



## Community Action Group

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2012, commencing at 2:30pm

RCCE Offices, Threshelfords Business Park, Feering CO5 9SE

### MINUTES

**Present:**

John Brown (Chair) (JB)

Suzanne Harris (SH)

Daisy Martlew (DM) (Minutes)

Ken Edwards (KE)

Darren Smart (DS)

Joy Darby (JD)

#### 1 Welcome & Introductions

##### 1.1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from: Melanie Rundle, Judy Cuddeford, Linda Riley, Julie Nelson, Sheila Jackman, Philip Wilson, Chris Rust, Rachael Price, Paul Murphy, Paul Williams

#### 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012

##### 2.1 Accuracy

Approved for accuracy

##### 2.2 Matters Arising

*Item 3 Village Agents* – a written report from Brian Goodwin was circulated to those present (please also see attached)

SH – Paul Murphy is leaving Maldon CVS so we are down one CVS representative.

**ACTION:** Invite David Eniffer to attend

DM/SH

##### *Item 4 Localism Act*

**ACTION:** DM to ask Sarah Sapsford for a list of Neighbourhood Planning Frontrunners in Essex to circulate to CAG.

DM

JD reported that over 500 people attended the training, which was real partnership working event between EALC and RCCE

##### *Item 5 Volunteering in Rural Areas*

DS suggested we also promote funding opportunities.

JD suggested adding this into the EALC weekly bulletin that goes out to all Parish Councils.

KE suggested that the CVS are well-placed to get up to date information on funding.

### 3 ERP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting follow-up

#### 3.1 CAG's response to Defra and SELEP presentations

The general agreement was that the SELEP presentation was more appropriate for the Economic Action Group to pick up on, however it was felt that the CAG is best placed to contact Defra through the link established via the Rural and Farming Network. If the Steering Group agree, the CAG would like to take a lead on this.

### 4 Future Direction

#### 4.1 CAG Terms of Reference

All agreed we need to consider how we gather evidence demonstrating the impact CAG has. The best way to do this is by providing examples e.g. the map produced for access is now being used by children's centres.

JD suggested that we produce a short report once a year, listing all that we have done. Could this also be used to support bids for funding?

SH suggested that the CAG start thinking about how we can argue the case for communities when considering bids. With regards to European funding, the Economic AG will come up with ideas and the CAG can look for the community angle.

DS added that the evidence can also be used politically

It was agreed to discuss ToR and purpose at the next meeting

#### 4.2 CAG Action Plan

A discussion took place about the action plan circulated before the meeting.

**ACTION:** DM will circulate the updated action plan and ask everyone to rank their top priorities in each of the three sections and to state their interest in being involved in actions

DM

**ACTION:** JD will bring information regarding priorities under 'Active and Caring Communities' to the next meeting

JD

### 5 AOB

#### 5.1 Forthcoming events/information sharing

DS reported that he will be chairing a group to develop a new mobile library fleet that will take other services out to communities to help them help themselves. **He requested that the CAG write a letter of support.**

JB/SH

It was agreed to invite the new Police Commissioner to speak at a full ERP meeting ASAP **DM/SH**

It was agreed to invite Moira Groborz to a future meeting focussed on affordable housing.

KE reported that on the 19<sup>th</sup> September the Health and Wellbeing Board is holding its first public meeting. Perhaps a member of the CAG could go along and ask the question “Where do rural issues fit in your agenda?”

**5.2 Date of next meeting**

November – DM will circulate dates plus dates for forthcoming meetings to the end of this year **DM**

Meeting concluded at 4:30pm