

## Minute of Meeting Local Partnership - The Villages

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 10 June 2021	18:00	Remotely by MS teams,

### Present

Anne-Marie Balfour (Elderslie Community Council); Councillor Derek Bibby; Councillor Bill Binks; David Blair (Renfrewshire District Scouts); Councillor Jacqueline Cameron; Sandy Clark (Bridge of Weir Community Council); Councillor Andy Doig; Councillor Audrey Doig; Councillor Alison Jean Dowling; Councillor Natalie Don; Margaret Dundas (Brookfield Community Council); James Fletcher (Brookfield Bowling Club); Meg Gilzean (Bridge of Weir Tenants' and Residents' Association); Nigel Hobbs (Houston Community Council); Councillor John Hood; Councillor Scott Kerr; Councillor Alistair Mackay; Councillor Colin McCulloch; Stirling McGee (Renfrewshire Youth Voice); Councillor James MacLaren; Councillor Emma Rodden; Councillor James Sheridan; Councillor Andy Steel; Neil Thomson (Brighter Bridge of Weir); and Brenda Whitelaw (Howwood Community Council).

### Chair

David Blair, Vice-chair, presided.

### In Attendance

O Reid, Head of Communities and Public Protection (Lead Officer); A Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Partnership & Inequalities Manager and S Kraft, (both Chief Executive's); and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer, R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and E Gray, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

### Community Planning Partner

A McNiven, Chief Executive (Engage Renfrewshire).

### Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Vice-chair intimated that this meeting of the Local Partnership would be recorded and that the recording would be available to watch on the Council's website.

## **Apologies**

Alan Bissett (Lochwinnoch Community Council); Councillor Natalie Don; Rev. Gary Noonan (Houston and Killellan Kirk); and Linda O'Malley (Rays of Hope).

## **Declarations of Interest**

Sandy Clark (Bridge of Weir Community Council) declared an interest in item 2 - Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 - FR1086 - as he was a member of the community council and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

David Blair (Renfrewshire District Scouts) declared an interest in item 2 - Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 – FR1148 – as he was a member of the organisation and FR1176 - as he was previously the Treasurer of the organization and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Alistair Mackay declared an interest in item 2 – Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 – FR1118 - as he was a member of the organisation and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Nigel Hobbs (Brighter Bridge of Weir) declared an interest in item 2 - Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 – FR 1116, FR1130 and FR1131 – as he was a member of the community council and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Colin McCulloch declared an interest in item 2 – Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 – FR1148 - as his son was a member of the organisation and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Anne-Marie Balfour (Elderslie Community Council) declared an interest in item 2 – Applications for Local Partnership Funding to The Villages Local Partnership 2021/22 - FR1170, FR1171 and FR1172– as she was a member of the community council intimated that it was her intention to remain in the meeting and not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Annabelle Armstrong-Walter advised that David Love had completed applications FR1066 and FR1098 prior to his appointment as Chief Planning Officer, Renfrewshire Council.

## **1 Minute**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of this Local Partnership held on 4 February 2021.

It was noted that Brenda Whitelaw was detailed in the Present and Apologies sections in the Minute and that the reference to Brenda Whitelaw being present should be deleted from the Minute.

**DECIDED:** That, subject to the above amendment, the Minute be approved.

## 2 **Applications for Local Partnership Funding in Villages 2021/22**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to applications for funding from The Villages Local Partnership in 201/22.

The report intimated that the available allocation for the Local Partnership was £56,644, made up of £51,191 from the General Grant Fund and £5,453 underspend carried forward from 2020/21. The carry forward of underspend was agreed due to the exceptional circumstances of the Covid pandemic which impacted on the ability of community organisations to undertake activities due to restrictions in place over the period. The normal arrangement whereby underspends could not be carried forward into the next financial year would be reinstated for 2021/22. The sum of £50 per community representative required to be ringfenced for potential claims for administrative expenses, which left a balance of £55,894 for allocation.

The report advised that the Youth Challenge Fund component of the Local Partnership's funding, now known as Celebrating Renfrewshire, was £23,609. In addition, an underspend of £14,223 would be carried forward to 2021/22, making the total £37,832. This would be allocated by young people through a participatory budgeting process, which would take place during autumn 2021.

Following the resignation of the Chair, officers had prepared a proposed method for considering the applications, which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the proposal be amended by moving applications FR1084 by Rainbow Turtle; FR1134 by Loud n Proud; and FR1171 by Elderslie Community Council into category 1.

Following consideration, the Local Partnership:

(i) agreed that the undernoted category 1 applications be awarded in full:-

Category 1 – Projects meeting local priorities (previously partially funded by Local Partnership)

FR1043 - I Am Me Scotland – awarded £744  
FR1052 - The Boys Brigade, Paisley & District Battalion – awarded £600  
FR1062 – Brookfield Bowling Club – awarded £1,250  
FR1078 – The Renfrewshire Toy Bank – awarded £1,400  
FR1084 – Rainbow Turtle – awarded £500  
FR1134 – Loud n Proud – awarded £1,000  
FR1139 – Johnstone Dementia Friendly Group – awarded £5,600  
FR1145 – Lochwinnoch Christmas Lights Society – awarded £1,500  
FR1147 – Lochwinnoch Toddlers Group – awarded £1,900  
FR1155 – Shopmobility Paisley and District – awarded £1,500

### **Declaration of Interest**

Anne-Marie Balfour, having previously declared an interest in application FR1171, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

FR1171 – Elderslie Community Council – awarded £1,329  
FR1175 – Lochwinnoch Choral Society – awarded £1,140  
FR1177 – Lochwinnoch Chatterbox Trust – awarded £1,500;

(ii) agreed that the undernoted category 1 applications be awarded 70% of the amount requested plus a pro-rata amount of the available balance:-

FR1061 – Lochwinnoch Arts Festival – awarded £5,615.55  
FR1067 – The Kilbarchan Singers – awarded £2,167.02

### **Declaration of Interest**

Sandy Clark, having previously declared an interest in application FR1086, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

FR1086 – Bridge of Weir Community Council – awarded £2,797.84  
FR1095 – Fèis Phàislig – awarded £2,015.84  
FR1107 – Local Energy Action Plan (LEAP) – awarded £3,401.72

### **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Mackay, having previously declared an interest in application FR1118, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Steel moved that Renfrewshire Model Railway Club be awarded 70% of the amount requested.

Councillor Dowling, seconded by Councillor Rodden, moved that Renfrewshire Model Railway Club be awarded 50% of the amount requested.

On a vote being taken, 11 members voted for the motion and 11 members voted for the amendment. There being an equality of votes, the Vice-chair used his second and casting vote in favour of the motion.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Ann-Marie Balfour, Councillor Bibby, Councillor Binks, Sandy Clark, Councillor Dowling, James Fletcher, Councillor Hood, Councillor McCulloch, Councillor Rodden, Councillor Sheridan and Brenda Whitelaw.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Meg Gilzean, Nigel Hobbs, Stirling McGee, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Steel, Neil Thomson, David Blair and Margaret Dundas.

There being an equality of votes, the Vice Chair used his second and casting vote in favour of the motion. The motion was accordingly declared carried.

FR1118 – Renfrewshire Model Railway Club – awarded £5,017.99  
FR1131 – Houston Community Council – awarded £1,835.85

### **Declarations of Interest**

David Blair and Councillor McCulloch, having previously declared interests in application FR1148, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or

voting thereon.

FR1148 – 1st Bridge of Weir Scout Group – awarded £7,199.42

FR1186 – Lamont Farm Project – awarded £2,879.77;

(iii) agreed that the undernoted category 2 applications be declined:-

Category 2 – projects with partial or no reference to local priorities (previously no award made by Local Partnership)

FR1135 – Howwood Primary School – declined

FR1143 – Wallace Parent Council – declined

It was noted that the application by Ferguslie Cricket Club had been completed by David Love prior to his appointment as Chief Planning Officer, Renfrewshire Council.

FR1066 – Ferguslie Cricket Club – declined

FR1096 – BSSC Gym – declined

FR1097 – BSSC Social Club – declined

It was noted that the application by Meikleriggs Cricket Foundation had been completed by David Love prior to his appointment as Chief Planning Officer, Renfrewshire Council.

FR1066 – Meikleriggs Cricket Foundation – declined

FR1132 – Phoenix Flyers Dog Agility Club – declined

FR1182 – Stronger Communities Glenburn – declined

FR1191 – Stronger Communities Glenburn – declined

FR1197 – Pachedu – declined;

(iv) agreed that the undernoted category 3 applications be declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund:-

Category 3 – projects previously referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund for consideration with no award made by Local Partnership

FR1047 – Lochwinnoch Community Development Trust - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

FR1060 – Lochwinnoch Sustainable Community Garden Group- declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

FR1107 - Friends of Howwood Park - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

FR1116 – Houston Community Council - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

FR1130 – Houston Community Council - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

### **Declaration of Interest**

Anne-Marie Balfour, having previously declared interests in applications FR1170 and FR 1172, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

FR1170 – Elderslie Community Council - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment

FR1172 – Elderslie Community Council – withdrawn

### **Declaration of Interest**

David Blair, having previously declared an interest in application FR1176, remained in the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

FR1176 – Kilbarchan Improvements Group - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund

FR1199 – Howwood Community Council - declined and referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund; and

(v) that £3000 be retained for any future applications received.

Following consideration of all applications, it was proposed that officers provide assistance to organisations in their attempts to source other funding and also those organisations who were referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund and that a workshop be held early in the new year at which members could examine options for allocating grant funding that were fair, equitable and focused on the Local Partnership's priorities. This was agreed.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That it be agreed to award the grant applications as noted above;

(b) That £3,000 be retained for any future applications received;

(c) That officers provide assistance to organisations in their attempts to source other funding and also those organisations who were referred to the Green Spaces, Parks and Play Areas and Villages Investment Fund; and

(d) That a workshop be held early in the new year at which members could examine options and methods for allocating grant funding that were fair, equitable and focussed on the Local Partnership's priorities.

## **3 The Villages Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report and 2020/21 Funding Application Feedback**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the 2020/21 budget allocated to this Local Partnership. An appendix to the report detailed the distribution of funds.

The report also provided feedback from the local groups that had received funding in 2020/21 on the success of their projects and the benefits delivered to local communities. It was noted that efforts continued to encourage more recipients of awards in 2020/21 to provide feedback.

It was acknowledged that the Covid-19 pandemic and resultant lockdown restrictions had affected the ability of groups to pursue projects and spend their allocated grant funding during 2020/21. In recognition of this, and the fact that some groups had returned funding, it had been agreed that underspends in 2020/21 would be carried forward and added to the budget for 2021/22.

**DECIDED:** That the budget monitoring report and feedback from recipients of funding in 2020/21 be noted.