

Community Learning Local Development Fund

Local Action Group Meeting

Thursday 21st September 2023

Tweed Horizons & Online 9.30am – 12.30pm

NOTE OF MEETING

Present:

Fiona Benton**, Borders Community Action (FB) - Third
Charles Dundas**, Borders Forest Trust (CD) – Third
Luke Fisher, Tweed Forum (LF2) – Third
Lesley Forsyth**, Scottish Borders Council (LF) – Public
Pip Tabor**, Southern Uplands Partnership (PT) – Voluntary
Hazel Smith**, Re-Tweed (HS) – Third
Margaret Simpson**, Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber (MS) –Third
Anna Griffin**, SEPA (AG) – Public
**= Joined Online

Secretariat:

Simon Lynch, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (SL)
Nesta Todd, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (NT)
Linda Kerr**, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (LK)
**= Joined on line

		Action
1.0	Welcome	
2.0	Apologies Miriam Adcock, Zero Waste Scotland (MA) –Third Sector Jan Pringle, SoSE-Public Louisa Gardner, Private (LG) Hans Walzl (HW) – Private –Chair Gail Blacklock, Scottish Borders Council (LC) – Secretariat Linda Cornwall, Scottish Borders Council (LC) – Secretariat Apologies & Resigned from LAG: Gordon Smith, VisitScotland (GS) – Public SL confirmed the meeting was quorate.	
3.0	Conflict of Interest	

	Conflicts of interest declared for project SBSEC by Margaret Simpson and Simon Lynch.	
4.0	<p>CLLD 2023/24 Programme Progress Report</p> <p>SL reported that CLLD progressing well with 5 applications for this meeting, a further 6 will be circulated on Friday with more Eol's to follow. Financial update: spending along the lines that was expected. Looking at all pipeline projects, revenue budget will be exceeded but significant capital budget still available.</p> <p>CLLD press release due out shortly to announce successful projects from previous round and promote the fund.</p> <p>YLAG hoped to recruit 6 but have 14! They meet this evening. SL stated that SB LAG's direct funding of YLAG last year inspired other LAGs to do the same.</p> <p>SL reported that there may be a further £15,000 available from SG. SL proposed that this go to YLAG but LAG then retains £15,000 from YLAG current budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve <p>AG would like to see more collaboration between projects, particularly those involving young people learning to grow own food and then cooking with it.</p> <p>Travel budgets available for networking between groups/projects both within and outwith Scottish Borders. MS offered to help with exchange visits. AG hoped that we could meet with D&G LAG as they have a different emphasis. SL reported that other LAGs would also be interested to meet up.</p>	SL
5.0	<p>Review of Applications</p> <p>Abundant Borders Discussions took place and group overall in favour but would like to ensure that project reach out to all demographics. Noted however, that Abundant Borders are working in partnership more than last year. As it is a three year project (CLLD funding yr 1) LAG would like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve. <p>Berwickshire Swap Application transformed from Eol. Berwickshire Swap has grown exponentially and there is clearly a positive change in governance and structure making it now a robust organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve. <p>Greener Peebles Organisation well known and have track record of delivering projects and only £4k requested. However application was quite limited in detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve. 	

	<p>Sustainable West Linton and District Application expanded since Eol to include legacy and talks to groups across the Scottish Borders. SL said that unfortunately SBC Cost of Living Strategy Group may no longer be able to match fund this as location not categorised as deprived area SMID. LAG really liked this project as it was valuable to make people more aware of energy use by providing tools to assess this at a house-to- house level. Going forward, hope to roll out across the area. To reduce costs, SL suggested that perhaps YLAG could help with video component.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve to a CLLD max £20,000 (and hopefully MF will be available for remaining £4,610) <p>Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber MS and SL left meeting. General consensus was that LAG did not understand the project and it was unclear as to what SBSEC was trying to do. Application lacked detail about net zero, support provided and what type of social enterprise start-up was involved. More clarity required and detail of the 48 beneficiaries. Concern also as claim that they cannot meet demand but CLLD only for 6 months, so what is the strategic overview and legacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defer: Request from applicant more information about the 48 beneficiaries; guidance about net zero support; and legacy. <p>General discussion: Noted that LAG scoring sheets had an incorrect formula but SL assured LAG that the individual scores lifted across to the overall summary sheet, so it was correct. SG are pushing for us to adopt Social Value Engine who are offering a bespoke service to incorporate our HLS. Hopefully, it will result in a social investment return. Application form: Legacy - going forward to would be useful to have a legacy statement. Actual project - ensure that actual project is described as it can get lost within section 1 (organisation description & project). 'Tell us what you want to do and how the money will enable you to do it'.</p>	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Dates & Times of Future Meetings</p> <p>NOTE: Prior to this meeting SL had circulated dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th October 9.30 – 12.30 • 17th October 9.30 – 12.30 • 2nd November 9.30 – 12.30. <p>Venue tbc; Hybrid meeting.</p>	<p>SL</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>AoB None</p>	

	Meeting closed 11.20	
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