Aberfeldy Big Local

**Minutes of Board Meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2017 at number 50 Aberfeldy Street**

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| *Board Members in Attendance*   1. Kim Nguyen (Chair) 2. Abigail Gilbert 3. Val de Vos 4. Ahmed Hussain 5. Rokib Choudhury   *Also in attendance:*   * Sian Penner (Local Trust representative) * Stacey (Prospective Resident Board Member) * James Watters (Aberfeldy Resident) * Abdul (Aberfeldy Football Club and resident) * Rafi (Aberfeldy resident) * Loretta (Aberfeldy resident) * Liam Harney (ABL engagement worker) | *Apologies received:*   * Leila Lawal |

|  |  | **Action** | **By Whom** | **By When** |
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| **1**  1.1 | **Minutes of Last Meeting**  Minutes of last meeting reviewed and agreed over email, prior to this meeting. |  |  |  |
| **2**  2.1  2.2  2.3 | **Fun Day Evaulation**  What Went Well:   * Had a good mixture of people turnout * Good number for turnout- around 300 * Positive feedback from residents- ‘best one so far’ * Promoted well through posters and leaflets * Price of rides and ice cream was reasonable * DoLittle did well sorting out activities * Good Layout on the day with St Nicks opening up and AFC running their tournament   Even Better If:   * Better promotion of the football tournament as part of the fun day * Talent show * Live music * Adult entertainment * Residents having more ownership over it- i.e. running stalls, providing food, organising the event * Having a host/compere * Having a professional photographer * Partnering with the school and local shops * Cheaper food- £5 too much * More notice for AFC to organise the tournament   It was suggested that we should have invited local councillors. This would help make them aware of what ABL is doing in the area. However, it was also mentioned that involving councillors can get messy and ABL needs to be careful not to get dragged into Tower Hamlets party politics. |  |  |  |
| **3**  3.1  3.2  3.3  3.4  3.5 | **Aberfeldy Get Together**  What do we want to talk about at the meal?   * What’s important to people * Get people to talk about themselves * Who people are connected to * What people want to do with the community * What people think the money should be spent on- making ABL open and transparent   What action do we want to come from the meal?   * Another event to keep continuity * People applying for community chest awards * People coming forward with ideas with how to spend the money * People with ideas and offers to use the Tommy Flowers space * Know Your Neighbour-stories project- interest   What food should we do?   * Bring your own dish- offer people £15 cash from Liam to pay for the food and bring a dish on the night * Abdul offered to cater on the day if we get him budget and numbers of people to expect   How do we run it on the day?   * Speed Dating format for people to have 10 minute chats with their neighbours around themed questions * Providing finger food to allow people to move around more * Bringing out peoples opinions on what the community can do with the money to benefit people- pants and tops idea * Table cloths to write ideas on   Liam will hold 2 open coffee meetings for people to drop into to help plan the community meal | Organise for a week evening and weekend day | LIam | ASAP |
| **4**  4.1  4.2 | **ABL Partnership Development**  Ideas around the development of the ABL partnership over the next 6 months:   * Keep meetings informal * Get the word out to other residents * Welcome packs for new members * A quarterly newsletter for residents   Sian raised the point whether the partnership board meetings needed some restructuring, as there has been resident meetings outside of the partnership board meetings which implied that something isn't working. There was a discussion had whether certain characters/ bodies on the board made residents feel uncomfortable and reflected why the board previously struggled in the past. Factors that were considered were HARCA’s presence as a Landlord and employer, the former Local Trust representative and having too many partners on the board. It was also mentioned that the previous Engagement Worker was employed on a part-time basis so it was difficult to move things forward, so it was refreshing that things are finally falling into place.  Some of board members said that the meetings outside the partnership board were a useful format to help develop and progress the on-going action-points that follow up from the agenda items on the Partnership Board. Residents felt that the "informal resident-only" aspect allowed some residents to speak up as it was a different setting for people, which can still help contribute to ABL's plan.  It was also mentioned that HARCA have had the tendency to do too much for the community, at the expense of residents doing things for themselves.  It was decided that residents felt confident enough as a board, so it wouldn't need HARCA to be involved for the time-being. It was decided that we would review the whole partnership effectiveness after 3-6 months, such as the board structure and how HARCA can contribute to the partnership board as an LTO or as a partner. | Poplar HARCA to be informed of this decision. | Liam |  |
| **5**  5.1 | **Community Chest**    We has 2 applications for the September Community Chest. One from Heather Lawton to run a knitting group and one from Elle Tipping to run some nutrition workshops. The board agreed to fund both to get the ball rolling, although they’d like to know more about the message Elle is putting out. | Inform applicants of partnership decision | Liam | ASAP |
| **6**  6.1  6.2  6.3 | **Tommy Flowers Update**  Liam explained that the Tommy Flowers is progressing as follows: the space has been secured from HARCA, the partnership have agreed the funding and the plan is to move into the space from October with a basic refurb to make it usable for community use, and to ask people what they want from the space and the pub.  The only sticking point is that Poplar HARCA are concerned that the local mosque will object to a pub opening in a HARCA unit when HARCA have yet to sort out the relocation of the mosque as part of the regeneration of Aberfeldy Street. HARCA are worried that if the mosque see a planning application for a pub, then they will use this to create conflict with HARCA.  This has led HARCA to ask us to NOT submit an application for a pub, but something else instead. This is not ideal as we do want a bar in the area and do not want to be dishonest to residents. We are talking to HARCA about how to resolve this issue. | Tommy Flowers steering group to progress with negotiations with HARCA to achieve a satisfactory way forward by October. | Tommy Flowers Steering group | Start of October |
| **7**  7.1  7.2  7.3 | **AOB**  Sian reported that ABL will be receiving an additional £100,000 from investment made by Local Trust  Sian also informed the partnership that she will be conducting a partnership review and submitting this to Local trust at Christmas. There will also be a Local trust employment event in November.  Sian reported that Ollie has decided not to apply for a loan through ABL for his studio idea and pursue other funding options instead. There is the potential for ABL to support Ollie in other ways if the partnership decide to. |  |  |  |
| 8  8.1  8.2 | **Aberfeldy Football Club Presentation**  Rokib and Abdul gave an informative speech about AFC and what they have done for young men in the area. They are looking for sponsorship from ABL to help them expand on their good work and develop a B team, secure winter training facilities, and in the longer run look at developing opportunities for women’s football.  The partnership gave positive feedback to AFC, in particular Val was very keen to support the team as they benefit the health and friendships of local people, as was James who praised the fact that the team have developed themselves from the grassroots. Rafi also said about how football is a great way of providing development opportunities for young people. |  |  |  |
| 8.3  8.4 | It was agreed that AFC and Liam will work to write up a costed proposal for sponsorship, for the board to discuss and make a decision at the October partnership meeting.  Sian noted that the partnership need to develop a procedure for dealing with funding requests whilst they are getting their plan together | Create proposal for partnership  Sian and Liam to work on this | Liam, Rokib, Abdul  Sian and Liam | 10th October  10th October |
| **9**  9.1  9.2 | **East London Makerspace Presentation**  Tim Barklem presented his proposed project to develop a business selling products made from recycled waste. Time is looking for support from ABL to make this happen, but has a tight deadline for his crowdfunding campaign: 23rd September.  The partnership were warm to Tim’s vision and liked the idea of the business. However, given the tight deadline, the partnership is unable to commit any money at this stage. The partnership may be open to further discussions with Tim to explore how to support his idea further down the line. | Inform Tim of the difficulty of funding before the deadline, but offer chance for future conversation. | Liam | ASAP. |

**Date of next meeting: Tue 10th October 2017**