

Community Learning Local Development Fund

Local Action Group Meeting

Tuesday 27th June 2023

(10.00am Microsoft Teams meeting)

NOTE OF MEETING

Present:

Hans Walzl (HW) – Private –Chair

Pip Tabor, Southern Uplands Partnership (PT) – Voluntary

Miriam Adcock, Zero Waste Scotland (MA) –Third Sector

Hazel Smith, Re-Tweed (HS) – Third

Luke Fisher, Tweed Forum (LF2) – Third

Charles Dundas, Borders Forest Trust (CD) – Third

Fiona Benton, Borders Community Action (FB) - Third

Louisa Gardner, Private (LG) (joined meeting at 10.30am)

Dean Fisher representing Margaret Simpson, Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber (DF) –Third

Secretariat:

Simon Lynch, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (SL)

Gail Blacklock, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (GB)

Nesta Todd, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (NT)

		Action
1.0	Welcome HW introduced himself as Chair of the LAG and welcomed LAG members.	
2.0	Apologies Lesley Forsyth, Scottish Borders Council (LF) – Public Kate Musgrave, SoSE-Public Anna Griffin, SEPA (AG) – Public Gordon Smith, VisitScotland (GS) –Public Linda Cornwall, Scottish Borders Council (LC) – Secretariat SL confirmed the meeting was quorate	
3.0	Conflict of Interest There were no conflicts of interest noted.	
4.0	Minutes from last meeting and matters arising	

	<p>HW asked members present to agree the minutes of 14th Feb 2023 and 20th April 2023.</p> <p>Proposer: LF2 Secunder: HS</p>	
5.0	<p>CLLD 2023/24 Programme Progress Report SL provided a brief overview of the CLLD progress. The 75% advanced payment to Youth Borders is being processed. The YLAG is under development and the group are off to the Youth Parliament in Fort William in the next few months. There will hopefully be opportunities to join Orkney, Highlands, Forth Valley and Lomond to discuss a co-operative and possible excursions abroad to engage with funded projects, similar to LEADER funded Finnish trip. Currently we are waiting to hear from Scottish Government to know if more funding is available. HS commented that the YLAG and its work were an exemplar of good youth activity, and we should be continuing to look at ways of helping with their promotion.</p> <p>We are also waiting to hear about our request to SG for capital funding as there may be some available.</p> <p>The promotion of the CLLD fund is going well and currently have 8 Expression of Interest (EOI) that may be CLLD based.</p> <p>There is a plan to create a CLLD legacy document similar to LEADER. We are currently waiting on a couple of documents to be returned, then we can go to the design stage of the legacy document. Hopefully a draft document will sent to LAG for reviewing within 6-8 weeks. YLAG will also be included.</p>	
6.0	<p>Review of Eol Response Process SL discussed the Eol process and what is required from the LAG. RAG status: Red/Amber/Green.</p> <p>FB asked for clarity on how the Eol works via the SBC website.</p> <p>SL explained the Eol's process within SBC, the Communities Team add the data to the SBC database. The mailbox is checked daily, with weekly meetings with various SBC staff to discuss which Eol is best funded where.</p> <p>It was agreed that SL will send an email out to LAG on a Friday with any Eol's for reviewing, for a decision to be received the following week.</p> <p>This new approach to funding was welcomed but more guidance is required so that applicants have a better understanding of the process.</p>	SL

	<p>PT pleased that there was now one point of contact for SBC funds. Generally felt good that a pipeline of funding can be established.</p> <p>Review of 1st Eol</p> <p>SL gave an overview of the Eol from The General Store, Selkirk.</p> <p>The LAG were all in agreement of this – RAG status: Green. SL will inform the project that the LAG are in support and to submit a full application.</p> <p>PT took over as chair due to HW having connectivity issues.</p>	SL
7.0	<p>Dates & Times of Future Meetings</p> <p>Provisional date of 18th July to start at 9.30am. SL will send out doodle poll with suggested dates. Venue: Tweed Horizons. Hybrid meeting.</p>	SL
8.0	<p>AoB</p>	
	<p>HW updated the group, himself and SL attended a Chairs LAG Meeting. The continued focus was that LAGs should become independent. HW expressed his personal opinion that there would have to be continuity in the funding for this to be worthwhile and not just annual funding packages and there would have to be more funding streams. SG have now reverted back to SBC role as accountable body, and not lead partner. May be capital and co-operative funds available as £4.9 million remains unallocated.</p> <p>LF2 asked is any promotion for community events/cultural engagement through SBC networks is possible.</p> <p>PT added that SUP (on behalf of a number of local community groups) is applying to Scottish Government for funding to set up a rural Climate Action Hub for the Borders.</p>	SL
	<p>PT thanked everyone for their support and meeting closed at 11.37am</p>	