

OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS / MEMBER CHAMPIONS - FEEDBACK REPORTS

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Portfolio: Leader (Policy)

Wards Affected: All

Purpose of the Report:

The purpose of this report is to receive feedback from members on their representation on outside bodies or as member champions.

Recommendation:

To note the report

Cllr R Potter – Member Champion for Young People

Melanie Blanch has taken over from Colin Dutton as the senior participation youth worker for the Broadland youth advisory board (YAB). Before this, she was the lead youth worker for Great Yarmouth YAB, North Norfolk YAB and Breckland YAB. I believe the YAB are in safe hands.

The young commissioners visited Xadventure in Horsford for a bushcraft session in March and to view the site, the plan is for funding to be made available for some after school clubs.

The young commissioners went on some team building exercises at Eaton Vale in April and they also visited a gaming and well-being event which was hosted by Great Yarmouth YAB. The purpose of this was to examine what other YABs are doing and to help create some ideas for activities for the future.

There was also some training on the commissioning cycle, the roles and responsibilities of a Young Commissioner and the group then took part in a focus group for Norfolk County Council.

There has been a lull with regards to YAB board meetings and they haven't been happening as often as perhaps they should be. The next meeting takes place on 9 May and I'm hoping to encourage them to happen more frequently.

The YAB needs to focus on getting the commissioning funds spent – there are two specific pots of money that need spending, both COVID-19 recovery related. One is for wellbeing bags to go out to young people – with activities to help them connect with friends. The Young Commissioners would like to get these out before the summer holidays so there is a lot of work to do there in the next couple of months.

The second pot is for activities. Melanie is going to take this on and ensure there's a rigorous plan in place to spend the funds. A full action plan is being prepared at the moment and the aspiration is to have it ready to submit to Norfolk County Council in August.

If you or anyone you know would like to get involved with Broadland YAB then please email broadlandyab@map.uk.net.

Cllr S Prutton – Annual report to Council on outside organisations 2021-2022

Sessions for the past two years have all been impacted to varying degrees by the Covid pandemic and are only now getting back to some sense of normality.

NORFOLK HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (NHOSC)

We have resumed our meetings in the County Council Chamber and a hybrid approach has been adopted so that sometimes our speakers join us remotely. The equipment works extremely efficiently.

NHOSC works on a series of rolling reports, some of which were suspended due to the pressures imposed by Covid, and we seem forever to be catching up.

At our next meeting, scheduled for 12th May, we will be electing a new Chairman and Vice-chairman before receiving reports on the Queen Elizabeth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and access to physical and mental healthcare within the Prison service.

This will be the last NHOSC meeting serviced by Maureen Orr, Democratic Support and Scrutiny Manager, before she leaves NCC and I cannot praise her highly enough. The NCC Chairman, Cllr Penny Carpenter, calls her “everyone’s go-to person”. She will be difficult to replace.

NORFOLK AGAINST SCAMS PARTNERSHIP (NASP)

This partnership functions primarily between Norfolk Trading Standards and Norfolk Police; all the other members are representatives of various affiliated agencies (CAB, Age-UK, Library Services, NALC and the like). This unfortunately means that the personnel change frequently.

All meetings are via MS Teams which meant that they continued during the pandemic though to be honest nothing frightfully active was able to take place. During the past two years we have reorganised twice under Cllr Dewsbury and Teresa Haxell (TS) but we seem to be emerging into practical participation again and will be cooperating with CAB in an event during the week commencing 12th June.

I would like to bring to Members’ attentions that NASP has a supply of Call Blocker phones, the provision, installation, training and monitoring of which are completely free of charge. They are intended to be for the use of anyone who has experienced one or more scamming incidents and will be made available after an appropriate referral rather than by direct application.

BOPP (Broadland Older People’s Partnership)

For most of the past two years BOPP has met by Zoom but had a Public Meeting in October 2021 at the Roxley Hall in Thorpe St Andrew where the speakers advised on Mobility and Keeping fit.

Monthly committee meetings used to be held at The Lodge and were due to recommence there in March. Unfortunately, the March meeting had to be conducted via Zoom as the Chair tested positive for Covid and the April meeting also reverted to Zoom due to the potential shortage of petrol / diesel.

However, a public meeting went ahead, also in April, held at Taverham Scouts HQ. The planned programme of the 2022 public meetings have an environmental theme, this one concentrated on the economic aspects being encountered by everyone.

Broadland District Council is very generous, allowing BOPP access to meeting rooms in The Lodge and the One Team is extremely helpful in providing speakers on request whenever the subject is appropriate.