

Eden Locality Board 9.5.23

Report by Michael Hanley

1. Election of Chair: John Murray (JM, LD) was elected.
2. Election of Vice-Chair: Lorna Baker (LB, LD) was elected.
3. Public Participation

Petition from opponents to proposed luge track at Blaze Fell, near Armathwaite. A member of the group stood and read out a statement to the council. The petition opposing the development was signed by over 1000 local residents. The site is in open countryside. There will be limited economic development as a result. The main building contains a large amount of glass (causing unwanted reflection) and the design is not in keeping with the local area. The data submitted about potential noise is inadequate. A similar luge track application in the Brecon Beacons was refused due to potential noise levels. A lot of trees will have to be felled, affecting the red squirrels. The developer says that no trees will be felled. It will provide a very limited number of jobs, most of which will be seasonal. The development will result in harm to the environment. A lot of concrete will be used for the track, this is detrimental to the environment. Most people will come by private car. Up to 1000 people per day are predicted, this will be disruptive to the small roads in that area. This type of attraction should be sited on a brown field urban site rather than be a blot on the landscape.

The petition was received without comment from the council.

4. Terms of Reference (of Eden Locality Board, ELB).

The Terms of Reference laid out the roles of ELB. General: Allocate funding for community grants, discretionary budgets, nominate members to Outside Bodies and undertake functions requested by the Leader or cabinet of WAFC.

Under Highways and Transport: One year programme of Highways schemes which could include street lighting, drainage, traffic calming, sign cleaning and white line painting. Also to review Local Sustainable Transport schemes which could include footpaths, rights of way, cycling and walking improvements and community transport support. Also to advise the grants panel on community bus grant applications. To consider speed limit orders and parking place orders. To make proposals to the Highways and Transport Strategic Board in the rolling three year strategic investment programme. Also school crossing patrols. With regard to Community: encourage community leadership, establish relations with town and parish councils. Receive petitions and questions from members of the public and outside bodies.

Neil Hughes (NH, LD): There are a few new provisions in the Terms of Reference. NH asked about the provision for community transport: I would like a specific item to come to the July meeting (of the ELB): the rationale for grants for transport. Will the grants be to support current commercial transport businesses?

Hilary Carrick (HC, C): There are numerous typos in the document.

JM (Chair): I think it would be good to have a highways working group.

5. Safe and Strong Communities

Nick Wright (Manager of Safe and Strong Communities, WAFC):

Discussed grants. The first grants will from a fund of £10k, an interim community grant fund. I would like there to be two working groups, one for the Borderlands Place Programme ( a ten year investment programme, Penrith was selected as a Town Investment Plan with three themes: capitalising on our connections, a hub for business and being culturally focused). The working group members for this should be the four Penrith members. The other working group should be one to support the resettlement of refugees in the area with one member from the council.

Virginia Taylor (VT, LD): Could we share what's coming in? £10k will not go very far. We need to know how we are going to allocate the funds.

NW: The criteria are robust. We are relying on officer advice. The final decision will be devolved to me.

VT: There will be deadlines.

NW: We don't tend to have specific deadlines.

Mary Robinson (MR, I): How will the community grant be advertised? Things can be too robust and cut out the people who need the grant. We have learned a lot in Eden with giving grants. I have seen some wonderful playgrounds being built and they only needed a little money (from grants).

NW: We will advertise on social media and yourselves could talk about it when you are out and about.

Mike Eyeles (ME, LD): Could you please produce small leaflets for councillors for guidance about these grants.

NW: That's a good idea.

The four Penrith councillors were appointed to the Borderlands Place Programme and VT was appointed to the Refugee Working Group.

## 6. Appointments to Outside Bodies

Alston Moor Partnership: Michael Hanley (MH, L),

Alston and Garrigill Foundation: MH,

Appleby Horse Fair: Phil Dew (PD, C), Graham Simpkins (GS, LD), Andy Connell (AC, LD).

Carlisle and Eden Healthwatch Community Health Forum: MH,

Croglin Education Land Trust: MR,

Cumbria Housing Group: Lorna Baker (LB, LD),

Eden Health and Wellbeing Board: decision deferred,

Local Listing Heritage Panel: AC,

Miller Riches Trust: AC, PD,

North Pennines AONB: Neil NcCall (NC, MR),

Eden Education Business Partnership: JM,

Eden Forum against Domestic Abuse: VT,

Eden Homelessness Strategic Group: LB,

Eden Housing Development Forum: NH, Eden Tourism Network: NC,

Eden Youth Work Partnership: JM,

Greenwich Leisure Ltd Board: VT,

Armed Forces Champion: ME

Next meeting: Monday 10.7.23 at 6pm.