**Dedridge Regeneration group**

**Note of ‘Catch Up’ held on**

**Tuesday 20th September 2022, 6pm Crofthead Community Education Centre**

**& virtually on Microsoft TEAMS**

**Welcome:** Norma Bonner,Gillian Watkins (resident), Joyce Robertson (DCC & resident) , Lorrain Campbell( DPSC& Resident) , Mike Duncan (Crofthead CC & DCC & Resident) , John Hepburn ( DCC & Resident) , Cllr Shemilt , Lesley Keirnan (chair and notes)

**Apologies:** Cllr Fitzpatrick, Eddie Miller, Ross Hutchison, Karon Langon, Carla Bainbridge, Jay Haston, David Liddell, Dawn Crow

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| **Agenda items**  | **Notes**  | **Actions** |
| 1. **Notes of last meeting & matters arising**
 | Notes agreed by those present at the last ‘catch up’ as a true reflection of the previous catch up  | **To be noted**  |
| 1. **Dutch barn & cycle track PB funding**
 |  No asbestos found in the brick building this is on the works for demolishing in the coming weeks.Planning to have a landscape architect around 12th October to work with Crofthead Mc and garden volunteers to progress the landscape architect of the grounds in preparation for the next phase of development.Fencing is with planning just now and the application is li. This can be viewed within the planning portholeCycle track has had three tenders coming in more than expected. This is not surprising considering the cost of resources, labour and financial market just now. Funds should be there within the agreed funds received to cover this. WLC will undertake some more discussion with proposed tenders to try and bring some of the costs down. Delays in making good the old barns area through illness. Soil reports suggest there is no soil contamination. Its hoping that the area will be landscaped and grassed before the end of November.  | **To be noted**  |
| 1. **Survey link - activities being held in Dedridge**
 | Only 7 activities have been completed. Crofthead will sent out through their management committee. Many thanks to those that have responded so far, including girls & boys brigade, Community Food shop and Dedridge Litter pickers | **Crofthead MC & all** |
| 1. **Crofthead community garden growing /planting**
 | The garden is looking well. There are 6 regular volunteers now keeping on top of the garden. Maintenance and tidying up, winter tasks now being undertaken. Some tree felling required and autumnal trimming of the larger shrubs. The planted hedgerow is being de-weeded – John has been leading on this and has been doing a fantastic job- all agreed the garden is looking the best it has in a long while 7k awarded through West Lothian Food Network – CCEC are looking for information on when the funds will be released, when the raided planters can be installed, size of the planters etc in order that Crofthead can incorporate this into the landscape planning and prepare the ground- Crofthead are waiting on the Food Network getting back to them [viewSelectedDocument.asp (westlothian.gov.uk)](https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewSelectedDocument.asp?c=e%97%9Di%95r%7E%87)We are looking for a date to set up an initial meeting for volunteers and partners to develop and action plan around the Crofthead Community Garden that meets the estate long term outcomes.Dates so far include 4th & 5th & 25th October for initial meeting Lesley to firm this up in the coming weeksStreet planting – discussion arose around the Growing Together project in Craigshill, how it came about, the interest in the planting within the streets, what’s involved and how it can be started.. Lesley gave a quick overview of the project – main advice from her learning within the Craigshill project is start small gain interest from likeminded neighbours – like under the entrance street signs with perennials, bulbs and some annuals – low maintenance, weed suppressant.If taking on larger areas this would need to be agreed with whoever owns the land – in the case of WLC maintenance agreement in place and formally taking over the maintenance of this piece/area of land.The Crofthead community garden could be the central point where nursery plants are grown, plant sharing, skills and knowledge sharing etc to enable this to happen.  | **To be noted****Crofthead management committee/Steven****Crofthead management committee/Volunteers/HYPE/ Oatridge College/ Com Reg** **To be noted and for future discussion**  |
| 1. **Litterpicking update & Competition**
 | Lorrain has agreed to undertake the shout out for the next poster competition within the coming weeks  | **Lorrain** |
| 1. **Getting ready for winter**
 |  A development session was undertaken to encourage thinking, ideas, collaboration See attached development session notes. these are also being displayed on the jamboard. If there is anything else happening within the themes can we include within the Jamboard The session is available on Jamboard Dedridge Planning 2 – Winter <https://jamboard.google.com/d/1jhmiEBvqUDCeBY5s_dH1ZgJI3utWCuNAfE3MdXPF6OA/edit?usp=sharing>. Please add post it notes of any other information you have that can be added to the board.A suggestion around having an open day ‘winter ready’ where practical supports are on offer. the group discussed over a weekend to enable those in work and out to attend. Lesley to email Nahid in the first instance. The group thought about a weekend November  | **All and for continuation at the next meeting****Lesley/Nahid** |
| 1. **Underpass project/handrail project – Town centre fund**
 | Lesley has met with Garry from CLD YS who will be leading on this as part of the TC application.Contact has been with the engineers to organise a site visit Ivanhoe Handrail project is in hand and will be delivered in due course  | **Garry**  |
| 1. **Gala**
 | No further update on the committee. Suggestions around having a family fun event around last week of May to start the Gala season off. Discussion required with Crofthead CEC to see if the week is availableLesley to enquire about gala funding **Update -** funding is available if:* You are a constituted gala committee or other organisation
* Your organisation has a bank account in the name of the organisation
* Your organisation and your gala or event has a link with a town, village or locality in West Lothian
* Your organisation is set up specifically for, or has provision in its constitution, to provide an event for the benefit of the local community.
* Applications to the fund must be for the provision of a gala or similar traditional large-scale event that will take place during the gala/festival season, May to August, in any given year
* Applications open in March and funds normally released around late April/early May time>

**The gala committee could be a sub group of the wider SCIO having the benefits and supports the SCIO gives – discussion with Crofthead management committee**  | **Lesley/Crofthead MC****Update information** **Lesley/Crofthead MC**  |
| 1. **Skatepark**
 | Lesley & Brendan along with a local skater has met with Historic Scotland to look at progressing the historic Scotland application. It was a good first meeting, sharing ideas, and getting to know one another. An interesting element that this is not only pushing council boundaries but also Historic Scotland – so an interesting process and lots of learning to be gained all round.A large piece of engagement is being scheduled in for June next year – meanwhile we have agreed to meet monthly? To firm up plans and build relationships for October/November A site record now exists for the skatepark in the National Record for the Historic Environment (aka Canmore). Here is the link to the record:<https://canmore.org.uk/site/373668/livingston-skatepark>Another part of the motion put forward and as part of the local plan is to make sure the skatepark is fit for the future – For this we need to find out what needs to be done sooner rather than later other than repairs and what is required for future generations. Lesley is speaking with open spaces to forward this. Funding need to be sought undertake an engineer’s skatepark survey in the first instance Local skater has made a drone video ‘never Enough’ <https://youtube.com/shorts/oLQfYCT7QRs?feature=share> | **To be noted****To be noted****Lesley/Open Space officer****To be noted**  |
| 1. **Local plan update/Jamboard**
 | See Jamboard updates: <https://jamboard.google.com/d/1Hqd_8hpH6hlx4Ba2E0Yl6cMPyyANlEGaturiZCzpXtM/edit?usp=sharing>Please update with activities and nos attending new involvement, wish lists etc  |  |
| 1. **Updates from groups and services**
 | **A2E** * Job Fair went really well last week, had 23 employers from different sectors along with 8 stalls offering support with careers, education and volunteering. Over 177 registered on the door, however don’t think we captured all! Have sent a survey out to all so will see how successful with interviews/job offers!
* WomenN2Work starts next week on 17th, still places available. Contact A2E for more info.
* Still running our ESOL Café at West Lothian College between 10 -12pm every Friday, anyone new welcome. Informal where can chat to A2E advisers and get support with signposting for education, advice etc.

**Community Council** * New chair Mike Duncan, new secretary and minute secretary. New members also include minute secretary and secretary. Supported by Reg officer new constitution was signed and new members nominated on the CC. Past and current nomination paperwork all completed and passed to Lorraine for filing

**Crofthead CEAMC*** Committee have agreed to work towards a SCIO, Lesley and committee to look at date to work on governance document
* Unclear of date for foodbank – looking like October - looking for volunteers. Three members of the group have offered their time to volunteer Joyce, Lorrain and Gillian

**Carers of West Lothian** Places are still available for our 30th Anniversary Celebration Evening! Tickets are £30 and can be purchased through our office. We’ve got an amazing event planned, with international street food, wine and wonderful entertainment from local singer-songwriter Sandy Stewart!Tel: 01506 448000 Email: office@carers-westlothian.com |  |
| 1. **AOCB**
 | * We have desk tops for the Mercure and Crofthead for pubic access. Contact Charis about setting up the desk top in the Mercure
* Talking Bins – Can we get some feedback on the talking bins – is there less litter, can we see a difference?
* Care home at Melvilles – Is this going ahead and what are the implications if any to the skatepark? The planning is in progress. See here for all related information to this application [0640/FUL/22 | Erection of a 66 bed care home with ancillary accommodation, associated car parking and landscaping | Club Earth Almondside Almondvale Livingston West Lothian EH54 6QU](https://planning.westlothian.gov.uk/publicaccess/caseDetails.do?caseType=Application&keyVal=REWFMDRJGU900)
* Foodbank – unsure of the start date for this as recruitment in process for volunteers. Joyce, Lorrian and Gillian intimated they would volunteer. Lesley will contact the foodbank for guidance on volunteering and inform them we have three local residents offering their time.
* Christmas dinners for pensioners- Lesley suggested speaking with Cheryl of DGNN who organise a Christmas dinner as there may be more in the area that would benefit
* Gift swapping – for christmas
 | **Lesley/Charis/Crofthead** **Lesley/John/David Lees****Lesley** **Lesley/Foodbank/Crofthead MC****Cheryl/Lesley/David** |
| 1. **Date and time of next meeting**
 | **Tuesday 18th October 2022****6pm****blended meeting attendance physically within Crofthead CEC or virtually on TEAMS** |  |

***Development session:***

***https://jamboard.google.com/d/1jhmiEBvqUDCeBY5s\_dH1ZgJI3utWCuNAfE3MdXPF6OA/edit?usp=sharing***

 **Utility Costs**

 **Food costs**

 **Fuel Costs**

 **Worried about Christmas**

 **Toiletries**

 **Elderly/vulnerable**

 **Those on prepayment metres**

 **Affordability to buy money saving devices i.e. slow cooker air fryer**

 **How to make the most of the money coming into the household**

 **Warm clothing**

 **Lack of knowledge of what support there is available**

**What are the current issues affecting households and individuals?**

 **Choice between eating and heating**

 **Mortgage and interest increases**

 **Increase in Child welfare at home and ‘in care’**

 **Increase in Animal welfare**

 **Increase in Mental health issues**

 **Addiction issues**

 **Christmas—elderly increased loneliness isolation**

 **Lack of information, supports or where to access practical advice and support**

 **Increase in household Anxiety and stress**

 **Dodgy sparks, gas and plumbers—DIY**

 **Bypassing meters**

 **Rise in crime**

**What are the predicted issues affecting households and individuals?**

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