A logo of a bird

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**Community Learning Local Development Fund**

**Local Action Group Meeting**

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Online 9.30am – 12.30pm

**NOTE OF MEETING**

**Present:**

Hans Waltl (HW) – Private –Chair

Pip Tabor (PT) – Volunteer-Third -Vice Chair

Hazel Smith (HS), Re-Tweed (HS) – Third

Margaret Simpson/Dean Fisher (MD/DF), Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber–Third

Jan Pringle (JP), SoSE-Public

Lianne Drummond -Berwickshire Swap (LD) -Third

**Secretariat:**

Simon Lynch, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (SL)

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|  |  | **Action** |
| **1.0** | **Welcome**  Due to new members, individuals introduced themselves to the group and a brief introduction to the LAG, history and function was provided. |  |
| **2.0** | **Apologies**  Miriam Adcock, Zero Waste Scotland (MA) –Third Sector  Lesley Forsyth, Scottish Borders Council (LF) – Public  Fiona Benton, Borders Community Action (FB) - Third  Charles Dundas, Borders Forest Trust (CD) – Third  Secretariat  Linda Cornwall, Nesta Todd, Linda Kerr, Gail Blacklock, Emma Husband |  |
| **3.0** | **Conflict of Interest**  There were no conflicts of interest noted. |  |
| **4.0** | **CLLD 2023/24 Programme Progress Report**  A summary of the financial report was given and accepted by the LAG.  It was highlighted that due to tight timescale for payment and closing the programme staff had taken decisions that would normally have been referred to LAG as above 10% change rule. These decisions and the projects were outlined. The LAG accepted the report and agreed that due to the peculiar circumstances staff were correct to make decisions and approved the decisions made.  LAG members expressed happiness at the success of the projects and looked forward to further update in June/July and the Legacy document. |  |
| **5.0** | **Discussion of LAG plans for 24/25**  Explanation Was provided to the situation with the Govt funding and that it was likely to come in two parts, according to SG the first tranche is likely to be coming in May with the second tranche in the late summer, if approved by Ministers. The Govt have implied allocations may be similar to 2023-24 which potentially would give Borders around £500k total (including 15% for staff/delivery costs) for FY2024-25.  It was suggested at the meeting that the Main CLLD Grant be run as two Rounds, one for each tranche of funding, rather than 5 rounds as in 2023-24. There may be a requirement for a third wash-up round. Decision on this was put off until CLLD amount known.  Areas agreed at meeting on 23/4/24:  General Approach:   * LAG will continue to offer a “main” grant scheme for applicants to apply for * Once amount of funding is known then the LAG will review amount given to grant and other potential uses. * General support for continuing to fund Y-LAG (amount/how not resolved) * LAG does not want to support making film or promoting LAG activities and opportunities more than limited amount currently. The LAG would consider a national initiative.   Non-Youth/Main Grant Specifics:   * Grant will remain at £20,000 (no uplift since creation in 2020) * Keep 2 Step process -Expression of Interest followed by Application. * Continue to use SBC EoI system to identify potential CLLD projects. * New application process. * Continue with no requirement for match funding (but to be encouraged). * Decisions on projects will be taken at LAG meeting with no pre-scoring of applications, to cut down on LAG workload. * Likely to have minimum themes of Social Inclusion, Poverty Alleviation and Net Zero but others maybe added once more details received from SG.   The LAG asked SBC to investigate options relating to EoI process. |  |
| **6.0** | **Dates & Times of Future Meetings**  Provisional date of 21st September to start at 9.30am.  Venue: Tweed Horizons.  Hybrid meeting. |  |
| **7.0** | **AoB**  Suggestion that for future could there be a section added into the application asking about the future legacy of projects.  There was interest from two additional groups who are looking for funding.  These were discussed with the group, one was for to fund the purchase of a bike to use at a care home and another to replace flower beds/planters with more sustainable recycled plants.  The group agreed that this is not what this fund if for. |  |