Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and surrounding Villages

Community Partnership Workshop

Monday 11th November 2019

Sir John Leman High School, Ringsfield Road, Beccles

Attendees:

Alison Alder  Blyth Valley Team Ministry
Johnathan Alder  Wenhaston Commons Group
Fay Baldry  Waveney Centre
Fran Bedding (F)  Beccles TC
Luke Bennett  East Suffolk Partnership
Mark Beresford  Suffolk Police
Gillian Birrell  Beccles Town Council
Alex Bond  Sentinel Leisure Trust
Cllr Elfrede Bramley-Crawshaw  East Suffolk and County Councillor
Cllr Alison Cackett  East Suffolk Councillor
Andrea Carr  Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Parish Council
Sarah Carter  East Suffolk Council – Democratic Services
Cllr Judy Cloke  ESC – Community Partnership Chair
Susan Collins  Bungay Town Council
Keiron Davies  North Cove Village
Richard Day  Holton PC
Doeke Dobma  Clinks Care farm
Annette Dunning  Halesworth Town Council
Chris Eglington  Beccles Lions
Cllr Graham Elliott  East Suffolk Councillor
Caroline Ellis  Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Parish Council
Gabriella Fox (F)  ESC – Economic Development & Regeneration
Jim Fyfe  Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund
Cllr Steve Gallant  ESC - Leader
Teresa Goldson  Disability Advice
Cllr Tony Goldson  East Suffolk and County Councillor
Terry Goodwin  Beccles Men’s Shed
Stuart Halsey  ESC Communities – Lead Officer
Linda Hammond  
Mark Harvey (F)  
Emma Healey  
Christopher Heaphy  
Georgina Hirst (F)  
Dave Howson (F)  
Eddie Hubbard  
Mark Jackson  
Mike James  
Graham Jermyn  
Janet John  
Jess Kirby  
Nick Khan  
Jonalt Kodhelaj  
Les Lelean  
Phil Love  
Frances Mitchell  
Philip Mitchell  
Alice Moore  
Joyce Moseley  
Christine Pinsent  
Bob Prior  
Nicole Rickard  
Joan Pryce  
Cllr David Ritchie  
Tom Scannell  
Daniel Schaffer  
Christopher Scott  
Amanda Sear  
Paul Sharp  
Samantha Shimmon (F)  
Cllr Letitia Smith  
Mary Sparrow  
Wendy Summerfield  
David Thomas  
Cllr Caroline Topping  
Julia Waggett  
Daniel Wareing  
Caroline Way  
Christine Wheeler  
David Whitehead  
Peter Wildish  
Cheryl Willis  
Wenhaston Commons Group  
ESC - Planning  
Halesworth Volunteer Centre  
Beccles Men’s Shed  
Communities Support Officer, ESC – Lead Support Officer  
East Suffolk Council - Housing  
Worlingham Parish Council  
Suffolk Police  
One Life Suffolk  
Beccles U3A  
CA North East Suffolk  
Terrence Higgins Trust  
ESC - SMT  
Spexhall Parish Council  
Access Community Trust  
BACT  
BACT  
East Suffolk  
Halesworth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group  
Beccles Business and Tourism Association  
Bungay Town Council  
ESC - Communities  
North Cove Parish Council  
East Suffolk Councillor  
Terrence Higgins Trust  
Alzheimer’s Society  
Ringsfield and Weston Parish Council  
Coastal Health / CCG  
Suffolk Police  
ESC - Housing  
ESC – Cabinet Member for Communities  
Hippersons  
Worlingham Parish Council  
Halesworth Town Council  
East Suffolk Councillor  
Barnby Parish Council  
East Suffolk Council  
Wenhaston Parish Council  
Ringsfield and Weston Parish Council  
Beccles Lions  
Wenhaston Parish Council  
East Suffolk Council
Community Partnership Data Pack

1. **What statistic surprised you the most?**

- Figure for poor condition of homes
- Deprivation – compared to national figures
- Deprivation of area - need to understand what constitutes ‘deprivation’
- Some areas of deprivation
- Large life expectancy gap in small area
- Physical activity levels x2
- Lack of exercise in the area x 2
- Obesity ratios (people don’t always look overweight)
- Obesity in children x 2
- Higher level of obesity in rural areas
- Population with dementia
- Ratio – young to old
- Amount of people aware of climate change (thought would be higher)
- Transport
- Demographic age is low
- Awareness of the elderly
- Heating – lack of effective homes
- Level of depression / level of depression being higher than national average x 2
- Beccles as a hotspot for many things
- Lack of 30-34 year olds in the district
- Inequality between areas
- Life expectancy (thought would be higher)
- Air quality x 3
- Air quality in Worlingham
- Bungay – an old town quite wealthy but wider area a contrast
- Saints – men live a lot longer than women

2. **What statistic(s) do you want to know more about?**

- Health statistics – Beccles i.e. diabetes / linked to deprivation
- Number of people on benefits, not just universal credit
- Physical activity – age groups
- Reasons for low 30-40 year age bracket
- Offshore workers – impact on the community (spending)
- Definition of deprivation x 2
• Tourism and agriculture
• Tourism levels needs to be examined across all the district
• Agriculture levels not stated
• Farming – proportion of work etc.
• Breakdown in greater detail of mental health, including age groups x 2
• Mental health – other needs as well
• Breakdown depression statistics per age group
• More specific parish breakdown
• Breakdown of heating issues – private or council or rented
• Rural community involvement
• What has got worse
• Clean Air / Air quality breakdown x 2
• Air quality before biomass facility
• Air quality in Worlingham/Ellough
• Details of schools not performing
• School data – seems incorrect
• Manufacturing data – type of manufacturing
• Social isolation – bus routes
• Public transport
• Definition of exercise / What qualifies as exercise? How is this measured? X2
• Overweight / Obesity – is this due to inactivity, food types, lack of opportunity to walk x 2
• Linking up with other dementia groups – where they are and how can we contact other groups?
• Age breakdown of climate attitudes

3. **Do you think there is any data missing from the data pack?**

• Mental health generally – not just depression
• Mental health breakdown
• Crime statistics, including rural x 2
• Police presence in the community x 2
• Homelessness and temporary accommodation x 2
• Food bank usage x 2
• Learning disability statistics
• Deprivation of middle age bracket (working age)
• Numbers of second homes/holiday lets
• Young adults still living at home and can’t afford to move out
• What green initiatives the county is looking at for busses
• Facilities for younger people
• Community access
• Environment (quality of water)
• Leisure activities
• Agriculture
• Tourism industry – impact isn’t captured x2
• Data on air quality
• Migration into the area
• Access to doctors’ surgeries
• Employment
• Comparison with national statistics
• Open green spaces
• Beccles compared to similar size towns
• Compare statistics year by year
• Reasons behind childhood obesity to help influence what we do
• Pupil premium and Special educational Needs (SEN) levels in schools

Community Partnership Priorities

1. *Develop active and sustainable transport solutions/ community transport* *(47 votes)*
2. *Tackle social isolation and loneliness* *(42 votes)*
3. *Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives* *(34 votes)*
## Voting Table

**Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and surrounding villages Community Partnership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Priority</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support people to age well e.g. money, activities, social activities, support</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduce life expectancy gaps by improving health and wellbeing in specific areas</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support people with dementia and their Carers</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tackle childhood obesity through healthy eating and exercise</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enable, encourage and support everyone to be more physically active</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Help to improve the life chances of Children in Care</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tackle social isolation and loneliness</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support people on low income, including to access essentials and manage their money better</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support people to heat their homes and improve the condition of houses in the rural parts of the CP area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage people to be environmentally active and make compromises to help the environment</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop active and sustainable transport solutions / community transport</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing – availability and affordability</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vibrant sustainable economy</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication, including about community activities</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of and access to community buildings and spaces</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste Recycling</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage all communities in Community Partnerships</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
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Individual Comments

Young people
- Find ways to make kids want to play out and take exercise
- Opportunities for young people to socialise
- Provision of services for young people / young people – access to services x 2
- Youth Entertainment (clubs) – Worlingham
- Children’s / Young Peoples Voices heard x 2

Older People
- Old Age / Dementia
- Ageing Well / preparing for old age x 2
- A future in retirement
- Needs of 85 plus age group – support for individuals and carers
- Dementia groups across East Suffolk to support each other and share ideas
- Dementia statistics across East Suffolk to enable us to use when applying for grants

Education and schools
- Education x 2
- Intervention in Primary schools on Health and Exercise
- Improve the standards in schools
- More education on well-being in schools

Sport, Leisure and Physical Activity
- Recreation for all ages
- Encourage exercise in adults
- New sports provision within Halesworth
- Encourage more exercise, sport and activity opportunities and facilities within the partnership area – affordable or free x 3
- Social activities and fitness activities for rural areas
- Understanding barriers to physical activities
- Child/Youth obesity and lack of facilities or opportunities x 2
- Walking buses for rural children
- Encourage children and adults to walk and cycle
- More physical activity/sport during the school day
- Local facilities – swimming, sports, parks
- Minimise risks of childhood obesity
- Promote exercise and healthy lifestyles for children
- Promote walking and cycling infrastructure
- Percent of adults not engaging in physical activity / lack of activity x 2
- More exercise footpaths e.g. Wenhaston to Halesworth
• Getting residents more active - physical activity for all ages – age appropriate and easily accessible
• Enable children to walk safely to school – safe car free zones and lollipop people
• Targeted social/exercise groups facilitated near to residents
• Improving quality and access to facilities in public spaces – indoor and outdoor activities

Health Services/Support

• More / better health facilities x 2
• Accessible doctors
• Over stretched GP/Health surgery
• Extra health care provision for all the new housing
• Develop a Compassionate Community to support cradle to grave

Social Isolation and Loneliness

• Social isolation x 5
• Rural isolation x 3
• Isolation in all ages
• Combating loneliness and isolation
• Social isolation of both children and older adults
• Social isolation of young people
• Targeting social isolation for the older generation and those with vulnerabilities
• More social facilities for older people
• Isolation prevention – explore “Chat Benches” to encourage people to chat and to exercise
• Loneliness - arising out of elderly and deprived population – hotspots for social isolation
• How to mitigate loneliness in the elderly – widows
• People housebound in hours of darkness

Tourism

• Protection of tourist spots
• Tourism x 3

Transport, Car Parking and Roads

• Rural transport x 2
• Public transport / lack of / poor public transport x 4
• Transport x 2
• Transport – more affordable and run later/earlier times
• Integrated transport policy including community transport
• More money for community transport
• Poor local bus services – Worlingham to Beccles which stops before 3pm
Rural transport to allow free movement around towns, outside of towns and to industrial business parks
• More integrated public transport
• Transport for everyone! Prioritising young people and older people
• Provide FREE car parking to help revive town centres
• Parking facilities - long term, not short term
• Free parking to support businesses in Halesworth
• Parking issues at Beccles Doctors and Hospital
• Low cost and better access to public transport especially for young people
• Transport links and availability
• Green Transport / More sustainable transport x 2
• Negative impact of poor transport on education and employment opportunities for young people
• Negative impact of poor transport on adults on low income/benefits
• Condition of roads – potholes, minor roads getting busier and traffic increasing
• Community transport – lack of x 2
• Better community transport to get people to doctor appointments to ensure treatments are not missed
• More money for community transport.
• Electrical charging points
• Transport linking the villages to towns e.g. Halesworth
• Better community transport
• More up to date and detailed information on access to transport and service accessibility
• Quiet lanes to make county roads better places to cycle and walk
• Speeding traffic x 2
• Improve footpaths and cycle paths, especially in rural areas
• Safer traffic speeds – making is safer for children to play outside again

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing
• ASB and Crime
• Increased Police presence x 4
• Funding for PCSO’s so areas are patrolled
• Rehabilitate offenders locally
• Street lighting – Crime and ASB reassurance
• Improve police coverage in evenings

Business, Economic Development and Employment, Town Centres
• Start-up business opportunities
• Economic Development x 5
• Support for rural businesses
• Support for local businesses
• Employment opportunities x 2
- Jobs / salaries that attract working age skilled workers and professionals
- Lack of opportunities for people to learn practical skills – tackling unemployment
- Building a vibrant sustainable economy – including environmental sustainability
- High Streets being the centre of the community
- Re-invent the Town Centre and stop out of town retail parks

Disability and Mental Health

- Disabilities – physical and mental
- Mental health provision (breakdown of statistics)
- Mental health support groups
- Mental Health – more support/coverage needed x 6

Planning, Development and Infrastructure

- Infrastructure to sustain planned development
- Encouragement of Green Spaces – rethink housing allocations
- Planning
- Recognise the difference between rural and town communities, especially with regard to planning
- More joined up with planning between village and County Council

Community, Community initiatives and Community/Open and Green Spaces

- Community facility for Worlingham – sustainable and inclusive
- No Community Hall in Worlingham
- Community Hubs x 2
- Community Halls
- Theatres and Art Centres
- Unfunded Public Halls / village Halls and Community Centres have no public funding x 2
- Town park tidied to include town river – Halesworth
- Relocation of open green space to allow for exercise related activities – parks are lungs of the area
- More “Good Neighbour” Schemes to promote a sense of community and support
- Enabling people in communities to be part of making changes
- Protection of green spaces

The Environment

- Environment x 2
- Flooding
- Identify sources of pollution and take active steps to address
- Cleaner energy – improved air quality in Ellough or no development in those areas
- Air quality in Worlingham area – vast improvement required with better monitoring
- Address the climate and ecological emergency – its Existential!
• Integrated recycling policy. So many people are confused about what goes where
• Recycling awareness and ease of recycling for everyone
• Waste transfer stations are not accessible to many
• Waste recycling centre required in Beccles/Halesworth / facilities for dumping rubbish in Beccles x 2
• A central point for recycling unwanted furniture and/or household goods
• Sustainable heating in impoverished houses
• Improve energy efficiency of housing
• Environmental awareness, especially in young people
• Strategy to encourage electric cars – charging points in each car park
• Management of road verges, parks, green open spaces to encourage wildlife and enable people to interact with nature

**Housing**

• Improve the housing conditions of existing properties – need improvements x 3
• Housing for all
• Social housing for rent
• Affordable homes for all x 3
• Equal distribution of social housing

**Deprivation**

• Improving life expectancy inequality in the area
• Work to address inequality
• Income deprivation
• Awareness of deprivation in the older generation
• Information on people attending food banks – how many/why/how can this be addressed?

**General**

• Communication of activities x 2
• Older and younger people linking together x 2
• Hidden Needs
• Age friendly and inclusive communities
• Create central areas for communities to access CAB, Police etc.
• Attracting young people/families to the area. Make the area more desirable for this age group
• Connectivity / more connection between voluntary and statutory groups x 2
• Improving access and connection to local activity
• Better local knowledge of what help is available – voluntary/charitable groups – Directory needed / organisational database of support agencies in the area x 2
• Missing Communities – i.e. residential boats – alternative lifestyles