

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROSS PARTY GROUP ON TOWNS AND TOWN CENTRES

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12:30 – 14:00, Wednesday, 14th March 2018

Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament

Refreshments kindly supported by Global Treasure Apps

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Convener, John Scott MSP welcomed all to the meeting including Gillian Martin MSP, Deputy Convener and Jenny Gilruth MSP. Apologies noted from Daniel Johnston MSP, Deputy Convener.

Attendees and Apologies are noted in Appendix 2.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Cross Party Group & Matters Arising

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held 6 December, were accepted by Gillian Martin. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

3. Young People and Towns

Leigh Brown STP Board member, Perth City Manager and Chair, ATCM, introduced today's discussion topic, acknowledging 2018 Year of Young People (YoYP). For those involved in towns and places, young people are the future and it is important to know what their needs are.

Perth and Kinross Council is hosting Scotland's first youth market.

Chelsea Stinson, Children's Voices Programme Manager, Children's Parliament

The Children's Parliament is a centre of excellence for children's engagement work nationally and now internationally. It gives children the opportunity to voice their ideas, thoughts and feelings; for children's concerns and opinions to be listened to and influence wider social and political spheres of decision-making.

CS highlighted the experience and outcomes of two Children's Parliament place-based initiatives: 'Streets Ahead Tranent' and 'Dunkeld & Birnam'. Both projects engaged children in activities related to local community and identity, with children in Tranent creating a 'past, present and future' street mural, and the Dunkeld & Birnam project, engaging children in community and giving a voice in local decisions.

Streets Ahead Tranent also had international resonance, with a group of children involved in the project taking part in the UNCRC Day of General Discussion in Geneva during October 2016.

CS reflected on some key outcomes and messages from the Children's Parliament work in order to meaningfully engage children in decision-making and the planning process. Please see presentation on the Scotland's Towns Partnership website for more information.

Frances O'Neill, Producer, Global Treasure Apps

Frances O'Neill explained how young people are encouraged to 'treasure' regeneration through use of the innovative Global Treasure Apps (GTA) platform.

GTA is a clue-driven app that is ideal for driving town regeneration and raising profile and awareness. It creates individual visitor experiences, at the same time boosting footfall. Available Scotland-wide, GTA engages young people in their local heritage, teaching children about their local environment, expanding their historical knowledge.

Young people have become engaged in creating content for trails in their local area, such as secondary students from MacDuff, Aberdeenshire. This gives a sense of ownership of towns and communities. A follow-up project is being run with students from Edinburgh College, which will lead to apps being translated into various languages and a qualification in digital skills for those involved. There is also a project being run with Young Scot for Young Scot rewards.

FO'N said, *"Global Treasure App is unique and the content creation by young people is a unique offering. The app has been recognised internationally, having been awarded the International Serious Play Award in LA for outstanding visitor engagement with a measurable learning opportunity."*

"The App will be updated in the next month and we are working with Glasgow Caledonian University to incorporate an Augmented Reality element."

GTA is currently interested in working with wider partners to break out the app nationwide. Please find a full statement from GTA inviting collaboration in STP multi media report of the CPG on the STP website.

Geoff Leask, Chief Executive, Young Enterprise Scotland (YES)

YES' vision is for Scotland to be a place for all young people to have a rewarding future no matter where they come from; and to inspire and to equip young people to learn, develop and reach their full potential through enterprise.

YES priorities include:

- The importance of adaptability and core skills throughout people's working lives and for the workplace of the future.
- School programmes to encourage enterprise, skills and personal development. For example, 'Fiver & Tenner Challenge', 'Inventors' and 'High Street' challenges, and a Company Programme. In the High Street Challenges, young people come up with ideas for their High Street. GL suggested this could help find solutions for empty buildings.

Year of Young People presents opportunities for greater engagement with young people; developing Scotland's competitive edge. GL closed by asking all present, "Whatever your reason for being at this event today – please take away one thought: How can I involve young people in what we do? And remember that by supporting organisations like Young Enterprise Scotland, you are helping to build sustainable and vibrant communities."

David McAllister, Communications Manager, PAS

PAS is "Scotland's leading place and active citizenship charity". Over 20% of planning professionals in Scotland volunteer with PAS, giving their knowledge, experience and time to help people of all ages and

backgrounds to participate, at the earliest opportunity, in placemaking. They offer advice about planning and inform on the planning process.

PAS education programmes are designed for children and young people and their training is targets seldom heard groups, community groups and elected members.

We also facilitate a community visioning process called Charretteplus, to help everyone have a say in the future of their area. They have a guide to effective community engagement and a skills development programme.

DMcA highlighted that PAS involves young people in the planning process, including the programmes, 'In My Back Yard', 'Young Placemakers' and 'Youth Exchanges'.

Case studies shared, included:

- 'Bridging the Gap' - Galashiels, learning about and knowing how to influence the planning system and making use of the Place Standard app.
- 'Bridging the Gap' – Cowdenbeath, an arts-based approach, hypothesizing on what could be created for a new town and working with elected members and planners from the local council.
- 'In the Footsteps of Geddes' where young people explore their place using digital tools, finding out how to survey a place, plan for people.
- Seldom Heard Communities - working with, for example, the traveller community and young offenders institutes.
- Interactive Sound Maps

DMcA's closing call to action is, how to involve ALL young people in projects and planning process.

Discussion

David Lonsdale, Scottish Retail Consortium, asked F O'Neill about funding sources and if open to advertisers and sponsors. FO'N responded positively; confirming sponsorship banners and linked rewards can be changed at any time and can be product based. There is no limit.

Peter De Vink suggested there ought to be more murals by children. Unaffected by vandalism. PDV offered his support through links with community councils.

There was a general discussion on how to get young people engaged. Responses included offer of rewards and competitions; linking with real projects with a local interest; build relationships, making young people feel comfortable and participate in their own terms; and consider language, dress-code, timing and location. Also consider the channels used to communicate - snapchat, good social media , videos, get young people's views across.

Stephan Callaghan, South Lanarkshire Council on consultation on infrastructure to support the ideas of the heard today. Responses from speakers suggest, mapping what works and creates a positive feeling; make it an active process, for example, a digital map, tie ribbons around what is liked; a visual can be later used for other conversations; get buy in from local people and ensure the right people involved from the local authority who are committed to listening and acting.

Rachel Hamilton MSP is working on creating a dementia-friendly tourism site and is interested in PAS' intergenerational work. DMcA - PAS works with experts in the field as part of the place making process. John Scott also suggested that RH speak to Jill Cronin and Alison Jones regarding the Prestwick dementia project.

J Scott thanked all speakers for their presentations and members for a good discussion. JS thanked Global Treasure Apps for kindly supporting refreshments.

4. Any Other Competent Business

There was no further business.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place in Committee Room 2 on, Wednesday, 13 June from 1800 - 2000. The topic will be, 'The Future: Living, Low Carbon and Digital'.

APPENDIX 1 – RECORD OF 14 MARCH 2018 AGENDA

Cross Party Group on Towns and Town Centres

12:30 – 14:00, Wednesday, 14th March 2018

Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament

AGENDA

'Young People and Towns'

*Refreshments kindly supported by **Global Treasure Apps***

- 12:15 Meet in Parliament reception area
- 12:30 Light refreshments
- 12:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks – John Scott MSP, Convener
- 12:50 Minutes of the Meeting of the Cross Party Group held 6th December
Matters Arising from the Minutes

Young People and Towns

- 13:00 **Introduction**
Leigh Brown, Scotland's Towns Partnership Board Member; City Centre Manager, Perth & Kinross Council
- 13:05 Chelsea Stinson, Children's Voices Programme Manager, **Children's Parliament**
- 13:15 Frances O'Neill, Producer, **Global Treasure Apps**
- 13:25 Geoff Leask, Chief Executive, **Young Enterprise Scotland**
- 13:35 David McAllister, Communications Manager, **PAS**
- 13:45 Discussion
- 13:55 Any Other Competent Business
- 14:00 Close of Meeting

Date of Next Meeting – 13 June (18:00 – 20:00) – 'The Future: Living, Low Carbon & Digital'

APPENDIX 2 – ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR THE CPG ON 14 MARCH 2018

Cross Party Group on Towns and Town Centres Attendance
14 March 2018, 12.30-14.00

Attendees

Kevin	Argue	East Dunbartonshire Council
Elaine	Bone	Scotland's Towns Partnership
Leigh	Brown	Perth and Kinross Council
Madeleine	Brown	
Cllr Stephanie	Callaghan	South Lanarkshire Council
Jill	Cronin	Scotland's Towns Partnership
Peter	de Vink	EFGH
Jennifer	Fingland	Cycling Scotland
Malcolm	Fraser	
David	Fryer	Torry Development Trust
Rona	Gibb	Paths for All
Peter	Gilchrist	Scottish Library and Information Council
David	Grove	Fife Council
Rachael	Hamilton	MSP
Anna	Herriman	City of Edinburgh Council
Alison	Jones	Scotland's Towns Partnership
Janet	Lay-Douglas	Midlothian Council
Geoff	Leask	Young Enterprise Scotland
John	Lee	Scottish Grocers Federation
Natalie	Le Coureur	City of Edinburgh Council
David	Lonsdale	Scottish Retail Consortium
Agnes	Magowan	North Lanarkshire Council
David	McAllister	PAS
Caitlin	McCorry	East Lothian Council
Susan	McGill	Stirling Council
Luke	McGranty	SGF
Kenneth	Molekoa	
David	Montgomery	
Penny	Morris	Living Streets
Frances	O'Neill	Global Treasure Apps
Derek	Rankine	SURF
Cliff	Robertson	Castle Douglas Development Trust
Ewan	Robertson	Scotland's Towns Partnership
Cllr Mark	Rowley	Scottish Borders Council
John	Scott	MSP
Tom	Sneddon	DTAS
Chelsea	Stinson	Children's Parliament
Calum	Strang	Church of Scotland
Ann	Weir	North Lanarkshire Council

Apologies

Chris	Bell	KeirWSP
Neil	Bibby	MSP
Valentina	Bold	University of Strathclyde
Maggie	Broadley	Maggie Broadley Co-Create
Hazel	Cross	Fife Council
Margaret	Fraser	NG Homes
Hazel	Johnson	Historic Environment Scotland
Cllr Angus	Magowan	North Lanarkshire Council
Phil	Prentice	Scotland's Towns Partnership
Jackie	Shearer	Springburn Winter Gardens Trust
Prof Leigh	Sparks	University of Stirling