlined progress to date. Those present discussed the way forward and indicated their desire to make early progress with the proposals for a two tier Pot A and Pot B funds. It was noted that some decisions around the scoring matrix were still required and that Gillian had not received the views from all Community Councils yet. It was agreed that the final arrangements would be agreed by the end of June and that a special meeting would be held in July to ratify these arrangements.
9. **BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND**
The new fund had been launched on 1 June and the link for applications had been circulated. Applications would be brought to the Area Partnership for approval. As this was a one-off fund it would not be incorporated into the new Assessment Panel Model. The fund was open for 12 months until 31 May 2022.
10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The date would be confirmed in due course.
11. **ANY OTHER FORMAL BUSINESS**
No items were raised.

12. **OPEN FORUM**

12.1 Mr Kerr and Ms Batsch commented on recent issues they had both experienced in receiving their second Covid-19 vaccine to raise awareness.

12.2 Mr Tait queried if any of the funding from the Governments levelling-up fund was being used for projects in Hawick. Jenni Craig advised that applications were being assessed by an independent Panel with a report to Council. Information on the successful projects would be available following the Council meeting.

10.3 Mr Kerr advised that Keltbray were offering vouchers for households disrupted by recent power outages and he would follow up. Severed phone lines had recently been repaired by Open Reach. SBC's emergency planning team did not have BT or Open Reach on their preferred contact list and Ms Jardine would discuss this with emergency planning.

11. **CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, reminded those present to complete the meeting evaluation and closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.05 pm.