



East Suffolk
Community
Partnerships
Bringing ideas to life

Beccles
Bungay,
Halesworth
& villages

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Chair: Councillor Judy Cloke (East Suffolk Council)

Vice-Chair: Councillor Caroline Topping (East Suffolk Council)

East Suffolk Councillors:

Councillor Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw

Councillor Alison Cackett

Councillor Judy Cloke

Councillor Graham Elliott

Councillor Tony Goldson

Councillor David Ritchie

Councillor Caroline Topping

Suffolk County Councillor:

Councillor Mark Bee

Partnership Organisations:

Local Town and Parish Councils

Suffolk Constabulary

Great Yarmouth and Waveney Clinical
Commissioning Group

Community Action Suffolk

Business Community

Youth Community

Environment

Members of the **Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership** are invited to a meeting to be held remotely via Zoom on **Monday, 22 March 2021 at 6.00pm**

This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk Council's YouTube Channel at <https://youtu.be/vcYo3AXqGMs>

Agenda

Pages

1 Welcome and Apologies

To receive apologies for absence, if any.

		Pages
2	Notes To agree the notes of the Community Partnership meeting held on 1 February 2021.	1 - 5
3	Feedback from the Community Partnership Board meeting on 1 March 2021	6 - 7
4	Small Grants Scheme Update on the Small Grants Scheme - projects and funding.	
5	Halesworth Community Bench Feedback from Emma Healey, Halesworth Volunteer Centre.	
6	New Projects Task and Finish Group Feedback from the Task & Finish Group and allocation of funding.	
7	Forward Planning for 2021/22 a) To consider potential projects for the 2021/22 funding. b) Update from the Communities Officer on Connecting Communities and local VCS organisations.	
8	Dates of Next Meetings To note and agree the proposed dates for the meetings on Mondays at 6.00pm for the year 2021/22: 14 June and 20 September 2021 10 January and 28 February 2022.	

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Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held remotely via Zoom on Monday, 1 February 2021 at 6.00pm

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Cllr J Cloke (Chairman), Cllr E Bramley-Crawshaw, Cllr D Ritchie, Cllr C Topping.

SCC Councillors – Cllr T Goldson

Town and Parish Councils – S Collins (Bungay Town Council), B Prior (Bungay Town Council).

Partnership Organisations – F Bedding (CAS), E Healey (Halesworth Volunteer Centre), P Love (Access Community Trust).

Others present – S Carter (Democratic Services Officer), S Halsey (Communities Officer), N Rickard (Head of Communities).

In attendance – L Sampson, Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC)

Item	Discussion
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chairman of the CP, Councillor Judy Cloke, welcomed everyone to the meeting and set out a few housekeeping points to assist with the smooth running of the meeting. The Chairman reminded those present that the meeting was being broadcast live on the Council's YouTube channel.</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr A Cackett (ESC), G Birrell and G Catchpole (Beccles Town Council) and A Dunning and D Thomas (Halesworth Town Council). In addition, there were late apologies from W Summerfield (Worlingham Parish Council) who had initially joined the meeting but lost connection.</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Laura Sampson from SALC. The CP was advised that Laura had been seconded for four hours per week to not only support all eight CPs but support the engagement of the Town and Parish Councils. It was hoped to fill the gaps in representation on the CPs, thus strengthening the input from Town and Parish Councils in each CP area.</p>

2.	<p>Notes</p> <p>The Notes of the meeting held on 2 November 2020 were agreed as a correct record.</p>
3.	<p>Feedback from the Community Partnership Board on 7 December 2020</p> <p>The CP received a report which provided details of the progress and outcomes of the CP Board meeting on 7 December 2020.</p> <p>The Chairman took the report as read unless members of the CP had specific questions. There were none. The Chairman highlighted the success of the Grandpads and also made reference to the Enabling Communities budget for special projects where there was still some monies available.</p> <p>The Head of Communities advised that a list of projects had been drawn up which could be considered for funding from the unspent Enabling Communities budget. One successful project was the provision of Grandpads, simplified tablets with 4G built in. They were not cheap but had proved to be beneficial particularly for older people or those struggling with other forms of technology. It was important to identify anyone who could benefit from a Grandpad and also get some into the rural communities in this Community Partnership's area.</p> <p>In response to questions, the Head of Communities confirmed that the cost including VAT was £1,150 with a built in 4G card for two years. Therefore, there was no extra cost to the user. That was a special price to the Council due to the quantity purchased. It was hoped to buy a further 30 and whilst a bid for funding had been turned down by the County Council, other bids had been submitted to the Lowestoft Charity and NHS England. Not all of the available Grandpads were allocated at the moment. The Communities Officer advised that, from his allocation, three were being used, a further three were currently being set up, and a further four not yet allocated.</p>
4.	<p>Small Grants Scheme</p> <p>The Chairman reported that, following the allocation of £10,000 to a Small Grants Scheme, the Small Grants Panel had met the previous week and decisions had been made. The Chairman expressed thanks to Melissa Williams in the Funding Team for her invaluable support.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it was not possible to share details of the applications with the CP that evening as the applicants themselves had not been notified of the outcome. However, the Chairman gave an overview explaining that 13 applications had been received, seven were approved, two applicants were required to provide further</p>

	<p>information on their applications and four applications were being rejected because the Panel was of the opinion that the applications had not met the criteria of the scheme. An allocation of £5,689 had been made to the approved projects, leaving £4,311 unallocated. If the further two projects on which additional information was required were funded, that would bring the total to £7,647, leaving £2,362 unspent.</p> <p>The Communities Officer thanked those present for circulating the information on the scheme and to Bungay TC for producing a flyer. It was quite an achievement to have received 13 applications. The Communities Officer advised that because the allocation of finance had already been made to a Small Grants Scheme, the underspend would be carried forward into the new financial year of 2021/22.</p> <p>Comment was made that the CP could give consideration to allocating a further amount in the next financial year to the Small Grants Scheme and then run another round in April.</p>
5.	<p>CP Funding – Allocation of available finance for 2020/21</p> <p>The Communities Officer advised that the CP had about £15,000 still to be spent in the current year, that was before the end of March. Anything not allocated would not be carried over.</p> <p>Ideas for consideration were discussed:</p> <p><u>Bungay ‘Mental Health Friendly Town’ Initiative</u></p> <p>Cllr Collins gave a presentation and overview of the proposal and how Bungay might use CP funding. To build up resilience in the town, support the community and strengthen and support organisations, the slides presented to Bungay Town Council were shared with the CP. The proposal to address mental health issues would cover two of the CP’s criteria – social isolation and Covid impact. The funding would focus on Bungay and the scheme could potentially be offered to other towns if they were interested in participating. The package for approximately £5,000 included bespoke training, ongoing support, resource packs, website/social media and travel for support workers.</p> <p>The CP supported the proposal and welcomed the idea that it could be rolled out to the three market towns, including some rural areas, using the available finance of £15,000. That might also result in economies of scale and discussion should take place with Access Community Trust as to how they might like to see a rollout and tailor need to a particular area.</p>

	<p><u>Over 55s Isolation Programme – Extra Time</u></p> <p>Councillor Topping gave an overview of the proposal by Norwich City Community Sports Foundation which would provide a 16 week programme for 40 people per week offering 2 hours of group work; the first hour would be physical activity chosen by the participants on the 3G sports pitch with the second hour being devoted to social sessions including, for example, quizzes, crafts and tea/coffee. The proposal was in line with the CP's priorities and costs would be in the region of £4,224.</p> <p>Whilst noting that the tennis and rugby clubs' portacabins could be available for use as indoor facilities in bad weather, comment was made that with the county in lockdown, this might be better considered for funding in the next financial year. However, it was agreed that the proposal should be considered and the organisation be given an indication if funding was likely to be allocated.</p> <p><u>Clinks Care Farm at Toft Monks</u></p> <p>Councillor Topping gave brief details of the Covid project which would focus on supporting residents from Beccles who were at high risk due to obesity, and also those who were experiencing serious challenges and setbacks in their recovery from long Covid. The proposal would include signposting from GP surgeries, offer exercise, fresh food, fresh air, advice on healthy living and preparing home cooked food.</p> <p>In response to a question relating to the farm being based in Norfolk, the Head of Communities advised that any funding could be allocated to projects just over the border but would be for people in the CP's area only. There might be other sources of funding to support this proposal.</p> <p><u>Transport Initiative</u></p> <p>The Communities Officer reminded the CP that its other priority which had not yet been addressed was Transport. He proposed that a Task and Finish Group be set up to discuss ideas including both active travel and vehicular transport to address this priority. There had previously been discussion about using BACT to transport people from the villages into the market towns which would help not only to regenerate the towns but also social isolation.</p> <p>The Head of Communities advised that £80,000 had been allocated by the CP Board for Transport initiatives and some of that funding could be available for use for a local project emerging from the Community Partnership. If there was no immediate transport project, the CP could consider inviting the newly appointed Transport Officer to a future meeting and then involve that person in a Task and Finish Group. She reminded the CP that a further £25,000 was available in the next financial year if it wished to focus on other projects being proposed.</p>
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	<p>The Chairman proposed that transport be put on hold until the next funding round and that other projects needed to be ready and signed off before the end of the financial year.</p> <p><u>Halesworth Community Bench</u></p> <p>The Chairman reminded the CP of the project in Halesworth that had been allocated £2,000 for the provision of a 'Meet us at the Bench' in Halesworth. Although the money had been allocated, a definite scheme and completed outcome proposal form had not been submitted and approved. If the scheme was not progressed, the money would need to be allocated elsewhere. Ms Healey advised that discussions were ongoing with the Town Council and she confirmed she would report back to the next meeting with something firm and a clear proposal.</p> <p>ACTION: Emma Healey</p> <p>It was agreed that the Bungay and Beccles projects should be considered in more detail so that the organisations could be advised accordingly and appropriate finance allocated if the schemes were supported. Nominations were sought for a 'New Projects Task and Finish Group' which would meet and submit firm proposals to the next meeting of the CP. The membership of the group, supported by the Communities Officer, would be as follows:</p> <p>Cllr Judy Cloke Cllr Sue Collins Emma Healey Cllr Caroline Topping</p> <p>ACTION: Stuart Halsey to set up the T&F Group meeting</p>
6.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The CP noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 22 March 2021 at 6.00pm.</p> <p>ACTION: All – diary note</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. The lively discussion had resulted in some interesting projects coming forward.</p>

The meeting concluded at 7.13pm.



Key outcomes of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board meeting held 1 March 2021.

1. Recap:

All eight Community Partnerships are represented on the Community Partnership Board by their respective Chairs.

Community Partnership Board meeting agendas / papers / presentations / minutes can be viewed [HERE](#)

2. One Year On - Annual Impact Review

A review of the impact of Community Partnerships was led by Steve Gallant, Chairman.

The presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)

Key points relating to the eight Community Partnerships (CP's):

- The Community Partnership model was based on and IN communities, envisaged as centred on dynamic workshops and meetings in community spaces (villages halls community centres etc) to allow people to come together and problem solve local issues in their own local area. COVID totally changed this and added a whole new dimension to issues faced by communities. The CP's have responded magnificently by shifting their whole model to virtual working and managing to successfully develop a programme of work to support and coordinate elements of our community response to Covid across the whole of East Suffolk, as well as delivering on their own priorities. Several CPs have also set up Task and Finish Groups to make progress between meetings.
- £247,951 has been committed to projects across all eight CP's. with 48 projects planned, completed or underway across all eight CP's this year. However, total project costs across all CP's amounts to £604,435.09. This is combined funding for projects either initiated, developed, or supported by the CP's which represents a multiplier of 1.48 on their own budgets (i.e. for every pound that ESC has invested through the CPs a further £1.48 has been contributed). This demonstrates the value that is added by working in partnership by bringing budgets and funding streams together around shared priorities.

3. Progress from the Covid Impact Task and Finish Group.

The Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group has now met three times since it was formed, most recently on February 5th, 2021. the group reviewed all the material considered at its previous meetings about the impacts of Covid-19 in East Suffolk. This is summarised in a table [HERE](#)

The East Suffolk Buddy Up programme will build on the Suffolk model designed and delivered by Community Action Suffolk which in turn emerged from the Community Can programme. CAS are recruiting three members of staff to lead on their Isolation Buddies programme - one to work across Suffolk, one to focus on BAME and hard to reach communities and a legacy officer. All these roles are linked to the Covid

Outbreak Management Fund ambition to limit the transmission of Covid-19 by supporting people to stay well.

The model involves the recruitment of Covid-Support Buddies, initially from Good Neighbour Schemes and mutual aid/Covid response groups. The East Suffolk programme will augment this model by providing additional capacity to focus on recruiting, training, and supporting Community Buddies and Digital Buddies/Champions in our District. The aim is to support people to stay well and connected during the response phase of Covid-19 and then to support people to re-connect with community groups, activities, and facilities during the Covid-19 recovery phase. The full outcome proposal can be viewed [HERE](#)

Following discussion, the Board agreed to:

- Allocate £10,369 towards the Buddy Up project
- Allocate the remaining (£11,500) to the East Suffolk Grandpads scheme.
- Allocate £22,049.73 to the Bounce Back Fund
- Mandate the Task and Finish Group and partner organisations to develop the projects identified as a priority for 2021/22 funding from the Community Partnership Board and bring outcome proposals back to the June Board meeting

4. Feedback on the Transport and Travel Programme

The Programme Manager has started work on the programme, following the kind offer from EDF (15 hrs p/w for 6 months). Progress to date:

- Kicked off both quantitative and qualitative data gathering, which is due to ramp up over the next couple of weeks.
- Produced a key contacts list to support the creation of the CPB transport & travel strategy and begun contacting all 8 Community Partnership Chairs to arrange a conversation.
- Created a plan of action for the path leading to the strategy and fed back to the task group for further input.

5. Looking forward

The Board considered the coming year in East Suffolk and reviewed it's ambitions for 2021/22. Presentation "What will this year look like in East Suffolk" can be viewed [HERE](#)

The Board agreed to:

1. Maintain focus on current Priorities:

- Isolation and Loneliness (even bigger issue than pre-Covid...)
- Transport and Travel (deliver more impacts at a community level this year)

2. Continue to tackle the impacts of Covid-19 with a specific focus on Vulnerable People and Places

3. Also focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing (third highest Community Partnership priority – given links to Isolation and Loneliness and a growing issue due to Covid)

Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager. 03.03.2021