

## **Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership**

### **Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 16 December 2020 held remotely via Zoom**

#### **Core Membership:**

**ESC Councillors** – Cllr Paul Ashdown (Chairman), Cllrs P Byatt, L Coulam, A Gee, L Gooch, K Patience, M Pitchers, K Robinson and M Rudd.

**SCC Councillors** – Cllr J Reeder.

**Town and Parish Councils** – P Armstrong (Corton Parish Council), S Foote (Lowestoft Town Council), N Livingstone (Ash Villages Parish Council) and M Thomas (Lound Parish Council).

**Partnership Organisations** – P Aves (Lowestoft Rising), N Cooper (SCC – Public Health Team) and L Light (Community Action Suffolk), D Steel (Lowestoft Vision).

**Others present** – L Bennett (ESC Partnerships Manager), I Forsyth (Lowestoft Baptist Church), J John (NESCAB), S Meeken (Labour Political Group Support Officer), L Thomas (Communities Support Officer), R Tucker (Communities Officer), A Webb (Corton Parish Council) and S Davis (Democratic Services Officer).

Item	Discussion
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting and it was noted that apologies had been received from Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro and Peter Lang.</p>
2.	<p><b>Notes from the last meeting</b></p> <p>The notes from the last meeting on 30 September 2020 were approved.</p>
3.	<p><b>Community Partnership Board Update – 7 December 2020</b></p> <p>The Partnerships Manager gave a verbal update and it was noted, in particular, that the Board was currently focussing on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport and travel – a task group had made recommendations to the Board in relation to active and sustainable travel, community transport solutions and rural transport. The focus was to support trials of innovative projects, set up a Steering Group, engage a programme manager (employed by EDF) and a delivery budget of £80K had been approved to kickstart</li> </ul>

	<p>projects. The Board also funded a project for the Framlingham, Wickham Market, Campsea Ashe and Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsula CPs to launch an electric vehicle taxi bus trial between Framlingham/Wickham Market and Campsea Ashe train station with the service marketed towards young people and run by a private provider.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social isolation and loneliness – over £180K had already been committed to this priority (Hidden Needs, Small Grants Fund, Bounce Back and Grandpads)</li> <li>• Covid impact on communities – a specific meeting of the task group had been held to look into this, particularly the impact on vulnerable people, and the Board would discuss several possible projects in March but, in the meantime, funding had been provided for EAST boxes to reduce the impact of isolation and these would be going out in the first quarter of next year.</li> </ul> <p>Paul commented that the electric vehicles might be useful in other CP areas across the district too and Luke stated that, if the trial proved successful, it was possible it could be rolled out.</p> <p>Louise Gooch referred to East Suffolk Travellers' Association and Luke stated that they had not been involved so far but stakeholder engagement would be a key feature moving forwards and he would bear them in mind.</p>
4.	<p><b>Update on 2019/20 Funded Projects</b></p> <p>Paul reminded the Partnership that funding had been allocated to the Voice of a Friend Project and Janet John from the CAB provided an update on progress. She explained that they had inherited a list of 85 people from the previous project and they had all been contacted to see if they wanted to access the new service. The CAB had also inherited 9 volunteers and now had 12 befriendees. 19 referrals had been received but some were not answering, possibly because they did not recognise the phone number. It had been found that two were not suitable for befriending so they had been referred to the CAB's Social Prescribing Link Worker. It was noted that the CAB's priority was to recruit more volunteers and, in the meantime, the Co-ordinator was contacting people on the list every 2 weeks to ensure they were okay.</p> <p>A discussion ensued on potentially extending the Project to other CP areas and Janet responded that she was open to this as it helped reach those in need. Janet was given several suggestions that the CAB could contact to try to attract more volunteers.</p> <p>AGREED: That Janet provide a further update on the Project at the next meeting.</p>

	<p><b>ACTION:</b> Sarah to let Janet know the date of the next meeting.</p>
5.	<p><b>Update from the Task and Finish Groups</b></p> <p>Phil Aves reminded the Partnership that the 2019/20 funding originally allocated for the Walk and Talk projects had been diverted to the Voice of a Friend project due to Covid but, in the meantime, he had met with One Life Suffolk about providing training for Walk Leaders so they would be ready as soon as the project started. He pointed out that some walking groups were still going on as up to 15 people could walk together under the Covid restrictions and it was hoped the Walk in the Park project would start as soon as lockdown was lifted.</p> <p>Nicky Cooper gave a brief presentation on Childhood Obesity Projects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Movers - developed by the Youth Sports Trust and funded 50/50 by this CP and Suffolk County Council. Three nurseries had already been recruited in Kirkley and Pakefield, discussions were ongoing with another three and colleagues were contacting a further four nurseries as 10 settings were available. It was clarified that if there was insufficient take up in Harbour, Kirkley and Pakefield then nurseries in other areas of Lowestoft could be contacted. Training would start in January and it was noted that the Youth Sports Trust had allocated a project officer to the programme.</li> <li>• Shaping Healthier Lives Fund (£300K over 3 years) - successful in getting through to Stage 3 so have £20K funding which would be used to fund C3- Collaborating for Health to gather some insight for the Stage 4 bid. It was noted that the bid had been tweaked to incorporate the impact of Covid.</li> <li>• Work with Schools – progress was slow because of Covid but initial discussions had been held with Red Oaks Primary and this would be driven forward early in the new year.</li> </ul> <p>Paul pointed out that there were several pre-schools in rural areas such as Somerleyton and Blundeston that might want to be involved in the Healthy Movers Project and Linda suggested nurseries in St Margaret's East.</p> <p>Clarification was sought on whether there were any restrictions on schools taking part eg if they did not have a green space and Nicki responded that work would be undertaken with all the schools to see how they can get involved with physical activity even if they did not have any nearby green space. She added that feedback from the Summer in a Box project had shown that even small things like the frisbees had a really positive impact and the recipe cards had encouraged families to start cooking together, so this was something that could be built on.</p>

	<p><b>ACTION:</b> Nicki to liaise with Early Years colleagues regarding the suggestions for expanding the Healthy Movers Project into other areas of the CP.</p>
6.	<p><b>2020/21 Funding</b></p> <p>Paul reminded the Partnership that £8K had already been allocated for the Healthy Movers Project and, further to the details circulated previously, Paul asked whether the Partnership wished to approve a Small Grants Scheme.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> That £10K be allocated for a Small Grants Scheme.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Sarah to forward the press release for the Small Grants Scheme to Parish Councils.</p> <p>Paul explained that the Scheme would now go live on Friday and asked for volunteers to sit on the Appraisal Panel on 4 February 2021 which he had asked Danny to chair. Mary Rudd, Malcolm Pitchers, Keith Robinson and Phil Aves volunteered to be on the Panel.</p> <p>Paul stated that there was still some remaining funding and Rachel gave a brief presentation on a proposed “Lowestoft Mile” project which was a virtual mile walk, with a voice over giving facts and pointing out places of interest. The project fit in with the Partnership’s priorities, was aligned to the Walk in the Park Project, was suitable for all ages, could be viewed from home and would promote Lowestoft. It was noted that the cost was £4,450 for four walks but because this involved some set up costs additional walks would become cheaper. The Partnership was informed of several similar projects that already existed and some that were in the pipeline, and Rachel agreed to look into these further to share information and see if there could be any economies of scale. James asked if the costs included goggles and Rachel responded that it did not because it was felt that goggles may not be as ideal for use by the elderly. It was suggested that several other organisations might want to get involved in this project such as Lowestoft Vision so they could fund walks through specific areas.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> That the “Lowestoft Mile” project be approved up to a cost of £5,000.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Rachel to liaise with other similar project providers or those that might want to get involved, including the County Council and Lowestoft Town Council.</p>

7.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p>AGREED: That the next Partnership meeting be held on Wednesday, 3 March 2021 at 6.00pm</p> <p>Paul thanked everyone for all their hard work in supporting their communities during this difficult time.</p>
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The meeting concluded at 7.30pm