

Minutes from this meeting

Parks, Grounds and Streets advisory group – 18 April 2018

1. Introduction and Welcome

Stuart Pryde from East Lothian Council welcomed the group to the re-scheduled meeting which was taking place at the Hamilton Townhouse. He apologised for the cancellation of the February meeting but highlighted that due to the weather warnings, for safety reasons it was agreed the meeting should not go ahead.

2. Attendance & Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (1 November 2017)

The minutes of the previous meeting were deemed to be a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Trunk Road Litter

Unfortunately, due to a diary clash, Jonny Moran of Transport Scotland was unable to attend the meeting on the day. However, in his absence Stuart Pryde provided the group with an update on the January meeting which took place between Jonny Moran of Transport Scotland and himself and Paul O'Brien of APSE. The meeting was arranged following agreement by the group to write to the Transport Minister in regards to the issues surrounding Trunk Road Litter.

The Minister confirmed with APSE that he had passed the queries to Transport Scotland and was happy to facilitate a meeting. This meeting was held on the 5th of January and during the course of the meeting a number of key concerns were tabled in relation to perceived inefficiencies and operational issues that emerge from the current operating model and shared responsibilities for management of litter on the trunk road network. During the meeting Transport Scotland officers recognised that the issues presented did require to be addressed and were keen to work more closely with the relevant Local Authority partners to facilitate an improvement. However, they did not consider that they had a remit to make the one single change to the contract specifications that would address the issues; namely transfer of responsibility for litter management and carriageway cleansing onto the appointed operating companies.

The group then held a discussion which had a focus on legislation and responsibility of litter. Following the discussion, it was agreed that APSE should write a further letter to the Transport Minister to ask that he consider a change to the Term Maintenance Contract Specifications that would address the concerns outlined in our meeting with Transport Scotland. It was also agreed that a copy of the APSE briefing note should be attached to the letter for further information.

Before sending the letter and briefing note it was agreed that Louise Melville would re-issue the draft briefing note to all advisory group attendees. This was issued to all on the 10th of May. The letter and finalised briefing note ([18-19 Litter Management on the Trunk Road Network](#)) was sent to the Minister on 15th May 2018.

Also as part of this agenda item it was agreed that Ken Gray of Renfrewshire Council would send Louise Melville Transerv's current grass cutting schedule and Gordon Crockatt of East Ayrshire Council would pass Louise his Transerv contact details. Both were issued to the attendees of the group on the 10th of May.

6. Member feedback on any other managers' forums / focus groups

Attendees shared brief updates on what was happening at other managers' forums and focus groups such as the Scottish Bereavement Benchmarking Group, the Parks Managers Forum and Improvement Service. As part of these updates it was noted that there was a possibility of Scottish Government guidance on burial and cremation fees being issued.

7. Licensing of Boot Camps

Stuart Pryde gave a short introduction to this agenda item. This included some of the potential issues East Lothian and other local authorities may encounter in relation to Boot Camps. Stuart also highlighted a number of positives to communities and the Council. Finally, there was a discussion in relation to licensing.

8. Enterprise

This standing item on the agenda is to share innovations around enterprise and income generation.

East Ayrshire Council provided a short update on the work they were doing regarding making their own planters and benches.

West Lothian Council highlighted that they were looking into the potential of having a "Winter Wonderland" in one of their parks & open spaces, the idea would be to do something similar to Edinburgh's Christmas Market. They are also looking at other similar ideas for all of their parks.

10. APSE update

Louise Melville provided an update on the current work of the Association, including the latest briefings, publications, recent advocacy work, network queries, upcoming APSE Energy and APSE Training events in Scotland, the work of APSE Solutions and upcoming Scottish and National seminars. This included an update on the Annual Seminar which would this year be taking place in Edinburgh.

11. Date for next meeting

The date of the next meeting is 8th August 2018.

12. A.O.C.B.

There was no other business.

14. Litter Managers Network

Please see separate minutes for this.

Parks, Grounds & Street Services Group

18 April 2018

Attendee List

Name	Authority
Lesley Forrest	Aberdeenshire Council
Louise Melville	APSE
Richie Strachan	Angus Council
Ailsa Cunningham	Argyll and Bute Council
Murray Black	City of Edinburgh Council
Nicola Simpson	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Gordon Crockatt	East Ayrshire Council
Stuart Pryde	East Lothian Council
Dougie Fox	East Lothian Council
Andrew Hogarth	East Lothian Council
Adrian Baines	East Renfrewshire Council
John Cassells	East Renfrewshire Council
Graham Downs	Falkirk Council
Neil Chisholm	Falkirk Council
Jennifer Murray	Falkirk Council
Cllr Ross Vettraino	Fife Council
Renny Thomson	Fife Council
Elaine Downie	Fife Council
Damien Woods	Fife Council
Steve McDermott	Highland Council
Allan Walker	Inverclyde
Thomas Reaney	North Ayrshire Council
Mark Findlay	North Lanarkshire Council
Ken Gray	Renfrewshire Council
Cllr Collette Stevenson	South Lanarkshire Council
Craig Gardner	Stirling Council
Colin Mackay	Stirling Council
Andy Johnston	West Lothian Council
David Lees	West Lothian Council
Stephen Boyle	Zero Waste Scotland

Apologies

Thomas McMenamin	East Dunbartonshire Council
Michael Richards	East Ayrshire Council
Jonny Moran	Transport Scotland
Ian Bain	West Dunbartonshire Council
Alex Haggarty	West Dunbartonshire Council

Jason Hedley	Scottish Borders Council
Daren Silcock	Scottish Borders Council