

Community Fund Assessment Panel for Tweeddale Area Partnership:

Recommendations from meeting, 5pm on Tuesday 12th October

CF2122-TW-06 Carlops Community Apiary - £1367.00

Aims of the project;

Sustainable West Linton and District (SWLD) aims to work with West Linton and District Beekeepers' Association (WLDBKA) to establish a community apiary on land in Carlops to;

- Establish a focus for demonstrating beekeeping
- Act as a centre for training local beekeepers who will be encouraged to sit exams in beekeeping through the Scottish Beekeeping Association
- Work with WLDBKA's queen rearing programme to breed indigenous bees to provide bees to local beekeepers.

Comments

It is clear that the bee-keepers are knowledgeable, experienced, well qualified, and insured. The panel remains positive towards the intentions of the project, but for an award of public money, accountability is important. Therefore the lack of specific detail continues to present problems in some areas.

To resolve these, the assessment panel requires

- Official correspondence with the landowner at Carlops which will guarantee the apiary can be sited for a minimum of five years then in perpetuity until the land owner gives one year of notice.
- Clarification on the constituted status of WLBKA. Since the WLBKA is carrying out the project it would be preferable to pay the money directly to that Association rather than SWLD.
- Evidence of an efficient record keeping system to monitor membership, numbers attending meetings, activities with novice beekeepers at Carlops and records of successful colony breeding there

Recommendation

The panel recommends **that this application is awarded funding** with appropriate terms and conditions attached along with effective monitoring of the project.