

Communities Officer update

22nd September 2023

Task and Finish Groups

- Transport
 - One meeting has taken place with Cllr Richard Cooper, Cllr Julia Ewart and Jane Healey on board
 - It was agreed that it was important for some mapping to take place to establish a baseline about what is currently available and where potential gaps might be
 - This mapping is currently being looked at by the group and at the Get together events to identify if there are any particular gaps or any opportunities at the local level
 - This will be pinged around in due course for the wider CP more generally to sense check
 - Once we have a more comprehensive account which we're confident is accurate, we will then look at areas where there is no or low provision and look to do some targeted engagement with local stakeholders to see why this might be the case and what could be done
 - Options could be promoting services more that already exist locally like Connecting Communities (to raise awareness and usage), looking into extending something that runs nearby or potentially scoping out something new but being mindful of what is achievable
 - There have also been conversations around how to use local opportunities to promote Katch using local networks.
- Mental health
 - No meeting as yet but in conversations meeting people as I go round the patch, I've been able to collate some key themes and potential ideas for this strand and these ideas are in the potential projects item
 - Have had some good engagement from Wickham Market Primary School around working with young people to see what they believe would be good for this
- Intergenerational skills exchange
 - No meeting as yet but in conversations meeting people as I go round the patch, I've been able to collate some key themes and potential ideas for this strand and these ideas are in the potential projects item

Stakeholder engagement

- In my initial trips around the patch and conversations, I have been able to develop a sense of some of the key local issues and needs
- Some preliminary soundings and observations are:
 - Traffic and speed are very big issue in rural area – this is obviously outside the remit of the CP but it is interesting to see what makes different parishes tick and how work on these difficult issues can mean less time to focus on other things
 - Parishes are also mindful about opportunities for their local residents to get together at coffee mornings or to travel to their nearest hub town (but can't always do this as there is unreliable transport)
 - It has been useful to see what are those key factors which might potentially link in with the CP

- Good initial conversations with FAYAP, CYDS and Wickham Market Primary School

Ward get togethers

- This project is a variation of the Mini CP forum that was agreed previously
- The first 2 events have taken place (Huntingfield for Kelsale and Yoxford and Wickham Market for WM ward) – the next one is Framingham on 10th October
- A good 2 events have been held to inform more about the community partnership and funding opportunities
- From the Kelsale and Yoxford one, there were 12 attendees and two potential new recruits for the CP – one parish council and one community group
- From the Wickham Market one, there were 24 attendees and good linkages created over neighbourhood plan learning and working together around cost of living
- There have also been conversations about potential projects that could happen including a sharing library of resources and a network of bicycle repair stations to make it easier for people to get about using sustainable travel.