

Minute of Meeting Local Partnership – Johnstone & Linwood

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 2 February 2021	18.00	Teams Meeting

Present

Councillor Derek Bibby; Councillor Bill Binks; Councillor Jacqueline Cameron; Lesley Compston (KLAS Care); Councillor Andy Doig; Councillor Audrey Doig; Councillor John Hood, George MacDonald (Corseford Tenants' and Residents' Association); Karen McShane (Dementia Friendly Group); Councillor Jim Sheridan; Councillor Andy Steel; and Cheryl Thomas (Active Communities).

Chair

Councillor Steel, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

D Gilles, Head of Facilities Management (Lead Officer); S Graham, Partnership Planning and Development Manager (Chief Executives); D Pole End User Technician, R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and P Shiach (Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources)).

Also in Attendance

K McIntyre (Engage Renfrewshire).

Recording of Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the 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

Councillor Mackay, A Fraser (Linstone Housing Association) M Lavery (Quarrelton Area Tenants' and Residents' Association); and I McMillan ((Thorn Athletic Sports Academy, previously known as Johnstone Community Sports Complex).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest prior to the meeting.

Additional Item

The Convener intimated that there was an additional item which had not been included in the notice calling the meeting in relation to Grant Funding: Multi-area Applications and, being of the opinion that the item was urgent, authorised its consideration as item 5 below.

1. Minute of Previous Meeting

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Local Partnership held on 30 September 2020.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2. Matters Arising

Active Schools

Under reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the previous meeting, Applications for Local Partnership Funding in Johnstone and Linwood – 2020/21, the Partnership Planning and Development Manager clarified the position in relation to applications from Active Schools, indicating that the guidance produced reflected the views of the Local Area Committees at the time that Council Departments should not apply for Local Partnership grants. He further advised that this guidance did not apply to Community Planning Partners, of which Renfrewshire Leisure Limited was one, and that Active Schools, which formed part of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited, was therefore eligible to apply for Local Partnership funding.

DECIDED: That the information be noted.

3. Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report.

The report advised that Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership provided funding to community groups to undertake projects. This funding was allocated from the General Grant Fund and, through the Participating Budgeting exercise, Celebrating Renfrewshire, the Youth Challenge Fund.

A table setting out the funds allocated by Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership at its meeting on 30 September 2020 was attached as an appendix to this report. The Youth Challenge Fund component of Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership Budget was allocated during autumn 2020 by a participatory budgeting exercise for young people aged 12-25.

Young people co-produced the process of voting and 251 young people voted in the Johnstone and Linwood area. Twelve projects for young people received a total of £21,697 funding from Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership, which had fully allocated the budget. A full set of Celebrating Renfrewshire results was attached to the report.

The Partnership Planning and Development Manager was then heard in answer to questions from members on the report.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4. Covid-19: Impact on Communities

There was submitted a presentation by the Partnership Planning and Development Manager on the impact of COVID-19 on local communities.

The presentation updated members on the Community Impact Assessment work done to date; shared data from the Public Services Panel relevant to the Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership; and outlined the Social Renewal Plan which it was anticipated would be published in Spring 2021.

The presentation highlighted the key points arising from data and research undertaken in relation to COVID-19 cases; employment and support for business; neighbourhood hubs; the distribution of 1,250 digital devices/connectivity which had been distributed in Renfrewshire through the Connectivity Scotland programme; health and wellbeing; and the results on a Public Service Panel consultation on the effects of the pandemic, and highlighted the major concerns recorded.

The presentation also detailed responses on how households were managing financially now compared to pre-pandemic; and compared the responses from the Johnstone and Linwood local partnership area to others within Renfrewshire. Approximately 869 (59%) of respondents had replied to the survey, around 90 of which were from the Johnstone and Linwood Local Partnership area.

Details were given on a programme of listening events held over winter 2020/21 facilitated by Engage Renfrewshire.

A full discussion followed in the course of which the Partnerships Planning and Development Manager was heard in answer to a number of issues raised by members of the Partnership on the presentation.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

5. Grant Funding: Multi-area Applications

The Convener referred to an additional item circulated following the publication of the agenda with regard to multi-area applications and invited discussion on these.

A full discussion followed on concerns the LAP members had with regard to large organisations submitting applications to the LAPs where national funding bodies streams or their own fund-raising activities might be more appropriate; communicating to local groups in terms of availability of local grant funding; encouraging local groups to ensure they that grant requests were submitted in relation to one-off items and not general running costs; the sustainability of groups seeking funding, and the criteria in relation to fund purposes; whether the Partnership should be prescriptive in relation to the group which could apply for funding; professional fundraisers being involved in submitting applications; the perceived conflict of interest in Renfrewshire Leisure Limited applying for LAP grants; public perception in relation to the LAP granting applications submitted by faith-based groups; the degree of scrutiny undertaken in relation to grant applications; and restricting grant funding to projects in the local area and the potential resultant practical difficulties.

DECIDED: That the Partnership Planning and Development Manager prepare a report for the next meeting on options in relation to the criteria to be considered when determining future grant applications