

# Minute of the Building Stronger Communities Group held on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018 St Mary's Community Facility

**Present**: Alice Bovill - Strathmartine Forum

Alison Anderson - Neighbourhood Services - Environment

David MacDougall - Maryfield Forum

Joyce Barclay - Health & Social Care Partnership Murray Webster - Coldside Community Forum

Peter Allan - Community Planning

**In Attendance** 

Alison Colgan - Community Planning

Carole Jenkins - Neighbourhood Services - Communities

Derek Miller - Community Planning

Nicky MacCrimmon - Neighbourhood Services - Communities - Strathmartine

Apologies:

Angie Ballantyne - Dundee Voluntary Action / TSI Elaine Zwirlein - Neighbourhood Services (chair)

John Hosie - Neighbourhood Services - Communities

Paul Davies - Community Planning

Robin Shields - Neighbourhood Services - Housing

Ron Neave - North East Forum
Stella Carrington - Lochee Forum
Wendy Scullin - Coldside Forum

David Hilber - Menu for Change Team

**Action** 

## 1. Introductions & Apologies

Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received are listed above.

## 2. Minute of July Meeting

Agreed as accurate.

# 3. Matters Arising

# 3.1 Community Membership at the ADP

Peter raised this at the ADP meeting last week and they've asked for a paper to be put forward with suggestions on how this would be set up. The general consensus seemed favourable but a decision will be made following the paper being prepared for the next meeting.

3.2 Capital Grants

Alison contacted the Officer who deals with all capital payments to enquire about joint applications across Wards. It was confirmed that a joint Physical & Environmental Improvements application can be submitted by two or more Wards in order to reach the £6,000 minimum providing the payment for the full project can be paid in one invoice. For example if 3 Wards agree to purchase a £2,000 piece of play equipment each this is acceptable providing

they go through Capital as one project & invoice.

### 3.3 Air Quality Study

David confirmed there are still no results from the air quality study on Forfar Road and they're not entirely sure who is responsible for the study, but that he & Stuart Fairweather are trying to follow it up.

#### 3.4 Transport & Travel

- It was discovered at the combined transport meeting last week that comments are due in within one week regarding numerous proposed changes to Xplore Dundee services which are due to take effect from 21<sup>st</sup> October, however it's felt this is not long enough. It appears that bus companies are required to give 28 days notice of a change of service, but there's no requirement for a consultation first
- Alice asked if the Transport Forum can do anything to ensure a consultation is carried out in advance of these change of service notices
- Peter agreed that there's a need to influence the Transport Forum to improve community involvement and Ian Leith & John Berry will be approached regarding taking forward this request

PA/PD

- It was discussed that the changes to services also has a health link around the lack of transport link to ensure people can get to their GP surgeries. It is thought that DNA's (Did Not Attend) may be so high due to people having a lack of transport link to their surgeries. The health service is currently looking at the possibility of 'Attend Anywhere Appointments' to allow patients to visit the closest GP practice to their homes in order to reduce DNAs
- It has been a struggle to get health service representatives in attendance at the transport forum but Joyce and Alice will follow this up together and feedback next month

### 4 Strathmartine LCPP Update

Nicky presented the attached update on work and progress to the Local Community Plan in the past year and the progress of each of the 17 actions, as well as explaining any barriers or issues.

- Strathmartine have now fully allocated their CRF budget for this year which they view as being positive, as it allows the community to see the funded projects progressing throughout the year. However, it does mean the forum cannot support any last minute projects who may require some quick or short term funds to allow them through a difficult period. The team will now look at other funding opportunities available and start to support or inform applicants of alternative sources of funding, whilst working with the forum to look at what they want to achieve for the community as well as consider how they want to allocate in the future
- IYN (In Your Neighbourhood) has been launched on social media and has been very positive. Lots of engagement has come from this and they are now looking at asking the community questions & opinions through it
- A Fair Work & Enterprise group has been set up in the area and is looking at a one stop shop for employability information. They are looking to train people up to take information out to the communities rather than people having to go in to a specific place for support and eventually the plan is to train up community representatives too
- Collaboration for Transformation Programme is to be set up, looking at how everyone works differently with families and children and how face to face support is better
- The Community Safety group were meeting bi-monthly which was going well but has now stopped as the police couldn't attend all meetings and when they did sometimes community members didn't attend. They're now looking at police dropping into local centres when groups are running as people may be more happy to talk to them in less formal settings
- There are problems with the crematorium and the state of the grounds over hanging and overgrown beside the sheltered housing complex. They are now working with the new manager to try and sort out the issues and an Ardler member is on the crematorium group to ensure the issues are being covered. There was an offer from the Community Payback Team to have a group going in to help tidy up and possibly set up a remembrance garden, but the company in charge aren't keen as it could give them negative press
- No progress on the pitch strategy as Dundee North West Community Sports Hub were working on applying for a 3G or 4G pitch at Charlotte Park but there's now one at Baldragon Academy, so there are now talks in

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- who manages this and who can access it
- Dundee Decides supported four projects which are all in the planning process and should be complete by the end of the financial year. The Downfield Pavilion play park is due to be installed by October.
- St. Mary's has lots going on in the area, particularly with the Dementia Café which is run with the Dundee Carers Centre and the Men's Cooking Group which has developed in the past year were able to run the café during the summer. The fun day was a success with around 500 people in attendance. The Community Facility is planning their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with a number of events, including a fire pit night for the children and a civic reception on 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Ardler have had lots of involvement in their community garden. The two schools participated in a litter pick in Ardler Wood which was very successful and they've planned another one for next term. Lots of work is going into the development & refurbishment of the Macmillan Café/Hub due to open late September which will have a half time Development Worker. The focus is on patients or family members at the end of their cancer journey, to help them with what to do next. It will also be run by Sturrock Ritchie from The Shore as a community café with local young people with additional support requirements working and training there and will be accessible to everyone
- Kirkton has seen the opening of the new school campus at Baldragon Academy. The Community Café is being run by Taught by Mohammed and is going well. The Mural funded by the forum last year can now be seen on the back of Asda and has been a fantastic community project

#### Further discussion included;

- Feedback on the work being done in Strathmartine was very positive from the group
- Peter suggested there needs to be discussions as this is now a new phase of the Community Regeneration Funding and Forums and Dundee Partnership Team need to discuss where to go and how best to deal with the funding
- Nicky explained they are looking at a voluntary sector network in Strathmartine. There is a list of all third sector organisations in the area and the plan is for Angie Ballantyne is to make contact and set this up between September and December
- Joyce asked if there has been any involvement with The Circle, Nicky explained they are involved in the Fair Work & Enterprise and the Health sub groups and there have been offers of space, although they do come at a cost. They are currently looking at what additional they can offer in the Ward.

## 5. Chairs Group – Issues & Information Sharing

The meeting only had two community representatives in attendance and so no decisions were taken. It has been suggested by a number of members that there needs to be more clarity on the purpose and remit to this group rather than just discussing applications considered at each forum. The group needs to discuss the best way to move forward and the frequency of meetings in order to achieve what they are there for. The purpose and job of the forums may also be a useful topic for a Gathering.

Peter suggested the Chairs Group should be there for forums to support each other to do the best job they can and benefit from others experiences, but also to discuss any issues relevant to forums that's come from a BSC meeting.

### **6** Priority Updates

## **6.1** Community Empowerment

Carole provided an update on Community Empowerment and Community Asset Transfer.

## Asset Transfer

• More information has gone up on the website and a joint e-Learning

resource has been created in partnership with Angus & Fife Councils which is proving very useful for both staff and community members

- Dundee City Council's report to the Scottish Government has been done.
   Very few full transfers have gone through to date but the report details the work going on at the moment and what has been done
- A scoring mechanism has been established it's complex and the guidance is to be updated but the template is in place to ensure best value is scored. How to allow non experts to score applications is now being looked at
- There is a lack of support for the business side to apply for asset transfer, but Angie Ballantyne is looking at business plan support etc., which would be a big help for applicants

#### Community Empowerment

- Marie Dailly is finalising the CLD Strategy and looking at the engagement framework on the principle of national standards
- The link with community centres and community benefits arrangements is now a less intrusive way of documenting community involvement, such as Community Gardens this gives them protection
- There's a need to get as much information as possible out to the community so that everyone understands what it's all about

## Further discussion included;

Murray commented that there were lots of questions around asset transfer at the last meeting in Coldside about the proposed changes with the old schools / custodial unit as the community want to know how do they know what is available and to whom, and could they have applied to take over any of these old unused buildings?

- Carole explained that any building owned, leased or managed by the council can be considered for asset transfer upon application and there must be reasonable grounds for any response given. It doesn't need to be council though, applications can be proposed to NHS for example. Carole said she'd be willing to go out and speak to the Community in Coldside if that would help
- Carole's job is predominantly to support applications to the council but she can also support non DCC applications if the proposal is of community benefit

#### 6.2 Financial Inclusion & Food Poverty

The Menu for Change Team were unable to attend the meeting so Derek provided an update on financial inclusion but with principally a food poverty focus (see attached).

#### Food Poverty -

- There are increasing numbers of people experiencing food poverty and requiring support, however few statistics are held on this. Health boards have become very active on this as they recognise the importance of dealing with the issue
- Menu for Change came as a direct result of the Dignity Report being published and is currently running in Dundee, Fife and East Ayrshire, with three pilot projects in Dundee. The 3 pilot projects are;
  - Develop a Referral Guide for Non-Specialist Advice, run by Faith in Community Dundee
  - A Support & Inclusion Worker for BME communities as these numbers are always high, run by Yusuf Youth Initiative / Taught by Mohammed
  - A Support Worker at Maxwell Centre, as this is the biggest referrer to Dundee Foodbank and they want to strengthen the facility offered by food giving agencies

## Financial Inclusion -

- Dundee Money Action (DMA) is holding an open day on 28<sup>th</sup> August which is open to everyone with continual presentations on throughout the day
- A case study has been included in the attached to highlight a situation for a family with numerous issues that required support

o DMA are trying to streamline their referral process

Discussion followed the presentation;

Alice asked if the expectation is that these clients will be independent after support?

 Yes, however long term support will be given to encourage a change of ways for clients to try to prevent them going through the same issues again. Financial capability is a big issue so keeping in touch with clients after the initial support will help them as they move on

Peter asked Murray if he had any idea why Maxwell whether the biggest referrer and if they are doing something differently that other agencies can learn from.

 Murray explained they are a good welcoming support place for people, they also have links with Taught by Mohammed and other agencies and therefore have a one-stop shop set up

Joyce explained that some people also appear to go out with their own area for referrals as it has an anonymity and people don't know you. This then brought the question of whether that may be why locality based foodbanks are quieter than the bigger more central ones. Is anonymity more important to people due to stigma. For example St Mary's foodbank closed and the Ardler one is fairly quiet.

Derek is awaiting figures from Taught by Mohammed regarding numbers across different areas and will share these when he receives them.

DM

A discussion followed around the poor food some people are buying which adds to health issues. For example Alice has found locally that people are saying no to freshly grown potatoes and other vegetables for example from their community gardens. In supermarkets it's a struggle to buy loose fruit / vegetables rather than packs and because there's a lack of knowledge around good fruit and vegetables and how to cook healthily this may put people off buying them.

Alison Anderson is currently putting together a report and looking at setting up a group on food poverty & community growing. Joyce suggested she contact Daryl Guthrie at Dundee Voluntary Action, who is involved in looking at the quality and type of nutritious food rather than the quantity.

Peter suggested the subject of Food Poverty is added to the agenda for BSC in a couple of months' time.

PD

## 7. Dundee Community Regeneration Fund:

#### 7.1 Grant Applications

All applications were approved.

#### 7.2 Projects Failing to Report

No groups have been added to the list this month, however a few outstanding reports have been received and have therefore been removed.

The following projects make up the current list that are ineligible for funding due to not having reported on funded activity:

- C1607 Soul Garden Expansion of Community Kitchen
- F1602 St Margaret's Barnhill Play Group Pre-school Play Group (note: this group has since ceased operating)
- SY1608 FMGM Monarchs Hockey Club Hockey Junior Activity
- EE1713 Art Social Midlin Art for All Event
- EE1730 St. Pius X Church Community Café
- F1706 Broughty Ferry & District Men's Shed Shed Development & Start Up
- L1719 Lochee United Junior FC Arts Project
- L1727 Dundee & Angus Recycling Group CIC Equipment
- NE1709 Mill O'Mains Community Pavilion Summer Programme
- NEY1708 Mill O'Mains Community Pavilion Youth Project

 SP1702 – Kirkton Community Safety Partnership – Kirkton Graffiti Wall Project

# 8. Local Community Planning

Nicky gave a brief update on John's behalf.

The team are undertaking an exercise around local community planning and getting more people involved in the work that's being done and not just attending meetings.

The successful projects from Dundee Decides are now going through the implementation stage, there have been a few hiccups but on the whole everything should be completed by the end of financial year. The plan for next time is to have a more open process for what should go on the list for consideration. A consultation will begin in April 2019 to look at this, proposals will then be put together from the consultation results an voting will begin again around January to March 2020.

Dundee Decides is in the final three shortlisted projects for a COSLA award which will be announced in October, this means we will receive at least a silver award.

## 9. AOCB

Alice informed the group that as the Leader of the Administration and the Lord Provost are councillors in Strathmartine it means that they are missing out on surgeries in St Mary's, however Councillor Kevin Keenan has agreed to add an extra surgery every Tuesday in St Mary's which has been welcomed.

David pointed out that three large organisations are operational in Stobswell (Dundee International Women's Centre, Showcase the Street and Boomerang) but are supporting people across the city, and feels it's impacting on how much funds Maryfield have to support projects for local people and asked whether other areas can support these projects. He was informed that projects must confirm when they apply that each application is specifically supporting people from the area applied to as DP can't fund city wide projects and so it's not unusual for projects to provide postcodes for their service users to confirm a majority are from that ward.

David asked if someone in the council can circulate details of other funding available to the Community Regeneration Team. There is information made available from the council and we can look at joining this up to ensure everyone is aware of it.

Following the meeting Derek provided a link to a funding finder for community groups which may be useful to forums. You can sign up for emailed updates. https://www.scotlandstowns.org/

## 10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September, Hilltown Community Centre, 15 Alexander Street, DD3 7DG.

## **Attachments:**

Strathmartine LCPP Presentation Financial Inclusion Update

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