

Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 3 March 2021 held remotely via Zoom

ESC Councillors – Cllr Paul Ashdown (Chairman), Cllr E Back, Cllr P Byatt, Cllr L Coulam, Cllr J Craig, Cllr L Gooch, Cllr K Patience, Cllr M Pitchers, Cllr K Robinson and Cllr M Rudd

SCC Councillors – Cllr J Ceresa, and Cllr M Vigo Di Gallidoro.

Town and Parish Councils – P Armstrong (Corton Parish Council), J Brown (Lound Parish Council), S Foote (Lowestoft Town Council), J Hinton (Oulton Parish Council), N Livingstone (Somerleyton, Ashby and Herringfleet Parish Council), A Pearce (Lowestoft Town Council), and M Thomas (Lound Parish Council).

Partnership Organisations – P Aves (Lowestoft Rising), N Cooper (SCC – Health and Obesity Reduction), J Hawes (Sue Ryder Care), D Steel (Lowestoft Vision).

Others present – S Baker (Lowestoft Rising), Sarah Davis (Democratic Services Officer), J John (NESCAB), S Meeken (Political Group Officer for Labour Group), N Rickard (Head of Communities), L Thomas (Communities Support Officer), R Tucker (Communities Officer).

Item	Discussion
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Jonny Hawes and Jenny Hinton to their first meeting of this CP. He stated that he was very proud of the work that had been done in the last year and added that he hoped the Partnership's funding had helped support communities. He also thanked the officers for all their help in supporting the Partnership.</p> <p>It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Lorraine Light (CAS), Karen McCormack (SCC) and Tina Page (Oulton Broad PC).</p>
2.	<p>Notes from the last meeting</p> <p>The notes from the last meeting on 16 December 2020 were approved.</p>
3.	<p>Community Partnership Board Update – 1 March 2021</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from the discussions at the last Board meeting as follows:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That with every £ invested the Board had received another £2.48 back in terms of other funding invested in those projects, and for the Partnerships overall another £1.48 had been received back. • Projects allocated funding by the Board – Hidden Needs Grants Programme, Volunteering Campaign run by CAS, grandpads, East Bags, KATCH bus, Covid Community Fund and the , Bounce Back Fund. • The Covid Impact Task and Finish Group had proposed a number of projects such as the Buddy Up Project through CAS (£10K) including a focus on digital champions; additional grandpads; and more funding into the Bounce Back Fund for PPE, sanitizer, leaflets etc to make buildings covid secure. • The Board had focussed on looking forward to the next financial year and had agreed to retain Isolation and Loneliness, and Transport as the priorities as well as focussing on the third priority of Mental Health and Wellbeing, together with continuing the additional priority for this year relating to the impact of Covid to ensure the district could recover as quickly as possible. • The Cabinet Member had provided details of the work of each CP. <p>The Partnership received details of the East Bags, which were reusable jute bags containing different items and projects, and were asked to inform Officers of anyone who they thought would benefit from receiving an East Bag.</p> <p>Clarification was sought on whether the Lowestoft Mile videos would play on the grandpads and it was confirmed that they would.</p> <p>Nicole and her team were congratulated on the work carried out. It was reported that feedback from East Bag recipients had been very positive.</p>
4.	<p>2019/20 Funding – Project update</p> <p>Janet John from NES CAB reported on the Voice of a Friend Project and it was noted that there had been 78 clients on the original list who had all been contacted. To date, 16 of those had been matched with a befriender, some had not wanted to continue, some had higher complex needs and consequently were deemed not to be suitable for this project but had been put through to the social prescribing project instead, and 26 were waiting to be matched. She explained that the major issue was that volunteers to act as the befriender were needed but, in the meantime, the Project Co-ordinator kept in regular contact with the clients. The Co-ordinator also assessed the level of needs for new referrals to ensure that those in greatest need were prioritised. It was explained that, currently, self-referrals were not accepted as there were not enough befrienders but referrals from organisations could be made. Each befriender would have a maximum of 4 clients once they were fully trained and the befriender was able</p>

	<p>to refer the client to mainstream CAB services if necessary.</p> <p>Clarification was sought on how the CAB protected clients from potential scammers and Janet responded that clients were referred and this was a phone service rather than online. She added that the CAB did put out general information about staying safe online. Nicole explained that, in relation to grandpads, only people who had been approved by the family were able to call etc so it was a protected environment. She added that scamming was an issue, explaining that her team had contacted 6000 clinically vulnerable people and a proportion had not wanted to talk to them because they thought the team were scammers. The point was also made that purchases could not be made on the grandpads so people could not be scammed in that way. Jonny Hawes stated that his organisation supported vulnerable people and so he was happy to raise awareness and help where he could.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that there were still 26 clients waiting to be matched with a befriender and clarification was sought on what the CAB were doing to attract volunteers. It was also suggested that the CAB should look at the demographics of the volunteers they already had to see if that would help widen the net to attract more. The point was made that the option of volunteering was often suggested to those of college/uni age to gain soft employment skills so the CAB might want to contact colleges to try to attract students. It was also pointed out that a lot of clients had left because they had wanted to be paired up with someone local to them. Janet reminded the meeting that the Co-ordinator contacted the clients regularly but acknowledged that the CAB did need to attract more volunteers so she agreed to look into the suggestions made. Clarification was also sought as to whether the existing volunteers were ethnically diverse and Janet responded that she was not aware that this was measured currently but she would discuss this with the Co-ordinator as well as potentially targeting some of the advertising to ethnic minority groups.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Janet for her update.</p>
5.	<p>Update from the Task and Finish Groups</p> <p>Phil Aves reported that he had talked to Access who would lead the Walk in the Park Project when Covid restrictions were lifted. He reminded the meeting that this was a Sunday afternoon walk alternating around the park and seafront locations to tackle obesity and isolation. It was hoped that it would go live in the summer and participants would be linked into the 1 Life Suffolk walks being held during the week. It was noted that the project to support school children around mental health and wellbeing had now gone live with 4 members of staff in training at the UEA, although the meeting was reminded that this was not</p>

	<p>funded from this Partnership. He added that the Group was still looking at the Sam's café project for younger children to be held on the Sunday afternoon after the walk and some children had been asked to help design it.</p> <p>As part of the Childhood Obesity Task and Finish Group, Nicki Cooper gave an update on the Shaping Places for Healthier Lives Programme which was LGA funded. The Partnership was reminded that the proposal had successfully reached the third round of the bidding process and it was noted that the next stage involved community consultation and mapping the physical resources and services/community groups available in the Kirkley and Harbour Wards. Following Nicki's query, the Ward Councillors for these areas agreed to talk to William Knights who was leading on this. Janet reported that the CAB had a Community Asset Register which held the contact details of over 100 groups in Lowestoft that William might find useful. Sarah Foote suggested that William might also want to talk to the Lowestoft Town Councillors that covered the Kirkley and Harbour Wards.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>Sarah Davis to send Nicki the contact details for the Kirkley and Harbour Ward Councillors.</p> <p>In relation to the Partnership's third priority of transport, the Chairman reported that he and Danny would be meeting with Jack Raven from EDF who was leading on the Board's work on transport regarding issues in Lowestoft and the rural areas to see what could be done about transport in this CP area. Cllr Gooch mentioned East Suffolk Travellers Association and it was agreed that the Chairman would mention them to Jack.</p>
6.	<p>2020/21 Funding – Project Updates</p> <p>Nicki Cooper reported that the Healthy Movers Project had been paused and Officers would be talking to more settings next week with a view to getting the programme kicked off after Easter.</p> <p>It was noted that the Lowestoft Mile project would be launched on 22 March 2021 and the Partnership viewed a demonstration of one of the four walks. Delight was expressed at the demonstration and the point was made that the benefits could be huge and so, if possible, more walks should be added. It was also noted that the intention was to work with local care providers to ensure they reached as many people as possible. The Partnership was informed that the project had been opened up to other CP areas and, because of this, another domain name called EastWalks.co.uk had been purchased. Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and Villages CP had already agreed to fund 2 walks and</p>

	<p>Framlingham and Woodbridge CPs had also expressed an interest. In relation to the goggles, it was noted that Enabling Communities Budget funding had been provided to purchase 150 goggles and they had been targeted at those with dementia and young people as a learning tool. The Partnership noted that there was an underspend of £1,270 and it was suggested that another walk be funded.</p> <p>AGREED: That a further walk be funded from the underspend and the Officers be thanked for their hard work on this brilliant project.</p> <p>In relation to the Small Grants Scheme, it was noted that 14 applications had been received with 6 being approved as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corton Playing field - £1,650 • VACT Community Transport £1,500 • Oulton Parish Council - £2,000 • Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club - £2,000 • Lound Parish Council - £1,990 • YMCA Trinity Group - £1655 <p>The Partnership was informed that the 6 successful applications totalled £10,805 which was an overspend of £805 but we were able to fund this. 3 projects were deferred for more information or they fell operationally in the next financial year. The 5 rejected were either because they did not meet any of the 3 priorities, were very large projects and so a small grant would make little difference to the overall project, or some had been picked up by local Councillors using their Enabling Budgets. Danny explained that some applications lacked substance, therefore, it was recommended if there was another round that any applicants speak to the Funding Team to get guidance on their submission to ensure they met the CP's priorities. The point was made that Lowestoft Town Council also had a Community Grants Fund which unsuccessful applicants could be directed to.</p>
7.	<p>2021/22 Funding</p> <p>The Chairman reminded the Partnership that it had previously been agreed to hold £10K back for the Walk in the Park and Sam's Café Projects which had been delayed due to Covid. He proposed that another £10K Small Grants Scheme be operated in 2021/22 which meant that this would leave £5K in the 2021/22 pot.</p> <p>AGREED: That a further Small Grants Scheme totalling £10K from the 2021/22 Partnership funding be approved.</p>

8.	Dates of Future Meetings Tuesday, 22 June 2021 - 6pm Tuesday, 28 September 2021 - 6pm Wednesday, 15 December 2021 - 6pm Tuesday, 22 March 2022 - 6pm

The meeting concluded at 7.35pm