



**Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LAG
Minutes of Meeting: Thursday 13th December 2018 (Russell Institute)**

1. Present:

Non-Public:

Fraser Lang	Private Business – IT Consultant (LAG Chair)
Bill McCallum	West Region Scouts
David Blair	Renfrewshire Independent Resident (Kilbarchan)
Daniel McCusker	Renfrewshire Independent Resident (Lochwinnoch)
Charles Brindley	Uplawmoor Community Council
Will Nisbet	Inverclyde Council

Public:

Laura Moir	East Renfrewshire Council
Gordon Smith	Visit Scotland

Others Present:

Keren Ferguson	LEADER Programme Coordinator
Colin Pomeroy	LEADER Project Development
Tracey Parker	LEADER Finance

Table Plan:

Fraser Lang (Chair)	Tracey Parker	David Blair	Gordon smith	Bill McCallum	
Keren Ferguson	Charles Brindley	Colin Pomeroy	Will Nisbet	Laura Moir	Daniel McCusker

- i. **Quorum:** the meeting was quorate
- ii. **Non-public/public ratio:** 6 non-public and 2 public

2. Apologies

Lisa Roberts	National Farmers Union
Gary Kenyon	Renfrewshire Council
Tam Henderson	Eglesham & Waterfoot Community council
Michael Moran	Renfrewshire Council

3. Financial Update:

There has been a reduction in admin budget cost from £581,049 to £442,709. The extra budget has been allocated to the projects. The available budget to spend on projects is now £938,557.52. We have had a number of inquiries and expression of interests. The LAG will decide on three projects tonight with a total LEADER value of £235,560.00.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes from the previous LAG meeting on Thursday 4th October were agreed and signed by the LAG Chair and co-signed by a second LAG member, David Blair.

5. Matters Arising:

KF and CP attended the Crowdfunder Scotland launch in Stirling which was well attended. KF stated that this is likely to be the way forward for projects due to the limited amount of funding available. Crowdfunder Scotland will have Crowdfunder project officers holding coaching events within the LAG areas within the upcoming months. Coached cooperation projects have a 95% success rates compared to 35% raw projects. It was agreed that the three councils should join up to promote Crowdfunder Scotland and have agreed in principle to hold a meeting in January.

Co-operation Project

West Lothian LEADER are the lead on this project and have a clear history of industrial past. West Lothian LEADER are in discussion with the Royal Society Arts (RSA) to create capacity building within the villages and towns working in consultation with community councils using toolkits. FL gave an example of an old mine being regenerated into an attractive visitor centre. LM highlighted Murdoch's in Neilston. KF issued handouts with key information on the potential project, aiming for feedback in January from the LAG.

6. Project Presentations

West Region Scouts- Lapwing Lodge indoor Activity Hall

LAG members Laura Moir and Bill McCallum declared an interest in this project.

Three representatives of West Region Scouts have turned up to present and show their support for the project. These were;

- Jim Duffy, West Region Chairman
- Ian
- Cara, Local GP and community/parent representative

Jim Duffy kicked off the presentation by explaining to the LAG the vision for Lapwing Lodge. It was youth led and in 2014 they identified the need for a new indoor activity hall. A project team was set up in 2015 and then approached LEADER in 2016 explaining that this had been a lengthy process. Jim Duffy explained the necessity for the provision of an indoor hall as a dual purpose to provide shelter for the adverse weather conditions and to provide new activities for current and new users. Lastly there is a demand to provide female toilets and shower facilities as the percentage of female users has dramatically increased in recent years.

Cara explained that her organisation teaches multiple languages at the Lapwing lodge and was a clear advocate of the centre and was enthused by the prospect of the new indoor activity hall. She would be able to increase her classes and attract more enthused learners.

The Applicants wrapped up the presentation by inviting questions from the LAG.

Questions, DB how many people have you engaged with since 2013. Since 2013 in conjunction with camp staff, West Region Scouts have developed a group of young people who have input ideas.

WN-Is the centre at capacity at the weekends, how many groups at any one time? This is a safe haven for users in the adverse weather conditions for various groups.

WN stated that the three year projection for the activity hall was 1st year 9%, 2nd year 2%, why was this as he thought this would have been higher? Jim had asked the accountant to be conservative. Jim explained that they had invested £180,000.00 two years ago with the investment in hobbit house on the site. ROI has allowed loans to be reduced from 15yrs to 10 yrs and they had hoped that the activity hall would be similar.

WN asked what would happen if the project overran. Ian hoped the project would be delivered on time and on budget as himself and Jim had been involved in similar projects which had been completed on time. Jim would be project managing the project.

The focus in the future was to increase tourism and attract international groups and families to the outdoor centre. DB asked about the how your child protection policy would apply to new visitors. Jim agreed that this needed reviewed.

Ian- in relation to disabled access, they wanted to create level access area outside and that all toilets would comply with building regulations.

DB enquired about no windows within the building. Ian explained that this was the norm within sports hall and there is a high risk they might be smashed.

LAG Decision: Approved - A unanimous approval from the LAG with no conditions.

Project 2 – Castle semple infrastructure enhancement feasibility study

Four came to present, Jamie Gardyne, David Hill, Nick and Lawrence.

Jamie explained the necessity of the study and for the redevelopment of the building due to its dilapidated condition. David Hill gave a justification of need and demand for the renovation of the building and stated that currently there was very high demand from a number of users.

The project team have a good idea of what they want to do but this would give them the funds to see what can be delivered in the design process using professional expertise. It also minimises risk for funders at capital stage.

The team was asked how the project would continue after the feasibility study, where will funding come from? Jamie explained that the team is very good at sourcing funding and would be very confident in securing the funds needed to deliver the build. This is a high priority project for the regeneration team as the current building will not exist in ten years time.

In relation to stakeholders, there will be full input from project partners.

The current Visitor centre was built in 1992, this feasibility will concentrate on providing new space to increase capacity, more income, improve visitor centre.

Visitor experience: how to manage this, new facility vs tired visitor centre. Future aspirations to improve this to the standard of the new building.

LAG Decision: Approved - A unanimous approval from the LAG with no conditions.

Project 3- Tapestry Threads across the count Rural Reams

Laura Carswell and two stitchers Mary,Janet.

Laura Carswell explained that this is a textile skills learning and community development project benefitting individuals, groups and communities.Telling the story of 8 GRIL communities in the Old County of Renfrew in a series of six (6) Tapestry panels and approximately 300 stitched samplers

This will take place in Neilston, Uplawmoor and Eaglesham (East Renfrewshire),Lochwinnoch, rural Linwood, Bishopton, Kilbarchan (Renfrewshire), Kilmacolm (and Quarriers Village) (Inverclyde)

The intention is to Share traditional stitching and textile skills across the community and to capture and celebrate local histories, personal stories and heritage. The aim is to work with work with communities to share, support and deliver. To launch drop-in events in each community providing opportunities for participants of all ages and abilities to get involved (as volunteers; to tell their stories. This will make a difference by reducing social isolation, loneliness and improve well-being among participants, develop traditional skills and new skills in communities, provide learning and employability opportunities across the GRIL area, build connections between people in a community and between communities and build capacity and establish a platform for future project developments, led by local groups.

Questions from AG member WN is there a future opportunity for heritage lottery and why not now? Laura Carswell agreed that they would consider this in the future in order to grow the project.

LAG member- in relation to the freelance posts are they self-employed, UTR nos? Yes all compliant process with full transparency.

WN is 17 days enough for the project manager, after consideration could look at different ways of reporting, yes feels this is enough time.

FL out of the 400 volunteers at the RTG there is no one that could assist? Can't ask them to further volunteer their time as they are committed to the Paisley project.

Laura Carswell explained that the 6 panels will not be completed in one year, this will take 2-3 years. After one year the groups will be self-sustaining.

LAG member DB expressed concerns over the drop in sessions being at the end of the project date, should these not be at the start. Laura Carswell wanted to avoid the holiday season.

LAG member DS how manageable was it to keep the project in the rural areas? We will only work in these 8 communities; we will not go into Govan. That will happen in phase three.

LAG member asked if you had considered venue cost, does this tie in with the project.

DM: was intrigued about the stats relating to social isolation and suggested that a this would be a great project for a potential PHD student.

Unsuccessful funding application to The Weir Trust, CHEF, didn't apply to the Heritage Fund as they had got funds for the Paisley project. May go back to them for the next stage.

LAG Decision: Deferral – With suggestions and advise for the next LAG meeting if they decide to go ahead.

7. AOCB:

Klas care

All LAG members agreed to approve KLAS Care's request to spend underspent funding on materials or equipment that complement the refurbishment project. KF has requested quotes where there is a spend over £30.

8. Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 14th March 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Thays'.A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, possibly reading 'D. Jones'.

