

# Action Note

Meeting:	Three Towns Locality Partnership	
Date/Venue:	4 September 2018 in Ardrossan Civic Centre	
Attendance:	<b>Councillor Tony Gurney (Chair);</b> <b>Councillor Timothy Billings;</b> <b>Councillor Jean McClung;</b> <b>Councillor Ronnie McNicol;</b> <b>Councillor Davina McTiernan;</b> <b>Councillor Jimmy Miller;</b> <b>Councillor John Sweeney;</b> <b>Jim McHarg</b> , NAC (Lead Officer); <b>Allan Rice</b> , Community Council Chair (Saltcoats); <b>Ian Winton</b> , Community Council (Stevenston); <b>Craig Mochan</b> , Community Representative; <b>Francis Rennie</b> , Community Representative; <b>Susan Mason</b> , Third Sector Interface; <b>Colin Convery</b> , Police Scotland; <b>Shirley Morgan</b> , Locality Co-ordinator - Three Towns, NAC; <b>Sarah Archer</b> , Team Manager (Strategy), NAC; <b>Bernadette Anderson</b> , Performance/Grants Information Officer, NAC; and <b>Euan Gray</b> , Committee Services Officer, NAC	
Apologies:	<b>Karen Yeomans</b> , NAC (Senior Lead Officer); <b>Pat Breen</b> , Community Representative; <b>Kevin Hughes</b> , Scottish Fire and Rescue; <b>Phillip Gosnay</b> , Senior Manager, Education and Youth Employment, NAC; and <b>Louise Kirk</b> , Active Travel and Transport Manager , NAC	
ACTIONS		
No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>  Councillor John Sweeney declared an interest in the grant applications submitted by Stevenson Christmas Lights and took no part in these decisions.  Frances Rennie declared an interest in the grant application submitted by Ardrossan Community Centre and took no part in the decision.	
2.	<b>Action Note</b>  B. Anderson circulated a summary of grant spending from the Community Benefit Fund as agreed at the last meeting.  The Partnership otherwise noted the action note from the meeting held on 6 June 2018.	
3.	<b>Locality Co-ordinator Update</b>  S. Morgan submitted a report on the work of the three sub groups, Economy and Tourism, Community Regeneration, and Environment (Civic Pride and Community Engagement) and gave a presentation on a visit to Todmorden Incredible Edible Festival.	

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	<p>A discussion followed on the issues experienced by the Three Towns Growers over the previous year and what knowledge had been gained from the Todmorden visit which could help address these. A number of points were raised including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the need to improve branding, communication and knowledge of locals to ensure plants, fruit and veg are used and not left untended;</li> <li>possible work with other community groups like Whitlees Community Kitchen so people are taught how to grow, harvest and cook their own food; and</li> <li>the stigma attached to picking the fruit/veg, the belief that people will be accused of stealing and what can be done to address these.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Community Investment Fund - Karate Club</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from John Deans and Mark Gregory, Shibumi Karate Club, on their proposal to convert a section Saltcoats train station into a training facility for the Karate club.</p> <p>The Partnership were provided details of the Shibumi Karate Club and their goal of making karate more accessible in the Three Towns and the positive impact the proposal would have on the area.</p> <p>Members received information and asked questions around:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the level of funding which has already been secured (£104,000) and the overall cost of the project (circa £330,000);</li> <li>the sustainability of the site, the 10 year lease on the property from Abellio and requirements for a 25 year lease from a number of funding providers;</li> <li>the history of the building and its current use and state of repair;</li> <li>possible uses for the building for various sports as well as basic business courses which would allow others to set up their own clubs; and</li> <li>levels of deprivation in the Three Towns and the positive impact the project would have on individuals and the economy.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership thanked John and Mark for their presentation and noted the proposal.</p> <p>S. Morgan agreed to circulate the group's business plan to members.</p>	<b>S. Morgan</b>
5.	<p><b>Community Investment Fund - Cappal Dorcha</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Barry Robertson, Capall Dorcha Theatre Company, on a proposal to organise a writing festival in the Three Towns Locality and increase the number of young people involved with culture and the arts.</p>	

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	<p>Barry provided details of the proposed festival and also on the work which would be carried out in the lead up including creating an education pack to supply schools with and arranging for facilitators to attend schools to assist teachers in delivering this. Pupils would be invited to write 500 word essays about life in North Ayrshire. These would be then be collated at the festival and winners selected. He also provided details on the benefits of culture on the local community.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the group applied for £8,000 of grant funding from the Community Investment Fund.</p> <p>The Partnership thanked Barry for his presentation and noted the proposal.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Three Towns Participatory Budget Update</b></p> <p>S. Archer provided an update on the Participatory Budget Pilot around grounds maintenance and outlined the report contained in the agenda.</p> <p>Following an initial round of consultation six proposals were created and taken to a second round which generated 615 responses. Responses were generally positive and led to five actions:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. planting of poppies and fruit trees around the locality;</li> <li>2. organisation of a best garden competition;</li> <li>3. creation of horticulture clinics which provide gardening tips and advice to residents;</li> <li>4. creation of areas of relaxed grass cutting to create environmental and biodiversity benefits; and</li> <li>5. organisation of workshops for community groups, schools, businesses, and individuals who wish to adopt a planter or bedding area.</li> </ol> <p>Members raised concerns about the areas of relaxed grass cutting which are also be used as a place to fly tip. The importance of communication and publication of these areas was also highlighted to ensure residents are aware of the benefits.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Membership Update</b></p> <p>S. Morgan provided an update on the membership of the Partnership. The standing orders set out that the number of Community Representative members on the Partnership should be equal to the number of Elected Members. Currently there are 10 elected members and six Community Representatives.</p> <p>It was confirmed that applications have been received to join the Partnership from Ian Winton, Hazel Haddow, Courtney Gemmell and Elaine Meney.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed that if no more nominations are received before the deadline then the four applicants should be invited to fill the vacancies.</p>	<p><b>S. Morgan/ M. Rae</b></p>

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8.	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>Prior to the determination of the funding applications which had been received, the Chair raised his concern regarding the procedure around determining applications. He explained that the Locality Partnership only agree recommendations on applications and the final decision is taken by either an officer or the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council depending on the sum requested. He made clear he felt this was not a fair process and therefore would take no part in the discussion or recommendation for any of the applications to be determined. These concerns were echoed by a number of Elected Members and Community Representatives.</p> <p>The Partnership then discussed the funding applications which had been received and agreed to make the following awards:</p> <p><u>Nurturing Excellence in the Community</u></p> <table><tr><td>St John's Hall Committee</td><td>£600</td></tr><tr><td>Three Towns Men's Shed</td><td>£1,000</td></tr><tr><td>Saltcoats Community Action Group</td><td>£1,000 (i)</td></tr><tr><td>Stevenston Christmas Lights</td><td>£480</td></tr><tr><td>1<sup>st</sup> Stevenston Boys Brigade</td><td>£420</td></tr></table> <p><u>Community Benefit Fund</u></p> <table><tr><td>Cappal Dorcha Theatre Company</td><td>£8,000</td></tr><tr><td>Ardrossan Community Association</td><td>£4,000 (ii)</td></tr><tr><td>Saltcoats Community Action Group</td><td>£2,000 (i)</td></tr></table> <p><u>Stevenston Common Good Fund</u></p> <table><tr><td>Stevenston Christmas Lights</td><td>£3,409 (iii)</td></tr></table> <p><u>Festival and Events Fund</u></p> <table><tr><td>Saltcoats Community Action Group</td><td>£1,000 (i)</td></tr></table> <p>(i) Grant agreed in principle subject to the full funding of the project being secured.</p> <p>(ii) Grant agreed in principle subject to the cost of the fair rides. The grant will be awarded on a pro rata basis if the cost is lower than quoted.</p> <p>(iii) Grant awarded as it will contribute to the public gaiety of the whole town.</p>	St John's Hall Committee	£600	Three Towns Men's Shed	£1,000	Saltcoats Community Action Group	£1,000 (i)	Stevenston Christmas Lights	£480	1 <sup>st</sup> Stevenston Boys Brigade	£420	Cappal Dorcha Theatre Company	£8,000	Ardrossan Community Association	£4,000 (ii)	Saltcoats Community Action Group	£2,000 (i)	Stevenston Christmas Lights	£3,409 (iii)	Saltcoats Community Action Group	£1,000 (i)	<p><b>B. Anderson</b></p>
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9.	<p><b>Stevenson Carpark Update</b></p> <p>Councillor Sweeney provided a brief update on negotiations between North Ayrshire Council and the owner of the New Street Carpark, Stevenston. He reported that a meeting has taken place between the Local Members and senior officers to agree a final offer to purchase the land.</p> <p>Councillor McTiernan praised the cross-party work which had taken place while trying to resolve this issue.</p>																					

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10.	<b>AOCB</b>  The Chair reminded all members that the Locality Conference will take place on Saturday 15 September 2018 at the Saltcoats Town Hall from 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. and encouraged those who are able to attend to do so.  Noted.	
11.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  The next meeting of the Three Towns Locality Partnership will take place on 12 December 2018.	

**The meeting ended at 8.30 pm**