



Note of Leith Chooses Steering Group Meeting

Wednesday 20 March 2019, 3-5pm

McDonald Road Library Business Hub

Present

Don Giles

Leith Harbour & Newhaven C. Council

Douglas Tharby

Leith Harbour & Newhaven C. Council

Sally Millar

Leith Links Community Council

Apologies

Cllr Susan Rae

Elected Member

Cllr McNeese-Mechan

Elected Member

Caroline Lamond

Lifelong Learning Service Manager

Evelyn Kilmurry

North East Locality Manager

Bruce Ryan

Voluntary Sector

Trishna Singh

Voluntary Sector

Item		Action
1	Welcome Sally Chaired. Reiterated thanks to Debbie Douglas for her valuable contributions to Leith Chooses, the SG will miss her.	
2	Apologies Noted as above.	
3	Minutes 6/3/2019 agreed with one change. Charolotte Encombe is Leith Central Community Council	
4	Matters Arising Survey Monkey – see AOB, 9 below SM had attended Musselburgh Area Partnership PB results session, on 16th March, along with CL and DD. SM provided	

	detailed feedback from the event, this was discussed, and ideas gained from this will be added to feedback doc in DropBox. Musselburgh had invited alternative funders (e.g. Tesco, Community Fund, Strive) to the event to help non-winning projects to find funding. £C could do this or similar. Suggested again that £C (perhaps with other partners from the local community) could run a 'Meet the Funders' event locally, since CEC no longer does. Someone from SG should go to the forthcoming Pilton event to get ideas and tips. Douglas volunteered. Suggested that SG could invite Musselburgh folk to a SG meeting sometime in May/June? For an informal discussion / ideas sharing session. Suggested possibly also inviting SCDC and/or DemSoc for a discussion as well? SM, BR and DG are in touch with both – to be discussed further.	SM, CL DT CL/CLlr R SM, DG, BR
5 Timeline DG again raised the matter of when in the year Leith Chooses should take place. He reminded the meeting that Leith Decides had successfully moved from mid winter (February) to October/November (in 2016?) but sadly it had slipped back to the winter slot again after that, due to Council delays following Loraine Duckworth's retiral. There are pluses and minuses now to trying to change back to autumn. Weather is better and it avoids the last minute 'end of financial year' pressure. But the community and project groups have, arguably, got used to the November - February timetable and might not want to change again? Agreed that it was unrealistic for 2019 but could be reconsidered for 2020. Community should be consulted. Action: DG will write to SR about the issue. It should be on the agenda for future meeting(s).		DG/SR
6 Feedback Evening Agreed that In spite of low numbers attending, this had been worthwhile. Discussed ideas arising, these will all be added to the Drop box Feedback doc. A few examples – it was generally agreed that a better Registration process is essential, especially for disabled/elderly; early voting (11:30 ?) for some people who need quiet; different colour wristbands for new voters, so they get		

	extra help. Should we reintroduce a section for 'small grants (up to £500 / £1,000)? Boost Vote – it worked. May be best to keep it, in order to let community get the hang of it, instead of changing things every year. May need revision, or else every project application could arrange to qualify. It could be refined further by changing the criteria (rather than changing the 'system'). Translating and printing in different languages was time consuming and expensive and unclear how valuable – people were pleased that we'd 'made the effort' but many people are not literate in their native language and there are problems of multiple alphabets. Video clips with spoken language 'adverts' may be more productive, in future – worth trying anyway.	
7 ACTION:	Next £C Steering Group Membership Are we going forward with the members we have and trying to add more new ones? (Need to ascertain who from this year wishes to stay on, or leave? One member has never attended any meetings. One member is proposing introducing an alternant.) New Names suggested - Sabrina Tickle (alternant with Trishna Singh) has volunteered. Agreed that she should be invited. - Monty Roy? Police Box - Anne Munro? Pilmeny - Ryan Mackay? Citadel Caroline to send an email to all project groups inviting people to volunteer. Suggested that members of SG should also go and talk face to face with groups esp. ethnic minority groups e.g. Shakti, Saheliya, Feniks, MWAE / Amina. Discussed the possibility of a small subgroup from ethnic minority groups advising SG from time to time, if unable to commit to attending on a weekly basis.	CL
8 ACTION:	Grant Reports from Previous Winners If not already done, Caroline to send all groups a reminder.	CL
9	AOB Survey Monkey We need to firmly resolve whether or not we are	

ACTION:	sending out survey monkey evaluation. If so, Bruce and Carolines' existing latest draft needs to be edited as soon as possible and sent out to all project groups and on social media by Easter. Revise by dropbox docs. / email and finalise by 10 April. Send out by Easter	SM/DG/ DT/BR /CL
10	Date of next meeting - Wednesday 1 May None of those present can attend next week, and Caroline and Amy already gave apologies, so suggested cancelling until beginning of May.	