

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Monday, 3 February 2020 in Bungay Community Centre, 50 Upper Olland Street, Bungay, NR35 1BH

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Cllr J Cloke (Chairman), Cllr G Elliott, Cllr T Goldson and Cllr D Ritchie.

SCC Councillors

Town and Parish Councils – A Carr (Beccles Town Council), G Catchpole (Beccles Town Council), S Collins (Bungay Town Council), B Prior (Bungay Town Council), and W Summerfield (Worlingham Parish Council)

Partnership Organisations – J Ball (Thirst Youth/Scouts), F Bedding (CAS), R Hunt (CCG) and A Sear (CCG).

Others present – L Bennett (ESC Partnership Manager), S Carter (Democratic Services Officer), S Halsey (Communities Officer), G Hirst (Communities Support Officer), N Khan (Strategic Director), B Porter (Funding Manager), Councillor L Smith (Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism) and C Willis (Economic Development Officer).

Item	Discussion
1.	<p>Welcome from the Chairman, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>The Chairman of the CP, Councillor Judy Cloke, welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first full session of the Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that this was very much a new initiative to enable communities to prioritise issues, move them forward and in doing so, make a difference to the lives of people around them. The most important part of the Partnership was just that – a partnership of people and organisations within the area. Together, everyone could make a difference.</p> <p>The Chairman introduced the Councillors present from the East Suffolk Council and asked all present to introduce themselves. She then introduced the officers who would be assisting in facilitating the meeting and who would also be involved in future meetings.</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from ESC Councillors Bramley-Crawshaw and Topping.</p>

2.	<p>Approval of the Terms of Reference and Ground Rules</p> <p>The Chairman presented the Terms of Reference for the Partnership which were standard for all of the eight Community Partnerships. These were accepted. However, should those present have any issues they wished to raise, they could do so at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman explained the Meeting Ground Rules which had been circulated in advance and were tabled at the meeting. It was important for everyone to feel comfortable and feel they were able to fully participate in this and future Partnership meetings.</p> <p>The Communities Support Officer hosted a short game of human bingo as an ice breaker.</p>
3.	<p>Discussion of the 3 Community Partnership Objectives</p> <p>The Communities Officer explained the underlying serious reasons for the Community Partnerships and the hope that people and representatives from key local groups/organisations would come forward to speak on issues in the community. They looked forward to getting young people to get involved and participate.</p> <p>The Communities Officer drew attention to the three priorities that had been identified at the Workshop which had taken place on 11 November 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop active and sustainable transport solutions/community transport • Tackle social isolation and loneliness • Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives <p>In addition, the two District wide priorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce social isolation and loneliness • Active and sustainable transport links <p>Firstly, it was proposed that each of the priorities would be discussed and key points noted on the prompt sheets put out on the tables. ESC staff were on each table to support discussions and one person needed to be nominated to give feedback. Finance had been allocated to each Community Partnership and it was hoped that the allocation of such funding would enable the provision of better services, avoid duplication and allow closer working to improve services. Funding would be discussed later on the Agenda.</p>

4.

Feedback from table discussions

Members on each of the three tables were asked to work together to look at each of the three priorities. Those present were given the time to consider each priority and they were then given the opportunity to feed back to the Community Partnership as a whole. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

Priority 1

Develop active and sustainable transport solutions /community transport

Currently in place:

- BACT Community Transport – accessible for all the community across the whole of Waveney Community bus and community/private cars
- Our Bus
- Train Stations – Halesworth and Beccles
- Community Transport – Halesworth HACT
- Barriers – not enough volunteers is an issue, getting young people to work placements/apprenticeships
- Issue with connectivity between different transport solutions
- Walking cycling routes
- Prioritising appointments around bus times for those needed medical attention who are reliant on public transport
- Car volunteer drivers
- High School minibuses are not used much outside school hours
- NONE in Rumburgh, Cookley, Walpole, Bramfield

Ideas/Solutions:

- Explore the possibility of improving walking and cycling routes – need for safety – Beccles and Bungay Cycling Strategy
- Cycle path for Brampton Railway Station
- Car club-car sharing – can we explore as a solution in Beccles
- Hop on/hop off buses across the towns
- Boundaries should not be so rigid
- Need for joined up thinking/funding

Resources required:

- Mapping/feasibility study to understand need for walking/cycling – also need to make sure no duplication
- Green Print forum
- Researchers and admin support
- Local knowledge
- People / funding / legislation / licensing

Task & Finish Group for this priority:

- BACT/HACT
- Sustrains or BBCS



- Border Bus / First Bus
- Halesworth Cycling group
- Connect with quiet lanes
- Moped Scheme
- Youth Groups /Elderly / Single Parents / Students

Other comments:

- Taxis in rural areas are a problem
- Norfolk border is an issue
- Hospital patient/visitor transport from Halesworth is poor
- Barriers to improving services is relying on volunteers and lack of funding lack of safety on roads for cyclists
- Use school buses when not used for school transport

Priority 2

Tackle social isolation and loneliness

Currently in place:

- Coffee caravan
- Meet Up Mondays
- Community centres/village halls/library/schools/leisure centres/bridge clubs/singing clubs
- BACTHACT
- GP surgeries/pharmacists – social prescribing
- Sea Scouts in Beccles and Bungay
- U3A, Men's Sheds, 'Munch & Mingle' pubs, Racehorse Pub in Westhall (Community pub)
- Waveney Centre in Beccles
- Bungay Lunch Club
- Waveney Mental Health Group, Baby & Toddler Groups, Church Community Groups

Ideas/Solutions:

- Better use of community centres
- How to connect people (look at www.lumi.org community website in Norwich, skills, space & stuff)
- Increase Youth Club provision across the partnership area
- Gingerbread type provision for single parents
- Inter-generational activities and mini free training sessions
- Good neighbour scheme and identify who is isolated, both old/young
- Coffee mornings and training sessions

Resources required:

- Hidden needs – making best use of this and taking it to the next level
- How can we find out who is lonely and then ask them what support they'd like
- Police Support Officers – no longer funded



- Administrative, analytical, collating and communication skills
- Advertising and mentors
- Volunteers / funding / transport

Task & Finish Group for this priority:

- Park run
- Goodgym (available in Norwich)
- Can we use community pharmacies better?
- Men's Shed, U3A, All at 1. Youth Council

Other comments:

- Groups who will benefit – single parents, elderly and frail, those with mental health issues, unseen vulnerable men, self-employed lone workers, young people
- Need to identify the socially isolated of all age groups
- Connected Communities funding for three year delivery project was due to commence early March
- Place adverts in local shops offering help

Priority 3

Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives

Currently in place:

- Walking, cycling, running clubs, One Life Health Walks, yoga, RSPB, canoeing, cricket, rugby, football, hockey
- Allotments/Community Orchard
- Running Clubs – Bungay Blackdogs, beginners welcome
- Beccles Community Table Tennis
- Scouts and Brownies
- Growing food and teaching cooking skills in schools
- River spots, Beccles lido, Bungay pool and gym, skate parks
- School/community sports halls
- Allotments, a community orchard and forest school

Ideas/Solutions:

- Address sedentary lifestyles
- Access to facilities and getting there must be affordable
- Space in curriculum for life skills / education covering health eating
- Access to greenspace and encouraging families to participate
- Do all villages have playgrounds? Outdoor gyms?
- Expand on forest schools and cooking skills
- 3-wheeler bikes for hire and play parks to be equipped so children can learn to cycle
- Volunteer 'walk and talk'
- Mobile skate park / climbing wall

	<p><u>Resources required:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Pop up” shops in un-used town centre shops, e.g. teaching cooking skills, drop in for members of the public, cooking and eating healthy foods • Accessible open space • Beccles and Bungay Harriers, running club for all ages • Volunteers or paid staff • People to teach <p><u>Task & Finish Group for this priority:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities Team • Education/school governors • Churches • Forest School <p><u>Other comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of people are in need but are in denial, how do you tempt them in?
5.	<p>Funding for 2019/20 and 2020/21</p> <p>The Communities Officer explained that the Community Partnership had £10,000 to be allocated in the current financial year of 2019/20 and £25,000 per annum for the next three years, details of which were set out on page 3 of the Agenda. It was considered important to focus on individual priorities.</p> <p>In addition to that allocation, there was a further allocation of £150,000 for 2019/20 and £300,000 per year for the next three years. The District wide priorities, on page 3 of the Agenda, were Transport and Social Isolation and Loneliness. It was noted that the first two priorities identified would be looked at from the strategic point of view as they had been identified across all Community Partnership groups and those priorities would be considered by the Strategic Board comprising each CP Chairman.</p> <p>The Communities Officer proposed a Task and Finish Group be set up to focus on the third priority of ‘improving physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives’. Such a Group could look at ideas and then discuss how the financial allocation for 2019/20 which needed to be allocated before the end of the financial year. The Task and Finish Group would be made up of some of the people present and extra people could be involved to look at how the money could be spent for the good of the community.</p> <p>Verbal support was given to focussing on one priority and those present noted that the other two priorities could be considered in the following year, with discussions being referred back to the Board.</p> <p>Nominations were sought for the Task and Finish Group which would have to meet/communicate amongst themselves in the next three weeks for reporting</p>

	<p>back to the Community Partnership at its next meeting before the end of the financial year. The membership of the group would be as follows:</p> <p><u>Improve Wellbeing Task and Finish Group</u> Stuart Halsey, ESC Communities Officer (Lead) Andrea Carr, Beccles Town Council Sue Collins, Bungay Town Council ESC Councillor Graham Elliott ESC Councillor Tony Goldson Amanda Sear, Great Yarmouth and Waveney CCG</p> <p>The Community Partnership noted that Community Action Suffolk was keen on encouraging voluntary groups to become involved and the CCG welcomed being able to feed in to help move things forward. It was proposed that a representative from the volunteer centres should join the Task and Finish Group and Emma Healey from Halesworth Volunteer centre was nominated.</p> <p><u>ACTION - Stuart Halsey</u></p>
6.	<p>Review of the Membership of the Community Partnership and Next Steps</p> <p><u>Improve Wellbeing Task and Finish Group</u> The Strategic Director explained that this Group would look at the various aspects of this priority and bring back to the Community Partnership options and several proposals for consideration and agreement on financial allocation. The Partnership Manager agreed to help with data preparation.</p> <p>The Communities Officer confirmed he would lead on this occasion; it was hoped that future Task and Finish Groups would be led by members of the Community Partnership.</p> <p>The Lead would be sent the contact details for the members of the Group after the meeting. <u>ACTION – Sarah Carter</u></p> <p><u>Membership of the Community Partnership</u> The Chairman felt that there was a good mix of people present at the meeting, therefore everyone would be invited to the next meeting of the Community Partnership. The Communities Officer reported that the Police had been invited to attend and advised that it was hoped to include young people but for safeguarding reasons it would be necessary to have more than one present. He sought further nominations from other groups.</p> <p>It was proposed that more voluntary groups should be involved as there had been more present at the Workshop Event in November 2019. It was important to get their combined views, such representatives should all be brought together</p>

	<p>to get a consensus of opinion. Comment was also made on ways to use the money in such a diverse area, comparing Beccles facilities with those limited facilities in rural areas. It might be difficult to find a project(s) that would be fair to all. The Communities Officer was of the opinion that each Task and Finish Group would be able to address such differences.</p> <p>Moving forward, the overall membership of the Community Partnership would need to be considered. <u>ACTION – Nicole Rickard and Stuart Halsey in consultation with the Chairman</u></p> <p>The Partnership Manager explained that, going forward, it was hoped to be equitable across the whole area including addressing hidden needs. One example could see a grants scheme established which could help and allow volunteer groups to apply for funding. It was agreed that £1,000 towards a project could go further in rural areas. The Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism gave the Community Partnership a reminder that each District Councillor had an Enabling Budget of £7,500.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the first Community Partnership meeting and for their valuable participation.</p>
7.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The Chairman proposed that the next meeting be held on Monday 9 March 2020, which would enable the Task and Finish Group to feed back to the Community Partnership their findings with regard to the priority of ‘improving physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives’ with a view to allocating funding before the end of the 2019/20 financial year.</p> <p>It was planned to hold that meeting at 6.00pm at Holton and Blyford Village Hall.</p> <p>Once confirmed the date, time and venue would be circulated to the CP. <u>ACTION - Sarah Carter</u></p> <p><i>NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting, it has been ascertained that Holton and Blyford Village Hall is not available on that date. The next meeting will still be held on Monday 9 March 2020 but at Halesworth Day Centre, London Road, Halesworth.</i></p>

The meeting concluded at 8.03pm.