



East Suffolk
Community
Partnerships
Bringing ideas to life

Aldeburgh
Leiston
Saxmundham
& villages

Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2021 via Zoom

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Councillor Tony Cooper (Chairman), Councillor Tom Daly, Councillor John Fisher, Councillor Russ Rainger

SCC Councillors – Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf

Town and Parish Councils – Roz Barnett (Saxmundham Town Council), Heather Brewell (Knodishall Parish Council), Councillor Julian Cusack (Middleton Parish Council), Councillor Lesley Hill (Leiston Town Council), Councillor Paul Richards (Snape Parish Council), Mary Schedrin (Friston Parish Council)

Partnership Organisations – Mel Geater (Avocet Academy), Sarah Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk)

Others present – Katherine Abbott (Democratic Services Officer), Zoe Botten (Communities Officer), Joanne Thain (ESC Leiston Change Manager)

Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T-J Haworth-Culf (SCC), Caroline Rinder (Town Clerk), Sharon Cuthbert (Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme), Mark Taylor (Places for People)
2.	Election of a Vice Chairman Mel Geater was proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Daly. There being no other nominees, Mel Geater was duly appointed as the Vice Chairman.

3.	<p>Notes of the Meetings of the Community Partnership</p> <p>The unconfirmed action notes of the meetings held on 17 March 2021 and 19 May 2021 were received and confirmed as correct records.</p>
4.	<p>Written update from the Community Partnership Board held on 7 June 2021</p> <p>The Partnership received a short paper which provided details of the key outcomes from the most recent meeting of the Board. The Chairman invited questions.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack asked what the total budget for all the Community Partnerships was, how much had been spent, and across which headings or themes. The Head of Communities provided the headline figures; she emphasised that the total budget was not broken down by Partnership but was equitable in terms of access. The Head of Communities added that further analysis of spend across areas and themes would be available following the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack asked if the Chairman was content that this Partnership had received a proportionate amount of the available funding. The Chairman confirmed that he felt it to be fair.</p> <p>ACTION: That an email would be sent to the membership by the Clerk on behalf of the Head of Communities with an additional briefing on the Partnerships' budget (previously provided to newly elected SCC Councillors). This email was sent on 23 July 2021.</p>
5.	<p>Rural Proofing</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from the Task and Finish Group including its recommendations; this was noted.</p> <p>The Partnership received the proposed application guidance. Councillor Cusack asked if it was intended to apply this across the district. This was confirmed and Councillor Cusack suggested this would have significant consequences.</p> <p>It was suggested that the proposed application guidance be discussed further by the Task and Finish Group. Councillor Cusack highlighted that the last meeting of the Group had been poorly attended and queried if that was the best route.</p> <p>ACTION: That members of the Partnership provide their comments on the proposed application guidance to Zoe Botten/Sarah Mortimer by the end of July. The document would then be referred to the Task and Finish Group to consider further. An update or report to be provided to the next meeting of the Partnership by Zoe Botten/Sarah Mortimer.</p>

<p>6.</p>	<p>Application: Art Station/Photo Shed</p> <p>Before discussion commenced, Councillor Richards declared that he was a Trustee of the Arts Station.</p> <p>Joanne Thain, Leiston Change Manager, presented the published application. It was noted that Leiston and Saxmundham Town Councils had already given the project some funding. The Chairman invited questions.</p> <p>The Communities Officer asked Joanne Thain to clarify where referrals would come from and if funding was sought direct from the Partnership, or through the grants scheme. Joanne Thain stated that referrals would come via the NHS (Rachel Nightingale) and the request for funding was direct to the Partnership. Sarah Mortimer asked if there would be a spread of participants, both rural and urban-based. Joanne Thain said she was unaware where participants would originate from but could ascertain this. Sarah Mortimer said it would be useful if data on participants could be recorded. Mel Geater asked if sixth form students could be involved in assisting those participating in the project who might have varying IT skills and outlined how this offered a double benefit both to the student and the participant. Joanne Thain said she would mention this to the applicant.</p> <p>ACTION: It was agreed that Sarah Mortimer, Mel Geater, Joanne Thain and Zoe Botten would meet with the project's lead, Rachel Nightingale, to 'flesh out' what might be possible in terms of student support.</p> <p>Councillor Rainger noted that 50% of the project's funding was being sought and asked for a little more detail on what it would be used for. Joanne Thain said it was largely for technical capabilities so was 'reusable'.</p> <p>ACTION: Approval of the application was proposed by Councillor Hill and seconded by Councillor Rainger and, by unanimous vote, agreed.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Positive Holiday Activities</p> <p>Before discussion commenced, Councillor Hill and Councillor Rainger declared that they were both Trustees of the Community Land Trust.</p> <p>Stuart Watson, CYDS, provided an outline of a direct application for funding to the Partnership for a project to involve young people in community spaces. The agenda had also included some further detail on the project and its aims.</p> <p>ACTION: It was proposed by Councillor Richards, seconded by Councillor Schedrin and, by unanimous vote, agreed that the application be approved, subject to the submission of an outcome proposal document.</p>

<p>8.</p>	<p>Feedback from recipients of funding</p> <p>The Partnership received and noted the written published update from Sharon Cuthbert on the Art in a Bag project. Councillor Rainger referred to comments he had received from recipients in Snape on the quality of the contents and the pleasure they had given to recipients.</p> <p>ACTION: It was agreed that the recipients of funding at items 6 and 7 above be invited to come to a future meeting to tell the Partnership of the impact of the allocated funds. (Zoe Botten/Joanne Thain)</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Launch of the Small Grants Scheme</p> <p>An update was received from the Communities Officer on the launch of the next round of this Scheme. The launch date was 21 July with a closing date of 7 September; the date of the Grants Panel – in late September - would be advised at a later point. The Partnership also received and noted the relevant guidance published with the agenda. The Partnership was asked to encourage any groups or projects they were aware of that might benefit from the Scheme to apply if they met the criteria. A copy of the press release for the launch was also published with the agenda.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack asked if it was possible to extend the deadline as, due to the August recess, his parish council would not be able to meet to agree its application by that date. The Head of Communities said that if the Parish Council could provide indicative draft details it might be possible to alert the Funding Team to a slightly delayed submission of the full application but allow consideration of the draft. Councillor Cusack reiterated that an extension of the deadline would be preferable. The Communities Officer said she would enquire if this was possible. <u>(Clerk’s note:</u> On 28 July, the Communities Officer advised Councillor Cusack, by email, that she had discussed the opportunity of a small extension to the Grants Scheme deadline date with the funding team. Unfortunately, this had not been possible due to other Partnership schemes scheduled immediately after this one.)</p> <p>The dates of the latest round of the Small Grants Scheme were noted.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Community Partnership’s priorities</p> <p>The Communities Officer introduced Stuart Jardine (contracts manager for leisure centres, Everyone Active). Mr Jardine said that he and Mark Taylor (Places for People) were supporting the Partnerships in the achievement of their physical activity priorities. He hoped to be able to work with the Partnership in this regard.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack said that he was broadly supportive of the Partnership’s current priorities, however, he said that since they had been agreed social</p>

	<p>isolation and loneliness had become an increasing and real problem. Councillor Cusack suggested there was a need for systematic survey data to fully understand the extent of the issue, including a demographic breakdown, whether this was a rural and/or urban problem etc., and said this would help to better direct the Partnership's efforts. The Head of Communities said that when the Partnerships were established a lot of mapping of such data had been undertaken. In addition, a survey along the lines suggested was planned for the next edition of the East Suffolk Council's magazine for residents.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack suggested that in addition to, or instead of one of, the current priorities housing deprivation, including tenants in houses which were not properly maintained and fuel poverty. The Head of Communities said that information on this area had been included in the original packs sent to members of the Partnership. She added that a new Social Inclusion Officer post was underway which would help with such issues, including financial and aspects of social prescribing.</p> <p>ACTION: It was agreed that further information would be provided to a future meeting (Nicole Rickard/Zoe Botten)</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Forward Work Programme</p> <p>The Partnership received and noted the current Forward Work Programme.</p> <p>Councillor Cusack asked if the item on a Cycling and Walking Strategy, which currently did not have a meeting date assigned to it, could be arranged.</p> <p>ACTION: The Clerk to invite the appropriate Officers to attend.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>Task and Finish Groups</u></p> <p>In response to a question by Councillor Richards, the Communities Officer outlined how the Task and Finish Groups worked in support of the Partnership.</p> <p>Councillor Hill referred to the earlier Task and Finish Group on NEETs and asked for an update on this. The Communities Officer said some work had been undertaken.</p> <p>ACTION: It was agreed that the lead for the Task Group (now Dionne Walton, Head of Youth Services, Access Community Trust) would be contacted and invited to attend the next meeting to provide an update. (Zoe Botten)</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Date of the next meeting</p> <p>This was confirmed for Wednesday 29 September 2021 at 3.30pm (remotely).</p>

