

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

### **Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 30 September 2020 held remotely via Zoom**

#### **Core Membership:**

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

**SCC Councillors** – Cllr M Vigo Di Gallidoro.

**Town and Parish Councils** – P Armstrong (Corton Parish Council), S Bendix (Lowestoft Town Council) and J Murray (Oulton Parish Council).

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

**Others present** – S Baker (ESC Chief Executive and Lowestoft Vision Representative), L Bennett (ESC Partnerships Manager), S Meeken (Political Group Assistant for Labour Group), L Thomas (Communities Support Officer), R Tucker (Communities Officer) and S Davis (Democratic Services Officer).

Item	Discussion
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>The Chairman, Councillor Ashdown, welcomed everyone to the meeting commenting that, although these were very difficult times, it was wonderful to hear what communities had been doing during the last few months to help and assist residents. He highlighted the work of the Communities Team and Town and Parish Councils who had worked together to support residents. He also thanked Democratic Services and the ICT team for all their work in facilitating online meetings.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that apologies had been received from East Suffolk Councillor Tess Gandy and Danny Steele.</p>
2.	<p><b>Appointment of Vice-Chairman</b></p>

	<p>The Chairman reported that the Partnership needed to appoint a Vice-Chairman for the remainder of this Municipal Year and suggested that Danny Steele be nominated. In the absence of any further nominations, it was agreed that Danny would be appointed as the Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year.</p>
3.	<p><b>Notes from the last meeting held on 15 July 2020</b></p> <p>The notes from the last meeting on 15 July 2020 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>
4.	<p><b>Community Partnership Board Update – 7 September 2020</b></p> <p>The Partnerships Manager gave a verbal update which supplemented the written report on the agenda. It was noted in particular that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another 75 Grandpads were being purchased with the additional funding allocated by the Board and £50K from the East Suffolk CCG.</li> <li>• £100K had been allocated to a major grants scheme to support VCSE to reorganise themselves and bounce back from Covid. Partnership members were informed that this funding had taken over from the Hardship Fund and they were requested to promote this to their contacts.</li> <li>• A Transport Task and Finish Group had been set up to deliver on that Board priority.</li> <li>• Community Forum - 2-6 November 2020. Partnership Members were asked to advertise the Forum across their networks to ensure that as many people as possible attended.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cllr M Vigo Di Gallidoro joined the meeting.</b></p>
5.	<p><b>Update on 2019/20 Funded Projects</b></p> <p>Phil Aves gave an update on the Voice of a Friend Project co-ordinated by the CAB which would commence on 14 October 2020. It was noted that 84 out of the 101 people helped by the Communities Team during the pandemic had moved to the CAB project. Phil pointed out that the project needed as many volunteers as possible to come forward to enable this service to be expanded beyond the 150 people identified. He added that it was possible other CP areas might want to expand the project into their area. In response to a query, it was noted that the need for volunteers was being advertised on the Council's</p>

	<p>internet and Facebook. Phil continued that the issue of volunteering in general in Lowestoft had been identified as a priority and he had included a request for volunteers in his weekly column in the Lowestoft Journal. The Chairman stated that Danny Steele had indicated that some of the Rotary Club Members might want to volunteer so he would remind him to ask. Clarification was sought on whether East Suffolk Councillors who had volunteered previously were being asked to continue and the Communities Officer confirmed that if they were happy to continue that would help.</p> <p>AGREED: That the Communities Officers contact East Suffolk Councillors about continuing to be volunteers for the Project.</p>
6.	<p><b>Update from the Task and Finish Groups</b></p> <p>Phil Aves reported on the activities of the Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group. He explained that, although it had been hoped the Walk in the Park Project would start when the Park Runs resumed this was still on hold due to the lockdown rules. The Partnership was informed that funding had been received to provide hot meals at lunchtime for vulnerable people which was really positive because the deliverers were a contact for those people. He added that the deliveries were now made 3 days per week rather than 5, although people were still provided with food for 7 days.</p> <p>Phil referred to the Voluntary and Statutory Partnership, adding that it was chaired by Claire Taylor-Hague and he was the Deputy Chair. He explained that this was a strong mental health network of providers and a lot of them had continued providing telephone or virtual meetings during the pandemic. He added that some were now doing face to face Covid-secure meetings but the NSFT were not providing any face to face services yet. Linked to the VAS Partnership, Phil referred to the Lived Experience Advisory Forum (LEAF) which now had 25 people signed up to the Forum giving their feedback eg this week they were providing feedback to the CQC inspection of the NSFT Mental Health Trust. He explained that LEAF gave people who used the services a real voice on how those services should look. Also, part of that work was a piece identifying all the mental health support groups available on the ground in Waveney so that if someone contacted LEAF they could direct people to the groups. Phil stated that he was also working on the new Mental Health Practitioners in Schools Project funded by the Norfolk and Waveney CCG which would come into being on 1 January 2021. He added that currently staff were being recruited in schools under the remit of the UEA who would do the training and provide a dedicated support team. 20 Lowestoft schools were being recruited and thereby 8000</p>

children would benefit eg those with low to medium support needs. The Practitioners would work alongside school staff.

A query was raised as to whether Parish Councils could disseminate information to encourage volunteers for the Voice of a Friend Project and it was noted that the CAB would be providing an information package which the Communities Officers were asked to ensure was pushed out to Parish Councils.

Reference was made to the mental health project in schools and it was queried if it was tied in with the Student Life Magazine programme. Phil responded that it was not. He added that this project was a dedicated centrally funded project through the CCG following on from the Green Paper so was quite a prescribed, almost statutory service. The point was made that school services needed to be more co-ordinated so it was shame that the two were not tied up. Cllr Robinson stated that the Student Life project was funded by SCC rather than the CCG.

In relation to the Childhood Obesity Task and Finish Group, Nicki gave a brief presentation which included reference to the Amsterdam Model, a Whole Systems Approach to obesity with everyone working together to make a change. In relation to the project, it was noted that the Group wanted to engage three schools, Red Oak, Roman Hill and Somerleyton School and work with them to be a hub in the community. Due to the pandemic it was unlikely that schools would want to get involved in the project until at least January at the earliest, therefore, an alternative could be a community asset based approach with schools still being involved but as a partner. This would build a local team of people who would work towards the goal of getting children and families healthier.

It was noted that the stage 2 bid for funding for Shaping Places for Healthier Lives funding with a focus on Lowestoft had been drawn up and would be submitted by Friday. The bid was now in stage 2 of the grant process and if successful £20K would be available for a discovery phase to be able to invest in insights work to inform the Whole Systems Approach to Childhood Obesity in Lowestoft. The discovery phase was due to start in November so it was hoped the results of the bid would be known quickly. Nicki reported that work was being undertaken with Youth Sports Trust to explore how to implement a project called Healthy Movers in Lowestoft which was set in nurseries and other early years settings. It was a train the trainer model to integrate physical movement in activities. The total cost for 10 early years settings in Lowestoft would cost approximately £17K and Public Health would cover 50% so the Partnership was being asked to contribute the other half. If agreed, the Youth Sports Trust would be able to start in November.

	<p>Clarification was sought on how the Healthy Movers Project would work given social distancing. Nicki pointed out that the project was about training the trainers but acknowledged that the schools would need to work out how they could incorporate movement into activities. Clarification was sought on whether other schools would be approached if the ten mentioned were not interested and Nicki confirmed that this would be the case, adding that eight was the minimum with ten nursery schools being a maximum. Reference was made to match funding opportunities such as supermarket community funds and Nicki stated that this was something that would be looked into as part of the Whole Systems Approach in January. In response to a query about why Somerleyton School was being suggested, it was explained that there were a number of children at the school who would benefit from the project. The point was also made that the idea was to ensure that there was a school from a rural area included in the project.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <p>That approval be given to £8,500 of the Partnerships £25K budget for 2020/21 being allocated to fund 50% of the costs for the Healthy Movers Project.</p>
7.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p>AGREED:</p> <p>That the next Partnership meeting be held on Wednesday, 2 December 2020 subject to confirmation, and 3 March 2021 at 6.00pm</p>

The meeting concluded at 7.10pm