



Note of Leith Chooses Steering Group Meeting
Wednesday 2 October, 3-5pm
McDonald Road Library Business Hub

Present

Cllr Susan Rae	City of Edinburgh Council Elected Member
Alan Stewart	City of Edinburgh Council officer (for Caroline Lamond)
Douglas Tharby	Leith Harbour & Newhaven Community Council
Don Giles	Leith Harbour & Newhaven Community Council
Sally Millar	Leith Links Community Council
Bruce Ryan	Community

Item		Action
1.	Welcome Apologies (Sabrina Tickle, Caroline Lamond, Amy McNeese Mechan)	
2.	Minutes & Matters Arising - Previous Minutes - Issues from previous weeks carried forward: - Schools evidence to be completed c/fwd - Operational funding c/fwd The issue of the unfairness of schools competing in the same category as everyone else was again raised, by a member of the public, at Launch Night. Don felt that his point – that it shouldn't matter who gets the money and does the helping, if the people who need helped get helped - got a bit lost in the general discussion so it was agreed that a blog post on this might be written up	EK EK
3.	Feedback from Launch Night - Agreed it had all gone well. Good turnout, and some new faces turning up. The talks by Willie Barr and Debbie Douglas as past 'applicants' were particularly effective both in communicating enthusiasm and in 'telling it like it is' & offering practical pointers. - Details of the Theme, and where to get Application Forms and Guidance Notes etc. are all now on Social Media & circulating	
4.	Comms Agreed that top priority is to get the lamppost wraps and banners updated and ready early, ideally before Christmas so they are ready to go up in early January. CEC needs to 'procure' David to get design done, but it shouldn't be a big long or expensive design job as it's just a change of date. Council has to get them printed etc. Sally has arranged to meet with David McNaughton soon to discuss needs, prices etc. Agreed that an 'all-purpose' A4 poster with the key dates on it is needed, but maybe no leaflets - certainly not at this stage. Not appropriate for us to edit his original designs without permission, anyway we don't have the software. Sally will emphasise messages of 'Get your Applications in now' and 'Support available' on website and social media.	CL SM SM
5.	Application form and guidance notes CL has printed batches and is making sure they are in libraries. Web site updated by Sally and	CL, SM,

Item		Action
	Bruce to get the forms downloadable. Social media is advertising this.	BR
6.	Reports from last year's projects Agreed it is now time to email all projects that have not yet submitted, to remind them that their report will be due in March 2020 and that a new application for LC 2019/2020 may not be eligible if they have not submitted 'something' to indicate that the project is ongoing, or an update, and confirmation the report will be coming. Important.	CL
7.	Support Sessions So far, these are booked for MacDonald Road Library downstairs room for: • Wednesday 30 October 3-7.30pm • Wednesday 27 November 3-7:30pm (We could add in additional session(s) if needed at Community Centre and/or Leith Library. Possibly e.g. 5 th December)	
8.	Diversity - Sally has made an appointment to speak to Mizan Rahman at ELREC re new theme, he will try to support BME groups through his networks to design suitable projects. Also whether he could help identify people who'd be prepared to be video-ed speaking in their own language about 'community' in Leith etc.	SM
9.	Money - We need to remember that there will be no money this year for the nice little extras that have made past years popular, e.g. free food, face painting. Essentials like wristbands, voting cards and labels will have to be covered by CEC (although there are some cards left from last year, Sally will check what is there and what is needed). Discussion about whether we could appeal to local businesses for free food. Agreed that this was inappropriate as the event had started out trying to SUPPORT local businesses! Agreed that Susan would explore the possibility of a 'rich donor' who might gift funds to cover some goodies for the day. Approaching the big supermarkets was another suggestion. Susan thought she knew someone who might offer free face-painting. We should perhaps also approach our 'regular' (paid) face-painter first to see if she has any suggestions – don't want to just 'drop' people who have been good partners over the years.	SM SR SM
10.	Leith Chooses Booklet ongoing	SM
11.	AOB • Debbie Douglas has confirmed that she, with family and friends will definitely run Children's Vote at 2020 Voting Day. Committee will need to liaise with her to check what she needs (Ballot box etc.) • The CCs are attending the volunteer Fair on 10th October and will try to raise awareness of Leith Chooses and try to sign up some potential volunteers for the day. We may need more if we are opening earlier, closing later and creating a whole new 'stream' of voters (i.e. quiet space') • Susan Rae will be joining the Board of Sikh Sanjog • Alan Stewart mentioned the excellent 'Youth Talk' programme that he has been running very successfully and has offered to give a talk on that (or send another speaker) at a future meeting of LC committee, which was welcomed. Rather than fixing a date now, Caroline will contact Alan and invite him • Sally has been making contacts at Leith Academy (Pupil Council) and is hoping to set up a 'link person' to young people through that.	DT? CL DT, SM SR CL/AS SM
12.	Date of next meeting - Wednesday 9 October, at 3pm	ALL

Dr. J.