

**BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK**

**KING'S LYNN AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes from the Meeting of the King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee held on Thursday, 3rd November, 2022 at 4.30 pm in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Tyler (Chair)  
Councillors Miss L Bambridge, F Bone, S Collop, C Hudson, B Jones, A Kemp, J Lowe, J Rust and M Wilkinson

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Howman

1 **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that it was being recorded and streamed live to You Tube. He then invited the Democratic Services Officer to carry out a roll call to determine attendees.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Howman.

3 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Kemp declared that she was a Member of the Youth Advisory Board.

5 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

6 **MEMBERS PRESENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 34**

There were no Members pursuant to Standing Order 34.

7 **CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE (IF ANY)**

There was no Chair's correspondence to report.

## **LILY UPDATE**

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The Chair invited Judith Berry, Community Health & Wellbeing Manager to give a Lily update to the Committee.

She explained that Lily had been established for a while, but its role had evolved considerably. Having Lily and the Lily database meant that they were able to respond immediately to the needs of West Norfolk residents in light of any community emergency.

Lily was commissioned by Norfolk County Council to provide isolation or loneliness support to residents of West Norfolk. Lily was used during Covid to distribute the household support fund and supporting those in hardship, responded to support requests for those who had lost their homes in the recent fires at Brancaster and being on standby to support those affected by the Anglian Water issues.

At the moment, Lily was investing in a refresh of the website which would provide an enhanced user experience and also to ensure compliance with the latest accessibility standards.

Lily worked closely with statutory providers and also worked closely with Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations.

The Community Health & Wellbeing Manager outlined the projects which Lily had been involved in and explained that grants and funding were looked at so the offer of Lily could be expanded. This had resulted in a successful award of funding to run two 12-week Food for Thought courses – one in North Lynn and one in South Lynn. Lily had also been managing the Department for Work and Pensions Household Support Fund from October 2021 and also Project Managing the Ukraine Welcome Centre and Homes for Ukraine initiative.

The Food for Thought initiative was developed by Lily in partnership with Freebridge Community Housing and the College of West Anglia as an initial pilot. At the time of applying for the external funding, North Lynn was showing higher in the statistics of deprivation. The aim was to encourage local residents of all ages to learn more about healthy eating and budgeting and also helped to address social deprivation, isolation, food poverty, loneliness, health and wellbeing and community cohesion. The first cohort of external funding took place at the Discovery Centre and positive feedback had been received. The second sessions commenced on 16 September. Due to the success of the pilot, a second amount of external funding had been secured from the Health and Wellbeing Board to deliver another course in February at Providence Street. The sessions included cooking and taste demonstrations delivered by a qualified nutritionist.

She also outlined the DWP Household Support Funds to the Committee. The team was currently working on HSF 3 – which ran from October 2022 until March 2023. Central Government had issued their final guidance and the Support Fund was not ring fenced as previous years had been and was able to support a wider remit of individuals experiencing hardship. Spending of the

funding was successfully underway, and the team were creating some proactive initiatives to ensure that as many people as possible was reached.

In relation to Homes for Ukraine, it was explained that Lily was working in partnership with the Hanseatic Union to provide the welcome centre at King's Court. The provision gave refugees the opportunity to meet each other and to access a wide range of help and support. She explained the range of help and support provided at the sessions.

The Lily team also helped to deliver the Homes for Ukraine scheme, alongside other key departments at the Council. The scheme was now at the 6-month stage and the team were dealing with queries from hosts regarding continuing with the scheme or ending it. Work was being carried out to ensure that the refugee did not have a gap in their accommodation. Welfare checks were carried out, dealt with host and refugee breakdowns and assisted with relocations.

The Lily team also fed into the Help Hub, which was managed by the Borough Council.

The Committee also noted the number of Lily referrals.

The Chair then invited questions / comments from the Committee, as follows:

Councillor Bambridge added that she should declare an interest as she was a Trustee of West Norfolk Carers.

With regards to the Food for Thought she asked how many people attended and how this was communicated, and regarding Homes for Ukraine she asked in % terms how many people had moved on from their original accommodation?

In response, the Community Health & Wellbeing Manager explained that the first cohort in North Lynn attracted an average of 3-4 people coming to that but from a whole count there had been 30 attendances. It had been communicated via social media, radio, leaflet drops, posters, newspapers and a large billboard. The marketing assistant had also handed out leaflets in school playgrounds.

With regards to the question regarding the % of Ukrainian refugees who had moved on from their original accommodation, the Community Health & Wellbeing Manager advised that she did not have that information to hand and would respond to Councillor Bambridge.

Councillor Mrs Wilkinson asked if there were any plans for Food for Thought to be from Fairstead, the community centre could not be hired as it was too expensive. Fairstead had a very high deprivation area.

In response the Community Health & Wellbeing Manager explained that the team were making their way around the areas with regards to Food for Thought, but it was funding dependant.

Councillor Kemp stated that this was a very successful project and one event in South Lynn had been held during half term and there had been 30 people in attendance. This was a good example of partnership working between the Council and informing residents with Councillor Joyce and herself playing an

active part in this. There had also been a good mix of parents and children in attendance. She thanked Lily for the event and would like to see more events like this put on in the school holidays.

The Community Health & Wellbeing Manager explained that, as outlined in the presentation, South Lynn was due to have 12-week sessions in January / February. It would have to be carried out area by area and was funding dependant.

Councillor Kemp asked if it was better to hold the events during school holidays, to encourage younger children to take part. The Community Health & Wellbeing Manager advised that this was something that could be looked together with different days of the week and times. As advised that this was a pilot project, so lessons were being learnt.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Community Health & Wellbeing Manager outlined the process of dealing with refugees from Ukraine. The team also had a Welfare Officer in post who was Ukrainian herself to help with people understanding the processes. The team also worked closely with the Housing Options Team.

The Community Health & Wellbeing Manager also advised that the team carried out around 20 welfare checks per month but that was mostly for the hosts.

The Management Team representative advised that there were several hosts who were looking to extend beyond the six-month period, which was taking time and resource from the Lily team to ensure that the host and refugee was happy and content and knew what they were doing. He undertook to get some statistics to the Committee at a later date.

Councillor Rust added that the work the Lily team was carrying out was incredible with a small team and appeared to be making a huge difference to people in the area. She wished for her thanks to be recorded. This was echoed by the Chair.

## 9 **SPECIAL EXPENSES - REPORT TO FOLLOW**

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The Chair informed the Committee that this item had been deferred to a Special Meeting to be arranged in early December. This was to allow more time to consider the increase in costs as they were estimated to be significantly higher than in previous years due to inflation increases on areas such as utility costs and staffing.

## 10 **PARISH PARTNERSHIP SCHEME PROPOSALS**

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The Chair invited the Committee to consider the proposal put forward by Councillor Kemp. Councillor Kemp outlined her proposal to the Committee, which was summarised in the agenda.

It was suggested that this could be eligible for CIL funding, and this might be the best route for funding, which was accepted by Councillor Kemp.

Councillor Kemp also advised the Committee that there were Members of the Youth Advisory Board in the audience, who would like to do future presentation to the Committee on the provision of disabled play equipment in the Walks and asked how this could be taken forward.

Councillor Bone agreed with this and welcomed the idea for the Walks.

Councillor Jones informed the Committee that there was talk of a building being built at Lynnsport for the Little Discovers with equipment for people with disabilities. He welcomed the idea of more accessible play equipment at Lynnsport would be welcomed as it was quite central. Councillor Bambridge added that CIL funding had been sought for this.

Councillor Bone added that in addition to accessible play equipment for the Walks, he felt that it would be beneficial to have outdoor gym equipment too, as it was a central location in the town and well used.

Councillor Mrs Collop asked when the Parish Partnership bids had to be submitted by? It was advised that it was 9 December. Councillor Mrs Collop added that there had been speed cameras installed at Marsh Lane, but the speed cameras were installed but never worked but had now been removed. She asked whether there could be some working cameras installed through the Parish Partnership scheme. The Assistant Director advised that this was something that could be applied for through the Parish Partnership scheme. The Assistant Director undertook to investigate the issue outside of the meeting.

In response to a question from Councillor Kemp, the Assistant Director undertook for find out if there were any funding pots available to be used for play equipment / accessible play equipment in readiness for the meeting on 30 January 2023.

Councillor Rust added that it might be beneficial to include feedback from people who used the Walks to help strengthen any proposals.

The Committee agreed that:

**AGREED:** (1) That the Committee endorses the idea of the provision of accessible play equipment and outside gym equipment.

(2) That an item be placed on the next agenda regarding the provision of accessible play equipment (30 January 2023) and the Youth Advisory Board be invited to give a presentation to the Committee.

(3) The further work be undertaken on the provision of accessible play equipment / outdoor gym in the Walks and any available funding pots.

It was confirmed that Councillors Mrs S Collop, L Bambridge and B Jones be confirmed as the KLAAC representatives on the KLAAC Planning Sub-Group.

It was noted that the date of next meeting would be changed if possible from 17 November to ensure that there would be a quorum.

12 **COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME AND CABINET'S FORWARD DECISION LIST**

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The Committee noted the Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Decision List.

13 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

A Special Meeting would be arranged in early December 2022.

**The meeting closed at 5.35 pm**