



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships  
*Bringing ideas to life*

Aldeburgh  
Leiston  
Saxmundham  
& villages

## Notes of the remote Meeting held on Tuesday 29 September 2020 at 3.30pm

### Present:

ESC Councillors: Cllr T Cooper (Chairman), Cllr J Fisher

SCC Councillor: Cllr R Rainger

Town and Parish Councils: Cllr J Findlay (Saxmundham TC), Cllr L Hill (Leiston TC), C Rinder (Deputy Town Clerk, Leiston TC)

Partnership Organisations: S Cuthbert (Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme), S Mortimer (Community Action Suffolk)

Others present: L Bennett (ESC, Community Partnerships Manager), Z Botten (ESC, Communities Officer), J Thain (Leiston Change Manager), K Abbott (ESC, Clerk to the Community Partnership)

Item	
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence</b>
	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jocelyn Bond, Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf, D Eastman (IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme), E Ratzer (Access Community Trust).  The Chairman welcomed Joanne Thain, newly appointed Leiston Change Manager, to her first meeting of the Partnership.
<b>2</b>	<b>Election of a Vice Chairman</b>
	No nominations for the position of Vice Chairman were received.  <b>ACTION:</b> The Clerk to send an email to provide the role descriptions, clarity on who could be nominated and who could nominate, and to seek nominations ahead of the next meeting. The Election was deferred to the next meeting in November.
<b>3</b>	<b>Notes of the previous meeting of the Community Partnership</b>
	The notes of the meeting held on 13 August 2020 were received and confirmed as a correct record.



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	<p>Councillor Findlay advised that the Saxmundham signage project had received its funding and work was underway in consultation with Suffolk Highways. He was pleased to report good progress with the overall regeneration of the town centre.</p> <p>Zoe Botten said it had been helpful to look at prospective projects at the meeting and for additional information to then be provided before the next meeting of the Partnership. There was a query about how agreed projects would be advertised. Several suggested routes were identified including existing contact networks, town and parish newsletters, churches the good neighbour schemes etc. Projects costings would be circulated, considered by Cllr Cooper and Zoe Botten and the Partnership advised of the decisions.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Update from the Community Partnership Board held on 7 September 2020</b>
	<p>The written report, published with the agenda, was received, and noted.</p> <p>Luke Bennett, Community Partnerships Manager, summarised the report and the progress made since the Board's last meeting.</p> <p>The Community Partnership was advised of an Annual Forum between 2 and 6 November 2020 which would incorporate a series of virtual events over the week; its theme would be "East Suffolk: Bringing ideas to life".</p> <p>Cllr Rainger welcomed the review of the Strategy because of the impact of Covid-19. He said he would like the Partnership to align its thoughts and actions to feed into the Board's dynamic response and direction of travel.</p> <p>Cllr Findlay agreed that the Board's shift of direction was the right thing to do; however, he stressed that it was important not to lose sight of the original priorities in the longer term and hoped that these would be revisited when appropriate.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Verbal update from the Task and Finish Groups</b>
	<p>Emma Ratzer was not able to be at the meeting.</p> <p>Sharon Cuthbert summarised a project proposal which, unfortunately, had not been in time for inclusion with the agenda papers. The planned project sought to run a creative arts project across the area of Saxmundham, Aldeburgh and Leiston and surrounding villages with the aim of connecting people who are socially isolated and who may experience loneliness over the next six months due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on normal social activities.</p>



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	<p>Zoe Botten said it had been helpful to look briefly at the prospective project at the meeting and additional information would then be provided for the next meeting of the Partnership. There was a query about how agreed projects would be subsequently advertised. Several suggested routes were identified including existing contact networks, town and parish newsletters, churches, the good neighbour schemes etc.</p> <p>Cllr Hill said she would appreciate having short papers to consider. She also stated that she had previously volunteered for a Task and Finish Group, but she had not, yet, been contacted. Councillor Hill reiterated that she would be happy to join the social isolation/Loneliness Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>Cllr Rainger asked what additional help the Partnership might be able to offer to partner organisations at this time. He said that the Partnership covered a wide area, and it was important that all could access services. Sharon Cuthbert said that, pre-Covid, activities in Aldeburgh had been successful; however, these were now on hold as many had been face-to-face. Saxmundham had also been progressing well including the creation of additional support via Saxcess House; again, this had been interrupted by Covid-19.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> It was agreed that additional detail on the prospective projects, including costings, would be provided to the Community Partnership to consider at the next meeting.</p> <p>4.17pm Cllr Bond joined the meeting</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Date of the next meeting</b>
	It was agreed that the next meeting of the Community Partnership would be on Monday 9 November 2020 at 3.30pm
<b>7</b>	<b>Any other business</b>
<b>(i)</b>	<b><u>Grants Scheme proposals</u></b>
	<p>Zoe Botten advised that c£5,000 was available to voluntary sector organisations and community groups located within Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham and the surrounding villages.</p> <p>Applications for the funding must demonstrate that it will contribute to at least one of the priorities detailed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Reduce social isolation and loneliness, particularly carers, older people, and men over 40 years of age</li></ol>



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<p>(ii)</p>	<p>2. Education, opportunities, and aspirations 3. Encourage and enable everyone to be more physically active and healthy</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> The guidance and application form would be circulated after the meeting (these were sent by email on 5 October 2020).</p> <p><b><u>Dementia project</u></b> Joanne Thain put forward a project proposal to fund Sharon Cuthbert's post for six months. This was seconded by Cllr Hill.</p> <p>Cllr Findlay said he would have preferred to have sight of proposal or at least notice of one in advance in future. Zoe Botten said this was only a proposal and that details would be circulated before a decision on funding was made. It was confirmed that all members of the Partnership could submit proposals.</p>
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The meeting concluded at 4.31pm