



Kirkbank House, English Street, DUMFRIES
 Dumfries and Galloway, DG1 2HS
 Tel: 01387 260028 Web: www.dgleader.co.uk

MINUTES

Local Action Group – LEADER Group Meeting

Wednesday 11 September 2019, 10.00

Held at The Station Hotel, Dumfries

Present	Harry Harbottle (HH) (I) Chair Juliette Cooke (JC) (I) Anna Johnson (AJ) (I) Clair McFarlan (CM) (I) Eva Milroy (EM) (I)	Peter Ross (PR) (I) Sharon Glendinning (SG) (I) McNabb Laurie (ML) (P) Alastair McNeill (AM) (I) Jenny Wilson (JW) (I)
Leader Staff	Nicola Hill (NH) Ellen Grant (EG)	Jessie Mason (JM)
Apologies	Gill Dykes Judith Johnson Caroline Graham-Brown David Rennie Cathy Agnew Archie Dryburgh	Teresa Dougall Tony Fitzpatrick Judith Johnson Rob Wells Andrew Wood

Meeting commenced at 10.00am

1 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 PR opened the meeting and welcomed all members, thanking them for attending. He also confirmed that this is the first LAG meeting and likely to be the last meeting to be attended by Ellen Grant, Project Officer who will soon be leaving us to go on maternity leave, the Group thanked her for all her hard work and wished her well for the future. Apologies for the meeting were noted, see list above. It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate. NH advised there were no changes to the LAG membership.

1.2 Declarations of Interested were requested

- Loch Ken Alive – Lakeside Tourism Excellence 07/P00112 - ML
- Peninsular Tourism Cooperation – 07/P00111 - PR
- Solway Coast is Clear Project – 07/P00110 – AM and CM
- Increasing Knowledge for addressing acidification – 07/P00109 - ML
- Care Campus – Study tour – 07/P00107 - SG
- Rhon Biosphere Learning Journey – 07/P00106 - PR

The meeting would be chaired by 2 Chairs, each being responsible for discrete parts of the meeting HH would over see all of the decisions and PR the remainder.



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- 2 2.1 Minutes** of the previous meeting were taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 12 June, proposed by HH and seconded by EM.

The minutes from the SMG meeting which was held 10 April will be circulated to the members and approval will be requested electronically from the Group.

- 2.2 Any matters arising** – JW asked in relation to 4.1 of June Minutes if there was an update on PR progress on “after LEADER”. She was advised that there would be a verbal update given later in the meeting.

A presentation was delivered by Jennifer Challinor, Project Officer, on Building the Case for a Care Campus project. Thanks were given for a very comprehensive presentation showing how leader Funding had benefitted the project, highlighting the real concerns for the future. Looking to reposition the concept of growing old, preventative measures to avoid crisis, and moving crisis to opportunity.



CC LEADER meeting
 update (short)- proje

Meeting broke at 10.35am – Jennifer Challinor left the meeting
 Meeting recommenced at 10.40, PR left the meeting due to his declaration of interest in projects to be discussed.

- 3 Consideration of Applications**
Members were advised that all project decisions are based on Scottish Government issued Guidance version 6.0.

HH reiterated to the Group that although all the applications coming to the meeting were for a maximum of £5,000, they all had to adhere to the full process and meet all the necessary criteria.

NH updated the meeting that all of the projects coming to the meeting meant that the monies available would have been fully committed but 2 projects had withdrawn which meant there was more than enough money available to support all of the applications.

3.1 Peninsular Tourism Cooperation 07/P00111

To share learning and best practice and lay the foundations for future projects. Best practice in route design – sharing/exchanging of ideas and experience from their countries. How to develop routes across local authority borders and where public rights of way are disconnected and safeguard routes. Piloting implementation of a trail.



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Holding a Partners meeting. To learn through learning visits and co-operation with Vale of Glamorgan and Kerry

It was felt to be a good project and made a lot of sense, learning from others. This is likely to be a big draw for Dumfries and Galloway and we should get it right.

Scoring – 3.1 Peninsular Tourism Cooperation

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: 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?	3
10	Are you happy that this project fits comfortably within the LEADER Local Development Strategy (LDS)?	Yes
TOTAL SCORE		28

Number of Members **APPROVING**: 8

Number of Members **NOT APPROVING**: 0

Number of Members **DEFERRING**: 0

A decision was taken to **APPROVE** the application.



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4.2 Potential final round of applications.

There is likely to be a small amount of underspend, around £20,000. As there is little time left to spend the money it was suggested that we look at small scale, shovel ready projects who can spend their money quickly, delivering against programme deliverables. The Cooperation development funding option of 100% of up to £5,000 gives groups and businesses who are looking to develop cooperations with other likeminded groups/business in Scotland, United Kingdom and EU Partners.

One last round of applications in September would be the same application process, but we would be looking for succinct applications. We have a number of EOI's which can be revisited. A deadline of August would be given in order to give the Group some time to look at them before the September meeting.

By September we will be in a position to know exactly how much money we will have to reinvest.

4.3 Change Request – Experience Galloway

A change request has been submitted from Fellend Farming Company to advise they are having to change their match funder and reduce the number of units they are wishing to install from 10 to 7. The reason for the change of match funding is because they were advised incorrectly by their bank that they would fund hospitality. It was later discovered that this was not their policy and the money was withdrawn. The project has now approached a company who deals in Asset Finance to match fund. Subsequent research suggests that the units need to provide service accommodation.

In the main the group felt it was a better idea to fit 7 units out to a higher specification. There was no more risk to LEADER to have the match funder as an asset finance company, the risk would be not to fund and the money would then be returned to LEADER. A show of hands was asked for – YES 6, ABSTAIN 2. Subject to match funding being confirmed.

5 Rural Awards – update

NH gave the group an update on Rural Awards. The steering group have agreed to appoint a consultant, Caroline Bell of "Clear as a Bell". The venue for the awards ceremony has been confirmed as GG's Yard, to be held on 5 December. The evening will be along the same lines as in previous years, with a drinks reception following by the awards Dinner.

7 Categories have been listed, 1 Enterprising Community, 2 Natural Environment, 3 Resilient Community, 4 Inclusive Community and 5 Fisheries and Coastal. Each of these



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will be nominated by themselves from this current programme, and the steering group will shortlist 3 nominations for each category.

6 Shining Light and 7 Legacy Awards will be agreed by an independent panel potentially made up of previous LAG members and previous members of the team.

LAG Members were asked to consider projects/groups that could be nominated for these 2 categories and also to recommend potential judges for the other 5 categories.

6 AOCB

There were no items

Date of next meeting is 11 September 2019, at 10.00am at the Station Hotel, Dumfries.

The meeting closed at 12.00pm

A light lunch was provided.

Apologies were given by Teresa Dougall for the September meeting.