

Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 2021 via Zoom

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Councillor Tony Cooper (Chairman), Councillor John Fisher

<u>SCC Councillors</u> – Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf

<u>Town and Parish Councils</u> – Heather Brewell (Knodishall Parish Council), Councillor Julian Cusack (Middleton Parish Council), Councillor Lesley Hill (Leiston Town Council), Caroline Rinder (Leiston Town Council), Councillor Russ Rainger (Snape Parish Council)

<u>Partnership Organisations</u> – Di Eastman (IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme), Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk), Joanne Thain (ESC Leiston Change Manager)

Others present – Katherine Abbott (Democratic Services Officer), Zoe Botten (Communities Officer), Luke Bennett (Partnerships Manager), Mel Geater (Avocet Academy)

Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence
	Apologies for absence were received from Sharon Cuthbert (Good Neighbour Scheme) and Councillor Marianne Fellowes (Aldeburgh Town Council)
2.	Rural Proofing Toolkit
	Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk) gave a presentation as an introduction to the Rural Proofing Toolkit. This included how to best use the rural proofing approach, how best to embed it, provided examples of projects and services and offered further support.
	Councillor Cusack asked if there was a definition of 'rural' in the context of rural proofing. Sarah Mortimer replied that this was, largely, up to the Partnership to define; she added that there might be a wish to identify, as a group, the areas

which were not rural. It was agreed that the creation of the Partnership's own criteria for what constituted 'rural' in this regard would be beneficial.

ACTION: A small Task and Finish Group was proposed and agreed to take this forward and return to the Partnership with recommendations. The Task and Finish Group was formed of Councillor Cusack, Heather Brewell, Sarah Mortimer and Zoe Botten. The Task and Finish Group to report the results of its discussions to the next meeting of the Partnership.

3. Terms of Reference

The Partnership received the revised generic Terms of Reference for the Community Partnerships.

Councillor Cusack queried the appointment of a Chairman to each Partnership by the political Leader of East Suffolk Council. The Partnerships Manager said this had always been the intention since the establishment of the Community Partnerships and so was not a change in approach. Councillor Cusack challenged the 'top-down' approach.

ACTION: The Chairman agreed to take Councillor Cusack's comments to the next meeting of the Community Partnership Board. The revised Terms of Reference were noted.

4. Review of the Community Partnership's Membership

The Partnership reviewed its current membership in light of the revised generic Terms of Reference.

Di Eastman said she would raise membership at her next Annual General Meeting.

ACTION: The Chairman asked that members remember to give apologies if they were unable to attend a Partnership meeting to help the Clerk ensure it was quorate and able to determine funding applications.

There was a discussion of whether the meetings of the Partnership would continue to be held remotely or, when restrictions allowed, return to physical meetings. The Partnerships Manager said the original model for the Partnerships had envisaged the meetings moving around to venues within its communities. He acknowledged that remote meetings were attractive to some people, but that other people would prefer a different approach. He said that, perhaps, to maintain the general momentum of business the virtual meeting was more effective but, equally, the opportunity to attend a physical meeting had its benefits too. In short, he said, there was not yet a 'one size fits all' solution.

Councillor Rainger asked if the Partnership was doing enough to promote or explain how it worked, what it had achieved and, he suggested, to better engage

with people through some self-analysis of that part of its role. Councillor Haworth-Culf suggested that recipients of funding be invited to feedback to the Partnership on the funding it had been awarded and what impact it had had – in this way, she suggested, the work of the Partnership would be promoted.

ACTION: Recipients of funding from the Partnership to be invited, regularly, to attend a meeting to feedback on how the award had benefitted them and the direct impact.

5. Forward Work Programme

The current Forward Work Programme was received and discussed. The following were agreed as additions to the Programme with dates, if indicated, as shown below.

- Feedback from Rural Proofing Task and Finish Group (July 2021)
- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (exploration of join working opportunities to meet priorities)
- Feedback from recipients of funding (July 2021)
- Reminder of the Partnership's priorities (July 2021)
- Youth representative/youth voice To explore as a new member or to seek involvement by other means – Perhaps link to The Big Ask initiative (September 2021)
- Launch of next round of small grant funding (July 2021)
- Cycling and Walking
- Mental health/anxiety as communities came out of the pandemic

6. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 21 July 2021 at 3.30pm

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm