COALFIELD
Communities Landscape Partnership

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Board Meeting 18

Minutes

Date: Date: 23rd October 2024 **Time**: 2-3.30pm **Venue**: MS Teams

Attendees:

- Jenna Cains - Delivery Group Chair (Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere)
- Mark Smillie - Director of Corporate Services, Green Action Trust
- Lyndsey Kinnes – Operations Manager Strathclyde and Ayrshire, NatureScot
- Cllr McMahon - East Ayrshire Council
- Pauline Grandison – Coalfield Regeneration Trust
- Lyndy Renwick - Forest and Land Scotland
- Rae Smith - 9CCG
- Stephen McCarron - 9CCG Chief Operating Officer
- Simon Lees – Monitoring consultant

Apologies:

- Cllr Stewart– East Ayrshire Council
- Aly Conquer – New Chair
- Jim Murdoch – Policy and Planning, East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
- Ed Turner - Forest and Land Scotland
- Cllr Lennox - East Ayrshire Council

Officers in Attendance:

- Colin McKee – Heritage Projects Co-ordinator, East Ayrshire Council
- Colin MacDonald – CCLP Project Supervisor, East Ayrshire Council
- Carolann McPhillimy - CCLP Project Officer, East Ayrshire Council

Item 1: Welcome and Apologies

Aly Conquer could not get cover for her class so could not make the meeting. Colin McKee took the chair.

Apologies listed as above.

Cllr McMahon confirmed that the replacement for Cllr Stewart will decided after the election of new Cllrs.

Item 2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were agreed and approved. Proposed by Lyndsey and seconded by Carolann.

Item 3 – Actions and Matter Arising

From 14 August 24

Action 1: Colin to send out case study on the health and wellbeing event held at Cumnock Juniors. **Complete**

Action 2: Project Supervisor to compile and send out finance monthly report. Sorry not done since last meeting. **Ongoing. Colin has programmed in to his diary to report every month.**

Item 4: Project Supervisors Report

Colin MacDonald presented the report as sent out with the agenda.

Colin highlighted the filming completed at Glenbuck for CEI as well as filming done on peatland work by CEI/CCLP for the Regional Economic Strategy.

Colin McKee informed that East Ayrshire Woodlands are doing further work at Glenbuck.

Simon Lees presented his year 4 monitoring report and recommendations his timetable for the production of the final report in 2025. This report had been distributed prior to the meeting. Due to COVID delays at the beginning we have effectively delivered a 5 year project in 4 years.

Colin McKee – CCLP team have been going through the report and will chase up on the missing data for some projects for the last year.

Action 1: CCLP team to ensure that data is all up to date by encouraging partners to submit claims/reports more often.

Cllr McMahon – Asked if it was possible to extend the grant expiry date until March 2026 rather than December 2025.

Colin MacDonald explained that it comes down to revenue money being available to pay CCLP staff and that the paper going to EAC Cabinet in November was taking this in hand. NLHF were not averse to extending the grant expiry date if it meant that the extra time would allow projects to complete.

Stephen McCarron – Said that there is enough justification in the year 4 report to ask for a longer extension in order for projects to complete. Asked if it would be possible to ask NLHF to increase their intervention rate from 39.25% for future payments so that we can draw down the funding. This is not asking to increase the over grant.

Action 2: CCLP team to ask NLHF if it is possible to increase the intervention rate so that we can draw down more of the funding for the projects.

Cllr McMahon – Council knows about the risk to the active travel projects due to delayed Transport Scotland funding and is hopeful that monies will be released in the new financial year.

Item 5: Project Updates – Delivery Group

Project update was delivered by Jenna Cains as chair of the Delivery Group. The 17th Delivery Group meeting was held on 10thOctober 2024. Jenna spoke from the minutes of that meeting, which were circulated with the agenda.

Asked for any specific feedback from Board.

Lyndy Renwick (FLS) said that they were impressed by the pollinator planting work by CEI at Dunston Hill and that more land is being made available for further planting. There is also a "gorilla tree planter" planting trees in the area.

Item 6: Finance

Colin MacDonald went through the finance summary table circulated with the agenda.
There is significant spend needed to be made between now and the grant expiry date (August 2025), relating to Doon Valley Inclusive cycling, Doon Valley Railway heritage shed and remaining parts of the Doon Valley Active travel route and Lugar walk. This has been factored in to the report to EAC Cabinet to extend CCLP to December 2025 and in a request to NLHF to extend grant expiry date. We anticipate that last quarter of financial 24/25 and first quarter of financial 25/26 will take in to account this spend.

Over all match funding is £3,261,429 compared to the original target of £3,436,575 (-£175,146). However this will balance out by the end of the project as project such as Dalmellington Kirk yard will not need any more spend or match funding.

Item 7: Risk Register and health and Safety

Colin MacDonald went through the Risk Register and Post Delivery Risk Register that was circulated with the agenda. No new additions.

Item 8: AOB/ Partners updates

Legacy group – Colin MacDonald had sent out a paper to project partners and Board members regarding the establishment of a CCLP Legacy group, there are three responses to date. During the meeting Stephen McCarron volunteered to join the group.

Action 3: Colin MacDonald to send out Simon's presentation on legacy.

Action 4: Colin MacDonald to set up first meeting of the Legacy Group and send out papers.

Carolann – Whilst on holiday in Cornwall she went to visit the Eden Project and spoke to Dan James – Development Director about possible link up with CCLP projects as part of legacy. They are happy to be involved with projects to do with health and wellbeing and tree/pollinator planting. National Wildflower Centre | Eden Project & Nature Connections – activities for better health and wellbeing | Eden Project.

Jenna - Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere - There are a variety of opportunities to do recovery work through the Recovery through Nature fund in the area and happy to link up on work Carolann (CCLP) has been doing to date.

Lyndy Renwick – FLS have set up a small steering group (involving EAC) to look at taking forward the North Kyle Management Plan. Next meeting on 22nd November 2024. Work will complete on the new access road at Duntagart New Cumnock substation road. They are also chasing up on planting site at Skares, which East Ayrshire Woodlands will be involved.

Colin MacDonald - A paper on CCLP extension from April to December 2025 will go to EAC cabinet in November and CCLP Project Supervisor will report to the Board on the outcome.

Action 5 – Project Supervisor to report to Board on the outcome of the November Cabinet meeting regarding the extension of the CCLP project from April to December 2025.

Item 9: Meeting Dates for the Year

22nd Jan 2025, 23rd April 2025 and 23rd July 2025, October 20245 (depending on CCLP extension)