

# Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 29 September via Zoom

# Core Membership:

<u>ESC Councillors</u> – Councillor Tony Cooper (Chairman), Councillor John Fisher, Councillor Russ Rainger

SCC Councillors - Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf

<u>Town and Parish Councils</u> – Roz Barnett (Saxmundham Town Council), Councillor Julian Cusack (Middleton Parish Council), Sharon Cuthbert (Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme), Cllr Marriane Fellowes (Aldeburgh Town Council), Councillor Lesley Hill (Leiston Town Council), Caroline Rinder (Leiston Town Council)

<u>Partnership Organisations</u> –Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk)

Others present – Jason Beck (Planner), Zoe Botten (Communities Officer), Helen Greengrass, Mary Holland, Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer), Anthony Taylor (Senior Planner), Dionne Walton (Access Community Trust)

Discussion
Welcome and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Di Eastman (IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme)
Notes of the Meetings of the Community Partnership
The unconfirmed action notes of the meetings held on 21 July 2021 were agreed.
Written update from the Community Partnership Board held on 6 September 2021

Nicole Rickard (NR) referred to the written update on the most recent meeting of the Community Partnership Board, which had been circulated with the agenda.

There was a discussion on the update which covered the following points:

- Projects being put forward by the Transport Task Group
- The impact of Covid-19 on hoarding, and whether any additional support could be provided
- The upcoming Peer Review of Community Partnerships, including those involved and the format of the review
- 2021/22 Community Partnership Forum and possibility of a hybrid event

ACTION: NR to share results of the peer review when available

## 4. Rural Proofing

Proposed application guidance on rural proofing had been circulated with the agenda.

Zoe Botten (ZB) asked if the Partnership would be happy to take this guidance forward with the possibility of looking at this more in depth in the future.

#### 5. Small Grants Scheme

ZB updated the meeting on the Small Grants Scheme and asked the meeting to consider how this scheme should be taken forward.

The Community Partnership raised the following points:

- Applicants should be made aware of support available with the application process
- Previously successful applications should be used as case studies and promoted
- Running funding workshops to promote available funding sources
- Wider Community Partnership priorities should be considered

# 6. Feedback on Task and Finish Group

The Partnership received an update from Dionne Walton, Head of Youth Services, on the Access Community Trust which covered the following points:

- Funding used to engage young people who were not in education, employment, or training
- Outdoor workshops used to build 'soft skills' such as social interaction, particularly considering the impact of lockdown

One on one work considering individual needs and to build trust

The Community Partnership then raised the following points:

- Contact between this service and the police
- The wider and long-term impact of Covid-19 on young people
- Provision of activities over the summer break

ACTION: ZB to speak with Cllr Marianne Fellowes(MF) and local police regarding anti-social behaviour in Aldeburgh

# 7. Cycling and Walking Strategy

The Partnership received a short presentation from Anthony Taylor on the upcoming consultation on cycling and walking which covered the following points:

- Improved infrastructure along key corridors in the region
- Identifying cycling and walking recommendations for Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan site allocations
- Consultation will run from November until January with the view to adopt in May 2022

The Community Partnership then raised the following points:

- The impact of current and future energy projects on the area's roads and the current cycling and walking network
- Community sensitivities to a cycling and walking strategy in the context of Sizewell C
- Provision of cycling routes in rural areas where there would have been less engagement with the consultation
- Increased demand for quieter cycling routes following lockdown

ACTION: Details of consultation to be sent to group and Anthony Taylor to come to next meeting for feedback.

## 8. Community Partnership's priorities and forward work programme

ZB asked the Partnership to focus on the priority to 'encourage and enable everyone to be more physically active' and projects in this area for funding. ZB had identified the following projects:

- Walking football roll out from Saxmundham to other areas
- Boxing club this was very popular previously, but would like to expand to include boxercise too

Healthy Movers – project identified via the Integrated Neighbourhood
 Team – focusing on nursery/ reception children to encourage movement through literacy.

ACTION: Partnership members to send information of any community groups/projects in this priority area who could benefit from funding

# 9. Any other business

Cllr Russ Rainger asked if there were any community groups that had not reopened following lockdown and whether the Partnership could make funding available to them to enable them to reopen safely.

Caroline Ringer responded that within Leiston contact had been made with the groups concerned and they had been encouraged them to apply for funding, but people had been reluctant to come forward. Funding is not the sole issue, there may be other issues such as loss of volunteer staff or individual reluctance to attend.

Community Action Suffolk can help with the practicalities of operating Covid-19 safe environments and is also able to support those who are more concerned about going out again.

Cllr Julian Cusack asked if the Partnership could be looking at fuel poverty over the upcoming winter especially in light of recent rises in energy costs. MF responded that this was usually the remit of the Citizens Advice Bureau and asked if this could be confirmed.

Post meeting note:

#### Talking Benches

ACTION: Each CP has been allocated £1500 for Talking Benches(cost £450-500 each), please email ZB with thoughts on where these could be situated.

## 10. Date of the next meeting

This was confirmed for 15 December 2021 at 3.30pm via Zoom.