

Minutes of the meeting of North Berwick Community Centre Management Committee held in the centre on Monday 22nd May 2017 at 7 pm

PRESENT:

Claire MacKenzie (Community Council); Jackie Tagg (Lip-reading class); Kirsty Wood (ELSNP); Nicky Fox, Chair (Stepping Out); Jim Goodfellow (NB First Responders); Katie Nevans (Community Learning and Development Officer/Centre Manager).

1. APOLOGIES:

Tracey Cunningham (Support from the Start); Sue Northrop (Dementia Friendly, NB); Diann Govenlock (CLD, ELC).

2. MINUTES OF MEETING 24TH APRIL 2017

The minutes of meeting 24th April 2017 having been previously circulated were accepted. Proposed Jack Tagg and Seconded by Kirsty Wood.

**3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:
ADULT LEARNING**

- **Baby Peep-** ongoing. We have a nice group with some babies who have been to two lots of sessions and some 'newbies'. Some East Linton mum's attending as the health visitor boundaries have changed again.
- **Stay and Play** – Starts on Wednesday. Jan and I are going to IKEA tomorrow morning to get some toys for the sessions and arts and crafts things.
- **Kindness Co-operative** –Is being presented to Musselburgh Area Partnership tonight. We have lots of people looking to volunteer time to the project. I'll e-mail Val this week to see if I can get a meeting with the doctors in the next few weeks.
- **Oasis** – The Steering group made the decision not to run the group again. The general feeling was that it had become a clique and this was preventing any growth within the group. The Kindness cafe will help people in any kind of crisis so it is hoped this will be able to support the local people needing a bit of support with rehabilitation.
- **Good Food, Good Health** – I'm looking to get a group up and running in the next few weeks, I have 4 names currently so could take one or two more. If you have anyone you would like to refer please e-mail me.
- **The Area Partnership-** Are updating their priorities for this financial year. Charette happening from the 30th May -3rd June 2017 Sandra hopes you will all attend and give your views.

CHILDREN/YOUTH WORK

- **Support for the start** –Jan is now in post and has been set up in the 1 to 1 room as space in the office is very tight. I am supervising her in her post and have to say I'm impressed by the amount of referrals she has already. Jan has also started Peep in Aberlady and is going to work with me on Stay and Play.
- **Decifer Assist** – I have been asked to co-deliver this programme at Knox Academy after the summer. As Doug helped me out I feel I owe it to him to help at his. I'll inform you of the dates once I know them.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- **The Special Needs Playscheme Management Committee-** Had their away day recently and set their actions for the next year. They have taken on a new worker Michelle to help with the work load. The feeling from the meeting was that there is a need for the Playscheme and Star youth Group to expand in the next year.
- **Gymnastic classes-** We are looking at the possibility of getting the classes linked to the East Lothian awards. It is worth noting that one of the young girls who started out at your classes won gold at the national championships at the weekend.
- Port Seton Management committee are looking to arrange an event for management committee members to meet up. I'll let you know as soon as Daniel sends out the details.

THE BUILDING

- We have now received all the play mats and play equipment. I am really happy with it as I feel it is more suitable for children than the torn blue gymnastic mats. I have photos of the equipment to show you on my phone.
- We have purchased a portable speaker to be given out if people are using the projector and laptop in the upstairs room of the building.
- Jan's office has been set up for her and she loves the space so did Steven when he was in earlier.
- The sofas have been move out of the quite room and we have trialled single chairs in there. We need to decide what we are going to do in the room as the sofas are being stored in the art room and they are blocking off some cupboard space.
- The Art Centre group would like to come to talk to you about the Lime Grove asset transfer and how we see this affecting us.

NF, chair is going to the meetings. An art centre is a nice idea but on a personal basis Nicky didn't feel that she had an interest in the Arts. However, if it was a Community Hub she maybe more interested. Brunton Hall, Musselburgh, is unlikely to be meeting all its costs through revenue. Bleachingfield, Dunbar is a more feasible example of a sustainable facility. There are lots of exciting possibilities, if the Art Centre were to pursue the Lime Grove space with the Community Centre want to move there with them?

It was felt that centre users would have the final say regarding the possibility of the centre relocating. There were lots of other ideas for the space including holiday pods.

The committee would ask if members from the Arts Group would come and speak to them about their thoughts and plans. However, they would not be getting a decision from the committee as to whether they will support the idea of a move.

4. FINANCE REPORT:

Finance Report – April 2017

Additional figures taken from bank statement 21 April, adjust the March figures as follows –

Increase to income for Interest received, £5.82. Increase expenditure Eden springs (water cooler) £36.00.

The updated figure for March; Net loss increased by £30.18 to £1170.78.

In April income was £4,229. Room rental C.646; class fees c.£1,410 and Grant received from the Area Partnership for a Kindness Co-operative fund c. £2165.

Expenditure for the month c.£1,137.

Of that sum, tutors wages and clerical assistant salary c£466; Kindness Fund c.£449 (assisting 3 families); TV licence £147; miscellaneous expenses c.£18.

The accounts for April therefore show a profit of £3,063.44.

The centre accounts have now been given to Elaine Alsop Independent Advisor for audit.

5. AGM: Katie will speak about the Kindness Co-operative and Nicky will contact Ian; Arts Centre Group to ask if someone would like to speak at the meeting following the AGM.

Drinks/nibbles – Committee agreed to provide more soft drinks and less wine at the AGM and to provide some nibbles/snacks. They suggested asking Frances to organise.

AGM Advert – Arrange for this to be placed in the Courier in 2/3 weeks in advance of the meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING:

BLINDS – Katie will contact ELC interior designer and ask for them to come out and look at the Art Room.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

8. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- **Ballet changing:** Morag Alexander has sent out a disappointing e-mail to the ballet parents. It appears to be painting the community centre as being difficult. She has however asked parents to bring children dressed at the end of the long e-mail. Committee will respond to Morag to say that one of the parents has shared the email to one of the committee members and to remind Morag that this issue is a child protection issue and we have specific instruction from East Lothian Council that changing children in public areas must not happen within East Lothian Council premises.

- **Sofas/Armchairs:** The furniture is currently in the art room the committee suggested that they could be given to the Rotary for their sale. Chairs could go as well if we can get replacements for the Quiet Room. Look into cost of new chairs and narrow dining room table for this room.
- **Refurbishment:** It is at least 26 years since the centre has been refurbished. Letter to be sent by a Councillor to East Lothian Council asking if the centre could be included in the next budget for refurbishment.
- **Microphone:** The Lip-readers have tried the microphone but it proved to be unsuccessful. Jackie will look into options with Deaf action.
- **Seabird Centre/Harbour Trust Meeting run by the Harbour Trust:** Concerns were raised at the committee meeting regarding the proposed expansion to the Seabird Centre.
The Harbour Trust have employed an external consultant as they don't feel that the Seabird Centre have provided enough information – concerns are being raised by different groups that there is insufficient community engagement. The consultant employed by the Harbour Trust is going to support the Trust and look at material planning objections. Groups are concerned about design, where the compound is situated, and any impact the building work may have on the structure of the harbour. The consultant felt at the moment that the planning approval "is not a done deal," which is contrary to how the Seabird centre is portraying it.

It was felt that people in general are fairly ignorant of the move. Seabird Centre spin seems to be working. People who are involved in the influence are being consulted and fears were expressed that local people are not behind it. Tom Brock has already given a radio broadcast advertising what they are planning to do.

Concerns were raised over the scale of the build. Grace (Seabird Centre) is very keen to talk to the community as she is aware that a PR job is required. Trustees have invested in the centre.

Committee will await a further update.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

AGM, 29th June 2017