

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held at Holton Village Hall, 19 December 2022 at 6pm

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Cllr Judy Cloke (Chairman), Cllr Alison Cackett, Cllr Tony Goldson, Cllr Sarah Plummer

Town and Parish Councils – Cllr Tony Dawes (Bungay Town Council), Cllr Rachel Kellett (Halesworth Town Council) Cllr Linda Kersey (Worlingham Parish Council), Cllr Beryl Matthews (Wisset Parish Council),

Partnership Organisations – Fran Bedding (Community Access Suffolk), Sue Collins (Bungay Community Support), Edward Elphick (Youth Representative), Phil Love (Access Community Trust), Eric Sewell (Apollo Youth Centre)

Others present – Sam Kenward (Communities Officer), Poppy Lovell (CAS), Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer)

Apologies: Cllr John Adams (Bungay Town Council), Emma Healey (Halesworth Volunteer Centre), Cllr Caroline Topping (East Suffolk Council)

Item	Discussion
1.	Ground Rule refresh The Partnership reviewed the ground rules, no changes were made.
2	Notes of the Previous Meeting The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.
3.	Community Partnership Board Update Nicole Rickard (NR) summarised the most recent meeting of the Community Partnership Board. The Board had focussed on a report from the transport task and finish group which recommended funding to continue the electric taxi bus trial, this was agreed.

	<p>The Board also considered a report from the social isolation and loneliness task and finish group which laid out a project to fund community buildings and village halls to develop them into community hubs by improving infrastructure and making spaces more versatile. The project had been agreed and an application had been made to the Rural England Prosperity Fund for funding, the project would be run with support from Community Action Suffolk who would help groups with planning.</p> <p>NR summarised some of the projects which could be funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved internet connections and IT infrastructure • Improving kitchen facilities • Extensions or adaptations to make spaces more flexible and increase the number of rooms available • Men's sheds/makers shed equipment • EV chargers • Energy upgrades to meet Net Zero targets (solar panels etc.) <p>The programme would run from 2023-2024 and information would be sent to all village halls and community centres.</p>
4.	<p>Community Partnership Projects Update</p> <p>A written update had been provided with the agenda. Sam Kenward (SK) highlighted the Ease the Squeeze top ups this CP had been funding which had allowed the expansion of the warm rooms offer in the area. SK stated there was a gap in provision in the villages around Bungay.</p> <p>The CP raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of volunteers and how people could be encouraged to get involved • How spaces which were already open and were acting as a warm room could be included as much as possible
5.	<p>Community Issues</p> <p>SK updated on the following issues</p> <p>Youth Voice</p> <p>Youth Take Over Day happened at the end of November. This had focussed on the environment and climate change and asked students how they could work towards their vision for the world in 2070. Sir John Leman and SET Beccles participated in this event.</p> <p>SK would collate responses and look at how some of these ideas could be actioned in the new year.</p>

	<p>Cost of living</p> <p>Flyer had been produced detailing what help was available in the community and when and contact details for CAB, food banks and Ease the Squeeze referrals.</p> <p>The CP raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental resilience of volunteers was very important as they were having to deal with more difficult conversations and situations • Details of programmes and support were spreading into the community • East Suffolk Council branded leaflets were helpful in reassuring people that they were accessing safe spaces and safe services. <p>NR stated that some mental health essentials workshops were being run to help volunteers and community groups build mental resilience.</p> <p>Halesworth Youth Project</p> <p>Poppy Lovell (PL) updated the meeting on the Halesworth Youth Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detached youth work pilot was now running and was picking up quite quickly compared to other areas. • Feedback from young people was being actioned, for example in making the skate park more usable. • A town park group had been set up to take these ideas forward and to help design the park. • Halesworth Town Council and Norse had been very responsive in dealing with any issues which had improved the confidence of the young people and reassured them that they were being listened to.
6.	<p>New project proposal</p> <p>Participatory Budgeting for Young People</p> <p>One proposal had been submitted for £3,000 for a project which provided young people at Bungay High School, Thirst Youth Hub and Apollo Youth Club with the opportunity to decide how to allocate £1,000 to meet the CP's objectives. Either by delivering their own project to meet the objectives or deciding. SK commented that this would not only help provide something young people wanted to see, but would also encourage them to take on some management and planning for the project.</p> <p>CP raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to ensure the project identified was sustainable. PL confirmed that the conversation and planning would be guided by youth workers, and they would be given guidelines to work within.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What would happen if a project was identified which cost more than was allocated. SK agreed that the project could be topped up by the CP if necessary, or the group encouraged to source their own funding to top up ideas. <p>The Community Partnership agreed to fund the project.</p> <p>Eric Sewell did not vote as he represented the Apollo Youth Club.</p> <p>ACTION: £3000 to be allocated to the project for participatory budgeting for young people.</p>
7.	<p>CP objective action plan</p> <p>SK led a workshop on the CP action plan for the year ahead. The results of the action plan would be distributed in the new year.</p>

The meeting concluded at 20:01pm.