

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held at The Cut, Halesworth Monday 4 March 2024

Attendees: John Adams (Bungay Town Council), Sue Collins (Bungay Community Support), Tony Dawes (Bungay Town Council), Emma Healey (Halesworth Volunteer Centre), Cllr Beth Keys-Holloway (East Suffolk Council), Cllr Sheryl Rumble (East Suffolk Council), Eric Sewell (Apollo Youth Centre), Cllr Caroline Topping (East Suffolk Council)

Others present – Jo Belfield (Communities Officer), Shaun Darch (Westhall PC), Winifred Evans (Rumburgh Parish Council), Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities and Leisure, East Suffolk Council), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer), Catherine Wilson (Earthwake)

Apologies: Cllr Toby Hammond (East Suffolk Council), Cllr Beryl Matthews (Wissett Parish Council), Cllr Anthony Specca (East Suffolk Council), Cllr Christine Wheeler (Beccles Town Council)

| Item | Discussion |
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| 1 | <p>Notes of the Previous Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Where are we now?</p> <p>Nicole Rickard (NR) updated on the work of the CP Board. The workshop session at the next meeting would focus on culture, and the board would receive a report on rural proofing. There would also be an update on the demand responsive transport projects which had been running. The board were also looking at four funding proposals for a tech hub pilot, mental health and wellbeing training, box up (leisure/sports equipment loan scheme), and an e-bike pilot.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Small Grants Programme</p> <p>Jo Belfield (JB) summarised the applications that had been successful. The scheme had gone over budget by £1500 and the CP were asked if additional funding could be provided to cover all the schemes. Caroline Topping (CT) emphasised that going forward the CP should try and balance projects across the area covered by the CP. JB confirmed she would map where money had been spent over the last few years.</p> |

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| | <p>JB confirmed five projects had not been taken forward, but would be provided with feedback on why their project could not go forward, or directed to funding pots which might be more appropriate.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Project Proposals</p> <p>Dancing for wellbeing £1,756 Emma Healey introduced the project which would provide free dance classes for a group of 12 people in villages surrounding Halesworth to support people with rural isolation and loneliness. A community bus would be run for people to travel to these classes. Funding was agreed for this project.</p> <p>Bungay Memories Café £3,000 Sue Collins introduced the project. Bungay is a dementia friendly town and they would like to expand on this. The Fisher Theatre has a popular meet up Monday session and runs special events for people with dementia. The café would welcome both those suffering from dementia and for carers. A provider who ran a similar café in another area would support the running of the project. Funding was agreed for this project.</p> <p>Salvation Army £1200 Caroline Topping introduced the project. This would provide very basic cooking classes to help people make the most of vegetables provided by the care farm and pantries. Would also provide classes to younger people who wanted to learn to cook. The provider had already delivered courses in Gt Yarmouth, and had identified people who would like to take part. The provider would run it for free, the funding would be to provide cooking equipment. The CP suggested having recipe cards with a serving cost on for people to take away. There was concern about people not taking this project up, as many similar projects had been run in the area beforehand. Eric Sewell and Sheryl Rumble stated that the provider already had identified people who wanted to do this, and was very supportive. The CP suggested that cooking equipment and utensils could be sourced for people who attended. Funding was agreed for this project.</p> <p>Halesworth Larder Emma Healey asked that this be deferred until the next meeting when governance was in place to accept the money.</p> <p>Bungay Town Council</p> |

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| | <p>JB introduced the project which would address the gap in Bungay for youth programmes. This need had been identified through youth need surveys. There had been provision previously but this had stopped.</p> <p>Bungay Town Council were providing £5000 themselves, the initial cost of the project was £10,000 but the total cost would be £25,000. The project would be run by Bungay Town Councillors and they would also be employing people to run these events. Project had been identified by the Bungay Youth Council.</p> <p>It was agreed to allocate £5000 to this project.</p> <p>Electric Bikes at Community Hubs</p> <p>The group raised questions about how these bikes would be stored, maintained and booked. There were also questions of how people in rural areas would be able to get into areas where the bikes were. This was deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>£4000 allocated for a cycling project – JB would look into how bicycles could be provided.</p> |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>Date of the next meetings</p> <p>20 May 24 19 August 24 18 November 24 24 February 25 12 May 25</p> |

The meeting concluded at 19.58