**Key points arising from meeting of community activists held in Market Hall on 4th September 2017**

Extract from earlier note:

**What sort of Saxmundham do we envisage in 20 years’ time? What are the main subjects or themes to consider for the NP?**

Everyone present gave their ideas – here is my attempt to summarise some of the points (apologies for any errors!), in sequence as made, not necessarily listed by importance!:

* High St is dying
* Being “pro-growth” can lead to under-planned piecemeal development
* Is Saxmundham finished?
* Want to create positive place (Arts Station)– how to connect into the town from the station
* Issue of High Street and need for BoSS (Businesses of Saxmundham) – need to attract inward investment
* Housing – need to have affordable housing for permanent residents
* We need more community facilities, a good pub, more sport..
* Doctors are stretched; role of the library; market is no longer really a market; we need more togetherness, partnership with business
* Key issues - housing, inward investment
* We need things to do, young people need a lot more; need a paid worker
* Need a paid officer to work with community; youth provision is poor; why not work together with Leiston which has NP & now a paid worker
* We need more community facilities, and decent community centre
* We need a purpose-built community centre
* “Fobbed off” Saxmundham, the poor relation of SCDC’s market towns; we need much better communication with community; parents and kids not yet engaged; transport problems; sports provision
* Facilities are no different to 40 years ago; more housing ok if the infrastructure is put in place first; need a community centre, a go-to place; sports centre
* For business – how to get people to High St, we should look again at pedestrianizing High St
* Old Saxmundham was based on control by a small group, things passed Sax by; problem of social cohesion
* Community centre
* Green spaces needed and wildlife protected and encouraged
* We need spatial plan; we have set of projects, Market Hall, Fromus Centre, Art Station; we should decide how big we want Sax to be
* Education is key; schools doing well but need support; shops act as social hub; there is no support for retail; impact of e-commerce, and how to use it ourselves;
* We need and lack good communications; should use social media effectively; think about crowd-funding for local projects
* Problems of our roads and pavements, parking, impact of supermarkets
* Focus on young people – where are we going to live?; we have higher than average percentage of older people, need to consider their needs and wishes
* Increase quantity and quality of commerce; make High St more user-friendly