



Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Monday, 27 January 2020 at 6pm in the Leiston Community Centre, St George's Avenue, Leiston

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors - Cllr T Cooper (Chairman), Cllr J Bond and Cllr J Fisher.

Town and Parish Councils - N Black (Knodishall Parish Council), M Fellowes (Aldeburgh Town Council), J Findley (Saxmundham Town Council), L Hill (Leiston Town Council), C Rinder (Leiston Town Council) and A Wigg (Knodishall Parish Council)

Partnership Organisations - S Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk), D Wareing (Greenprint) and S Watson (Cyds Project).

Others present - L Bennett (Community Partnerships Manager), Z Botten (Communities Officer), S Davis (Democratic Services Officer), N Khan (Strategic Director), S Lambert (Economic Development Officer), M McInnes (Economic Development Officer) and Cllr L Smith (Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure & Tourism).

Item	Discussion
1	Apologies for Absence
	Apologies for absence were received from Suffolk County Councillor R Rainger, East Suffolk Councillor TJ Haworth-Culf and Saxmundham Town Councillor J Macro.
2	Welcome from the Chairman and Introductions
	<p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to this, the very first East Suffolk Council Community Partnership meeting. He explained that East Suffolk's approach was unique across the country because data would be used as well as local knowledge to identify priorities for local communities and to work in partnership to deliver outcomes that would benefit all. He added that the Partnership would look at the priorities identified at the Workshop held in November 2019 and test whether they were still relevant or if any new priorities should be brought forward.</p> <p>It was clarified that, although it did not have to be spent, £10,000 needed to be allocated by 31 March 2020, therefore, the Partnership had to see if there were any</p>

	<p>“quick wins” that they could identify to allocate the funding either at this meeting or at another to be held before the end of this financial year.</p> <p>Partnership members introduced themselves and some explained what they hoped the Partnership would achieve, or gave their thoughts about the process as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The views of young people should be captured and considered by the Partnership. • The Partnership should not spend money on duplicating things that other groups were doing. • Ensure as many areas of the Partnership benefitted from the funding as possible eg the money could be split on a per head basis to enable all towns and villages to receive some. <p>The Chairman clarified that, whilst there was no intention to duplicate, it would be possible to jointly fund projects either with other Partnership areas or locally with other groups within the Partnership. A query was raised on the funding process and information required. Luke Bennett pointed out that, whilst the Partnership would need to make decisions quite quickly to allocate the money for this financial year, the Partnership was actually a 4 year process so there would be much more time in the remaining 3 years to look at the data and identify solutions to the existing priorities, or any others that arose. He added that the money would have to be allocated and spent in accordance with the Council’s funding processes to ensure there was good governance but once the Partnership had agreed a project it would only need to be put forward to the Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism so it was not an onerous process. It was agreed that Officers would provide Partnership Members with details on the funding process with the notes of the meeting. ACTION – S DAVIS</p>
3	Approval of the Terms of Reference
	<p>Reference was made to the Terms of Reference and the Chairman stated that if anyone had any views on them, they could let him or the Officers know as they would be reviewed in a year’s time. In addition, draft Ground Rules were also circulated for comment and similarly Partnership members were asked to let the Chairman or Officers know if they had any comments.</p>
4	Discussion of the 3 Community Partnership Objectives
	<p>The meeting split into 3 Groups to consider each of the objectives identified at the Workshop to see what the current need was, what was currently available and if there were any gaps and, if so, what solutions/projects could be identified (see attached notes of table discussions).</p>

Transport

Whilst it was noted that the East Suffolk Partnership Board would be looking at Transport from a District perspective, it was decided that it would be useful for the Partnership to take the next three months to look at the data on this issue and what was already provided for further detailed consideration in 2020/21. In the meantime, it was agreed that a Task and Finish Group would be established, led by Zoe Botten and Lesley Hill, to look into this issue further and report back to the next meeting with any possible “quick win” projects that could be supported in the current financial year as well as any ideas that could be explored in 2020/21.

ACTION – ZOE BOTTEN AND LESLEY HILL

A number of existing projects such as CATS and The Wardens were referred to, as well as known issues such as Licensing Regulation changes and the perception that young people were having difficulties getting to College. The point was made that the Partnership needed to challenge perceptions with data wherever possible.

Regeneration/High Street

The Partnership agreed that this objective should be pursued in 2020/21 and reference was made to several existing projects that could be funded in 2019/20 such as the Leiston Community Garden and Saxmundham signage and information boards. Other possible projects that could be supported such as Town Trails were also suggested. Whilst it was acknowledged that the larger towns already had a lot of projects that could be financially supported, the importance of not forgetting the villages was stressed. The point was also made that the Partnership should try to lever in matchfunding for projects where possible to demonstrate value for money and partnership working.

It was decided that a Task and Finish Group would be formed, led by Morag McInness and Marianne Fellowes, to look into this issue further and report back to the next meeting with any possible “quick win” projects that could be supported in the current financial year, as well as any ideas that could be explored in 2020/21.

ACTION – MORAG MCINNESS AND MARIANNE FELLOWES

Housing

Concern was expressed that this was such a large topic with very little that would be within the Partnership’s sphere of influence other than perhaps promoting grant schemes that already existed. The point was made that Housing might be a topic that could link in with other Partnerships as it was so large and, in some cases, required a strategic approach.

It was decided that this objective would be held in abeyance until 2020/21 to enable the Partnership to focus on the other two objectives for the remainder of 2019/20.



5	Review of the Membership of the Community Partnership
	<p>The Partnership identified the following who could be invited to participate in the Partnership to progress the objectives:</p> <p>Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elspeth Gibson (already a core Partnership Member as part of Leiston Together) - CATS - Jenny Stockman, Seckford Foundation - The Wardens <p>Economic Regeneration/High Street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aldeburgh Business Association - Art Station, Saxmundham <p>A query was raised as to why all the Parishes within the Partnership area had not been invited to attend. It was explained that, because of the large number of Parishes within Partnership areas – some had over 30, SALC had agreed on behalf of the Council to ask Parishes to nominate one representative for each District Ward to be a core Partnership Member with the idea that they would then disseminate the information back to the other Parishes. The point was made that, in addition to this, the Partnership could always invite specific Parishes to become involved in particular projects. For this particular Partnership, it was explained that Knodishall was the Parish Council representative for the Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward and Saxmundham did not have any Parishes. Several Partnership members stated that they felt that all Parishes within a Partnership area should be invited to attend although it was unlikely all would do so. It was noted that the approach used was set out in the Partnership's Terms of Reference and the Chairman agreed to feedback the Partnership's views. <u>ACTION – T COOPER</u></p> <p>ADDENDUM: Subsequent to the meeting, the Chairman has provided the following clarification in response to the question why all parishes were not invited:</p> <p>We have a terms of reference in place which is quite clear in relation to the structure of the local community partnerships and the makeup of the core membership. I would not want to put forward such a change to the terms of reference at this stage, to make all parishes part of the core membership, as this could lead to some partnerships having in excess of 20+ parishes.</p> <p>To resolve concerns raised within our Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham & Villages CP, I would like to invite parishes to attend once they have seen the action plan, so should a parish feel that we have on our agenda something that a representative from the parish would have something to add, or it involves their Parish directly then they would be invited to attend.</p>



6	Funding for 2019/20 and 2020/21
	The Partnership noted that £10K funding was available in 2019/20 and £25K in 2020/21.
7	Date of Next Meeting
	It was agreed that the next Partnership meeting would be held on 23 March 2020 at 6pm at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 8.25pm.