



**Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LAG
Minutes of Meeting: 21st February 2017(Beacon Arts Centre)**

- 1. Present**
 - i. **Quorum:** yes, the meeting was quorate
 - ii. ***Non-public/public ratio:** 4 non-public and 3 public

Non-Public:

**Fraser Lang	Finlaystone Country Estate, Estate Manager (LAG Chair)
Charles Brindley	Uplawmoor Community Council
Lynn Rew	East Renfrewshire Independent resident
Susan Robinson	Inverclyde Independent Resident
David Blair	Kilbarchan Community Council

Public:

***Jimmy Hyslop	Scottish Natural Heritage
Will Nisbet	Inverclyde Council
Annique Armstrong	Visit Scotland

Others Present:

Keren Ferguson	LEADER Programme Coordinator
Lewis Rennie	LEADER Development
Tracey Parker	LEADER Finance

*There was a quorum for the entire meeting, allowing it make decisions. The quorum was 5 non-public to 3 public for every agenda item except agenda item number 5, at which point it was 4 non-public to 3 public.
 **Did not contribute towards the quorum for agenda item number 5, 'Consideration of Applications' as he was part of the application presentation. However, he performed role as LAG Chair for the rest of the meeting.
 ***Assumed role of LAG Chair for agenda item number 5, 'Consideration of Applications'.

Table Plan:

Susan Robinson	Will Nisbet	Keren Ferguson	Tracey Parker	Lewis Rennie
Arthur Macmillan Project Applicant				Lynn Rew
Fraser Lang	David Blair	Annique Armstrong	Jimmy Hyslop	Charles Brindley

iii. Apologies

Non-public:

Bill McCallum	West Region Scouts
Stuart Miller	Engage Renfrewshire
Bill Clements	CVS Inverclyde (Depute Manager)

Public:

Susan Boath	Renfrewshire Council (Assist Manager, Econ Dev)
Ruth Cooper	Renfrewshire Council (Manager, Econ Dev)
David Low	Senior Committee Services Officer, Renfrewshire Council
Laura Moir	East Renfrewshire Council

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous LAG meeting on 8th December 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chair and co-signed by a second LAG member, Jimmy Hyslop.

3. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

4. Conflicts of Interest

Fraser Lang raised a conflict of interest as he is employed by Arthur Macmillan of Finlaystone Estate, who is the applicant for the project being decided upon. Fraser was also nominated to present the project to the LAG as he will lead the project if it is approved. Jimmy Hyslop chaired this part of the meeting, making it quorate at 4 non-public to 3 public.

No other conflicts of interest were raised.

5. Consideration of Applications

i. Application Presenting: Team Building and Social Inclusion

A presentation was made by Fraser Lang, Head Ranger at Finlaystone Estate (and LAG Chair). He talked about the history of Finlaystone Estate and went on to describe the outcomes that the Ranger Service and other estate staff intends to develop and deliver. These were:

- Develop and deliver 11-15 year old team building course
- Develop and deliver 15-24 year old team building, social inclusion course and boot camp
- Develop and deliver community group workshops based around the pond
- Develop and deliver special needs team building course

The LAG asked follow-up questions regarding the financial position of the estate, mainly concerns with profit and loss over the years and whether this diversification was going to help them break even. There was also concern relating to the research on displacement, with it becoming apparent that Lapwing Lodge and other organisations alike were already delivering services such as this within the LEADER area. In addition, the LAG expressed concerns regarding the qualifications of staff. They also expressed concern over the living arrangements (the distance between the group participants and their teachers/trip leaders).

LAG Decision: Deferred – more information required

Actions:

- Match funding amounts required to be visible in the bank statements provided
- Applicant asked to enquire about whether a CAR (Controlled Activities Regulation) Licence is required for the dredging of the pond. Advised to contact SEPA
- Applicant advised to contact the planning department regarding the waste from the pond. Planning permission may be required for disposal of waste within the estate.
- More evidence of need and demand required. Evidence that a gap in the market is being filled and not duplicating a service already being provided within the area.
- Further cash flows predicting future profits up to 2020 to show how the facility is expected to assist the income generation at Finlaystone.
- Provide certificates to evidence that staff are qualified to work with the targeted participants.
- Detailed plan and location of the proposed works on the estate.

6. Financial Update

Tracey Parker provided a financial update on the GRI LEADER programme budget. Agreed to produce finance update report in A3.

7. Update on Programme Issues

There was a brief update on the LEADER co-ordinators meeting at Linlithgow in January, including the creation of a LARCs working group which Lewis Rennie will sit on. All other matters were covered in the LAG update paper sent out prior to the meeting.

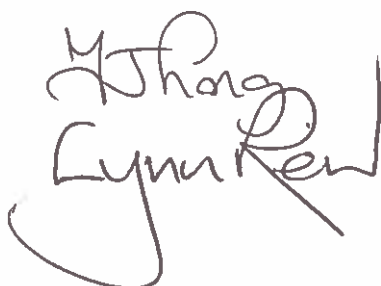
8. AOCB

The following issues were raised:

- Permanent venue for LAG meetings at Renfrewshire House was agreed.
- Paper copies of project applications will be sent to Lynn Rew, Charles Brindley, David Blair and Bill McCallum.
- Concern was expressed that there have been no applications from East Renfrewshire to date.
- The possibility of a co-operation project was raised. One of the LAG members has had discussions with a potential applicant. The project would be developed around Scottish pilgrim routes, however, it is still in the very early stages.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next LAG decision-making meeting will be on Thursday 18th May 2017 at Renfrewshire House.



Lynn Rew

