

# Leith Chooses meeting 18 September 2024

Present: Abby, Bruce (minutes), Jack, Naomi, Sally, Susan, Tremaine

Apologies: Don, Douglas

Actions are green-highlighted

## 1 Catch-up on last week's actions

### 1.1 Extending range of potential applicants

- Action: Tremaine, Naomi to send relevant comms to the full mailing list of Leith groups, including the 3 groups added by Jack et al. Note: Naomi has already contacted these 3 groups.
  - This email is to offer groups an in-person meeting at 4pm on 2 October, but also offer flexibility on dates/times [presumably based on steering group members' availability]. The text is to be personalised, especially for new organisations.
- Leith Runs Together has asked for a meeting tomorrow (19 September).
  - Action: Naomi to offer a meeting next week, because of the following point.
- There was concern whether local branches of national organisations (or organisations that go significantly beyond the LC area) need their own constitutions and bank accounts, to meet Community Grants Funds rules. Hence
  - Action: Naomi/Tremaine to get clarity on this at the CGF meeting on Tuesday.
  - Action: Naomi/Tremaine to look for precedents of local branches' constitutions and bank accounts from previous applications to LC.
  - Action: Bruce to compile list of bigger organisations from the previous LC galleries.
- The following action was held over:
  - Action: Sally to add 'beginner's guide to LC' to website
- There has been no response yet from Hibs Community Foundation to the offer of a further meeting/engagement.
  - Action: Naomi to chase for a response

### 1.2 Physical prep

Concerning the following action:

- Action: Tremaine to chase up David McNaughton re t-shirts etc

Sally and Tremaine have both chased DM, to no avail. The assets are needed by the middle of November at the very latest. Hence

- Action: Tremaine to chase again.

It was noted that DM is relaxed about us altering his artworks, but we really want his professional templates.

### 1.3 Mapping

Bruce has added a graphic map of the LC area to the website.

- It was agreed that this area (the union of the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership area and the Leith CC areas) definitely applies to voters. That is, to be eligible to vote, a person must live, work, study or volunteer in this area. This has been part of LC for years.
- There was concern that this area does not cover where projects can have effect, i.e. CGF rules may prevent Leith CGF going to projects that are not completely within the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership area.
- It was also noted that Neighbourhood **Network** areas are not exactly the same as Neighbourhood **Partnership** areas, and that the CGF tranches are based on the latter.

- Hence Tremaine and Naomi are trying to get accurate maps of the NN areas. Ideally these will also added to the Edinburgh Atlas. They are not optimistic about CEC GIS supplying shape files of the NN and/or NP areas to LC.
- Action: Tremaine/Naomi to seek an updated list of postcodes in the LC area. (This stems from a new development that was in the LC area having its own postcode, which wasn't in the list used to check voter eligibility in a previous round of LC.)

## 2 Applications

Two applications have been received so far:

- Water of Leith Conservation Trust is asking for a £5k grant towards a much larger project. This would not be eligible.
  - Action: Tremaine to advise them to apply for a grant of up to £5k covering a distinct project, and to forward the original application to the steering group, who will then consider if WoLCT needs other advice to make an eligible project.
- Lochend Football Academy.

There was discussion of how to triage the applications. In general, the steering group will try to decide on eligibility as applications arrive, but making decisions on others after the application period has ended. The aim will be to help applications become eligible, rather than simply reject them.

## 3 Reporting from previous years

- Both Sikh Sanjog and the Himalayan Centre have supplied reports, but both reports have issues. For example, one of these organisations has significantly underspent its grant. Hence:
  - Action: Naomi/Tremaine to engage with the organisations to get acceptable reports, and seek refund of the unspent grant.

## 4 Publicity

Jack is working on 'showcase' publicity, using previous LC-funded projects.

- Action: Jack to circulate drafts of this publicity.
- Action: steering group to decide how/when to publish such materials, making sure it avoids issues such as promoting groups that have applied to this year's LC.

## 5 Community grants fund rules

During the meeting, it became apparent that there are CGF rules/policies/guidance that the steering group does not know about, e.g. the NP/LC area and local-branch concerns above. Hence

Action: Tremaine/Naomi to supply the full set of such rules etc so the steering group can determine whether its application forms and guidance notes for 2025-26 and onwards need to be updated.