

# Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 12 October

# Core Membership:

<u>ESC Councillors</u> – Councillor Tony Cooper (Chairman), Councillor Tom Daly, Councillor Russ Rainger,

SCC Councillors - Councillor TJ Haworth-Culf,

<u>Town and Parish Councils</u> – Councillor Lesley Hill, Councillor Paul Richards, Councillor Ali Lumpkin (Aldeburgh Town Council)

<u>Partnership Organisations</u> – Sharon Cuthbert (Leiston GNS), Helen Greengrass (Leiston Change Manager), Chiara Saunders (Citizens Advice)

Others present –Zoe Botten (Communities Officer), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer)

Apologies: Cllr Marianne Fellowes, Cllr John Fisher

Item	Discussion
2.	Notes of the Meetings of the Community Partnership
	The action notes of the meetings held on 10 August 2022 were agreed.
3.	Community Partnership Board Update
	An update had been circulated with the agenda, there were no questions.
4.	Current Projects
	A project update had been shared with the agenda, Zoe Botten (ZB) added the following points:
	<ul> <li>Healthy movers – Framlingham CP had also contributed to the project to help expand to project and provide additional resources. Will start in the</li> </ul>
	January term.
	<ul> <li>Talking benches – one more to be delivered to Saxmundham</li> </ul>

- Dental Project more schools were coming on board to spread the project across the area
- Early minds difficulty with settings signing up, probably due to school capacity. ZB asked if the CP wanted to continue with this project.
  - Partnership agreed that they would revisit this project in the future as schools were managing a lot of issues right now.

#### 5. Community Issues

ZB stated that it was a struggle in this area communicating with young people, particularly around the cost of living crisis. ZB suggested that the Youth Voice leaders go back into schools and youth clubs to engage with people on this.

TJ Haworth-Culf (TJ) stated that she was working with a local resident who was worried about power cuts, following the unplanned power cuts last year which had left vulnerable people without light and warmth. TJ was looking to raise funding to distribute solar lights and power banks, and to arrange for a space for people to go should there be a power cut.

ZB would speak to the Council's emergency planner about what solutions would be best for parish and town councils to have in stock for emergencies.

Sharon Cuthbert (SC) asked what could be done about private landlords not fulfilling their responsibilities with vulnerable tenants, ZB would raise this with the communities' team and see which part of ESC dealt with this. TJ stated that there were similar issues with housing authorities putting in repairs and solutions which residents could not afford.

#### 6. Dementia Services

Helen Greengrass (HG) summarised a report on voluntary dementia provision across the partnership area. In some areas provision was very strong, in other areas it was lacking and there were concerns about longer term funding as grants were often for one off short term projects.

SC stated that in Leiston the approach was to link people into existing groups where they could be included in other things, rather than setting up something entirely new.

ZB asked how the groups that were doing well could share their best practise and encourage similar efforts in other areas. It was hoped that the Community Forum would help create some of these links.

Community Partnership asked that:

 Short term solutions to fund projects which would be ending soon, to ensure protection was in place over the winter period for the most vulnerable during the cost of living crisis.

- In the longer term at how projects could be made more sustainable, providing administrative support to projects to do this.
- Ask the board to look at transport links to ensure vulnerable residents could access clubs and schemes.
- Distribute information to CP reps on what is available in their area.

ACTION: £10,000 would be allocated to dementia services in the area.

# 7. Ease the Squeeze

Information on the twelve ease the squeeze projects had been sent with the agenda.

ZB added the following points:

- Referrals from Ease the Squeeze were coming in via the communities' team.
- Applications for the projects were still coming in, when information was available on what the projects were for residents, this would be distributed.
- Partnership emphasised the need to give groups a longer period to submit the necessary information, and to communicate all schemes with residents and parish/town councils
- Partnership asked if the criteria for the warm rooms be expanded slightly to allow venues such as village halls who might struggle for volunteers to take advantage of the funding.

ACTION: £10,000 be allocated to expand Ease the Squeeze projects in this area

## 9. AOB

ZB summarised a proposal from Home Start. The project asked for £7,931 for SEN young people and their parents, there is currently no support in this area.

**ACTION:** CP agreed to support the project in principle.

## 10. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 7 December in Snape.

The meeting concluded at 11.53am