



**Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LAG**  
**Minutes of Meeting: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (Renfrewshire House)**

**1. Present:**

**Non-Public:**

Fraser Lang	Private Business – IT Consultant (LAG Chair)
Bill McCallum	West Region Scouts
David Blair	Renfrewshire Independent Resident (Kilbarchan)
Stuart Miller	Engage Renfrewshire
Daniel McCusker	Renfrewshire Independent Resident (Lochwinnoch)

**Public:**

Laura Moir	East Renfrewshire Council
Gordon Smith	Visit Scotland

**Others Present:**

Keren Ferguson	LEADER Programme Coordinator
Lewis Rennie	LEADER Project Development

Table Plan:

Keren Ferguson	Laura Moir	David Blair	Stuart Miller	
Fraser Lang (Chair)	Gordon Smith	Bill McCallum	Daniel McCusker	Lewis Rennie

- i. **Quorum:** the meeting was quorate
- ii. **Non-public/public ratio:** 5 non-public and 2 public

**2. Apologies**

Tracey Parker	LEADER Finance
Charles Brindley	Uplawmoor Community Council
Lynn Rew	East Renfrewshire Independent Resident
Lisa Roberts	National Farmers Union
Gary Kenyon	Renfrewshire Council
Will Nisbet	Inverclyde Council

### **3. Financial Update:**

There is £1,290,420.84 available to commit to projects. Approvals to date include three projects based in Renfrewshire, five projects based in Inverclyde and no projects based in East Renfrewshire. There are potentially fifteen projects in the pipeline with a combined value of approximately £1,348,552.00. The LAG will decide on two of these applications tonight and an appeal from East Renfrewshire council regarding the playpark in Waterfoot which was rejected at the last meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.

The LAG was also issued the latest National Programme Statistics extracted from LARCs and issued by Scottish Government to Accountable Bodies and Coordinators. The figures show that GRI LAG has committed 43.69% of their allocated budget. DM asked why some figures on the spreadsheet were green. The answer to this was not known, KF to ask the question and feedback to the LAG.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Minutes from the previous LAG meeting on Thursday 24th May were agreed and signed by the LAG Chair and co-signed by a second LAG member, David Blair.

### **5. Matters Arising:**

East Renfrewshire Council made an appeal regarding the decision to reject the application for a play park in the village of Waterfoot. As there is limited guidance for LEADER teams regarding the process for this, one had to be designed.

It was agreed that one representative from the LAG and one from the Accountable Body who was not previously involved in the decision making process should review the reasons for appeal in conjunction with the original application. Both representatives completed a review form and made a recommendation on whether the applicant had provided sufficient reasons for making the appeal.

The independent reviewers found the reasons for an appeal satisfactory and so the project applicants were invited to this meeting to present again. The decision made at this meeting would be final.

The LAG was updated on the progress of the Crowdfunding Cooperation Project. The LAG was satisfied with the responses received regarding the questions put forward. The electronic voting resulted in the project receiving a unanimous approval bar one no response.

The signature pages of the partnership between LAGs is being sent to each LAG involved, signed by the Coordinator and LAG Chair then sent onto the next required signature. This process is expected to be complete by late August so the project can go out to tender in September.

### **6. Project Presentations**

#### **Linwood Community Development Trust – 3G Pitch**

Kirsty Flannigan, Tim Alter and Danny Collins presented on behalf of Linwood Community Development Trust (LCDT). The trust has secured planning consent for a 3G pitch, for which they have carried out extensive research and community consultation. Currently the local amateur teams, namely Linwood Rangers Youth Club and St Convals Youth Club, have to travel out with the Renfrewshire area to play their matches. They are also unable to host matches in their area and so the costs involved for pitch hire and travel are extensive.

Existing local 11 aside pitches are unsuitable for league games due to surface issues. The grass pitches available are for 7 aside and the 11 aside is a blaes pitch, both prone to flooding and drainage issues.

The LAG was informed that 280 children (boys and girls) are involved in the junior football teams with ages ranging from 3-18 years old. There are also 57 volunteer coaches to help facilitate the current operation.

As well as all boys league youth teams, there are mixed teams up to the age of 14 and an all girls' team has been formed just recently.

Furthermore, the 3G pitch facility would also be used for other purposes such as children's football parties and other recreational sport and fitness activities.

The LAG agreed that LCDT had extensive support from the community which was demonstrated by approximately one third of the community responding to a consultation. The LAG also commented on a thoroughly committed group who has stuck with to their plan to deliver what the community wants.

**LAG Decision: Approved**

### **Garage for Community Mini-Bus**

William Inglis and Brian Fraser presented on behalf of Eaglesham Church and Boys Brigade. They explained to the LAG that the community mini-bus, owned by the Boys Brigade, but used by a number of community groups within the village does not have a secure place to be kept within the village. Recently the community mini-bus was replaced with a new one, and since the old mini-bus was subject to vandalism the search for a secure place to keep it began. At the moment the mini-bus is left outside and open to the elements, which the applicant feels will allow the value to depreciate quicker.

Furthermore, Eaglesham is a conservation village and a certain standard of build is required to be given consent by East Renfrewshire Planning Department. This is causing the price of the build to be even more expensive than normal.

The LAG felt the mini-bus was evidenced as a well-used community asset and not solely used by the Boys Brigade and although not a flashy project, a garage to house the mini-bus was looked upon as a necessary facility to keep it secure and slow down the depreciation in value of this mini-bus or future replacements.

The LAG made it clear that the garage should be used for the purpose it was funded for at least 10 years after the final LEADER claims has been paid.

**LAG Decision: Approved**

### **Waterfoot Play Park - Appeal**

John Shelton from East Renfrewshire Council, accompanied by Ailsa Burns and David Macaskill, members of the community council, presented on East Renfrewshire's application for a children's playpark in the village of Waterfoot. He reiterated most of the points covered in the original presentation but mostly concentrated on the LAGs areas of concern in the initial rejection letter.

He began by explaining that there was money available for environmental improvements but it was no more than that, a play park was not included in this sum and it would be additional to the original plan. At best the Council could make the area accessible to the public by draining the land and constructing pathways through the green space.

He made the point that the Council didn't want to go ahead with any design without consulting with the community and so argued that they were heavily involved in the project from the outset. Which in turn meant extra money was used from the original pot of money to go through the consultation process and make this a grass roots proposal.

Ailsa and David made the point that this space would be enhanced and made complete by the installation of the play equipment. This accessible green space would be suitable for every community member whether they be dog walkers, parents or children. There is no community space in Waterfoot at the moment and so this area is looked upon as a shared community space to be used as a recreation

space as well as a community hub area where people can meet and where community capacity is hopefully increased.

The LAG felt their concerns were addressed and decided to give this project an approval. It is hoped that the community realise the benefits of getting involved in consultation and making their voice heard.

**LAG Decision: Approved**

**7. AOCB:**

Tam Henderson, Chair of Eaglesham and Waterfoot Community Council has made a request to become a LAG member. The LAG approved his request and he is now a member of the LAG and will be eligible to score up and coming projects.

**9. Date of Next Meeting:**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

*Y. Phong*  
*Laura M. W.*