

**COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP – 30 July 2013**

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**Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, 30 July 2013 at 2 pm.**

**A Meeting of the COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Brooks, Convener; Councillors Docherty, Higgins, McPake, Majid, Shields, Smith and Welsh, North Lanarkshire Council; Kieran Burns, Coatbridge Community Forum; David Shields, NHS Lanarkshire; Chief Inspector MacLeod, Police Scotland; Stuart McQueen, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and Colin MacFarlane, Voluntary Sector.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Brooks (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mark Hamill, Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Anne Lappin, Senior Operations Officer, Michele Battersby, Local Regeneration Manager and Dave Sutton, Assistant Business Manager (Development Implementation), Regeneration and Environmental Services and Raymond Taylor, Community Social Work Manager and David Dymock, Area Manager, Housing and Social Work Services.

**APOLOGY**

Councillor MacGregor.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000**

1. The meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest.

**COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE – MINUTES**

2. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership and Coatbridge Area Committee held on 9 April 2013.

**Decided:** that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP – BOARD MINUTES**

3. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of North Lanarkshire Partnership Board held on 30 January, 13 March and 8 May 2013.

**Decided:** that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

**COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE**

4. There was submitted a report from Coatbridge Community Forum providing an overview of activity undertaken by the Forum in partnership with local agencies (1) highlighting a number of issues for

further consideration, and (2) intimating that, following the AGM, Kieran Burns had been elected Chairman and Gordon Encinias had been elected Vice-Chairman.

Thereon, Kieran Burns (1) intimated that the Forum had raised concerns regarding the Enough's Enough Dog Fouling Campaign and the distribution of posters, bins and stickers; (2) enquired why Coatbridge had not submitted an application to Beautiful Scotland; (3) requested that all partners be included in future publications for the annual Hawaiian Beach Party, and (4) advised that, at the Hawaiian Beach Party, the Forum carried out a survey on GP waiting times, the results of which would be shared with the Local Area Partnership.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Head of Land Services advise Coatbridge Community Forum of the rationale for not submitting an application on behalf of Coatbridge to the Beautiful Scotland Awards, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2013/2014**

5. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership held on 9 April 2013, there was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 30 July 2013) dated 30 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) enclosing, in Appendix 1 to the report, an update on the Local Development Programme and Estate Based Initiative projects identified for delivery in 2012/2013; (2) attaching, as Appendix 2 to the report, a list of projects proposed for approval and delivery in 2013/2014, and (3) setting out, in Appendix 3 to the report, five projects which have been placed on a holding list for 2013/2014.

Thereon, Michele Battersby was heard in further explanation of the report and highlighted a number of amendments to the Local Development Programme and Estate Based Initiatives for 2012/2013.

During discussion, it was (1) noted that the trees at the sheltered housing complex in James Dempsey Gardens on the Bank Street approach were overgrown and blocking the natural light of the residents and youths had been congregating around the complex; (2) highlighted that the main pathway through the West End Park was in a state of disrepair and required upgrading, and (3) suggested that improvements be made to the approach to the Town Centre including the roundabouts.

**Decided:** that it be recommended to the Area Committee:-

- (1) that the progress in relation to the delivery of the projects for 2012/2013, including the Estate Based Initiative projects, be noted;
- (2) that the projects set out in Appendix 2 for delivery in 2013/2014, be approved and noted;
- (3) that the five projects on the holding list for 2013/2014, be noted;
- (4) that the progress in delivering the projects and further alterations or additions to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership;
- (5) that the Head of Land Services explore options for the upgrading of the main pathway through the West End Park and possible improvements to the approach to the Town Centre including the roundabouts, and
- (6) that the Head of Housing Services ascertain whether the overgrown trees at James Dempsey Gardens could be dealt with from the Estate Based Initiatives Budget.

**COATBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN**

6. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership held on 9 April 2013, there was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 30 July 2013) dated 30 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on (a) Coatbridge Town Centre Framework and Action Plan; (b) the National Review of Town Centres; (c) a number of events taking place within the Town Centre; (d) Business Improvement Districts; (e) the restoration of The Vulcan, the first iron hulled vessel built in Scotland and (f) the Parking Survey which included on street parking; (2) providing details on the vacancy rates within shop units within the Town Centre which currently stood at 14.7%; (3) detailing footfall rates within the Town Centre for quarter 1 of 2013/2014 which had shown a reduction of 3.74% for the same period in the previous year, and (4) intimating that works to maintain the safety of Dundyvan Church had been completed and the owners Neatearth Limited were being pursued for the cost of all works undertaken.

Thereon Dave Sutton was heard in further explanation of the report.

During discussion it was requested that the options for the demolition of Dundyvan Church be explored.

In addition, it was requested that the next update report contain a comparison of vacancy rates in all town centres across North Lanarkshire.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Head of Planning and Regeneration explore the options for the demolition of Dundyvan Church;
- (2) that the next update report contain a comparison of vacancy rates in all North Lanarkshire town centres, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

7. There was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 30 July 2013) dated 30 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) enclosing, in Appendix 1 to the report, information and details of action which had been considered by the local Community Safety Sub-Group for the period from 1 March to 31 May 2013 including a statistical analysis of incidents within Wards 6, 9 and 10, and (2) providing details of a number of positive initiatives from within the Coatbridge Locality.

Thereon, David Dymock, Chief Inspector MacLeod and Stuart McQueen were heard in further explanation of the report.

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

**NHS LANARKSHIRE – NORTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP – COATBRIDGE LOCALITY UPDATE**

8. There was submitted a report dated 30 July 2013 by the Service Manager, NHS Lanarkshire, Coatbridge Locality (1) providing an update on a number of initiatives undertaken by NHS Lanarkshire including youth diversionary activities and sexual health; (2) summarising the arrangements for GP practices providing the "extended hours access for GP practices Directed Enhanced Services for Scotland"; (3) detailing the practices within the Coatbridge Locality which provide extended opening

hours; (4) indicating that all GP practices in Coatbridge have separate telephone systems which have the ability to receive calls using one or two numbers which are then directed between three and ten separate telephone lines manned by reception staff, and (5) enclosing a link to the practice survey results, including patients views on how responsive are each GP practice's telephone systems.

Thereon, David Shields was heard in further explanation of the report.

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

#### **DRUMPELLIER COUNTRY PARK - ROADS, FOOTPATHS AND CAR PARKS**

9. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership held on 9 April 2013 when, inter alia, it was agreed that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership providing information on (1) whether the roads within Drumpellier Country Park could be adopted; (2) options available to extend the main car park, and (3) the general maintenance and upkeep of the footpaths/roads/walkways, there was submitted a report dated 30 July 2013 by the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services (a) intimating that the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 does not confer any power or impose any duty as regards a road or proposed road which forms part of land owned or managed by a local authority and used by them for the provision of facilities for recreational, sporting, cultural or social activities; (b) indicating that the work could be procured as best value by Land Management through the Roads Maintenance Contract, carried out in conjunction with Amey Roads, with funding made available by Land Management for the work; (c) intimating that an estimate of approximately £84,000, to extend the fisherman's car park to hold an extra 60 cars had been provided by Finco, however, the country parks and infrastructure budget was not sufficient to meet this cost due to reductions in capital spending, and (d) informing that £3,000 would be provided from the Country Parks Infrastructure Budget to carry out repairs to the potholes on the roads and pathways within the park.

Following discussion it was requested that the Head of Land Services arrange a site visit with all Elected Members from the Local Area Partnership to review the general condition of the footpaths, walkways, roads and car parks within Drumpellier Country Park and discuss options in terms of the budget allocation to the Park.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposed improvements to the paths network throughout Drumpellier Country Park and the reduction in the Country Parks Infrastructure Budget, be noted, and
- (2) that the Head of Land Services arrange a site visit with all Elected Members from the Local Area Partnership to review the general condition of the footpaths, walkways, roads and car parks within Drumpellier Country Park

#### **NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S YOUTH INVESTMENT PROGRAMME – UPDATE**

10. There was submitted a report dated 30 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration providing an update on the performance of the Council's Youth Investment Programme (1) outlining the background to the programme which was launched following receipt of an additional allocation of £1.7m to tackle youth unemployment; (2) advising that the Programme offered an incentive to recruit young, unemployed residents of North Lanarkshire and was designed to financially support businesses to create additional job opportunities; (3) indicating that the target for the Programme was to support 5,000 unemployed residents back to work over three years via apprenticeships, the Xtra hands project and the new start programme; (4) indicating that the unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate in Coatbridge was higher than the North Lanarkshire and national averages; (5) informing that, to date, 132 individuals had been supported into employment within the Coatbridge area; (6) advising that, while the figures show the Coatbridge area as a whole has an appropriate

share of youth investment jobs, the results demonstrate a need to focus efforts on the Coatbridge West area to ensure that this area of high unemployment benefits from the Programme, and (7) indicating that the Local Area Team would assist in delivering the objectives of the Programme by promoting the Programme to employers and young people in most need.

Thereon, Michele Battersby was heard in further explanation of the report.

During discussion, it was suggested that the programmes offer recruits the minimum living wage.

**Decided:**

- (1) that it be noted that Coatbridge Local Area Team would continue to promote the Youth Investment Programme and explore the options for the introduction of the minimum living wage for the three programmes, and
- (2) that the contents of the report be otherwise noted.

**LOCAL AREA TEAM ACTION PLANS**

11. There was submitted a report dated 8 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration providing an update on the progress of the 2012/213 Coatbridge Local Area Team Action Plan (1) setting out a number of the key achievements in conjunction with partner agencies in 2012/2013; (2) intimating that, following a review of the Local Area Team action planning process, a number of areas had been identified for improvement; (3) detailing a number of improvements which had been made to the Action Plan for 2013/2014, and (4) setting out the key priorities for the 2013/2014 Action Plan.

Thereon, Michele Battersby was heard in further explanation of the report.

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

**THIRD SECTOR INTRODUCTORY REPORT**

12. There was submitted a report dated 30 July 2013 by the Head of Planning and Regeneration introducing the Third Sector report and the local representative to the Local Area Partnership (1) advising that the initiative to involve local representatives in the work of the Local Area Partnership was intended as a response to the Government review of community planning and the inclusion of a local representative mirrors the involvement of the voluntary sector at North Lanarkshire Partnership level, and (2) enclosing the third sector introduction report, and a snapshot of voluntary sector activity in the Coatbridge area.

Thereon, Colin MacFarlane was heard in further explanation of the report.

During discussion it was requested that Coatbridge Community Forum be provided with a list of all the voluntary organisations who received voting papers for voluntary sector representation.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the list of all voluntary organisations contacted in respect of the third sector representative opportunities be provided to Coatbridge Community Forum, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

13. The Convener intimated that the next meeting of the Coatbridge Local Area Partnership/Area Committee would take place on Tuesday, 22 October 2013 at 2 pm with the venue still to be confirmed.

**Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, 30 July 2013 at 3.52 pm.**

**A Meeting of the COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Brooks, Convener; Councillors Docherty, Higgins, McPake, Majid, Shields, Smith and Welsh.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Brooks (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Senior Operations Officer, Local Regeneration Manager and Assistant Business Manager (Development Implementation), Regeneration and Environmental Services; Community Social Work Manager and Area Manager, Housing and Social Work Services; K. Burns, Coatbridge Community Forum, D. Shields, NHS Lanarkshire, Chief Inspector MacLeod, Police Scotland, Stuart McQueen, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Colin MacFarlane, Voluntary Sector.

**APOLOGY**

Councillor MacGregor

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000**

**Decided:** the meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest.

**2. CONSIDER DECISIONS OF MEETING OF THE COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP HELD ON 30 JULY 2013**

The Committee gave consideration to the recommendations made by the Coatbridge Local Area Partnership at its meeting held on 30 July 2013 and agreed in respect of each item, the following:-

**(1) COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE – MINUTES**

**Decided:** that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

**(2) NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP – BOARD MINUTES**

**Decided:** that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

**(3) COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE**

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Head of Land Services advise Coatbridge Community Forum of the rationale for not submitting an application on behalf of Coatbridge to the Beautiful Scotland Awards, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**(4) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2013/2014**

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress in relation to the delivery of the projects for 2012/2013, including the Estate Based Initiative projects, be noted;
- (2) that the projects set out in Appendix 2 for delivery in 2013/2014, be approved and noted;
- (3) that the five projects on the holding list for 2013/2014, be noted;
- (4) that the progress in delivering the projects and further alterations or additions to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership;
- (5) that the Head of Land Services explore options for the upgrading of the main pathway through the West End Park and possible improvements to the approach to the Town Centre including the roundabouts, and
- (6) that the Head of Housing Services ascertain whether the overgrown trees at James Dempsey Gardens could be dealt with from the Estate Based Initiatives Budget.

**(5) COATBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN**

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Head of Planning and Regeneration explore the options for the demolition of Dundyvan Church;
- (2) that the next update report contain a comparison of vacancy rates in all North Lanarkshire town centres, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**(6) JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

**(7) NHS LANARKSHIRE – NORTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP – COATBRIDGE LOCALITY UPDATE**

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

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**(8) DRUMPELLIER COUNTRY PARK - ROADS, FOOTPATHS AND CAR PARKS**

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposed improvements to the paths network throughout Drumpellier Country Park and the reduction in the Country Parks Infrastructure Budget, be noted, and
- (2) that the Head of Land Services arrange a site visit with all Elected Members from the Local Area Partnership to review the general condition of the footpaths, walkways, roads and car parks within Drumpellier Country Park

**(9) NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S YOUTH INVESTMENT PROGRAMME – UPDATE**

**Decided:**

- (1) that it be noted that Coatbridge Local Area Team would continue to promote the Youth Investment Programme and explore the options for the introduction of the minimum living wage for the three programmes, and
- (2) that the contents of the report be otherwise noted.

**(10) LOCAL AREA TEAM ACTION PLANS**

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

**(11) THIRD SECTOR INTRODUCTORY REPORT**

**Decided:**

- (1) that the list of all voluntary organisations contacted in respect of the third sector representative opportunities be provided to Coatbridge Community Forum, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**(12) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Decided:** that the next meeting of the Coatbridge Local Area Partnership/Area Committee would take place on Tuesday, 22 October 2013 at 2 pm with the venue still to be confirmed.