

ECDT

Meeting: 18 May 2021

Present: Mags, Wilma, Tracy, Ann, Jackie

Apologies:

Rhymer's Project – Mags gave brief update as received feedback from Highlands & Islands Enterprise on Consultant Brief and First Stage Application. Stage 1 feasibility study now need consultants. Meeting with SOSE tomorrow to discuss further re regeneration fund. Contacted David Parker to check if any possible SBC funding available. Discussion followed re possible funding streams.

Ann to contact possible experienced consultant.

Mags stated that Community Council rep has stepped down from Community Council and they will need to find someone else as rep on the project.

Future Plans – ideas discussed re 'Relaunch of EC DT – community day, big lunch, soup & sandwich in the square, raffle, bottle stall, tombola but will depend on covid. Possible event in September and use as part of consultation.

EBikes and Funding – Ann sent round the links, and explained that Stow Station Community Trust has café and bike hub which includes e-bikes to hire. Mags also has information on Greener Melrose launch of similar project. Discussion followed included ideas where to store e-bikes, insurance and security.

Development Trust membership insurance agreed to go ahead as cost is £90, **Mags** to organise

Community Action Plan – Tracy spoke to Lauder Larder who have no formal committee but have core group, they are registered with Fare Share and receive donations from local businesses of out of date food. Lauder Larder is open to everyone and is open Wednesday and Sunday, premises belong to community centre so free, members need to sign confidentiality declaration and the group is building bigger links with other groups/areas. Discussion followed re community consultation as to need in Earlston, business sponsorship, premises and setting up costs.

Rumour that Manse is being sold – Jackie emailed Church of Scotland and they confirmed nothing for sale in Earlston.

Fund Raising – agreed need to start fund raising again and ideas discussed – sponsored bike ride, community lottery.

AOB – Wilma gave information on emails received regarding inscribed stones taken from Rhymer Towers approximately 200 years ago being returned with small ceremony to be held further details will be published.

Date of next meeting: 15 June 2021 7.30 pm