

DUNDEE



PARTNERSHIP

Minute of the Building Stronger Communities Group held on Thursday, 23rd May 2019 Committee Room 3, 14 City Square

Present:	John Berry	-	City Development – Sustainable Transport
	Alice Bovill	-	Strathmartine Forum
	Alison Colgan	-	Community Planning
	Jim Gordon	-	Maryfield Forum
	Angus Greenshields	-	Dundee Social Enterprise Network
	Christine Humphrey	-	Strathmartine Forum
	Natalie Mackland	-	Neighbourhood Services – Communities
	Peter Allan	-	Chief Executive's (chair)
	Robin Shields	-	Neighbourhood Services – Housing
	Ron Neave	-	North East Forum
	Stella Carrington	-	Lochee Forum
	Murray Webster	-	Coldside Forum

Apologies:

Alison Anderson	-	Neighbourhood Services - Environment
Joyce Barclay	-	Health & Social Care Partnership
Christina Cooper	-	Dundee Voluntary Action
Marie Dailly	-	Neighbourhood Services
Paul Davies	-	Community Planning
David MacDougall	-	Maryfield Forum
Angela Robb	-	Neighbourhood Services – Environment
Wendy Scullin	-	Coldside Forum
Elaine Zwirlein	-	Neighbourhood Services

Action

1. Introductions & Apologies

Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the group that John Hosie has resigned and left his post at Dundee City Council.

As this was all finalised after the previous meeting there wasn't an opportunity for the group to say goodbye to John and wish him well, but in his absence Peter wanted to acknowledge the hard work and commitment from John over the years, and members of the group also commented on how much support he had given to the Community members over the years.

Apologies received are listed above.

2. Minute of March Meeting

Agreed as accurate.

3. Matters Arising

- Information on private sector housing not yet received by Peter from Vanessa (item 3). More discussion is also expected with the new local housing strategy being published. Robin highlighted that there will also be opportunities annually for updates/amendments to the new strategy as it appears to be felt in at least 3 wards that conditions are getting worse with private sector housing. Paul to chase up
- PEF briefing to be arranged for Chairs Group for the June meeting (item 3).
- Clarity on who in DCC is responsible for maintenance/repairs in community centres has been requested from Rachel Higgins (item 4). Ron has confirmed that Rachel is looking into identifying the correct point of contact.
- Nicky and Derek have been discussing the issue of ATMs in communities that have started to charge for use. Natalie informed the group the Ferry LCPP wrote the company who own ATMs in the Ferry that have started

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DM/NM

charging and have received a very detailed response, although not very useful. Natalie will forward to Peter to share with the group.

NM

4 The Ferry LCPP Update

Natalie gave a presentation on the work of the LCPP (attached), the main points of which are summarised below;

Presentation included

- Dundee Decides was well engaged in The Ferry, with strengthened participation and involvement from the community. All Ferry proposals are now complete and lots of interest has been shown in the next phase.
- LCPP held a networking event in November which was very busy and well received, and as a result the invitation list to the LCPP has widened to include some interested local organisations.
- Health & Wellbeing / Fair Work and Enterprise has been a recent focus.
 - There are 3 pockets of residents who are employment and income deprived within the ward, particularly in Barnhill, where a survey of 595 households (964 population) has been carried out by Natalie and the Health & Wellbeing Group, which is made up of a number of local volunteers, particularly from the churches.
 - Preliminary results indicate that a place to meet, opportunities for social contact and community activities/ drop in services were the main needs identified.
 - A pop up open air event to reaffirm the analysis will be held on afternoon of 19th June.
- Natalie has encouraged and supported applications from new groups for the Community Regeneration Funding, with full spend achieved in 2018/19 and she's continuing to encourage Ferry organisations to apply, with a number of grants for 2019/20 to be considered at the next meeting.
- The highlight of the year was watching the Sheill Street Community Garden run by Grove Academy Eco Group watching their Fisherman structure being put into place. With only a £700 grant towards infrastructure for this Community Garden the finished piece and the excitement and enthusiasm of the staff & pupils and all involved was amazing. A YMCA Men's Shed volunteer is also helping turn an old fishing boat into a bug hotel and the intergenerational work and impact of the garden has been excellent.

Discussion followed, the main points of which included;

- Natalie will be scoping out the next Dundee Decides process now that John has left. Alice asked if the impact of the work from the last phase will be assessed, and Natalie said it can possibly be built into the next phase.
- It was commented that the work in Barnhill was very positive and would allow this targeted work to highlight the issues that exist in the area and it was great to see them focussing on the most problematic areas.
- Natalie confirmed that 19% of the working age in that area are employment deprived and 18% of all residents are income deprived.

5 Chairs Group – Issues & Information Sharing

A brief update was given on the Gathering held earlier this month which focused on increasing the diversity within Forums. The turnout was small, plus the young people from Baldrigon Academy due to attend didn't turn up which was a shame, however the event went well and a great presentation was given by Joan McKenna from OISRA. They discussed other ways to try and engage with young people and felt that going out to them in their surroundings may be more successful than hoping they'll turn up to forums or gatherings.

6 Priority Updates

6.1 Travel Networks

John provided an update on the bus networks in Dundee and explained that he's also now responsible for parking in Dundee.

- Xplore and Stagecoach have introduced some changes in the past few months, the main big change was on the Whitfield to Ninewells route which

was cancelled and now ends at the city centre in both directions. However, after public pressure Xplore have agreed to re-instate a direct bus from Whitfield to Ninewells from June.

- Other changes haven't received many complaints.
- The 360 service around the city centre which receives no subsidy from the council will continue through the summer to give it a full year's trial, despite usage being quite low at present. However, the new bus stop/shelter at the train station is now in place and is transitioning to be fully operational.
- Both bus companies now offer contactless on all buses which is a welcome change as it solves the issue of requiring exact change.
- The ABC card is to increase to £14.90 from £14.50 per week, but can be used on all buses across Dundee and is now due to be rolled out into Fife.
- John highlighted that Dundee has a very good bus service, which is very reasonable and reliable. Dundee has the lowest car ownership in Scotland with 45% of adults unable to drive.
- The Real Time information system on the bus shelters has been taken over by a new company in the past few months, following the need from procurement to put it out to tender and it has had some teething problems with accuracy. It was signed off this week though and is now up and running and accurate again.
- DCC still fund the Blether Bus which is minibuses running between 9.30am and 2.30pm each day covering Clepington, Stobswell and Lochee areas. This is free and aimed at elderly people living in these areas, passing by sheltered housing complexes and areas with mainly elderly residents but there is still not a big take up at the moment.
 - A lot has been done to promote this service, including timetables, leaflets, door drops and adverts on the radio but only 10-15 people are using the service each day. The team are continuing to promote the service to inform more people.
 - There has been discussion around expanding this service to bring in areas such as Strathmartine, but it needs to be busier first.
 - The Shoppers Service still operates daily in different areas each day taking sheltered housing tenants to supermarkets and back home.
 - There is also an out & about service for the elderly which picks up from people's homes once booked for outings to nearby locations, it is free for 10-14 people each trip.

Discussion followed, the main points of which included;

- Alice asked when the next Travel Group meeting will be as there hasn't been one for some time. John apologised due to changes in work, staff leaving and Angie's departure from DVA has impacted on this being missed. John will liaise with DVA in Angie's absence and will try to arrange a meeting of the group before the summer. **JB**
- Murray stated that Commercial Street is very often gridlocked with possibly 4 or 5 buses all arriving at the same time. It would be better if these times were planned better.
- Murray raised issues in Coldside at the moment, including the pavement at Mortimer Street and Leng Street which has almost collapsed where the bus stops and no 'bus stop' painted on the road in Byron Street, which makes it dangerous with parked cars – John will add these to the list of improvements to be made during the summer. **JB**
- Ron asked if council staff received discounted parking at council car parks. John explained that any company who employ more than 50 people can offer a small discount concession to staff.

6.2 & Health & Social Care & Frailty

6.2.1

Joyce and Christina were both unable to attend this meeting but the update on Frailty will be arranged for the June or July meeting. **PAD**

7. Dundee Community Regeneration Fund

7.1 Grant Applications

All applications were approved.

7.2 Projects Failing to Report

There are now 17 projects in total with overdue reports from 2018-19 funding, a number of which are already on the failed to report list. The latest late report letters have now been sent for those due in April and will be reported next month if not received.

8. Local Community Planning

Peter was able to provide a brief updates from discussions with Marie which included;

- Recruitment for Strathmartine Communities Officer is underway.
- Participatory Budgeting and how to take this forward is under discussion and there is likely to be a report to committee in autumn once finalised.
- Looking at whether the local community plans arrangements are the best they can be, looking at a number of things, such as views of elected members, work on democracy matters, community feelings, consultation with community and participatory budgeting was great but how to build on it.
- With the council struggling financially this means capacity it limited, so they are looking at whether there are better ways of doing things. For example having one discussion for across the city rather than 8 different discussions and they need to bear in mind the availability of the voluntary sector.
- There is a meeting early June regarding the CLD Strategy

9. AOCB

- In the absence of the other updates Peter handed out annual update on the Building Strong and Empowered Communities scorecard for the Dundee Partnership performance report on the City Plan which will go to committee in June. Everyone was asked to have a read over it and contact Paul or Peter by the middle of next week if there are any comments.
 - It shows the 14 performance indicators have improved and 3 have deteriorated.
 - It also highlights that the Private Sector Enhancement pilot project in Albert Street has been cancelled, but Peter said it would be good to see something done around this area.
- Discussion took place among community representatives regarding the changes and cuts in staff. There was talk around contacting their elected members as they feel it's now impacting on the support for the community and community groups, as only some groups are receiving support due to lack of staff. It's also felt with all the changes that have taken place Local Management Groups no longer have a contact for who in the council can help with issues in the centres.
- International Community Development Conference
 - Marie Dailly is in charge of this event, if any community representatives are looking to get involved with the 5 events or require more detail they should contact Marie.
 - No programme has been released yet, but should be ready soon.
- Draft Local Housing Strategy 2019-24 and questionnaire is out for consultation, it will be going online and should be completed by 14 June 2019
 - It will also be sent out to private developers, communities, GPs for as much input as possible.
 - Alice requested a hard copy by sent out to her

PA/PAD

RS

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 20th June, Menzieshill Community Centre, Charleston Drive.

Attachments:

- The Ferry LCPP Presentation
- Building Strong and Empowered Communities Scorecard