



**Scottish Rural
Development
Programme**

ANGUS COMMUNITY-LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Integrated Local Development Strategy

Tuesday 18th June 2019 at 9:30AM

Venue – The Millennium Hall, Birkhill

Minute of meeting

Present: LAG MEMBERS

Private Sector:

Douglas Pond (DP) (Chair) – Individual

Gill Lawrie (GL) (Vice-Chair) - Angus Countryside Initiative

Graham Hewitson – Individual

Hugh Campbell Adamson-Scottish Land & Estates

Jeremy Parker (JP) – NFU Scotland, also member Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce

Jenny Adamson (JA) – Individual

Lol Scragg (LS) – Dundee & Angus College (D&A)

Public Sector:

Alison Smith (AS) (Vice Chair) – Service Manager (Economic Development) - Angus Council

Gina Ford (GF) - Scottish Enterprise

Caroline Warburton (CW)-Visit Scotland

Angus Council:

Shelley Hague (SH) Business Manager (Funding, Policy & Projects)

Kim Ritchie (KR) Angus LEADER/EMFF Assistant Coordinator

Bruce Thomson (BT) Angus LEADER/EMFF Financial Officer

Karen Hamilton (KH) Angus LEADER/EMFF Clerical Officer

1. Apologies & Welcome

Apologies:

LAG Members

Graham Galloway (GG) – DD8 Music

Mark Cessford (MC) – General Manager, RIY Shipping (Scotland) Limited

Mike Strachan (MS) - Forestry Commission Scotland

Angus Council

David Tollick (DT) Angus LEADER/EMFF Coordinator, on annual leave.

-David Valentine (DV) – Temporary leave of absence.

Welcome:

DP, The Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. LAG informed DT on annual leave with KR covering in his absence.

It was noted that the LAG attendance at today's meeting was quorate with seven private and three public members present.

2. Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of 6 March 2019 meeting were proposed by Dougie and unanimously agreed with the LAG members present.

There were no matters arising from the minutes and that are not on the agenda.

3. Budget

I. Administration Budget

Underspend on travel and salary costs throughout the whole programme. £15,000 identified as potential underspend which could be added to the amount available for application awards.

Current estimate of £156,000 remaining for 2020. If £15,000 deducted this is leaving around £141,000 which would also cover any salary increase next year.

No concerns from Members.

II. Project Budget*

Projects highlighted in green are those that have been completed. There are a number of others which are nearing completion.

There is a Mobile Library launch on Friday and also an Airedale Terrier launch on Saturday. Kim is attending both on behalf of the LAG.

Possibility of calling an extra-ordinary meeting before December 2019 as any monies that are not committed by then will be lost. LEADER team will continue to monitor project milestones.

Alison asked if the projects are aware of this deadline and to perhaps send notice round of this. LAG agreed all applicants should be contacted regarding any potential underspends.

Forecasts from areas and the redistribution of any area underspends are dealt with at Accountable Bodies meetings, attended by Shelley.

III. Drawdowns from Scottish Government

Drawdowns continue to be submitted monthly to SG. Paper shows current position with regards what has been submitted, paid and pending.

Those requiring additional evidence to be uploaded to LARCs will be actioned.

Angus Council more comfortable with the monthly drawdowns.

IV. Application Development and Budget Pressures

There are no other budget pressures. £68,4k is what is left in the pot.

4. Applications Award Requests

Members were advised the remaining pot of £68.4k was not enough to cover the requested grants in the five applications tabled at the meeting. Assessment summary reports for all five projects were issued to members in advance of the meeting.

LAG agreed to look at all five applications initially to agree those they wished to support. Each project was then discussed and level of support agreed as noted below.

I. 03/P00047 Kilry Ecopods £19,446

This project was assessed back in December and the assessors felt that they needed more information. That information was provided and summarised in a report by Dave. The scoring levels for Jeremy, Hugh, Lol and Caroline were low, but assured the LAG that it was the lack of information and were happy now with the rework to approve the project. All the planning is in place and conditions attached to that.

LAG approved grant of £19,446.

II. 03/P00057 Angus ADHD Support Hub £45,000

After a lengthy discussion the LAG agreed to support the application offering a reduced grant to the value of 50% intervention of the total project cost not 75% as requested. The applicant to decide whether to tailor the project to meet the reduced grant or continue as proposed and obtain the balance of funding from alternative sources. The group to inform LEADER of their agreed way forward.

Approved grant £30,000.

It was suggested that they consider the possibility of co-location with other third sector groups. Angus Council can offer advice in this area and also offer support to the group in exploring additional external funding.

**III. 03/P00052 The Friockheim Hub Grounds Development £13,332
WITHDRAWN**

Friockheim Hub has withdrawn as they could not wait for a decision. Already spent £35,000 on the grounds and they have gone ahead with the project without funding as they felt that they had already carried out the ground works and needed to move quickly with the play area before the Jungle ensued.

IV. 03/P00055 Newton Farm £10,000 – Farm Tours Toilet Provision

LAG agreed to support application. KR advised LAG of some outstanding technical assessment issues. Discussion round table resulted in full approval for grant of £10,000 subject to all outstanding technical assessments issues being met.

V. 03/P00056 Kirriemuir Community Accommodation Plans £17,800

LAG agreed to support application however after some discussion it was agreed the other applications tabled at the meeting would provide wider outcomes to beneficiaries and a decision was made to defer the application should further funds become available from Scottish Government.

VI. 03/P00059 LEADER Legacy £15,000

(Talk by Shelley Hague: for assessment at meeting)

Shelley Hague presented to the LAG. The LEADER Legacy bid was developed as part of the end of programme legacy to provide an evidence based report with a way forward post-LEADER. The LEADER Legacy work will take the initial work of the local development strategy onto the next step, showcasing our local development strategy, really getting stuck in to some of the statistics to show the impact that we have made, highlight the areas of good practice that could be replicated while moving forward, showing where there is alternatives and how we could perhaps take other routes.

LAG agreed to award remaining balance of £9,023 and defer start should further funds become available.

Cooperation using further SG funds

VII. 10/P00051* Dementia Connected and Supportive Communities £8,760 (for assessment at meeting)

LAG were informed of further cooperation money available from Scottish Government as a result of underspends in other LAG areas. Lanarkshire LAG acting as lead submitted a request for further funds to partner with Angus.

LAG agreed to support should funds become available from Scottish Government £8,760.00

5. Awards for Noting

Chair advised LAG of a number of awards approved since the March 2019 meeting. Two fast track awards and a further two approved by written procedure as noted below.

Fast track

03/P00041 Lintrathen Cycles **£8,620.52**

03/P00058 DD8 Bonfest Festival Improvements **£7,000**

Written procedure

03/P00054 Our Rivers (Finish Cooperation) £54,365

10/P00051 Outside the Box (Cooperation with GRI) £21,501

Cooperation using further SG funds

16/P00091 Rural Youth Project £20,000 (Cooperation P&K lead with seven other LAGS)

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

i. SG national programme statistics

National programme on statistics have not been released yet for all 21 Leader areas (a report from LARCS). This should be due out w/ending the 24 July and we will circulate when received.

ii. Project End Reports

A sample of a completed project report was issued to the LAG prior to the meeting.

The LAG agreed that should support the LEADER staff whilst going through all these completions.

7. Governance & Operational Issues

Gill Lawrie is attending a Scottish Government meeting of the Finance and constitution committee on 19 June 2019 representing Angus and LEADER as a whole.

8. Animation, Networking and Communication

I. Sweden 1-4 April learning visit

Report 8.1 circulated to LAG prior to meeting highlighting

The young persons (YRP -Swedes-Engine) are coming over here in August. There is an issue about the Swedish Young People's accommodation but there is not enough offers at the moment – it would be better to be in with a family rather than Hostel Accommodation.

LAG Communications

Scottish Rural Network are going to have a meeting (Alasdair Prior) – no chance for LAGS to get together. There has been far less engagement than in previous programs. The Brexit Tribulations are still affecting people's opinions. JP willingness to cooperate in Scotland. How do you view Scotland against the rest of the UK.

II. Staff group meeting Stornoway 26/27 June.

Kim and Bruce attending. Scheduled workshop on Monitoring & Evaluation.

- III. **Flourishing Destinations – Belgians and Romanians, first week in September**
- IV. **ENGINE project, young Swedes in Angus 09-18 August** - discussed
- V. **Our Rivers heading to Finland 23rd - 28th August '19. Fins here last week June 2020. 4 going over** – discussed.
- VI. **September (19th?) Chairs Meeting Rural Enterprise Futures** – Gill attending.

9. NESFLAG – Fully committed as we know.

- **Arbroath Harbour** - we have new pontoons at Arbroath Harbour – using the right marketing (logos). It is good to see that there are additional berths and that they have been taken up. It's the second most visited Tourist spot, Glamis Castle is the first.
- **East Haven** – exceptional project.

10. Any other Business

LAG agreed for staff to arrange another LEADER Project Visit similar to that last year. Doodle Poll to be issued for dates in August 2019.

Brief discussion around future meeting dates. LAG agreed to discuss further at the September LAG.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Suggestions were the Murton and The Crickety.

NEW-4 September 2019 to be held at 'The Crickety' Brechin Buccaneers at 1:30 pm-16:00

Apologies from Caroline Warburton for next meeting.