

## MINUTES

### Local Action Group – Communities Group Meeting

Wednesday 7 June 2017, 10am

Held at: The Creebridge Hotel, Newton Stewart

Present	Heather Brash	(HB)	Clair McFarlan	(CM)
	Ed Forrest	(EF)	Mairi Telford Jammeh	(MT)
	Harry Harbottle	(HH)	Rob Wells	(RW)
	McNabb Laurie	(ML)	Jennifer Wilson	(JW)
Staff	Nicola Hill	(NH)	Lewis Boddy	(LB)
	Jessie Mason	(JM)		
Apologies	Cathy Agnew	(CA)	Norman Burns	(NB)

#### 1. Welcome & Apologies

Chair, Heather Brash welcomed everybody to the meeting, noting that Cathy Agnew had moved from the Strategic Management Group over to the Communities Group, but was unfortunately not able to attend the meeting. HB also was pleased to note an LAG application had been received from Anna Johnson to join the Communities Group.

**Declarations of Interest:** CM advised the group that her partner was the architect involved in the Rutherford Monument, the group thought it was far enough removed not to be a conflict. EF declared an interest in the Borders Community Broadband project as it was led by Southern Upland Partnership. JW declared an interest in the Day of the Region project as she sits on the advisory board.

#### 2. Minutes of previous Meeting held on 1 March 2017

2.1 ML had previously requested a comment he had made be incorporated into the minutes 'ML raised the connection with the Red Squirrels and the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership. GGLP had been asked to provide a letter of support, this was on behalf of the Board of the GGLP and the project itself was not going to be a recipient of GGLP funding. The Group accepted that this was not a conflict of interest.'

Minute was approved subject to change. Proposed by HH, seconded by JW.

2.2 Electronic approvals have been granted to 2 deferred projects from previous round:

- C152 – Connecting in Communities
- C158 – The Whithorn Way

#### 3. Consideration of Application

**All project decisions are based on Scottish Government issued Guidance version 4.0**

Jenny Wilson left the room - declaration of interest

#### C139 Day of the Region – Cooperation Project

Applicant – Dumfries and Galloway Council, total eligible expenditure is £243,194.66, grant of 100% requested.

The Day of the Region Legacy Project will be a three-year transnational cooperation project between territories in several Member States. (A cooperation offer distributed through the Scottish Rural Network and European Network for Rural Development identified potential partners in Ireland, Germany, Poland and Romania.) This transnational cooperation project will encourage innovation and collaboration – adding scale to the project and building social cohesion between people in different areas – and permits further analysis of methodology toward sustainability. We will develop joint-working practices with a thematic focus on community capacity-building, succession planning and social and economic impact.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage.

NH updated the group on the previous rounds of Day of the Region – over the years, many communities have been involved, delivering perhaps one year but not the next. The reason for this is that communities use this as a method of engaging and consulting in their communities, bringing and developing cohesion and raising awareness of what is going on. The Day of the Region model is to be further developed and exported. At the end of the 3 year period, if an organisation wanted to take on the model, then we have an extensive list of equipment to offer them. It is important that any equipment LEADER funded is dispersed to communities.

MT – It is essential to sell the Model to communities, we should encourage Ward Workers to be involved. Communities can benefit greatly from the Social Return on Investment and the benefits received.

ML was pleased to hear of genuine interest in the project and in bringing people together very successfully. He was heartened to see the broadening of communities involved and the range of those interested in coming on board.

It was generally felt that Day of the Region was encouraging a different kind of celebration day, not the standard Gala Days or Agricultural Shows etc, being designed by the community means they are unique to that community.

With regard to Transnational Day of the Region Project, we have 4 partners who have expressed an interest in working with us. If this application is successful, we would like to arrange for them to come over for a Partners meeting in this September and to sign a Partnership Agreement at that time.

Rob Wells joined the meeting at 10.15am.

Following discussion the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1. Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	3
2. Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	4
3. Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	4
4. Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3
5. Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6. Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7. Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8. Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: a. Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	4
9. Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	4
10. Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>31</b>

Application group score:31/36

Number of Members APPROVING: 6

Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE** this project.

Jenny Wilson rejoined the meeting.

NH advised the Group that all Cooperation Projects were required to go to Scottish Government for pre-approval before being sent to the LAG. Feedback from SG was that both of our Cooperation Projects, Day of the Region and South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project had passed with flying colours.

**C150 – South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project – Cooperation Project**

Applicant is Langholm Initiative, total eligible expenditure £790,118, grant of £158,023 requested (23.37%).

The South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project (SSGEP) is a collaborative project between land managers and conservationists working to increase the breeding population and range of golden eagles in the South of Scotland. Identified by the Scottish Government as a priority for its biodiversity conservation programme, this offers a ground-breaking opportunity to galvanise community interest and support for Scotland's iconic bird. Scientific work already commissioned by our project team is pointing to reinforcement of this population through translocation as the best means of reviving the population. Our legacy will be a healthier and viable population of golden eagles in the South of Scotland, enjoyed and supported by local communities and land managers, and forming the basis for greatly enhanced eco-tourism opportunities and wider economic development. The proposed Delivery phase of this project is a five year project 2017 – 2022. We are applying to LEADER for match funding to our HLF application the first two and a half years of this delivery phase (2017-2020). This project is a cooperation project between D&G and Scottish Borders.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage.

Match funding - secured in full.

MT was very supportive of the project, CM thought it was fantastic for the area, flying the flag, both biodiversity and scientifically to a very high level, EF felt that it built on nature based promotion. All members were very keen to see the project before them.

NH advised the meeting that Scottish Borders had not been able to give comments but that we should have them by the end of this week. The Group could make their decision in principle at this meeting. SB LAG members have been given 5 working days to comment on the project and feedback to Dumfries and Galloway LEADER.

It was noted that Cooperative projects came from a separate Cooperative budget, not the Community Fund.

Following the discussion the group then scored the project.

**Scoring**

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	4
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	4
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	3
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3

5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	3
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>29</b>

Application group score: 29/36  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 7  
 Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE**, awaiting comments from Scottish Borders LAG meeting.

#### **C053 – D&G Promoters and Performing Artists Network**

Applicant is Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival, total eligible expenditure is £100,000, grant requested £50,000 (50%).

Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival now wishes to expand from being a ten-day annual festival into an organisation that supports the development of the performing arts sector on a year-round basis. The Arts Live Promoters and Performing Arts Network, utilises the local and national networks developed through its popular annual arts festival and applies best practice from “Rural Touring” performing arts schemes. We will be a trusted and supportive organisation that provides practical support and enables development in the sector. The arts festival which LEADER has previously invested in will continue, and benefit from the partnerships developed through this project.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage.

Match funding - secured in full

This application intended to come to our March meeting but not all of their funding was secured so they were unable to proceed. The organisation has applied previously and had therefore to demonstrate what was new and outwith core activity, showing need and demand.

EF asked if the project was supporting existing staff. Yes there was an element of retention and safeguarding, they were challenged to show what elements were finishing. This was done by supplying a new job description. HH requested if a split between duties of 10 day event and new work proportion had been supplied, it had not been specified.

EF questioned support of office costs. NH confirmed LEADER were able to support apportioned costs if it can be demonstrated that the project would not go ahead.

JW could identify with the need and benefit of rural touring, access equality in rural areas is part of the Creative Scotland agenda. Would be great to ensure local acts are included as part of the touring performers. Ultimately this should strengthen the rural network. CF commented if slots are secured in D&G by local performers, it may lead to national gigs?

Following the discussion the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	3
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	3
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	4
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>28</b>

Application group score: 28/36

Number of Members APPROVING: 7

Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE** this project.

Condition of grant is that 5% of touring performers should be based in the region.

#### **C054 Stranraer Community and Enterprise Centre**

The Applicant is The Millennium Centre, the total project cost is £1,069,527.00, the grant requested is for £150,000.00 (14.02%)

The Project is to re-furbish, re-vamp and extend the current building to provide an accessible facility that will enable the delivery of services that respond to the needs of the community it serves. The new space created will be a commercial standard kitchen and cafe, that will provide both employment and training opportunities, as this new facility will provide a catering service for users of the Centre, and for events. There will be an outdoor Courtyard area that will be used for dining in the summer months. It is intended for these activities to be part of a Trading arm that will be established.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage.

Match funding - Secured in full

EF was heartened to see the applicant was thinking on a grand scale, the area has a need for a venue to hold large events. Having previously been involved in a bid to see the Rural Parliament held in Dumfries and Galloway it was obvious there was a shortage of conference sized facilities. CM also saw the need for a facility of this type in Stranraer area. HH was pleased to see The Millennium Centre had fought hard to build a facility which is used by a myriad of groups, with its multi-functionality, it

serves to support all types, suggesting it was a facility which offered many groups a base and people travelled throughout the area to attend yoga, boxing and sports events etc.

HB was impressed by the amount of funding already secured. HH would like some clarity on the 10% contingency fund mentioned in the budget. MT felt that wider rural benefit had not been demonstrated and would like this to be further developed. The project was generally considered to be a good project but more evidence of rural benefit is required.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	3
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	3
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	4
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	3
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>28</b>

Application group score:28/36  
 Number of Members DEFERRING: 6  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 1

The decision was taken to **DEFER** this project for the following reasons

- Provide a full breakdown of costs included in LEADER application.
- Is there a 10% contingency?
- Demonstrate the majority of beneficiaries are outwith Stranraer.

### C151 Riverside Community Bus

Applicant is the Riverside Centre, total eligible expenditure is £70,385.00 with a grant requested of £19,623 (26.33%) .

The project is to buy or lease a wheelchair accessible minibus so that they can extend the services to additional communities in their catchment area and serve residents within those communities who are not able to travel to Newton Stewart to take advantage of the meals and activities provided at the Riverside. The vehicle will also increase capacity to meet present transport needs more efficiently and economically.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage

Match Funding – partially secured, second half will be transferred if project approved.

CM was surprised to see a proposal for providing food to the community coming to LEADER for funding. The application appears to concentrate on the vehicle rather than on what the vehicle would allow the group to achieve. It was felt that the group could develop their application with the help of other groups who had submitted successful applications for funding eg 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector D&G.

In itself, the purchase of a bus is not innovative, so therefore not fundable by LEADER. Show how they link to other organisations and what they will be able to provide in terms of bringing together outlying communities who are not able to travel to Newton Stewart.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	2
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	2
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	3
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>25</b>

Application group score:25/36  
 Number of Members DEFERRING: 6  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 1

It was decided that the application would be **DEFERRED** as the LAG deemed the application had failed to provide sufficient information on the outreach services and activities the vehicle would allow the project to deliver. It was suggested that contact be made with other organisations who are experienced in writing successful funding applications, eg Age UK or 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Dumfries and Galloway.

### C165 – Rutherford Monument

Applicant is Gatehouse Development Initiative, total eligible expenditure is £29,542, the grant requested is £11,504 (38.94%)

The project will reconnect the Gatehouse community with a forgotten local hero, Samuel Rutherford, an important figure in 17th century Scotland. The project aims to restore the endangered B listed monument erected in Rutherford's memory. Take down 8 courses of stone and rebuild. Use volunteers to improve access path, research and provide information material for Mill on the Fleet Visitor centre on Samuel Rutherford. The Rutherford monument is a key landmark within the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area and Galloway and Southern Ayrshire biosphere. It commemorates the 17th century thinker and divine, Samuel Rutherford, author of Lex Rex, a significant and influential work subjecting monarchs to the rule of law.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage

Match Funding – fully secured

RW felt this was not an innovative project with no links being shown to the Local Development Strategy.

EF, stated that tourism was covered very briefly, and also noted that future maintenance, which is still to be agreed, should have been agreed prior to application being submitted.

ML was supportive of the Gatehouse Development Initiative and their achievements, they are a very enthusiastic and welcoming Group to new people in the community. HH noted that professional fees were quite high at 14% of total.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	2
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	2
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	2
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	2
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	No
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>23</b>

Application group score:23/36  
 Number of Members DEFERRING: 2  
 Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 5

The decision was taken to **NOT APPROVE** this project.

Broke for lunch at 12.20pm

Resumed meeting after lunch at 1.00pm

### C170 – Exercise to Happiness

Applicant is Greystone Rovers Foundation, total eligible expenditure is £144,123.68, grant requested £72,061.68 (50%)

Provide Sport and Exercise classes specifically for those with mental health conditions in rural areas in Dumfries and Galloway. To provide services and improve communities in rural areas, provide a research document to aid future work.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage

Match Funding – Partly secured. Awaiting NHS endowment fund decision which should be by 24 June 2017.

JW and CM liked the project, sounds good. They have confirmed they will be marketing heavily to secure rural participants being beneficiaries. It was observed by HH that the latest participants (year 3) have reduced benefits from being involved for less time. It was also noted that it appeared to be expensive at £3,500 per person, but further discussion suggested that this would still be considerably less than if they were in hospital or care etc.

The Board is mostly made up of local people. Jobs are not being safeguarded, job descriptions have been provided to show old and new, determining different roles.

This is a very positive approach to supporting people with mental health issues. It is nice to see future aspirations of other sports (non-contact), showing inclusivity. But it should be noted that girls can play football too.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

### Scoring

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	4
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	3
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	2
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	3
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
TOTAL SCORE	28

Application group score:28/36  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 7  
 Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE**, awaiting NHS endowment fund decision which should be by 24 June 2017.

**C184 – RAW Community Engagement**

Applicant is River Annan Trust, total eligible expenditure is £91,550 with a grant requested of £45,775 (50%)

Led by the River Annan Trust, the RAW Community Engagement Project will raise awareness of the River Annan environment and the benefits of delivering river restoration. The Project will work to address the environmental issues facing the Annan catchment in an innovative way: by focusing on river-based educational activities and skills training, the project will facilitate the development of an engaged and environmentally minded community base equipped with the skills necessary to contribute to river restoration on the Annan.

To achieve this aim, A RAW community engagement officer will be appointed to deliver a programme of education, engagement and practical habitat improvement activities over two years. Activities will include a primary school education initiative, citizen science scheme, skills training for young adults, landowner engagement, volunteering opportunities and the delivery of physical improvements to the environment through small-scale habitat restoration workshops.

The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage

Match Funding – Fully secured

ML had seen presentations relating to this anticipated work, but the application seems to have been substantially reduced – due to the downsizing of the organisation.

JW wondered if it was to include the whole river from source to sea or just a section. EF suggested that this would largely be dependent on riparian landowners.

There are a number of relatively new staff and the plans sound good in relation to what they want to do. Good to look to set up young ranger and uni graduate placements. There appears to have been good engagement; training could be given with the elements of accredited training removed or funded by others.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

**Scoring**

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	3
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3
3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	4
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	3

5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	4
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>29</b>

Application group score:29/36  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 7  
 Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE** this project.

Ed Forrest left the room – declaration of interest

#### **C189 – Borders Community Broadband**

Applicant is Southern Upland Partnership, total eligible expenditure if £10,006.92, grant requested of £5,003.46 (50%)

To let a contract to deliver access to superfast broadband services to rural areas of Dumfries and Galloway along the boundary with Scottish Borders, where there is no likelihood of the market providing these services otherwise.  
 The applicant has attempted to address the feedback received at draft stage.

Match funding – Secured in full

ML this project looks to deliver, a lot is gained for not a lot of money, rural areas need this. Everyone needs to access broadband as a right. JW likes the can-do approach.

MT felt that broadband can be a contributing factor to depopulation of rural areas, this will only continue if not addressed.

If this works it could be used as an exemplar project. Although it is a very small part of the countryside which will benefit, it is important to those involved. On the edge of the area, it would have been good to see a cooperation project.

HB The cost per property and no guarantee to equal or speed up line is not a negative point, this is innovative going forward and not expensive for what can be shown to be done for the area.

Following discussion, the group then scored the project.

#### **Scoring**

1 Does the project embody originality, embrace experimentation or demonstrate innovation?	4
2 Does the project applicant demonstrate adequate knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to deliver?	3

3 Does the project demonstrate clear linkages to other related local activities or strategies?	3
4 Does the project demonstrate evidence of community, market or business need/demand?	4
5 Does the project demonstrate value for money?	3
6 Does the project clearly demonstrate additionality?	3
7 Does the project adequately recognise and address participation barriers or risks?	3
8 Does the project clearly tackle at least one of the LDS themes: Economy   b. Land, Coast and Marine Environments   c. Sustainable Settlements	4
9 Does the project clearly demonstrate what will be achieved by the project – Outcomes/Indicators/Target Groups?	3
10 Are you happy that this project fits comfortably with the LEADER LDS?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>30</b>

Application group score:30/36  
 Number of Members APPROVING: 6  
 Number of Members NOT APPROVING: 0

The decision was taken to **APPROVE** this project.

Ed Forrest returned to the room.

#### **AOCB**

4.1 Update on Expressions of Interest – LB advised the meeting that there are 70 EOI's on the database and we are expecting another couple to be submitted before the deadline next week (14/6).

4.2 LB asked the Group to consider an EOI which had been submitted by the Council and previously circulated to the Group. The Group felt strongly that this was not a true interpretation of the Community Empowerment Act. It was felt that it was too vague, who would it benefit, how many people. It could however be a good Social Enterprise Opportunity, training people to provide a service. It was also vague as to how equipment would be stored, accessed or handled.

4.3 LB is to feedback to the Group on the applications which did not come to the meeting, there were 14 draft applications but only 9 got to final stages.

4.4 Can it be looked into to see if applications can be sent to the LAG members any sooner. LB is going to look at rescheduling application deadlines and feedback to the Group.

#### **5 Date of Next Meeting**

6 September, 2017, The Usual Place, Dumfries at 10.00am.

Meeting closed at 1:45PM