



Framlingham, Wickham Market and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held at Brandeston Village Hall on Thursday 6 October 2022 at 6.00pm

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Councillor Carol Poulter (Chairman), Councillor Maurice Cook

Town and Parish Councils – Cllr David Chenery (Wickham Market Parish Council), Cllr John Cross (Great Glemham Parish Council), Cllr Marion Hine (Framlingham Town Council), Councillor Nigel Smith (Ufford Parish Council)

Partnership Organisations – Poppy Lovell (Community Action Suffolk), Dick Jenkinson (Wickham Market Good Neighbour Scheme)

Others present – Ben Bix (Democratic Services Officer), Joss Mullett (ESC Communities Officer), Luke Bennett (ESC Partnerships Manager)

Item	Discussion
1.	<p>Action Notes</p> <p>The action notes of the meeting held on 30 June were confirmed as a correct record.</p>
2.	<p>Community Partnership Board Update</p> <p>Luke Bennett (LB), Partnerships Manager, provided an update on the September meeting of the Community Partnership Board, circulated with the agenda and the attention of the Partnership was drawn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• East Suffolk <i>Ease the Squeeze</i> money roadshows would be visiting each town in the district in September, October and November• Seven of the eight Community Partnerships had identified Isolation and Loneliness as key issues for their partnership area. It was agreed to convene a focus group of residents, and to reform a Task and Finish Group to consist of Board members and key partners and develop an outcome proposal for the December Board meeting. <p>ACTION: Any Member wishing to participate in the Isolation and Loneliness Task and Finish Group established by the Board to contact Luke Bennett.</p>



<p>3.</p>	<p>Current Projects Update</p> <p>Joss Mullett (JM) explained that the priorities workshop held at the June meeting was well attended and demonstrated the successful co-production of a shortlist of 4 priorities for discussion and ranking to identify the top three priorities for the Community Partnership under agenda item 6. Additionally, JM updated the Partnership that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Wickham Market Youth Group had continued to be successful, with over 20 young people attending each week, and now required a more suitable premises to operate from, and b) The Ufford Arts Festival, previously supported with a grant from the Partnership, had been unable to take place during 2022 and would now take place during 2023.
<p>4.</p>	<p>Community Issues, including Youth Voice</p> <p>Dick Jenkinson (DJ) spoke of the ongoing success of the Wickham Market Good Neighbours Scheme but cautioned that more volunteers were needed to operate the speed watch scheme. Volunteer resource was insufficient, and the barriers to volunteering included cost and the necessary health and safety requirements. For example, a volunteer driver would need a DBS check, insurance, and safeguarding training. John Cross (JC) felt that there was an opportunity for information sharing amongst Members about online training opportunities for volunteers.</p> <p>David Chenery (DC) expressed the concerns of Wickham Market Parish Council about the impact of the 137 new houses that were due to be built by Hopkins Homes. It was not yet known whether or how new residents would consume local services, and the proposed reduced prices reserved for local residents seemed to still be unaffordable. The future development of Sizewell C would impact on the village, particularly traffic movements, parking, and the park and ride service.</p> <p>Nigel Smith (NS) from Ufford Parish Council echoed concerns about traffic and new housing development. A new speed watch group had been created and was operating. Regrettably the football club was no longer able to continue, similarly the use of the community hall had reduced, and it was struggling to keep open. Opportunities for younger people were being sought, and it was hoped that new residents would integrate with the existing community, make use of its facilities, and participate with local events.</p> <p>Marion Hine (MH) updated the group on behalf of Framlingham Parish Council and advised that their speed watch had not yet been established and the Neighbourhood Plan preparations had been paused. Warm Room schemes were</p>



	<p>being set-up, led by the churches and including the library. Events for the whole town were being re-established, including Christmas on the Hill and Great Framlingham Sausage Festival. The size of the Parish Council would be increasing from 11 to 13 Parish Councillors.</p> <p>In contrast, JC explained that Great Glemham Parish Council would be reducing from 12 to 9 Parish Councillors as there was insufficient voluntary community support to continue to operate as they had done before. The Village Hall Management Committee would be absorbed by the Parish Council and the Harvest Festival had to be cancelled for the first time in fifty years. There was a perception that the village was being 'hollowed out' by people buying local homes for inflated prices, and not living in them. The Covid-19 pandemic had provided an upsurge of volunteers, but that had not been sustained and there was a poor turnout for events, and the recent litter pick had no volunteers at all. Echoing the views of others, the Parish Council was also concerned about Sizewell C traffic movements, particularly 'rat-running'.</p> <p>Maurice Cook (MC) acknowledged the issues and explained that Government legislation was forthcoming concerning second homes, and council tax implications thereon when the homes had been empty for more than a year, which could benefit the precept for town and parish councils.</p> <p>JM demonstrated how Youth Voice was now collecting the views of young people online and asked those present to ask their local networks to draw the attention of young people to the online system to express their views.</p> <p>ACTION: Members to liaise about sharing online training resources for volunteers and JM to establish whether Community Action Suffolk would be able to assist.</p>
5.	<p>Date of the Next Meeting</p> <p>Members noted the date of the next meeting as 12 January 2023 and suggested that should the Castle Community Hall in Framlingham be available then Officers enquire about booking it.</p>
6.	<p>Partnership Priorities for 2022/23</p> <p>JM presented the outcome of the Partnership workshop held in June. Four long list priorities had been developed for discussion, ranking and focussing to three final priorities for the Partnership. Task and Finish Groups would then be established with a fund of £4,000 for each of the agreed priorities. The four long list priorities were:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Volunteering • Mental Health • Intergenerational skills exchange <p>Members were invited to express their endorsement by a show of hands for three of the four long list priorities and the outcome would be reported under agenda item 9.</p>
7.	<p>Ease the Squeeze</p> <p>LB gave an overview of East Suffolk Council's <i>Ease the Squeeze</i> programme of twelve priority projects to help East Suffolk residents to manage the rising cost of living. LB highlighted that the summary provided in the agenda pack included the website link and encouraged Members to visit the website which was set up with 2 channels i) those that needed help and ii) those that wanted to help.</p> <p>The priority projects were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm Rooms • Food Network Co-ordinator • Community Pantries • Community Fridges • Handyperson Scheme • Cooking on a Budget classes • Low Energy Cooking Kit / Kettle Packs • Comfort Food - a project looking to provide funding for local cafés to provide a hot meal and drink on presentation of a Comfort Food card • Field to Fork – which provided grow your own starter kits and provided small grants for community gardens or existing allotment sites • Winter Warmth Packs, and • Uniform Banks <p>LB explained that locations were needed in each community partnership area and work was underway to identify suitable locations. Suggestion from Members were welcome and could be referred directly to JM.</p> <p>LB informed Members about a recent ESC Council Motion regarding growing spaces which had been forwarded to each Community Partnership for consideration. Members were therefore welcome to work with their parishes to identify any suitable unused green spaces that might be suitable. Members urged</p>



	<p>caution around the sustainability and longevity of such schemes, and it was noted that co-ordination with any existing community gardens would be necessary.</p> <p>Members were broadly supportive of the package of projects as a whole. DJ and JC both re-iterated the challenges involved in identifying, training and enabling volunteer resource for the warm rooms scheme and other projects that required a location and volunteer resource.</p> <p>ACTION – Members to forward any proposed locations for the projects to JM</p>
8.	<p>Healthy Movers Project</p> <p>JM introduced the Healthy Movers Project which had been supported by the Aldeburgh, Leiston and Southwold Community Partnership. Two schools from the Framlingham CP had expressed an interest in the project and the Partnership were asked to contribute £2000 to enable the project to benefit children in the Partnership area. A video was shown to highlight the work of the project and it was noted that 23% of primary aged children in the Partnership area were overweight or obese. In response to questions, JM explained that 18 months of support would be provided and the total number of schools across the two partnership areas would be 10.</p> <p>The Chairman asked whether the Partnership was content to fund and support the project, and upon a show of hands, all those present agreed.</p>
9.	<p>Endorsement of the Three Priorities for 2022/23</p> <p>Having collated the responses, and in order of preference, the three priorities of the Partnership for 2022/23 would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Intergenerational Skills Exchange • Mental Health <p>Acknowledging the feedback about the lack of volunteer resource, or the lack of support for volunteers, Maurice Cook proposed and Members agreed that the partnership should have three priorities with one cross-cutting them entitled support for volunteers. It would then be appropriate for each of the three task and finish groups to consider how to support volunteers for their priority area.</p> <p>JM invited Members to volunteer for task and finish groups and encouraged Members to put forward the names and contact details of those not present that could be approached to participate in and or chair the groups.</p>



	<p>ACTION – BB to publish the priorities Matrix on the East Suffolk website with the Action Notes of the Meeting</p>
--	---

	<p>ACTION – Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members to encourage participation in task and finish groups</p>
--	---

	<p>ACTION – JM to support Chairs in facilitating task and finish groups over the coming months.</p>
--	--

The meeting concluded at 8.05pm.