

# Lowestoft Place Board

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 09:00-10:30 | Virtual

**THINK  
LOWESTOFT**

Attendees (Board)	Apologies (Board)
<p>Stephen Javes – Chair</p> <p>Amanda Ankin – Suffolk Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Cllr Ben Falat – Parish Councils representative</p> <p>Cllr Paul Ashdown - Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership</p> <p>Cllr Toby Hammond – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Danny Steel – Lowestoft Vision</p> <p>David Dukes – New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership</p> <p>Genevieve Christie – First Light Festival</p> <p>Julia Bates – East Coast College (representing Stuart Rimmer)</p> <p>Keith Moore – Environment Agency</p> <p>Tom Duit – Associated British Ports</p> <p>Peter Aldous – MP for Waveney</p> <p>Phil Aves – Lowestoft Rising</p> <p>Tim Green – CEFAS</p>	<p>Andrew Brown – Anglian Water (&amp; BiTC)</p> <p>Cllr Richard Smith – Suffolk County Council</p> <p>Cllr Janet Craig – Lowestoft Town Council</p> <p>Stuart Rimmer – East Coast College (Vice-Chair)</p>
Attendees (Officers/Speakers)	Apologies (Officers)
<p>Andrew Jarvis – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Darren Newman – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Emily Cashen - Cities &amp; Local Growth Unit</p> <p>Gary Bellward – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Jason Benham – BiTC</p> <p>Nicole Rickard – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Paul Wood – East Suffolk Council</p> <p>Sarah Foote – Lowestoft Town Council</p> <p>Guest Speakers: Laura Hampton &amp; Argus Hardy, Wild East</p>	<p>Jai Raithatha – Suffolk County Council</p> <p>Karen Thomas - Coastal Partnership East</p> <p>Shona Bendix – Lowestoft Town Council</p>

	Description	Lead
1	<p><b>Welcome and declarations of interest</b></p> <p>None declared</p>	Stephen Javes
2	<p><b>Actions and approval of minutes from previous meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marjorie to work with Suffolk Chamber on case studies regarding aggregating etc. – <i>Darren to secure update post meeting as Marjorie not in attendance.</i></li> </ul> <p>Sarah Foote highlighted an issue with the LTC update in previous meetings minutes – <i>Kate to amend and republish.</i></p> <p>Chair asked Board if they were otherwise happy to approve the minutes subject to the outlined change – unanimously approved.</p>	Stephen Javes
3	<p><b>Guest presentation: Wild East</b></p> <p>Laura Hampton and Argus Hardy were invited by the Board to present an overview of WildEast, and how Board members and the community can be involved. WildEast are striving for the East to become one of the world's biggest and best nature reserves by returning 250,000 hectares of land to nature through education and pledges to enrich lives and support wellbeing.</p>	Laura Hampton

	The team will be seeking a Community Champion to create a biodiversity and wellbeing baseline, and education lead.	
4	<p><b>Partner update</b></p> <p><b>Lowestoft Vision BID – Danny Steel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spooky Saturday – Town busy throughout the day with entertainment and pumpkin trails.</li> <li>• Visitors encouraged to shop local over the festive period</li> <li>• Christmas light switch on takes place this Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.</li> <li>• Now over 30 planters in Lowestoft Town Centre through the High Street Improvement Grants</li> </ul> <p><b>Oulton Broad Parish Council – Cllr Ben Falat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carols-on-the-Quay Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at Oulton Broad from 10am</li> </ul> <p><b>Suffolk Chamber of Commerce – Amanda Ankin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for upgrades to the A12</li> <li>• Place Forums for East Suffolk will be held in Lowestoft next year – details to be shared.</li> <li>• Christmas networking lunch at Hotel Victoria</li> </ul> <p><b>Lowestoft &amp; Northern Parishes Community Partnership – Cllr Paul Ashdown</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the last 3 months further requests from schools and community organisations for planters</li> <li>• Year 6 the most at risk with needing support with Health Eating. Lowestoft Healthy habits distributed to every year 5 and 6 pupils in the town, with requests now coming from the district.</li> <li>• Winter warm rooms in place again, with the support from LTC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lowestoft Town Council – Sarah Foote</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About to commence with Town Hall project, to draw down the recently secured NLHF funding.</li> <li>• Play area re-launched – when this happens, it reaffirms the importance of these areas to the community, particularly those in our most deprived areas.</li> <li>• Fen Park and Triangle toilets under refurbishment and working with the Police on a crime management report. Normanston Cemetery was vandalised recently with cisterns and pipes pulled from the walls.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lowestoft Rising – Phil Aves</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe Weather Emergency Protocol has been initiated today with weather forecast to be below 0.</li> <li>• Day centre drop in now available at Bridge View</li> <li>• School uniform bank located at Pakefield Church</li> <li>• Food bank stocking up for winter</li> <li>• Training will be available for First Aid and Suicide prevention – we are working with Gull Wing on suicide prevention methods.</li> <li>• Working on Junior Parkrun at Normanston Park.</li> <li>• Alex Heys working on Safer Streets Funding.</li> <li>• Lowestoft Rising will cease from April, and proposals for the Place Board to take over the Board.</li> </ul> <p><b>East Coast College – Julia Bates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are approaching the end of their first term, who engaged in a sustainability project at the beginning of the term.</li> <li>• Work being undertaken to broaden participation and encourage students to remain in education. Also looking at how ECC can work with schools, particularly with 14–16-year-olds, to help students transition into college.</li> <li>• Discussing with ESC a new supported internship</li> </ul>	As stated,

	<p><b>ESC Update - Paul Wood /Nicole Rickard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESC's Community Help Hub and Officers are prioritising supporting people in avoiding getting into debt, on top of other challenges they may have. Referrals can be made online, but further information can be found here: <a href="https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/east-suffolk-2023/?ptit=45495558167B4F74B59E6">https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/east-suffolk-2023/?ptit=45495558167B4F74B59E6</a> . Support over Christmas and new year.</li> <li>• New strategic plan launched last week which will underpin the services the council delivers for the next four years. 'Our Direction 2028' presents the council's key ambitions and priorities with an overarching aim to promote a bright, green, open, free, and fair future for all East Suffolk. Its four main priorities, Environmental Impact, Sustainable Housing, Tackling Inequalities and Thriving Economy reflect the political ambitions of the new Green, Liberal Democrat, and Independent administration</li> <li>• Sizewell C governance in the process of being established.</li> </ul> <p><b>MP Update – Peter Aldous</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wished to share congratulations to LTC for securing NLHF funding for the Town Hall</li> <li>• Homeless Minister visit</li> <li>• Final sessions taking part, following the Kings Speech and Autumn budget</li> <li>• Cost of Living crisis continues</li> <li>• Homes England – some strategic sites need to be brought forward for development to meet the housing crisis. The former Sanyo site is being brought forward in part thanks to recent funding award.</li> <li>• The collapse of Pakefield cliffs last week has reinforced the vulnerability of our coastline.</li> <li>• Thanks were shared for the work of Phil Aves, whose work has been critical to supporting our coastal community, as he prepares to leave Lowestoft Rising LCEP in 2024.</li> </ul>	
5	<p><b>Marina Theatre update</b></p> <p>There have been some challenges with the delivery of the project, with LTC and MTT seeking different outcomes. LTC hope that this can be resolved, following a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Further updates are to follow.</p>	Sarah Foote
6	<p><b>Towns Deal M&amp;E Return</b></p> <p>Every 6 months ESC are required to report back to DLUH on the Towns Deal and Levelling Up programme. With the agenda, Board members will have received a Highlight Report, however due to the reporting period this will not have recorded the above item.</p> <p>ESC requires the Board to sign off the M&amp;E return prior to the deadline on Tuesday. If there are any fundamental changes to our outcomes or outputs, we must submit a change request.</p> <p>Change 1: Changes to Cultural Quarter</p> <p>Minor change to outputs, loss of repurposed floor space and public realm, but gain in rehabilitated land and floor space rationalised. The proposed acquisition of Seaview House will no longer be brought forward and will be removed from the project along with a contingency for Wilko, due to administration enabling the opportunity to secure early vacant procession of businesses premises. Both have enabled costs to be reprofiled.</p> <p>Change request 2: Historic Quarter</p> <p>We are restricted as to how we can bring forward the Scores project, as there are difficulties in determining land ownership amongst other challenges. Rapidly increasing costs mean that we would only be able to deliver 1 or 2 Scores instead of 4. ESC still has ambitions to deliver this work, but want to be able to spend responsibly, and provide best value. ESC proposes that the Scores project is paused once further design work has been completed by LDA Design to RIBA 3 and transfer the £1m Scores allocation to the Station</p>	Darren Newman

	Quarter. The Chair asked the Board if they were supportive of these changes. This was unanimously approved to submit the Return.	
7	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>The Board were advised that as part of our auditing process, we should be undertaking an annual review of Declarations of Interest. Declarations will be a standing item at the beginning of each Board meeting; however we must have declarations from appointed Board Members must be public. Kate will circulate a form with the minutes for all Board Members to complete, which will then be collated and transferred to a document which will sit on East Suffolk Council's website.</p> <p>No additional business highlighted, and meeting was called to close.</p>	Stephen Javes