

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Chair: Councillor Judy Cloke (East Suffolk Council)

Vice-Chair: Councillor Caroline Topping (East Suffolk Council)

East Suffolk Councillors:

Councillor Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw

Councillor Alison Cackett

Councillor Judy Cloke

Councillor Graham Elliott

Councillor Tony Goldson

Councillor David Ritchie

Councillor Caroline Topping

Suffolk County Councillor:

Councillor Mark Bee

Partnership Organisations:

Local Town and Parish Councils

Suffolk Constabulary

Great Yarmouth and Waveney Clinical

Commissioning Group

Community Action Suffolk

Business Community

Youth Community

Environment

Members of the **Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership** are invited to a meeting to be held Remotely via Zoom on **Monday, 1 February 2021** at **6.00pm**

This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk YouTube Channel at https://youtu.be/vcjewJKtohs

Agenda

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2 Notes 1 - 6

To agree the Notes of the Community Partnership meeting held on 2 November 2020.

Feedback from the Community Partnership Board on 7 December 7 - 8

4 Small Grants Scheme

Feedback from the Small Grants Panel.

5 CP Funding - Allocation of available finance for 2020/21

Discussion around money to address active and sustainable transport and community transport.

6 Date of Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting will be held on Monday, 22 March 2021 at 6.00pm.

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Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held Remotely via Zoom on Monday, 2 November 2020

Core Membership:

ESC Councillors – Cllr J Cloke (Chairman), Cllr D Ritchie and Cllr C Topping.

SCC Councillors – Cllr T Goldson

<u>Town and Parish Councils</u> – G Catchpole (Beccles Town Council), S Collins (Bungay Town Council), A Dunning (Halesworth Town Council), B Prior (Bungay Town Council), W Summerfield (Worlingham Parish Council).

<u>Partnership Organisations</u> – F Bedding (CAS), E Healey (Halesworth Volunteer Centre), P Love (Access Community Trust)

Others present – J Beck (Planning Policy and Delivery), L Bennett (ESC Partnership Manager), S Carter (Democratic Services Officer), S Halsey (Communities Officer), A Taylor (Planning Policy and Delivery).

| Item | Discussion |
|------|---|
| 1. | Welcome and Apologies |
| | The Chairman of the CP, Councillor Judy Cloke, welcomed everyone to the meeting and set out a few housekeeping points to assist with the smooth running of the meeting. |
| | If discussions resulted in any voting, she proposed that those present agreed by consensus rather than a formal vote which could be quite time consuming as the meeting was being held remotely via Zoom. |
| | The Chairman reminded those present that this, and future meetings of the CP, were being broadcast, and would be available for the public to view live on the Council's YouTube channel. |
| | Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr A Cackett (ESC), K Ellis (Norfolk and Waveney CCG) and D Thomas (Halesworth Town Council). |



The Chairman reported that it was expected the CP would receive a brief presentation on CIL at tonight's meeting but unfortunately that had not been possible. It was hoped to arrange that for the CP's next meeting.

As an alternative, the Chairman welcomed to the meeting Planners from the ESC Policy and Delivery Team who were present to give an overview of the Cycling and Walking Strategy on which they were currently consulting.

2. Notes

The Notes of the meeting held on 14 September were agreed as a correct record.

In response to a comment made at the last meeting referring to the fact the CP meetings were recorded as Notes, not minutes, the Chairman explained that CPs were not formal meetings of the Council, therefore there was no requirement to comply with the various LGA legislation for those meetings. It had been felt by many that taking a formal approach could be quite off putting for some people and would not encourage people to join the CPs and continue to attend regularly.

3. Cycling and Walking Strategy

The Chairman introduced Jason Beck and Anthony Taylor from ESC's Planning Policy and Delivery Team.

By way of background, the Planners explained that Waveney had had a cycling strategy in place in 2016 and since East Suffolk Council had come into existence, the document was being reviewed to include walking and cover the whole of the former Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council areas. The Government's recent White Paper was moving towards digital systems and the strategy needed to be easy to use. They had been working with the County Council to produce maps and a steering group had been set up to develop the project. Consultation was currently underway.

The Planners gave a detailed and interactive presentation covering the following:

Project outcomes

- Identify the key corridors within East Suffolk where there may be significant benefits from improving cycling and walking connections between settlements;
- Produce cycling and walking suitability maps for the 'major centres',
 'market towns' and some of the more sustainable 'large villages' in East
 Suffolk (as identified in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan and Waveney Local
 Plan);



- Identify cycling and walking infrastructure improvement opportunities
 throughout East Suffolk and propose potential solutions to achieve these
 improvements (for example, from marking up new cycle lanes, to new
 cycling and walking routes segregated from vehicle traffic); and
- Produce an implementation map to monitor the delivery of cycling and walking opportunities identified in the Strategy, which will be regularly updated when identified cycling and walking solutions are implemented

Initial map-based consultation

- 19 October 30 November 2020
- The consultation asks the public to highlight cycling and walking matters in East Suffolk which you think should be addressed.

https://eastsuffolk.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=810e5f8977e144509f13120a00a341d6

The Planners explained the interactive map, which gave details of the local allocations for growth, each dot represented comments, issues raised and suggested solutions. In addition to the interactive map, the righthand side (as displayed) gave further options, including how to submit a new issue, and a link to the public rights of way which could be viewed on the Suffolk County Council's website. Due to technical issues with internet access, it was not possible to give a full demonstration of the process and information streams. The CP was reminded that the consultation ran until 30 November and all comments were welcome.

Thank you for your time

If you have any queries about the East Suffolk Cycling and Walking Strategy please email jason.beck@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or anthony.taylor@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

The Chairman advised that the CP understood that the difficulties with the internet connections had resulted in a curtailed demonstration and asked for any questions:

The CP questioned and commented on:

- Funding for upkeep of rights of way and bridleways.
- Current footpaths that were badly maintained.
- Farmers' ploughing up fields resulting in footpaths being lost.
- The importance of proper cycling routes and linking of new and existing routes.
- Government money being allocated for cycling and walking routes.
- Cycle lane between Ellough and Worlingham and the wands.
- Cycle routes in Halesworth needed to link up.

The Planners confirmed that, in addition to neighbourhood CIL, Section 106 monies from developments and District CIL, various grants were available. The County Council had a rolling strategy for cycling improvements. The purpose of consulting



on the strategy now was that some funding pots looked for projects that were advanced and the outcomes of this consultation would help support claims for early funding. In addition, by adding proposals together for several footpaths to join into one route, that would provide better improvements and be likely to attract more funding. There was a reporting tool on the County Council's website for submission of issues relating to footpaths. In addition, there was a County Council Steering Group involved with the maintenance and anyone could speak to the Public Rights of Way Team regarding upkeep issues. Routes needed to connect to services and all ideas would be subject to a scoring system to establish priorities.

The Chairman asked if it was possible for a report back once the consultation had been complete and comments analysed. The Planners advised that all comments would be available for viewing on the Council's website; they could provide a summary if the CP so wished.

The Chairman thanked the Planners for attending and the CP would look forward to a future update report in due course.

Due to the technical issues with the presentation, it was agreed that the link to the consultation would be forwarded to all members of the CP.

ACTION: Sarah Carter

4. Report back from the Small Grants Task and Finish Group

Mrs Collins provided details of the proposals that the Task and Finish Group had considered. That Group's recommendation was to put in place a process for small grants and allocate a fund of £10,000 out of the £25,000 available to the CP. Relevant organisations would be able to submit applications for amounts of £500 to £1,000. It was suggested to have two rounds of funding; the first to commence shortly in November through to January and then, for any money not allocated, a second round through to early Spring. There had been some discussion on the grant form and priorities and the Task and Finish Group had agreed the proposals should be restricted to the CP's three priorities and up to no more than £1,000, not excluding anything that might be slightly over the upper limit.

The Communities Officer advised that the small grants scheme would give the opportunity for all parishes in the CP's area to bid for money for schemes in their respective areas. He stated that four other CPs were also introducing similar schemes. His communications with the Funding Team had resulted in the process being streamlined as much as possible, If this proposal was agreed by the CP, it was hoped to launch the following week on 9 November and run for two months.



As a reminder, the CP's three priorities were healthy lifestyle and wellbeing, social isolation and loneliness, and transport and access.

Comment was made that with lockdown occurring again, community groups might well require items now; it was noted that the CP's funding should not be confused with the 'Bounce Back' Fund.

The Communities Officer proposed setting up a funding panel to look at the grant applications in advance of coming back to the CP. This was supported. He explained that the Funding Team would receive all applications, appraise each one and allocate a score. If any information was missing, that Team would review each application before a grants panel received the application for consideration. Local knowledge would be applied when a grants panel, comprising members of this CP, reviewed the applications.

The Chairman advised the CP that money had to be allocated to schemes because, in the current year, any unspent money would not be carried forward.

It was agreed that £10,000 be allocated to a Small Grants scheme to be launched on 9 November 2020 and that bids would be up to £1,000. It was further agreed that the Grants Panel comprise:

Graham Catchpole, Sue Collins, Annette Dunning, Wendy Summerfield, Councillor Judy Cloke and Stuart Halsey.

ACTION: Stuart Halsey

Following detailed discussions relating to the announcement of the small grants scheme and sharing of information, the Democratic Services Officer advised that she would email all the parish clerks with details of the Small Grants scheme so that everyone in the CP's area was aware of the scheme.

ACTION: Sarah Carter

5. Community Partnership Projects / Outcome Proposal Forms

The Chairman asked that the CP members consider the timescale for spending money bearing in mind that the CP was next due to meet on 1 February 2021. It was important to give consideration to the remaining £15,000 now and how that might best be allocated. In addition, in the next financial year, the CP would be allocated a further £25,000 and members of the CP could give thought to any schemes that might benefit from that money.

SCC Cllr Goldson commented that if money was not allocated by the end of March 2021, it might be difficult during the purdah period in April.



All local ideas would be welcomed and comment was made that the £15,000 remaining in the current year could be put into community transport. The need to look at projects now was important, particularly as the situation with Covid19 had gone on longer than expected. If organisations needed a cash injection because of another lockdown, the Communities Officer advised he would ascertain if the Council was arranging another emergency fund. That money was not for individuals but for larger organisations to bid for.

Action: Stuart Halsey

The Chairman proposed that a decision on the £15,000 be made at the next meeting in February unless any of the CP members were aware of an emergency that needed to be dealt with. If members wished a project to be considered, they could complete an outcome proposal form and forward it to her and the Communities Officer for initial consideration. Comment was made that the CP Forum taking place that week might also inject some additional ideas.

6. East Suffolk Community Partnership Annual Forum 2020

The CP was reminded that the Annual Forum had commenced that day, being a five day virtual programme with a line up of speakers in 11 separate sessions. The Chairman hoped that members of this CP would be participating and it was not too late to book a place.

The Partnerships Manager advised that the whole programme had been designed around the projects that had been identified by the CPs. All issues raised at the Forum would be noted and reported back to the CP Board and the CPs. He suggested the CP might wish to view the introductory video in which the Chairman had participated.

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The CP noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 1 February 2020 at 6.00pm.

ACTION: All – diary note

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 6.50pm.



Key outcomes of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board meeting held 7 December 2020.

1. Recap:

All eight Community Partnerships are represented on The Community Partnership Board by their respective Chairs.

The Board is currently focussed on these issues across East Suffolk:

- Transport
- Social Isolation and Loneliness
- Covid Impacts

The Community Partnership Board meeting agendas / papers / minutes can be viewed HERE

2. Progress on Transport Priority

A Transport Task Group had met on 26.10.20 to focus on i) Active and Sustainable Travel ii) Community Transport solutions ii) Rural Transport

The Task group recommend a twin track approach to the Transport Priority: Short Term:

- Develop short-term 'quick win' deliverables.
- Identify, develop and seed/match fund pilots and trial projects to test 'proof of concept' and assess their viability to be scaled up across the area.

Medium – Long term:

- Study transport and travel issues & gaps in East Suffolk to provide rigorous data and intelligence on which to base future work.
- Work with strategic partners to redesign parts of the system, and collectively lobby to influence for change.

The Board agreed to this approach, and the Task Group has now taken the role of the Transport Programme Steering Group to help problem solve the transport priority. The three key elements for success are:

- i) The steering group now scheduled to meet 27.01.21
- ii) A programme manager who will start 01.02.21 (following an offer by EDF to provide a member of their staff to carry out the role for the Task Group)
- iii) A delivery budget the Board allocated £80k from its 2020/21 budget to fund this.

The Travel and Transport improvement Programme proposal can be viewed HERE

The Board also agreed to support Suffolk County Council to trial an innovative new "Katch" EV Taxi bus service between Framlingham, Wickham Market and Campsea Ashe Station from January next Year. **The Board allocated 40k** from its budget towards this trial.

The Katch proposal can be viewed **HERE**

The full report from the Transport Task Group can be viewed HERE

3. Update on Social Isolation and Loneliness Priority

To date, a total of £135,000 had been allocated to projects aimed at tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness. In addition, £100,000 was allocated by the Board at its meeting in September for the Bounce Back Fund which, although it emanated from the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group, has strong links to the Isolation and Loneliness theme in that it is intended to enable VCSE groups, including youth groups and community buildings, to recommence their activities safely and securely.

The Board received a brief update on the four projects funded by them to support the reduction of Isolation and Loneliness in East Suffolk:

- Hidden Needs Grant Programme
- Small Grants (Covid Community Fund),
- Grandpads
- and the VCSE Bounce Back Fund.

The full report, with details of projects that have received grant funding to end November 2020 can be viewed <u>HERE</u>

4. Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group Report

The Covid impacts Task and Finish Group had met again on 13th October 2020 to focus specifically on 'Vulnerable People and Places'. Having received a report from that group highlighting a range of potential needs and existing solutions, the Board agreed to:

- endorse the package of projects identified by the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group to respond to the issue of 'Vulnerable People and Places'.
- mandate the Task and Finish Group and partner organisations to develop these projects and report back to the March Board meeting
- allocate up to £20,000 towards the EAST (Everyone Active, Supported, Together) Box project aimed at older people who live alone (or care for someone in the household) and who are vulnerable due to social isolation and/or loneliness.

The full report from the Covid impacts Task Group can be viewed HERE

The proposal for the EAST (Everyone Active, Supported Together) Boxes can be viewed HERE

Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager. 17.12.2020