



Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24 June 2021 via the Zoom video conferencing system

Core Membership present:

ESC Councillors – Cllr Mark Jepson (Chair), Cllr Stuart Bird, Cllr Mike Deacon, Cllr Tracey Green, Cllr Steve Wiles

SCC Councillors – Cllr Graham Newman

Town and Parish Councils – Cllr Lynn Beal (Trimley St Mary Parish Council), Cllr Joanne Doyle (Waldringfield Parish Council), Cllr Rhea Gardner (Bucklesham Parish Council), Cllr Sharon Harkin (Felixstowe Town Council & Vice-Chair), Cllr Brian Hunt (Nacton Parish Council), Cllr Yvonne Smart (Trimley St Martin Parish Council), Ash Tadjrishi (Clerk to Felixstowe Town Council)

Partnership Organisations – Helen Greengrass (ESC Felixstowe Forward Change Director), Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk), Hayley Stearn (Integrated Neighbourhood Team), Sarah Wilson (Community Representative)

Others present – Chloe Lee (Communities Officer, East Suffolk Council), Matt Makin (Democratic Services Officer, East Suffolk Council)

Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome and Apologies Apologies were received from: Cllr Steve Gallant (East Suffolk Council) Shez Hopkins (Level Two Youth Project) Cllr Colin Reid (Waldringfield Parish Council) Cllr Andy Smith (Felixstowe Town Council)
2.	Appointment of Vice-Chair It was agreed that Cllr Sharon Harkin be appointed as the Community Partnership's Vice-Chair for the 2021/22 year.



3.	Notes of the previous meeting The action notes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record.
4.	Community Partnership Board Update Cllr Jepson (MJ) summarised the written report that had been published with the meeting agenda, covering topics around COVID projects, retraining projects, mentoring opportunities, and funding allocations. MJ also discussed the Task and Finish Group that the Board had established to look at key priorities for Mental Health.
5.	A Rural Proofing Approach for East Suffolk Community Partnerships The Community Partnership received a presentation from Sarah Mortimer (SM), from Community Action Suffolk (CAS), on a rural proofing approach for East Suffolk Community Partnerships. The presentation covered the following key points: • The initial meetings between CAS and the Community Partnership Chairs, to discuss rural proofing. • The rural proofing toolkit developed with the information gathered at those meetings. • How the toolkit can be applied to the work of the Community Partnerships. • The support in place from Sarah Mortimer until the end of March 2022, including tailored support for each of the eight East Suffolk Community Partnerships. • The what, why and how of rural proofing ○ The definition of a rural area ○ Provision of impactful projects ○ The reference to rural proofing in the updated Terms of Reference • Rural proofing projects and services, including examples of questions for each stage of a project. MJ invited questions to SM, where the following points were covered: • The importance of involving partnership organisations when looking at rural proofing. • The ability of rural proofing to enable conversations on a project that may identify a solution, noting that this would not always be the case depending on the scope of the project/issue.

	• How to seek support from CAS on rural proofing; SM highlighted that some of the other Community Partnerships had formed Task and Finish Groups to discuss aspects of the toolkit and make recommendations. IT was noted that one of the other Community Partnerships was holding a virtual event with a wider audience to identify what rural proofing means to them. Rural proofing was discussed by the Community Partnership and it was agreed that a Task and Finish Group, chaired by Cllr Sharon Harkin (SH) would be formed to look at what the Community Partnership had achieved and how rural proofing could be applied to future work. ACTION – A Task and Finish Group on rural proofing, chaired by Cllr Sharon Harkin and supported by Chloe Lee, to be formed. Membership to be confirmed.
6.	Update on the Walking Projects Chloe Lee (CL) provided a recap of the “Lowestoft Mile” project presented at the Community Partnership’s last meeting and the discussions that had taken place on providing something similar in the Felixstowe Peninsula area. The idea of students from Felixstowe School making content for a district-wide scheme had been explored but was not feasible, as the company who create the virtual walks for what was now the “East Suffolk Mile” also manage the website. CL explained that these discussions with Felixstowe School had explored other aspirations, including the idea of the school hosting a “Foreshore Film Festival” to provide opportunities for young people in Felixstowe, and from this developing a non-profit company to provide professional opportunities for young people to get involved in film. Felixstowe School were seeking £5,000 to fund this project and were also exploring approaching Ward Members for funding from their Enabling Communities Budgets. CL added that this, and a proposed “talking benches” project, could link into producing self-made virtual walking tours in the future. Government funding relating to the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable list had been allocated to developing virtual walks and/or talking benches. The Community Partnership was advised that it could choose to add walks to the existing “East Suffolk Mile” scheme or look to fund the proposed Foreshore Film Festival and associated projects.

MJ confirmed that he had spoken with Cllrs Bird, Deacon and Gallant and all had agreed to meet the £5,000 request from Felixstowe School for the Foreshore Film Festival from their Enabling Communities Budgets.

ACTION – Cllrs Bird, Deacon, Gallant and Jepson to fund the Foreshore Film Festival from their Enabling Communities Budgets.

MJ suggested that the equipment purchased for the festival could be used afterwards by Felixstowe School to develop a community walks project. This was considered by the Community Partnership to be a good idea.

ACTION – The use of the video equipment, after the Foreshore Film Festival, to develop a community walks project to be explored.

Further discussion highlighted the following:

- The talking benches could be any colour.
- The talking benches could be incorporated into a “listening benches” scheme and/or walking routes
- That a similar scheme in Wesel, Felixstowe’s twin town, for “chat bars” could be looked into.
- Possible walking routes
- The possible use of YouTube to host student produced videos.
- Possible locations for talking benches, including on existing walking routes in Trimley St Martin.

ACTION – Chloe Lee to explore the possibility of replicating the “chat bar” project undertaken in Wesel.

ACTION – Cllr Harkin and Chloe Lee to investigate the need for talking benches and routes via the Rural Proofing Task and Finish Group.

Cllr Tracey Green (TG) said that she had been approached by Pier Projects regarding a walking art trail and had provisionally committed to fund this project from her Enabling Communities Budget. Helen Greengrass (HG) noted that this project had received funding from the Arts Council.

Cllr Graham Newman (GN) highlighted that he was involved in updating the book on walking held at Felixstowe Tourist Information Board and suggested that it could be used to contribute towards the proposed walking projects.

ACTION – Cllr Jepson, Cllr Newman and Chloe Lee to discuss using the book on walking held at Felixstowe Tourist Information Board to contribute towards the

	proposed walking projects.
7.	Discussion on Open Spaces MJ recapped the Community Partnership reordering its priorities in 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and invited the Community Partnership to discuss any potential projects identified that would support other priorities. TG highlighted an undertaking made by Felixstowe Town Council to survey and audit open spaces in the town and suggested a similar approach being adopted for the whole Community Partnership area. Various open spaces in the area were discussed. Hayley Stearn (HS) highlighted the benefits of open spaces in relation to mental health and wellbeing and considered that talking benches could be linked to open spaces. ACTION – Cllr Jepson, Cllr Green and Chloe Lee to discuss a potential survey and audit of open spaces in the Community Partnership area. ACTION – Chloe Lee and Joss Mullett to investigate visiting open spaces in the Community Partnership area. ACTION – Chloe Lee to contact parishes to discuss linking talking benches to open spaces.
8.	Any Other Business MJ encouraged all members of the Community Partnership to approach either himself or CL at any time if they have identified any projects that might be of interest.
8.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 23 September 2021, 2pm, venue TBC

The meeting concluded at 3.28pm