

Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership

Action Notes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 21 June 2022

at Riverside, 6pm

ESC Councillors – Councillor Paul Ashdown (Chairman), Peter Byatt, Linda Coulam, Louise Gooch, Malcolm Pitchers, Keith Robinson, Mary Rudd

SCC Councillors – Councillors Ryan Harvey and James Reeder

Town and Parish Councils – Councillors Peter Armstrong (Corton Parish Council), Peter Lang (Lowestoft Town Council), Andy Pearce (Lowestoft Town Council) and Miles Thomas (Lound Parish Council)

Partnership Organisations – Danny Steel (Lowestoft Vision), Phil Aves (Lowestoft Rising) and Nicki Cooper (SCC Public Health Suffolk)

Others present – Julia Bates (East Coast College), Sarah Davis (Democratic Services Officer), Lee Drewery (Everyone Active), Tom McGarry (Sizewell C), Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities), Donna Taylor (Everyone Active), Claire Taylor-Haigh (Women Like Me) and Louise Thomas (Communities Officer)

Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and received apologies from Councillors Ed Back, Tess Gandy, Jenny Hinton and Neil Livingstone, and Karen McCormack (SCC Public Health Suffolk).
2.	Appointment of Vice Chairman In the absence of any further nominations, it was AGREED: That Danny Steel be re-appointed as Vice-Chairman for 2022/23 Municipal Year.
3.	Action Notes AGREED: That the Action Notes from the last meeting held on 9 March 2022 be approved.
4.	Terms of Reference

	The generic Terms of Reference for all the Community Partnerships be noted.
5.	Membership List AGREED: That the Membership list be updated to include the following and it be noted that confirmation was still awaited from CAS in relation to Matt Grafton being their representative (voting): Core Voting Members: Literacy Trust - Sally Connick Women Like Me – Claire Taylor-Haigh Re-utilise – Carol Dean Kirkley People’s Forum – David Lawrence Everyone Active – Lee Drewery/Stuart Jardine/Donna Taylor Non-Voting Members: East Coast College – Julia Bates Lound Plant Centre – Helen Rawlings
6.	2022/23 Budget It was confirmed that all the funding for 2021/22 had been spent or allocated, including the remaining £3K allocated for the School Allotment Planter Project and, therefore, the 2022/23 budget was £25K.
7.	Community Partnership Board Update The Head of Communities provided an update and it was noted in particular that: • Lisa Perkins from BT had been re-appointed as Vice-Chairman • CCKS and Framlingham CPs had given an update on their activities – Lowestoft and Northern Parishes CP was due to give an update at the December Board meeting • The Board had looked at the LGA Peer Challenge Action Plan – greater engagement with different sectors of the community needed • The Board Chair had presented the Annual report – focussed on two areas to do more eg promoting the work of CPs, including publishing a quarterly e-newsletter that Partnership members could forward to other partners, which would focus on isolation and loneliness; and also refreshing our website so easier to find information • Main focus of Board meeting was on the cost of living crisis • Discussed outcome of Annual Forum

	Received a Progress Report on Wellmind an East Suffolk project which was relevant to this CP.
8.	Project Updates School Allotment Planter Project It was noted 12 schools had indicated they would like planters and funding was available for them. Peter Byatt stated that the Men's Sheds had planters available, although funding might be required to purchase timber for the legs. These planters included 30cm off cuts of Perspex so the children could see inside the planter and he suggested lining them with roofing bitumen to make them waterproof rather than having a PVC/plastic liner. Danny suggested 10 planters to give 2 to each school. BACT The discounted Rural Community Transport project would start on 4 July and cover Lound, Somerleyton, Blundeston and incorporate Corton. The Chairman stated that he hoped a leaflet and route map would be available shortly for distribution to Partnership members.
9.	Social Isolation & Loneliness/Mental Health & Wellbeing Task and Finish Group Update Phil Aves gave an update on the discussions at the combined Task and Finish Group and he stated that the main concern was about how to get people engaged as they were still concerned about coming out post Covid and several suggestions had been made including: 8 GP practices to write to vulnerable people to encourage them to go out again (the postage would need to be funded) - Peter Aldous, MP to raise in Parliament about the Government encouraging people to go out again - Better identification of what was already out there in the community was needed eg Transport/Rugby minibus – using Councillors and a media campaign - Look at successful ways of communicating eg First Light - Look at different sources of funding - Use CP to collate and disseminate information - Create Warm Rooms to tackle isolation (funding for heating/food needed) - Game On Project - Engage choirs – could tie in with Warm Places project - N&S Foundation Trust - collate offers for mental Health as a tool - Influence Government, public health to encourage people not to stay isolated - Use trusted people in the community

	• Trusted Schools Scheme • Contact other Schools/Clubs to provide community transport • Influence Church and Faith Groups and link back to Warm Places project • Support Lowestoft Town Council/Mind event in Autumn • Using music • National Literacy Trust – support reading for Mental Health It was noted that there were capacity issues re children and young people specialist support, SEND provision, and although it was a system wide problem there was a real challenge in Lowestoft because there was no special provision here. Phil pointed out that there was a lack of trained staff and issues recruiting even if funding was available. Phil confirmed that the Walk in the Park/Sam's Café projects had commenced at the beginning of May but needed further promotion. In response to a query about walks for the disabled, he stated that this might be something the Disability Forum could consider. The point was made that one of the drivers behind the Lowestoft Mile Walks had been the opportunity for those less able to still go for a "walk". Paul Ashdown commented that a further walk had been created about Benjamin Britten which had been funded outside the CP. Peter Byatt suggested a Morton Peto themed walk and agreed to speak to Louise Thomas. Louise Gooch gave a brief update on progress of the Lowestoft Game On project and it was noted that the first event might be held in September and could link in with the Warm Places project. Andy Pearce stated that Lowestoft Town Council might be willing to finance it as a community project.
10.	Childhood Healthy Eating Task and Finish Group Update Nicki Cooper gave a brief update on the Task and Finish Group's discussions and work including the collaboration with 3C to discuss potential projects such as cooking classes and pallet boxes. In addition, an after school club and recipe cards competition had been held for children under 5 and their parents, building on the earlier Healthy Movers Project. A porridge/Breakfast Club and the support 1 Life Suffolk could provide were also being discussed. She also suggested that the free resources included in the report could be promoted by Partnership members and would also be shared with schools as part of the Healthy Lifestyle pack to go with the boxes. It was noted that the fruit offer for KS1 had also been extended to KS2 children and she suggested perhaps there was the possibility of liaising with supermarkets to extend further.

	Louise Gooch provided further details on the recipe cards which it was envisaged would provide healthy meals for four people for under £3. She added that she had contacted East Coast College to assist but had not heard anything in response. Reference was made to support for the planter project from Otley College, YMCA through the Shine Project and the Allotments Association as well as local families to help. Phil Aves reported that the Allotments Association were now engaged in the Pantries Project and they could provide 12 CPD sessions in twilight/after school sessions rather than needing to find funding to employ a professional. Nicki stated that Jane Stannard the Schools Engagement Manager from the Public Health and Communities Team could possibly support this project and do a session in conjunction with the Allotments Association and this would not cost anything.
11.	Cost of Living Crisis The Partnership received a presentation from Nicole Rickard. A discussion ensued on the Warm Rooms Project and the need for these to be available in rural areas as well as urban was stressed. A suggestion was also made that it would be beneficial to provide funding if necessary for freezers/microwaves in the premises so families could come in and feed their kids after school as well as at lunchtime. The point was also made that, once people started to attend these Warm Rooms, agencies could be invited in to give wider support to families. AGREED: That a virtual Task and Finish Group be held to progress the Warm Rooms Project and that Parish Councils be spoken to in order to encourage them to take part.
12.	Dates of Future Meetings 21 September 2022 – TBC (Peter Armstrong to check if Corton was available) 20 December 2022 - TBC 15 March 2023 – TBC

The meeting concluded at 8.25pm