

APSE Parks, Grounds, Streets Advisory Group Meeting

Minutes Wednesday 19 August 2015

Chatelherault Country Park, Hamilton

1. Welcome

Group Secretary Stuart Pryde thanked all for attending the meeting in Chatelherault.

2. Attendance and Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes for 4 March 2015

The minutes were noted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

It was agreed that the matters arising surrounding tracking systems would be carried onto the next meeting.

5. Income Generation and the work of LES

Thomas McMenamin and Lynn Paterson from Glasgow City Council provided an overview of the Council's parks operations, existing business and covered how they improved their income capture, reassessed their traditional maintenance priorities, outlined their commercial strategy and challenges, and shared the lessons they learned and their revised commercial strategy.

6. APSE Fleet, Waste and Grounds future seminar agenda items to build on attendance levels within Streets & Grounds

Stuart Pryde from East Lothian Council asked the group about potential topic ideas for the upcoming 2016 seminar, and several suggestions were received including: litigation/risk assessments, mobile working technology, woodland conservations and generally more about biodiversity. There was some demand around the room for more discussion based sessions than straightforward presentations which was noted. A member also identified another seminar with a good example of an agenda, which Garry noted to follow up on.

7. Events Charging

Jason Hedley from Scottish Borders Council led a discussion around events charging and opened this by sharing the Council's options for a new fee structure for burial grounds, data on the charging structure for sports pitches and events as well as other areas of parks, grounds and open spaces. This stimulated a lot of discussion around the room, with several noting an interest in filling in some of the gaps in the data and building meaningful comparisons to look at exactly what is being provided at what cost.

8. Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse review update

Emma Leel from Zero Waste Scotland was unable to attend the meeting, but instead sent through several slides to inform the group that a review of the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse is underway and a steering group has been formed to help shape the review and provide feedback. She hopes to attend the next meeting in November and provide more information then.

9. APSE update

Garry Lee from APSE provided a comprehensive update on the work of the Association. This included an update on the research projects which has been recently completed by APSE (Housing The Nation, Ensuring Action on Health and Wellbeing and Waste: A brave new world) as well as the upcoming programme of research for the Association in Autumn. Garry also updated the group on the various forms of advocacy undertaken by APSE recently including our attendance at party political conferences and information on a follow-up piece on democracy and governance based on our Future of Elected Members in Scotland report. Garry completed the presentation by updating the group on APSE's services including APSE Solutions, APSE Training, Performance Networks and the upcoming seminars and State of the Market surveys.

10. Date and venue of the next meeting

The next meeting of the group will be on 18 November 2015, the venue has yet to be confirmed.

11. AOCB

Stuart Pryde notified the group about a recent consultation on a 'proposed Bill relating to burial and cremation and other related matters in Scotland' being carried out by Scottish Government and encouraged others to respond.

It was also noted that there was interest around the room in continuing discussions around charging boot camps and dog walking in parks.

Parks, Grounds & Street Services Group

19-Aug-15

Attendee List

Name	Authority
Garry Lee	APSE
Andy Sheridan	Aberdeenshire Council
Bruce Marshall	Argyll and Bute Council
John Hay	East Ayrshire Council
Gordon Crockatt	East Ayrshire Council
David Carmichael	East Dunbartonshire Council
David Cassidy	East Dunbartonshire Council
David Cullen	East Dunbartonshire Council
Andrew Hogarth	East Lothian Council
Stuart Pryde	East Lothian Council
Donnie McManus	East Renfrewshire Council
David Pugh	Falkirk Council
Claire Mennim	Falkirk Community Trust
Thomas McMenamin	Glasgow City Council

Lynn Paterson	Glasgow City Council
Allan Walker	Inverclyde Council
Ian Moffat	Inverclyde Council
Justin Venton	Midlothian Council
Cllr Barry McCulloch	North Lanarkshire Council
John Whitaker	North Lanarkshire Council
Ken Gray	Renfrewshire Council
Jason Hedley	Scottish Borders Council
Darren Silcock	Scottish Borders Council
Martin Currie	South Lanarkshire Council
Iain Stewart	South Lanarkshire Council
Colin Mackay	Stirling Council
David Crighton	Stirling Council
Craig Gardner	Stirling Council
Eirwen Hopwood	West Lothian Council
Tony Fleming	West Lothian Council

Apologies

Gordon Allan	Angus Council
Kevin Robertson	Angus Council
Melissa Simpson	Argyll & Bute Council
Nicola Simpson	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Norman Hampshire	East Lothian Council
Gerry Kane	Falkirk Council
Stephen Heron	Renfrewshire Council
Karen Anderson	Renfrewshire Council
Lynn Adams	South Lanarkshire Council
Andy Johnson	West Lothian Council
Emma Leel	Zero Waste Scotland