Minute of the Building Stronger Communities Group
held on Thursday, 18th October 2018
Brooksbank Centre, Pitairlie Road

Present:
Alison Anderson - Neighbourhood Services - Environment
Angie Ballantyne - Dundee Voluntary Action / TSI
Christine Humphrey - Strathmartine Forum
David MacDougall - Maryfield Forum
Gary Knox - City Development
Jim Campbell - East End Forum
Joyce Barclay - Health & Social Care Partnership
Murray Webster - Coldside Forum
Paul Davies - Community Planning
Peter Allan - Chief Executive’s (chair)
Ron Neave - North East Forum
Stella Carrington - Lochee Forum

In Attendance
Christine Miller - Neighbourhood Services - Communities - East End
Elaine Pratt - Neighbourhood Services - Communities - Coldside

Apologies:
Alice Bovill - Strathmartine Forum
Elaine Zwirlein - Neighbourhood Services
Iain Leith - City Development – Sustainable Transport
John Berry - City Development – Sustainable Transport
John Hosie - Neighbourhood Services – Communities
Robin Shields - Neighbourhood Services – Housing
Wendy Scullin - Coldside Forum

1. Introductions & Apologies
Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions was made. Apologies received are listed above.

2. Minute of September Meeting
Agreed as accurate.

3. Matters Arising
3.1 Community Representation on Transport Forum (item 3.2)
Iain Leith / John Berry were asked to include an update on this in their scheduled update to this group. Some discussion around transport followed that included;
- There is some confusion over the role of Mike Andrews on the Forum. (Since the meeting, Joyce has clarified that Mike represents the Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP), but not Ninewells / Acute Care)
- At a meeting in Ardler, the Managing Director of Travel Dundee was asked why they aren’t at the Transport Forum. This got the response that they hadn’t been invited. Angie to investigate and issue an invitation to future meetings
- There have been a number of community meetings around the city with regard to bus services, and ‘slight tweaks’ to routes are anticipated. these will however mean there will no longer be a direct route to Ninewells for some people in Coldside. Community members with concerns should feed these in to the Transport Forum
• The Transport Forum will send a report to both the HSCP and BSC after each round of meetings
• As Iain and John are both unavailable, their update is to be rescheduled. Paul to check availability. Also noted that Iain is moving roles, and is being replaced by Nadine Law

3.2 Foodbank Discussion (item 4)
This has been arranged for the November meeting and will focus on;
• Helping people to not need to go to foodbanks
• Ensuring that support is available if it is needed

3.3 Dundee Decides – (item 8)
South Road Crossing. The location for this has been agreed to be in the place identified as most useful by community members, closer to the Lochee bypass.

Maryfield Pavements. The amount available for other work is less than the £50k agreed through Dundee Decides. David MacDougall is looking into why this is the case and will feed back to this group

3.4 Change in Community Engagement Officer Role
Carole Jenkins is moving post to become the Communities Officer for North East Ward. The Community Engagement Officer role (including work on Community Asset Transfer(CAT)) is likely to be being spread between Communities Officers. Some concerns raised by communities, as the process is complex and it may be harder to carry out effectively if it is split up.
• Questions were also raised regarding
  o How this decision was made?
  o How it will affect Community Officer capacity?
  o How were communities informed of the changes?
• Alongside these, there was concern that
  o The decision was made without prior discussion with or warning to communities
  o There will be a loss of local knowledge through movement of Communities Officers
• Peter will feed the above back to Marie Dailly, and John Hosie will bring a response back to the next meeting
• Alison indicated that she sits on the group assessing CATs. Carole Jenkins has been busy setting up the process, which is now in place, and there is a working group to support CATs

3.5 Change in Community Centre Staff
Changes to Administrative staff and Resource Assistants at community centres was discussed. It was highlighted that Local Management Groups were not being kept informed and it is unclear who is in charge of making these changes (the manager who would have been responsible retired recently).

The Dundee Association of Management Groups was agreed as the correct place for the above to be raised, and that Marie Dailly should be invited to the meeting for discussions with group members

4 East End LCPP Update
Christine gave a presentation (attached) on the work of the LCPP over the past year. This included the development of a number of sub-groups. A focus on local aspects of the five key themes identified within the City Plan has been at the forefront, including;
• Encouraging local businesses to take on pupil work placements from Craigie High
• Increasing peer support for young people (including at weekends)
  o Douglas Positive Minds, funded through Our Place, is part of this
• Increasing the number and quality of local outdoor facilities, including community growing
• Starting a locally based working group on substance misuse
- Local Community Safety Partnership, covering East End and North East Wards. The next meeting of this is on 30/10/18
- A range of Building Stronger Communities priorities, including: parking improvements, community walkabouts being more community focussed, new neighbourhood representative structures, increasing community capacity, etc.

Future challenges identified included;
- Increasing local involvement, including through neighbourhood representative structures
- Targeted engagement work
- Building on learning from the Dundee Decides process, including with young people

Discussion followed, which included;
- Walkabouts will be LCPP led, and focus on community member needs e.g. safer kerbs for visually impaired people. Housing related issues will be included too
- The meeting on 30/10/18 will cover a range of small pieces of work coming out of the mental wellbeing network
  - Substance misuse is one of the sub-groups
  - Local people are self-elected onto the group, which will look at what difference people can make on a local basis e.g. increasing accessibility at community centres and looking at the services available locally
- Mental Health Drop-ins are held bi-weekly at Rainbow House
  - There is an open door for people to drop-in
  - Has community volunteers involved
  - There are a growing number of people using the sessions as word of mouth spreads knowledge of it
  - It could be useful for social prescribing to refer people to this group too
  - It is supported by DVA through Rahila Khalid as a test of change. It feeds into the Service User Network
- Thoughts on ‘Our Place’ in Douglas included;
  - It has received both positive and negative comments locally. People comment based on the difference that they see
  - Douglas Park is the biggest part of it, with lots of work going on behind the scenes at present. People ‘get fed up with not seeing visible progress’
  - The community garden aspect is working well
  - Lessons could be learned with regard to
    - Bringing in partners e.g. DCC to facilitate progress of works
    - ensuring that the group to which funding is awarded already has the capacity to facilitate delivery
- Resourcing of help to communities (e.g. Community Regeneration Team) needs to be maintained to continue the good work with communities
- DVA are in discussion with the Big Lottery regarding them endorsing DVA’s ‘Foundation to Good Governance’ award. This includes sections on charity law, financial responsibilities, and the skills needed to deliver a project. There would then be an opportunity to work on this during the early stages of any Big Lottery application to have better governance in place
- Hubs (e.g. Lochee Hub) are helping to change the language & conversation around substance misuse. An application for funding to carry out an evaluation is underway at present and any learning will be shared

5. Chairs Group – Issues & Information Sharing
The main discussion was about planning for a Gathering of forum members in late April 2019. Jacqui Fleming is looking into venue availability. So far the only topic identified by a forum is the introduction of the £6k minimum for Physical & Environmental Improvements (due to rules around Capital spend).

This has led to some bids being for increased amounts in order to be eligible. Issues with the new rules should be discussed at the next Forum Chairs Group and points brought back to the November BSC.
Another issue discussed was around DCC projects not spending their funding allocation by the end of the financial year.

- Delays to project completion are not liked by forums / local residents
- Paul noted that the same rules regarding extensions for project completion are also used for non-DCC projects, but as there are fewer of them this is perhaps less apparent
- Information sharing with the Regeneration Team where delays do occur could be better. Paul to ensure that improvements are made.

Concerns were also raised regarding charges are being made for road closures for an event which was previously free, and the associated costs needing to be included in the funding application. At the same time, other areas have not been charged for road closures. Stella is to ask the Lochee group that applied for funding to send the relevant information to Peter.

6 Priority Updates
6.1 Strategic Housing
Robin was unable to attend the meeting and so the Strategic Housing update was postponed.

6.2 Fairness
Peter highlighted three current items in relation to Fairness;

- Food Poverty
  - Confirmed speakers are; Dundee Foodbank, Taught by Muhammad, Lochee Community Larder, and Menu for Change
- DP Forum tackling loneliness and social isolation in Dundee
  - At the Steeple, 9.00 – 13.00 on Wednesday 24th October
  - There has been lower uptake of places than anticipated, so any BSC members who have not yet booked a place would be welcome to attend
- Dundee’s Second Fairness Commission
  - Will be launching their recommendations on Thursday 29th November at the Steeple. These focus on;
    - Changing public opinion and reducing stigma associated with poverty
    - Increasing the money in people’s pockets
    - Access to Mental Health Services
  - Invitations will be sent out soon
  - Planning for a third Fairness Commission are underway, alongside a refresh of the Fairness Action Plan

6.3 Travel Networks
Iain was unable to attend the meeting, but has since provided a written update (attached)

7 Dundee Community Regeneration Fund:
7.1 Grant Applications
All applications were approved. It was noted that funds that the Federation of City Farms & Community Gardeners were unable to make use of (£2,000) had been reallocated by the Strathmartine Forum

C1813, for a Christmas Tree for Coldside was unexpected, as the area was promised a tree this year. Other areas are also lacking in receipt of a tree for the area. Discussion indicated that equity across all areas would be welcomed, and Alison Anderson will check on how the list is compiled (current knowledge is that it stems from a historic civic list)

7.2 Projects Failing to Report
No groups have been added to the list this month.

The following projects are ineligible for funding due to not having reported on funded activity from 2017-18:

- EE1713 – Art Social Midlin – Art for All Event
8. **Local Community Planning**
Elaine provided an update which included;
- Two COSLA awards have been won. one for Dundee Decides, and the other for the Refugee Employability Project
  - What happened next with Dundee Decides is under discussion at present, but there will be a follow up to it. Projects will come from communities, and make use of the infrastructure put in place for Dundee Decides.
- A Participatory Budgeting Festival takes place on Thursday 25th October, 2.00 – 4.30, in the Falcon Suite at Discovery Point. All are welcome.

9. **AOCB**
9.1 **Young Place Changers Ideas Fund**
Alison highlighted this funding opportunity for under 25’s. It makes use of the Place Standard tool and offers up to either £500 seed corn funding or £3,000 for project delivery. Copies of information were distributed to community representatives and are also attached with this minute.

9.2 **V&A Dundee Community Programmes**
There are a number of free workshops being delivered at the V&A Dundee, which started on Monday 8th October, 10:00-12:00. For more information or to book a place, email communities@vandadundee.org

9.3 **Funding Fair at Skatepark**
Angie mentioned that this is taking place on the 2nd November, 10:30 – 12:30. More information can be found via this link, or searching on Facebook for the 'Dundee East Funding Fair'.

9.4 **SSE Community Benefit Funding**
Elaine to forward details to Paul for circulation.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**
Thursday 22nd November, Committee Room 2, 14 City Square

**Attachments:**
- East End LCPP Presentation
- Travel Network Update
- Young Place Changers Ideas Fund information