

North Norfolk Local Area Partnerships

A snapshot of activity across North Norfolk

Introduction

Seven Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) were formed to enable local people improve life in their part of North Norfolk. Funded from a variety of sources, including a fraction of the income from second homes council tax, LAPs provide a unique, value for money resource available to all in their area. An independent report into LAPs completed in 2011, the Patchett Review, has emphasised that LAPs are value for money. The review also made clear recommendations that future plans should build on the foundations that LAP have created in terms of social capital and community engagement. Investment in LAPs has resulted in an increase in community motivation, capacity and commitment which is demonstrated through volunteer involvement with a wide variety of LAP-supported projects. A key recommendation of the review which acknowledges the vital role of LAPs in reaching out across the area was 'don't lose it'.

The LAPs work closely with community groups and organisations, town and parish councils and have established a good track record in assisting NNDC to deliver across a broad range of its community aims and ideals. Because of their flexibility and broad based community involvement LAPs have focussed on complementing not competing with the delivery programmes of NNDC and a range of civil society organisations; LAPs are eligible to seek funding from sources not available to district, town or parish councils.

The Local Area Partnerships Association provides the opportunity for LAPs to form ad hoc groups to deliver specific projects beyond the area of one LAP and when appropriate to work in concert across the whole District.

This is a snapshot of some of the current key activities in each partnership. To get more details and a more complete picture of how Local Area Partnerships are making a difference in your area contact them directly; contact information is given below.

Fakenham Area Partnership



Janet Holdom
01328 863343
janet@fakenhamareapartnership.co.uk
www.fakenhamareapartnership.co.uk

Fakenham Community Centre. As lead organisation on the Fakenham Community Campus project, Fakenham Area Partnership recently commissioned an independent consultation and feasibility study, with funding from Community Builders. The published report highlights the opportunities for developing a bigger, bolder and brighter future for the Fakenham Community Centre site off Oak Street, which could eventually see a £3 million investment into an all embracing Community Campus combining new events space, café/bar, public, voluntary and business sector offices, youth, arts and theatre space fit to meet the 21st century needs of the town and surrounding villages. FAP is lead partner in the Transition Group moving this project through the intermediate development stages towards a building project.

Fakenham Millennium Park. Development of the Fakenham Millennium Park is being run by a partnership of Fakenham Recreation Ground Charity, Fakenham Area Partnership and Kick Start. New multi-purpose pitches have been completed, access improvements and installation of new equipment is underway. FAP is providing administrative and fundsearch support for the 'Park Life' project to finance the later stages of the development plan which will include a picnic area, a running track and a BMX and Skatepark over the next couple of years.



Rebecca Matthews
01692 407509
rebecca@griffon.org.uk
www.griffon.org.uk

Year end figures for Voyager show a total actual footfall figure of approx. 5,750 people attending Voyager sessions, with approximately 3,000 meals served. Voyager doubled attendance figures in Autumn 2010 and continues to grow with currently 11 projects running, which offer a variety of activities from professional art tuition to a computer and internet course.

GAP, alongside North Norfolk Older Peoples Forum and AgeUK North Norfolk has recently submitted a proposal for the Big Lottery's Silver Dreams fund to form a collaborative working group for older people and carers in North Norfolk. The proposal has the backing of numerous voluntary and statutory organisations who will work alongside the new group in order to pool resources and reduce duplication of services.

2012 Stalham with Happening Festival - Avril Smith has been appointed as our new Festival Director and bids for funding are going in to finance next year's events. We will again be collaborating with other North Norfolk Arts Festivals in terms of publicity.

Happing Area Forum - our bi-monthly community meetings are being revamped with a view to increasing involvement by outlying parishes. The next meeting will take place at the Wayford Bridge Hotel on Tuesday 13th December commencing at 10.30am.

Happing Cares social enterprise - although securing start-up finance from Banks is extraordinarily difficult at present our Chairman Eric Lindo and RoGo services consultant Roy Gooch will be meeting with County Officers this week to see what assistance might be available to get the new enterprise up and running. This represents the most likely means of the Partnership becoming self-supporting in terms of core funding for the longer term.



Holt Vision. The Holt Area Partnership (HAP) supported the formation of the Holt Area Vision Board in 2010 and continues to be closely involved with the project. A successful application to NNCP for grant funding has enabled a Vision Plan for Holt to be developed. The process has seen HAP leading on the Community and Wider Economics sub-group, which prepared an essential summary of focused priorities for the commissioning brief used to engage consultants. Following a competitive selection process Allies & Morrison Urban Practitioners were appointed by Holt Vision Board and work on the strategy began in September; public presentation of their proposal is expected in January 2012. Holt Area Partnership is playing a key part providing administrative support and facilitating further planning and communication with the other project partners: the consultants; council officers; Holt Vision Board and the wider community.

Holt Hall and Glad About The Glaven. In August Holt Area Partnership, working with a section of the Friends of Holt Hall, secured a grant of £900 from the Norfolk Coastal Partnership Sustainable Development Fund towards the first phase of organising 'Glad About The Glaven' which will be held in July 2012. The event will formally launch Friends of Holt Hall and celebrate the local area by encouraging awareness and appreciation of the environment and Holt Hall in particular. Glad About The Glaven is aimed at appealing to young and old, resident and tourist, families and individuals by including stands and stalls providing information about local animal and plant wildlife, volunteering opportunities, local food, sustainability and healthy ideas. In addition groups interested in or promoting 'green' ideas will be invited to take part, this includes schools with Green Teams and Transition Norwich. This event will also link with and promote Holt Festival. With planning underway and initial publicity at an advanced stage of design Holt Area Partnership will be actively involved in further funding applications and planning.



The inaugural annual **COAST Festival** in October 2010 was a pioneering and innovative multidisciplinary arts festival in October half-term week. It has been developed in close consultation with local groups and individuals to incorporate existing community initiatives and fulfil local needs. Poppyland & Upcher Partnerships in collaboration with Cromer and Sheringham Town Councils work in partnership with a huge range of voluntary groups, venues, businesses, local government officers and elected members, to deliver and promote up to 75 events in Cromer, Sheringham and over 7 surrounding villages. The majority of these events are 'home-grown' in that they are devised, curated, staged and performed by local people and many are completely FREE. Most are widely accessible to all, some to specific target groups (e.g. children, young people, families and older people). Following a hugely successful second year with more than double the number of people attending, it was decided unanimously last week to go for COAST 2012 at the very end of October next year. Watch the website www.casaf.co.uk for comments on this year's festival and plans building for the next!

Community Buildings of North Norfolk website www.cbonn.co.uk is a newish initiative by Poppyland in collaboration with the other 6 area partnerships, on behalf of Parishes, Councils and village halls and other buildings, in order to maximise the use and value of all our wonderful community buildings in North Norfolk. It grew out of a number of requests we received from people who run community buildings, for assistance with publicity and facilitating and improving building use – and making the best use of such community owned resources. This has only been in existence a few months and already has over 45 members. However, that is only about 25% of the potential - just in North Norfolk, and doesn't yet include the huge range of churches and

chapels which are also a valuable community resource – which could be used more fully. We plan to obtain separate funding to develop this service fully over the next few months.



Janet Farrow
01263 825952
janet@upchercp.co.uk
www.upchercp.co.uk

Open Door Community Art Project is a group of volunteer artists at the centre of community events across the Upcher Partnership area. Upcher helped the group to establish and continues to provide administrative support. The Community Art project provides art workshops during the school holidays in Sheringham and the surrounding villages, organises Sheringham Christmas Lights and plays a major part in the Carnival and all of the festivals. The group work closely with Break and have received £10,000 from the Big Lottery and £1,500 from the Geoffrey Watling Charity for the seafront project. They will be providing Christmas art workshops.

'Experience Sheringham' is the hugely successful promotion of Sheringham and the surrounding area operated by Upcher. The website has received over 100,000 hits so far this year and over 15,000 Experience Sheringham leaflets have been distributed. The Experience Sheringham project directly supports NNDC tourist information during the summer and becomes the lead tourist information source for Sheringham and the surrounding area during the winter.



Ben Francis
01328 711378
ben@wellsareapartnership.org.uk
www.wellsmaltings.org.uk

Wells Maltings Redevelopment. A new project to redevelop, repair and restore the Maltings building within the heart of Wells. Wells Area Partnership (WAP) was the lead partner of the project steering group and successfully obtained funding for a feasibility study and for employment of a full time manager. The project, now only 12 months old, has a healthy bank balance and has been able to apply for further grant funding totalling £1.4 million. The Wells Area Partnership has merged with the Wells Maltings Trust, creating a single charity with a strong board well prepared for the future. The new charity also has dedicated employees to further develop and strengthen community engagement within Wells and the surrounding villages.

Walsingham Youth Project. Three years ago anti-social and bad behaviour by young people in Walsingham was a significant problem. Wells Area Partnership secured funding for two youth workers to establish communication between dissatisfied young people and the rest of their community. The outcome has been eradication of the bad behaviour, the formation of a CATS team in Walsingham, creation of a designated outdoor space for young people and provision of a youth shelter. In addition a group of volunteer parents have been trained to set up a youth club in the village hall; the village hall management committee agreed to providing a dedicated space for the Club. WAP secured additional grants to establish the Youth Club and for the training and equipment needed and wanted by the young people. Having overcome some minor problems the youth club now has a management group of 8 parents and four 18 year old young people are training to become youth workers. The Youth Club meets once a week and holds regular discos. WAP remains involved providing advice and attending meetings where work to improve relationships and communication continues.