



## Chesham & Villages Community Board agenda

Date: Thursday 3 December 2020

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Via Video Conference (Teams)

### Membership:

A Bacon, P Birchley (Chairman), N Brown, E Culverhouse, A Garth, P Hudson, P Jones, J MacBean, N Rose, M Shaw, N Southworth, M Stannard, D Varley, N Varley and F Wilson

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>1 Welcome and Introduction by Chairman</b>	
<b>2 Apologies for Absence</b>	
<b>3 Declarations of Interest</b> To receive any disclosure of disclosable pecuniary interests by Members relating to items on the agenda. If any Member is uncertain as to whether an interest should be disclosable, he or she is asked, if possible to contact the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting.  Members are reminded that if they are declaring an interest, they should state the nature of that interest whether or not they are required to withdraw from the meeting.	
<b>4 Minutes from the Last Meeting</b> To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2020.	<b>3 - 10</b>
<b>5 Public Questions</b> To respond to questions submitted to the Chairman prior to the meeting.	
<b>6 Winter Support Planning</b> Discussion highlighting key issues facing communities within Chesham and the Villages during the winter months and solutions to address them.	<b>11 - 12</b>

1. Lockdown Recovery – update from Mr Michael Rowan
2. Winter support; adverse weather and 4x4 support and transportation to and from health appointments – from Mark Rosales, (Local resident 4x4) and David Ouvry, Chiltern Dial-A-Ride
3. Christmas Preparations and Support for Vulnerable Residents during the Seasonal Holiday – Mr Andy Garnett

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|-----------|--|----------------|
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Sub-Groups Updates</b>  | <b>13 - 18</b> |
|           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Village Forum – verbal update from Cllr P Birchley</li> <li>2. Town Team – update from Cllr J Macbean</li> <li>3. Update on position regarding Parking matters – Cllr P Birchley</li> <li>4. Community Speedwatch issues – Cllr J Macbean</li> </ol> |                |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>Funding Applications Updates and Recommendations</b>  | <b>19 - 48</b> |
|           | To receive an update and recommendations from the funding group on applications to be agreed by the board – update from Cllr E Culverhouse.  |                |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>Current Live Consultations (to note)</b>  | <b>49 - 50</b> |
|           | To note the update in respect of Current Live Consultations.   |                |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Date of Next Meeting and Proposed Agenda Items</b>  |                |
|           | Thursday 11 March 2021 at 7.00pm.  |                |

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Liz Hornby on 01494 421261, email [democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).



## Chesham & Villages Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Chesham & Villages Community Board held on Wednesday 30 September 2020 in Via Video Conference, commencing at 7.00 pm and concluding at 8.23 pm.

### Members present

A Bacon, P Birchley, N Brown, E Culverhouse, A Garth, P Jones, J MacBean, N Rose, M Shaw, M Stannard, F Wilson, V Martin, M Smith and G Williams

### Others in attendance

C Brown, PC R Evans, C Harris, L Hornby, J Llerbier, D Martin, H Mee, V Mistry, L Stewart-Liberty, K Wager, R Watts and D Wilbee

### Apologies

A Birkett, P Hudson and N Southworth

### Agenda Item

#### **9 Introduction by Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the Community Board and reminded members that the meeting was being recorded.

The Chairman reported that Chesham had received very good GCSE and A level results over the summer and wished, on behalf of the Board, to congratulate our students and to thank all the teachers for their hard work.

The Chairman also welcomed Mrs Liz Hornby who had replaced Ms Alice Williams as clerk to the Board. It was noted that Ms Williams was now the Community Board Co-ordinator for Marlow.

The Chairman also reminded those present that questions were welcome at the Board if they were submitted five days in advance of the meeting.

#### **10 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Anne Birkett and Councillors Hudson and Southworth.

#### **11 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

## **12 Minutes from the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2020 were agreed as a true record, subject to the sentence on page 5 "Chesham town appeared to be less deprived than the villages" being deleted.

## **13 Thames Valley Police - Update**

PC Roy Evans explained that he had PC Gavin McVeigh with him.

PC Evans explained that he had produced a report for the Board and was to produce a quarterly newsletter which would be published on 1 October 2020.

He explained that three priorities had been decided on in May, which were Drug dealing / usage; Residential burglary and Anti-Social behaviour and he summarised as follows:

Drug dealing/usage: there had been an increase in county lines drug gang members coming into Chesham with intelligence stating they were from London and picking on vulnerable communities within the town. However, the neighbourhood teams were tackling this issue. Chesham and Amersham colleagues were proactively working together in trying to intercept them. Intelligence was constantly developing and if there was intel in a certain area, then that area would be 'flooded' with police and PCSO's. A recent drugs operation was carried out at Chesham station to stop county lines coming in that way. A drugs dog was used and everyone who the dog identified either admitted they were carrying drugs or had been in possession of them recently. Criticism had been levelled against the police on social media in relation to this operation as people believe that the British Transport Police should have carried it out, however, anyone coming into the town with the intention of dealing drugs meant that the Thames Valley Police should carry out the operation. On the same day as that operation, a vehicle carrying 3 males was stopped in Ashley Green. Those 3 males were found to all be on bail and were found in possession of drugs and cash in the vehicle. It was hoped that a charge of Possession with Intent to Supply would follow.

Burglary: figures showed that Chiltern and South Bucks was one of the most targeted areas. Within the past three months the two most common ways for a burglar to enter a property were via the front or rear doors with front doors being the most used in the evenings. Advice from TVP was that all doors should remain locked even when the householder was within the property. PC Evans wanted to promote CCTV for homes and stated that there were some extremely good/high picture quality, but inexpensive, CCTV systems on the market. In normal circumstances, TVP would attend neighbourhood meetings, events and fairs etc. to promote house safety but because of Covid-19, this had been impossible. However, depending on restrictions, it was hoped that these events would start again and TVP would attend.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB): this covered a wide definition, from personal to community or environmental to nuisance. PC Evans explained that there was a full list on the TVP website. Members of the public also believed that speeding and drugs were anti-social too but because they overlapped with other categories it was

never clear what they were more concerned with. Covid-19 had brought more problems for TVP to deal with since March 2020. Not only had they been expected to enforce the government guidelines but the numbers of people reporting breaches had increased substantially particularly people reporting their neighbours. The aftermath of these increased neighbour reports was still ongoing particularly where neighbours had got along in the past and now TVP were acting as mediators to sort issues out and that took some time.

PC Evans stated that the priorities for the next three months, which were identified at a meeting held on 23 September, would be burglary and crime prevention, Anti-Social Behaviour and Speeding.

Finally, PC Evans reported that two new officers were now at Chesham station. They were both warranted officers from the Emergency Response Unit. They were PC Jack McGregor and PC Hugh Flanagan and they would be taking on the neighbourhood priorities.

In answer to questions, PC Evans explained that putting an additional ten speed cameras in place mainly in rural areas would be a decision by people more senior than him but that he would take the request back. PC Evans encouraged people to report anti-social driving to police by calling 101 or reporting on the TVP website. In particular police would be looking for registration numbers to help identification. PC Evans explained there was also an app for smartphones which could be downloaded, which made reporting easier.

The Vice-Chairman thanked PC Evans and all the team and recognised that the last six months had been very challenging due to not just Covid-19 issues, but the local team being put on standby to assist with mass demonstrations, Black Lives Matters (BLM) rallies, etc in the local and neighbouring areas.

A suggestion was made that instead of increasing the number of speed cameras, mobile speed devices could be utilised.

The Chairman also thanked PC Evans and all Thames Valley Police for their hard work.

**14 Leader Update**

Members received a short update, via video, from Councillor Martin Tett, Leader of the Council.

**15 Sub-Groups Updates**

**HS2**

**HS2 Update** (slides attached)

Mr Colin Sully explained that this was the first report to the Community with different impacts across the area. For this report he had confined HS2 activities between Wendover and Amersham.

Board members noted that the presentation slides summarised the contents of the report which had been circulated with the agenda.

The following points were raised during the presentation:

- It was clear that 2021 would see a ramping up of significant impact on the A413 corridor which would have an effect on surrounding areas.
- It was noted where trains would emerge from the North portal of the Chilterns tunnel, travel through deep cuttings and then cross the A413 south of Wendover. Local community groups, Parish Councillors and Bucks Councillors had, for some time, been trying to find out how HS2 proposed to carry out this work without putting large amounts of additional traffic on the A413.
- Before commencing works, under the HS2 Act the company had to submit planning applications under Section 4 or Section 17 and it was noted that there was a programme of applications about to be submitted to the Council.
- The Chalfont St Peter ventilation shaft applications were submitted on 17 August 2020 and 10 September 2020 and were currently being reviewed. Applications for the Wendover Viaduct, Chalfont St Giles and Chiltern North Portal and two more applications for the southeast were due in October.
- There was uncertainty around how engagement would take place at a local level. It was also noted that councils had very limited powers to refuse or request amendments to these applications. There were some difficulties with HS2 communicating with the local community groups. There had been some impact during 2020 in respect of Covid-19, various protest groups and the change of local authority to a Unitary Authority.
- A group called the Missendens Meetings, which included the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Community Board as well as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Missenden Community Board would consider how to engage with HS2. Perhaps HS2 could be invited to a future Community Board meeting?
- There was concern in relation to the haul routes, particularly on the A413 and other routes that were not authorised for HGV's. There was also concern in relation to 'rat-running' by drivers trying to avoid the congestion on the A413 as well as the closure of some footpaths and roads. The final concern was in relation to local landowners and farmers many of whom were facing life changing decisions as a result of HS2.
- The promised traffic monitoring had not been put in place, despite many appeals to the Secretary of State.
- Further concerns were raised in relation to the key designs and that HS2 had not liaised with the public in relation to the builds. Engagement was not forthcoming.
- Broader impacts of concern were noise from the train operation, particularly the South Heath and Wendover areas and issues remained unresolved. Water supply issues in the Chesham Valley on Bacombe Hill and water supply / quality concerns in general had been raised.
- In summary, the key issues were:
  1. Further clarity on the programme of works and traffic implications
  2. Understanding the processing of Schedule 17 applications by Bucks

## Council

3. Improved engagement by contractors on the design of key elements
4. Resolution of operational noise issues
5. Resolution of water issues
6. Improved engagement and communications with Bucks Councillors, local councils and communities
7. Exploring business and employment opportunities.

In answer to questions and comments, the Board noted that:

- There were five sets of roadworks at present and two sets of traffic lights on the A413 from Amersham to Wendover. The Chairman of this Board had attempted to engage with HS2 and their contractors to find out what the overall plan was in relation to that part of the A413.
- Cllr Gareth Williams, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, reported that he had met with HS2 engagement managers specifically in relation to points that were raised in the presentation.
- It was noted that the Missendens Meeting was the right forum in relation to addressing issues and communication with HS2 and their contractors although there was a level of frustration with promises being made and not being fulfilled.
- Information on traffic management should have been circulated in July 2020 but, to date, had not. There was much frustration locally that this information had not been shared.
- There was nothing to stop non-HGV drivers using every route other than the haulage route. There was nothing to stop them using routes through Chesham, Cholesbury, etc. However, HS2 had conditioned their suppliers to stick to the haulage routes.
- It was agreed that updates would be disseminated to Board members on a regular basis. Liz Hornby and Kama Wager would liaise with the Chairman to work out how best to do this.
- The issue of non-payment of compensation to local landowners and farmers was noted and that the issue was being taken up countywide.

## Village Forum

The Chairman reported there was a need to prevent and slow HGV's which were causing problems on rural lanes and a discussion with Buckinghamshire Council's Freight Network Manager on how to track HGV's would be undertaken. Discussions around neighbourhood planning across all parishes and how to tackle this issue would take place. There was also much concern in relation to fly tipping and a request for a camera in a persistently problematic site would be requested from Bucks Council.

Funding would be requested for putting WiFi in village halls to help Silver Surfers learn how to use email and the internet, and possibly another for wellness facilities in Chesham and the villages to improve fitness.

It was agreed that finding someone to help with the applications for funding due to

Parish Clerks already being busy with parish work.

### **Covid-19 Response**

Councillor Mark Shaw reported that at a first meeting of the Covid-19 Response group it was noted what each local group had done and learned through the first wave of Covid-19 and they then looked at what could be done jointly if there was a second wave. A Chesham Coronavirus Group had been set up in Chesham and were looking to relaunch soon in the hope of recruiting volunteers. Some may be the original volunteers who helped during the first wave, but it was hoped to involve new volunteers.

It was noted that the Vice Chairman of the Board was a member of a Covid-19 committee set up by Bucks Council which monitors the figures supplied by Public Health England and it was clear that cases were increasing so there would be an increase in communication from the Council with public groups. It was hoped that those residents who had been helped during the first wave, would be aided to become more independent, e.g. putting them in touch with pharmacies that would deliver prescriptions, online shopping etc.

It was noted that 1800 volunteers throughout Buckinghamshire had helped out in the first wave. Along with the Clare Foundation, the Council had triaged volunteers to ensure they were ready to be deployed at a moment's notice. One hundred and fifty Council employees were redeployed from their 'day jobs' and could be redeployed if necessary. Emma Denley, from Bucks Council, had managed the hubs which were still in place and are ready to be scaled back up if required.

Members were encouraged to take advantage of the flu jab this year.

### **Town Team**

The Vice-Chairman reported a strong meeting had taken place with good officer support secured. Market Square in Chesham had been pedestrianised and further conversations around the High Street were ongoing. Other low-key initiatives included information boards and improvement to the town centre which were currently under discussion. A further meeting would be held in a few weeks' time and information would be reported back to the Board at the next meeting.

### **Progress on Community Forum**

The Vice-Chairman reported that a community group in the Chiltern had always been strong and lots of discussions had been held recently on how to continue the good work of the group. Further detail to follow after feedback was obtained from TVP.

## **16 Funding and Priorities**

The Chairman reported the following budgets:

Health & Wellbeing - £16,000 left having spent £16,000 during the Covid-19

emergency.

Local Infrastructure Fund - £24,000

Community Area Priorities - £90,000

Funding streams were now open to all organisations who had a bank account. Funding decisions would be taken later in the financial year. Applications with match funding would be prioritised. Funding was not available for any political purposes or for the benefit of a single individual.

Clarity had been sought on whether the funding could be used for transport / roads. It was noted that Councillor Gareth Williams had spoken with Mark Davies, Transport for Bucks, for clarity around what was considered Transport for Bucks highways projects and what was not covered. Cllr Williams would follow up on the outcome of these discussions.

**17 Presentation**

It was noted that because Mr Colin McGregor-Paterson was not at the meeting it was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

**18 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 7.00pm.

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## Buckinghamshire Council Chesham COVID Recovery

Chesham Help for Coronavirus (CHCV) has been working with local groups in response to the pandemic. The group were meeting monthly and are now meeting weekly through the recent lockdown.

All volunteers have been contacted, with 30+ reinstated and on standby for an extended lockdown, especially needed if Chesham face a tier 3 system as there could be an influx of shopping requests.

Support was reinstated to cover the 4 week lock down. A re-print and leaflet drop to Chesham and villages has taken place although the service has been drawn back to Mon-Fri 8-5pm only. Calls coming in for the villages are signposted to local mutual aid where established. CHCV received another £2k crisis funding to cater for volunteer expenses, emergency shopping requests and fuel payments.

CHCV have been slowly weaning residents from support and encouraging self-sufficiency (supermarket/pharmacy deliveries/support phone calls) and referring to other services where necessary. However, they are ready to respond as and when required.

CHCV also attend the Covid Recovery working group which was established through the board to address Covid emergency planning. The group established:

- Groups are in a healthy position to respond to another lockdown
- Are worried about impact of financial poverty/homelessness – what else can be done other than food
- Groups are signposting to other services
- The Mosque and Chiltern Dial-a-Ride supporting deliveries of food parcels

The group is now looking forward through the winter months and looking to identify the long term key issues facing community. Feedback has already suggested: isolation, mental health and financial insecurity are key themes.

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# Buckinghamshire Council

## Chesham Villages Forum



## Community Board Update

### December 2020

### Background

The establishment of the Chesham & Villages Community Board has provided a unique opportunity to involve residents, partners, local groups and organisations in looking at what matters to the local area most, using data and local intelligence to determine local priorities and projects for support and funding. With a large town council in Chesham to meet the needs of the urban area, the Village Forum has been established to focus specifically on the needs and priorities of the village parish councils that form a crucial part of the Board. They include:-

- Ashley Green
- Chartridge
- Chenies
- Cholesbury-cum-St Leonard
- Latimer & Ley Hill
- The Lee

### Achievements

The Village Forum has provided a strong focus on local issues and the members have engaged in additional collaboration outside of the meeting to identify areas of common concern, which include:-

- Repairs & maintenance to rural roads
- Speeding on rural roads and use by HGVs
- Building relationships with Buckinghamshire Council
- Funding for local projects including cross parish initiatives
- Green Belt, AONB, Conservation Areas and planning & enforcement issues
- Control and maintenance of village assets
- Community health, well-being, isolation and public transport
- Supporting local businesses and home working

Recent meetings have addressed specific issues with guest speakers in attendance to offer third party advice on specialist issues.

**Neighbourhood Planning:** neighbourhood planning consultant Neil Homer of London planning consultancy O'Neill Homer imparted specialist knowledge on the development of neighbourhood plans with special reference to how smaller parishes are collaborating to develop 'multi-parish' plans. He also answered questions on the Local Plan, developments from the government white paper on planning and potential areas of exposure for rural communities.

**Rural Flytipping:** Officers from Buckinghamshire Council's flytipping team attended to answer questions on rural hotspots and the intricacies of identifying and prosecuting rural offenders. The team now have a list of rural hotspots and will support the parishes in reducing offences and improving specific locations.

**Buckinghamshire Freight Network:** an invite has been extended to Buckinghamshire Council's network freight manager to discuss what measures are available to protect rural roads from excessive and / or inappropriate freight movements.

Community safety and health and well-being as we move out of the Covid pandemic in Spring 2021 will be considered along with other rural priorities in the future.

## **Funding**

The Board has now received two applications from organisations with links to the rural parishes around supporting digital connectivity and village sporting activities, and discussions around further applications to support safety and well-being projects are ongoing.

## Chesham Town Team

### Paper for Chesham and Villages Community Board, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020

#### Background

The Chesham Town Team was initially established in 2012 to oversee the allocation of £10,000 received from the Portas Fund. The aim of this funding was to reinvigorate town centres and increase footfall. The Town Team met a number of times and a small proportion of the funding was allocated.

In 2018, with a new Economic Development Team in place at Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils, the Chesham Town Team was re-established with the following representation, and efforts renewed to allocate the funds still remaining:

- Chesham Town Council
- Buckinghamshire Council
- Clock Tower Traders
- Chesham Connect
- Chesham Renaissance Community Interest Company
- Chiltern Chamber of Commerce
- Elgiva Theatre

With the creation of Buckinghamshire Council, a new Economic Growth Regeneration Team and new Community Boards, an opportunity was presented to review the remit of the Town Team. Recognising that the Town Team included representation from many of the key organisations in Chesham and with a renewed focus on town centres, particularly in light of the impact of COVID 19 and associated lockdowns, it was felt that this remit could be expanded.

Consequently, it was agreed that the Town Team should assume the role of the Chesham and Villages Sub-Group for Economic Development and Regeneration. The Town Team will continue to identify potential priorities, projects and activities for the town centre and will report back to the Community Board on ideas and priorities for funding.

## Achievements

Perhaps the greatest achievement lies in the bringing together of representatives from across Chesham to discuss and reach agreement on town centre issues. The Town Team brings together the public, private and voluntary sectors; raising awareness of the roles of each and encouraging engagement and joint-working between partners outside of the meetings. The meetings continue to be fully attended almost two-years after the Town Team's re-establishment and all those involved have shown a desire to drive forward the work of the Town Team under its extended remit.

A more tangible achievement is the successful delivery of a promotional piece for the town. The Visit Chesham leaflet was created by a local designer and aims to encourage people to visit Chesham. The leaflet has been distributed across a wide geographical area, including Buckinghamshire and North West London and is included on the Visit Buckinghamshire and other websites.

The benefits of fully pedestrianising Market Square and the lower end of the High Street have regularly been articulated by the Town Team. Recognising this and in response to the re-opening of the town centres following the first COVID-19 lockdown, a temporary traffic regulation order was introduced for the full pedestrianisation of Market Square.

## Ongoing Priorities

The Town Team still has a small amount of Portas funds available, but it is recognised that further funding opportunities will need to be identified for future town centre activities. Current priorities for the Town Team include:

***Pedestrianisation*** – an immediate priority is improving the look of the pedestrianised Market Square, be this through replacing the current barriers with planters or barrier covers. In the longer term, further consideration is to be given to the full pedestrianisation of the lower end of the High Street.

***Supporting businesses impacted by COVID-19 and lockdown*** – promoting businesses that remain open and those offering click and collect or delivery during lockdown; highlighting available support; identifying common needs and challenges and looking at ways to address these.

***Information boards*** –improving the look and content of the information contained in the board by the tube station would enhance the visitor welcome. Adopting a similar design to the Visit Chesham leaflet and the information boards in Lowndes Park is being considered.

***High Street Strategy*** – Chesham Connect have recently launched a high street strategy, with a focus on promoting the town and its businesses; events and digital engagement. The Town Team has a key potential role in supporting the delivery of this strategy.

***Town App*** – how can technology be used to support businesses and improve the visitor offer? A town app could be one way to share information about local businesses and their offers, whilst improving wayfinding for visitors.

***Enhancing the cultural offer*** – the Elgiva is a significant asset for the town and the theatre manager has a breadth of experience and some fantastic ideas for enhancing the links between the theatre and the town centre. This includes bringing performance to the high street, re-use of empty units etc.

***Strategic site redevelopment*** – discussions are underway on the creation of a Regeneration Group for Chesham. This group would be focused on larger-scale physical regeneration, particularly of sites owned by Buckinghamshire Council. This group would share some common membership with the Town Team and two-way communication between the Regeneration Group and the Town Team will be a priority.

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## Chesham Community Board Funding – Summary from the Funding working group

The funding working group (Cllr Emily Culverhouse, Cllr Patricia Birchley, Cllr Jane Macbean, Cllr Peter Jones) met on 19 February to review the funding applications received to date. This update provides a summary of the applications received, the amounts requested and the comments and recommendations of the group to be considered and agreed by the board in its meeting on 3 December.

The funding summary reports for each application are attached with the agenda for more information. If anyone would like to see the full application they are more than welcome to request these from the Chairman.

### Overview of funding available:

£90,014	Communities Area Priorities Fund
£14,408	Health & Wellbeing Fund (£2000 recently to CHCV)
£24,375	Local Infrastructure Fund
<b>Total</b>	<b>£128,797 remaining</b>

### Funding Applications Received and funding group recommendations to the board:

Group	Amount Requested	Overview	Recommendation to the Board from Funding Working Group (Emily Culverhouse, Patricia Birchley, Jane Macbean, Peter Jones)
1. Voices and Choices		Community Companionship service - trained volunteers matched with users and work closely with them to understand their interests and needs, and provide	The group would like to know the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many people the project will reach and benefit in Chesham?</li> </ul>

	£5000	information and referrals to local support networks or activities. The aim of the project is to reduce loneliness in older people, and has come at a particular time where more people are socially isolated and may be in need of support and companionship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is new about the project as opposed to what was already being delivered?</li> <li>• How will the group ensure they are not duplicating what other orgs deliver - e.g. the county connections support service, the role of council community link officers and others reaching socially isolated individuals.</li> <li>• Do they reach out into the villages surrounding Chesham?</li> </ul> <p>The group have received funding from Amersham CB £5k and have applied to Missenden's CB (meeting on 1 Dec).</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> – to <b>approve £3000</b> to go towards the costs of the volunteer, not the other costs.</p>
2. Chiltern Voice	£10,000	Chiltern Voice Community Radio won an FM Broadcast Licence for the term of 5 years. Funding is being sought to finance additional equipment and installation work to enable the radio station to launch on FM wavelength in April 2021.	<p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did the group receive money from Amersham and Missenden's and how much (applications were £5k to each board?)</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> The group recommends that the funding of <b>£5,200</b> should be awarded to bring it in line with the amounts requested of the other boards on the basis that the radio station will service all communities equally.</p>
3. Restore Hope	£2000	The FoodLife Christmas Hamper project aims to bring joy to families who would not otherwise be able to afford a Christmas meal. Restore Hope aim to deliver 225 Christmas hamper boxes and 75 Alternative Boxing Day Treat boxes to local families.	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> To agree the application in full - £2k.</p>

4. Oasis Education	£9,000	The Oasis Partnership requires funds to part finance a project worker, in order to launch its Employment, Training, Education and Volunteering, (ETEV) project for the Chesham and Villages community. This project provides a wide range of different opportunities that focus on supporting people to move towards employment, breaking down barriers that may be in their way. This project will also support the Chesham and Villages community as a whole by supporting people to become economically stable and in employment.	<p>Due to the huge increase in unemployment in the Chesham area the group feel that this project will help address the life chances of individuals in a sustainable way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of men in Chesham claiming UC and JSA in September 2020 was 948, (ages 18-50+), compared with 318 in February of 2020.</li> <li>• The number of women in Chesham claiming UC and JSA in September 2020 was 711 (ages 18-50+), compared with 242 in February of 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Approve in full - £9k</p>
5. Oasis Food & Fun	£5,000	A new pilot project to run every Friday for 1 year and is aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged families in Chesham. Providing healthy and nutritious food to families. Teaching families how to prepare and cook on a budget.	<p>The group feel that there is a huge amount of funding going into food in the area. Whilst both this and the education project above are new, they will support the education one to fill a clear need for extra support. The group feel that they would like to see how Oasis projects are having an impact locally and how the food and fun projects embeds and would welcome an application on this further down the line, if a need is demonstrated.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> – to not fund at this stage but to consider at a later stage when impact can be demonstrated.</p>
6. CAB	£5128	The project will upskill advisers with specialist benefits training. The objective is to continue to assist local people in Chesham and the surrounding villages with the most up to date, accurate and detailed welfare benefits advice. The benefits system is complex, ever changing and more clients are reliant on it since the outbreak of the pandemic.	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> to approve the full amount £5128</p> <p>Question: Would like to see evidence of how this advisor will link in with other projects e.g. the Oasis education project.</p>

7. AG Parish Council	£1314	The funding is for the installation and operation of Fibre Wi-Fi in the Memorial Hall and Old School for the benefit of the whole Community and will be free to all. Once the Wi-Fi is installed the AGDCA will offer free training for both computer use and smart phone usage to all demographics in need.	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> To approve the total £1300</p> <p>The group feel this is a modest amount to provide digital connectivity training opportunities to the whole community, particularly elderly and socially isolated.</p>
8. Cricket Club	£11000 is total costs, but applicant only seeking £7500 from the board to cover equipment costs.		<p>The group felt that this was beneficial for a village community as a community physical activity facility. However, if funding, they would like to see evidence of how the volunteer time freed up as a result of the equipment has resulted in increased physical health and wellbeing activity support for local residents.</p> <p>The group felt that there may be opportunities to seek match funding from other funding sources, due to the physical activity nature of the application.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> The group feel that providing funding of <b>£7,500 would</b> contribute significantly to the local community and would encourage the applicant to seek match funding.</p>
Total	<b>£37,442 (Requested)</b>		<b>Total (recommended funding to approve): £33,128</b>



## Chesham &amp; Villages Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision

Organisation Name	Voices and Choices CIO
Project Name	Community Companionship
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£5,000
Amount of Match Funding	Applying to Amersham, Missendens & D/Chalfonts Community Boards
Amount being applied for	£5,000
Amount suggested	£5,000

## Project Summary

Voices and Choices currently offer two services in the Chiltern area of Buckinghamshire. They support older people to find practical services which help them stay safe in their homes. They also provide a community advocacy service which supports older people when speaking up about decisions being made which impact on their lives, or where they might have a complaint about a service they are currently receiving.

To support older people further in the Chesham area, Voices and Choices would like to offer a Community Companionship service whereby trained volunteers will be matched with users and work closely with them to understand their interests and needs, and provide information and referrals to local support networks or activities. The aim of the project is to reduce loneliness in older people, and has come at a particular time where more people are socially isolated and may be in need of support and companionship. Voices and Choices have a very extensive knowledge of groups and networks across the Chesham Community Board area and are very well respected by the community.

As part of the project, Voices and Choices will run local information sessions for residents to learn more about the services that can help them. They already work closely with Trading Standards, local police and bank personnel and part of the focus will be how to avoid financial abuse and scams. They have close relationships with many local organisations including Citizens Advice, AgeUK Bucks, Carers Bucks, the Alzheimer's Society, and local disability groups. They will also offer a quarterly meeting for group facilitators to share experiences and strategies for supporting lonely and isolated residents who attend their groups and to help identify them in the future.

Voices and Choices work collaboratively with other services, providers and initiatives and will continue to work with Social Prescribers to identify those who need support.

## How does the project address local priorities?

**Coronavirus Recovery and Ongoing Support:**

With the continuing impacts of Coronavirus, the lockdown, and restrictions in place, more older people are becoming, or continue to be, socially isolated and need support to be linked with organisations,

groups and services which could help them to regain confidence and independence. By visiting people in their homes, the trained volunteers can spot other issues including food poverty, health concerns or hoarding for example.

Evidence from the Public Health profile of the Community Board shows that Chesham has a slightly older age profile compared with the County overall and that isolation for people aged 65 and older is a key area for the board to explore and should encourage community cohesion and befriending. Age UK loneliness maps have also Chesham as high risk of loneliness. Working closely with local organisations will enable Voices and Choices to identify more local people in the community who require access these services.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

**Strengthening Communities:** Providing support to the older population to help reduce social isolation has been identified as a key issue for the Chesham Board. Enabling older people to access groups of interest to them will strengthen local resilience and support people to create and maintain their own networks. This will help people to remain independent for as long as possible.

**Protecting the Vulnerable:** Supporting residents by accompanying them to groups and activities will increase their confidence and reduce levels of loneliness by helping them to develop new connections/friendships and access local support networks. Upskilling residents to identify the signs of scams and other community safety issues are also valuable resources. In addition, all volunteers receive the relevant Adult Safeguarding training.

How does the project achieve value for money?

Voices and Choices have applied to other sources in order to continue their existing services and organisational running costs. They are looking to provide this service specifically in the Chilterns area and have applied to Missendens, Amersham and Chalfonts Boards to deliver a holistic and local service.

Voices and Choices have however confirmed that any funds paid by the Chesham Community Board will only be used for services within the board area.

Community Board Coordinator comments

Connection Support offers a countywide service on a similar basis which provides support to residents who are socially isolated. However this service is time limited to up to 6 visits within an 8 week. The Voices and Choices service wish to offer a similar service but on a flexible basis (i.e. for as long as the person needs). With an increase in the number of socially isolated and vulnerable residents due to Covid, additional support in the Chesham area could help to fill a gap where increased demand could put more pressure on the existing services.

Following conversations with the prevention team it is advised that there needs to be consideration around the level of support available and the potential to create dependency on a service. Voices and Choices should continue to work closely with Connection Support, Social Prescribers and other voluntary groups and organisations to avoid duplication and ensure that these services complement each other and work towards the same end goal (i.e. for services users to regain independence).

Voices and Choices volunteers are already very well known within the community and have built up relationships with more local residents during the coronavirus crisis. They also have excellent connections

with local partners who can help to identify those in need to ensure that the service offered can reach the right end users.

Voices and Choices are aware that funding granted through Community Boards will prevent them being able to apply for the annual Buckinghamshire Council Prevention Grants.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**

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Chesham &amp; Villages Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21

Date of Decision

DD/MM/YYYY

Organisation Name	Chiltern Voice Ltd
Project Name	Chiltern Voice Radio
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£50,000
Amount of Match Funding	£ various from other sources – Amersham/Missenden boards/sales/fundraising
Amount being applied for	£10,000
Amount Recommended	£10,000

### Project Summary

Chiltern Voice Community Radio won an FM Broadcast Licence for the term of 5 years. Funding is being sought to finance additional equipment and installation work to enable the radio station to launch on FM wavelength in April 2021.

The station will have the potential to reach all of the community in the Chilterns and everyone will be able to benefit from local news, interests and services. It will provide a platform of promotion for local people, groups and causes who will be invited to tell their stories as guests of the station.

Chiltern Voice will open up training and volunteering opportunities which may prove valuable during and post Covid-19. Schools and young people will be encouraged to participate and offered training and useful life skills.

The aim is to provide a feel-good, local community vibe which is educational, inspiring, entertaining and a voice and news channel for the local community.

### How does the project address local priorities?

Health and Wellbeing , Community Safety and Resilience priority:

Chiltern Voice provides a communication and media platform for the area. They demonstrated through the pandemic how the health & wellbeing of many residents was a priority, with listeners contributing to local information and the presentation team working to find ways to broadcast through the lockdown. During lockdown, the radio station helped to promote multiple local initiatives including food banks and a Friday night meals scheme. The station promotes community safety and airs the government's commercials at no charge. It is also a vehicle to support local initiatives including clean up days which in itself brings the community together.

## How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

**Strengthening Communities:** Chiltern Voice will support the community through various means. The radio station is a communication platform and can be used to create discussion, local pride and a distribution point for local information and initiatives. Chiltern Voice will also become a community itself and will help promote many other groups and organisations within the Chilterns to benefit people in the local community.

**Protecting the vulnerable:** Chiltern Voice has worked with young vulnerable volunteers and will continue to provide opportunities to gain core transferable skills. It also provides a platform for creativity and inspiration for all local people; young, older and vulnerable. Targeted community safety messages and government announcements also help to protect the community.

**Increasing prosperity:** Chiltern Voice will be a support to the Buckinghamshire Business Community by providing affordable localised advertising options on the radio to raise the profile of local business. It can also help to provide experience for employment, training and education. A young presenter developed so well within Chiltern Voice that it helped him gain a place at the Global Academy for a future media career. Presenters have opportunities to visit other radio stations to help them develop their own skills through work experience too.

## How does the project achieve value for money?

The radio station has been fundraising and gaining revenue since conception through events, grant funding and advertising sales which pays for general running costs. The Community Board funding would cover the cost of the new equipment needed now they have obtained the FM licence, including a new mixing desk, an on air playout system (computer system), transmission equipment including FM transmitter, audio processor, RDS encoder and Antennae. The target age group in broad terms is 25 - 65 year olds although they aim to communicate in various ways with as wide an age range as possible. The funding would provide a long term, sustainable solution for running a successful radio station and enhance the spread of local and national news.

## Community Board Coordinator comments

Chiltern Voice has been running for four years and has gained local recognition. There are no other commercial operators that identify within the area and Chiltern Voice would fill that gap and provide a service to people who may not have a means of finding out about current, local information. Added to the demise of the local newspaper, they will be able to deliver to a wide reach, including those who are vulnerable or unable to leave their home.

The radio show has traditionally featured local groups and offers a platform to talk about the topics that are important to the community. They have worked with local community forums and organisations who work with vulnerable adults to help identify the needs to shape the programmes. Some examples of this include works on the HS2 rail line affecting the local area, local provision for the disabled, housing development on the green belt and promotion of services from partners including Lindengate and Chiltern Samaritans. They provide listeners with the opportunity to question those involved in decision making locally, including Councillors and senior local Police Officers.

Chiltern Voice has a good understanding of the local community through engagement, events, promotion and working with local groups and communities. A regular local information spot is broadcast throughout

the week and brings focus to local organisations that provide benefits to their listeners. Chiltern Voice has also submitted applications to the Amersham and Missendens Boards and welcomes the opportunity to promote the Community Boards, funding and achievements in the area and will endorse local Board initiatives.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**

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Chesham and Villages - Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21 Date of Decision DD/MM/YYYY

Organisation Name	Restore Hope
Project Name	FoodLife Christmas Hampers
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£12430
Amount of Match Funding	£10,430
Amount being applied for	£2000
Amount suggested	£2000

### Project Summary

The FoodLife Christmas Hamper project aims to bring joy to families who would not otherwise be able to afford a Christmas meal. We aim to deliver 225 Christmas hamper boxes and 75 Alternative Boxing Day Treat boxes to local families (The Boxing Day boxes will go to families that we regularly support who will be in receipt of a Christmas Hamper from King's Church Amersham). FoodLife currently delivers fresh vegetable and fruit boxes to nearly 200 local families. They each receive one box (of approx 16 portions) once a fortnight. These regular boxes will continue over the Christmas period. Christmas Boxes will be in addition to this and will contain a turkey joint with all the trimmings and desserts. In addition, there will be a Children's Nativity Book and a Hope magazine for adults. The Boxing Day alternative will contain Salad, the same fruit, sliced cooked Chicken and Beef, 3 cheeses, Butter, crackers, Part Baked Bread, Chocolate Log, Handmade Gingerbread, Restore Hope Chutney and Hot Chocolate along with the children's books and magazine. All hampers will be delivered by our normal volunteer team as well as the Restore Hope staff team. There are over 100 volunteers involved in packing and delivering hampers. Some packing volunteers for Christmas are being recruited from the families in receipt of regular FoodLife boxes so that they are able to give back to the FoodLife project.

FoodLife has been delivering food boxes to 200 local families since May. This number has steadily increased in recent weeks and we anticipate more referrals. We are a referral partner to Chiltern FoodBank and have seen a sharp increase in requests for vouchers throughout October (9 requests versus 2 per month since June) We currently have 20 referral partners into FoodLife (including Citizens Advice Bureau) and are now approaching FoodBank's remaining partners (probably resulting in another 40 partners) to invite them to refer into us for both usual FoodLife deliveries and Christmas hampers. We are also in conversation with Paul Irwin at The Buckinghamshire Council around supporting families with Child Protection plans and in crisis beyond those we already know.

How does the project address local priorities?

Health and Wellbeing

Accessing healthy fresh food is vital for children, young people and families to thrive. Many are unable to afford it or know how to cook or prepare. We provide skills for the latter and in the longer term, this is also a small part of teaching employable skills to a section of the community who are low skilled, many without qualifications which will come as we build connections to local people and encourage them to join Restore Hope to learn skills for life and volunteer.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

Strengthening our communities, Protecting the vulnerable

Strengthening our communities: The Christmas hamper campaign will strengthen our local community by helping parents to gain self-esteem by providing a lovely Christmas Dinner. The FoodLife project provides healthy food to those most in need. We believe that this should continue over Christmas, perhaps the most important meal of the year. The FoodLife project has at its heart, the desire to connect families in to Restore Hope for courses and volunteer opportunities to learn gardening, harvesting, cooking and preservation skills. We aim to develop to have a farm shop selling produce to generate income, again offering opportunities to learn retail skills. Coupled with Restore Hope's wider family support ranging from our amazing delivery drivers checking in with families on the doorstep and feeding back to our family support team who also provide drop in cafe, 1:1 support and a range of personal development courses, we help families to move from being trapped in poverty to a place where they can thrive and see hope for a better future.

Protecting the vulnerable:: The FoodLife project ensures that vulnerable local families have a regular supply of healthy food and this is no different for Christmas. Parental anxiety and fear about how they manage Christmas will be reduced and they can feel that they can enjoy the day rather than be excluded and isolated. Children will not feel excluded when they return to school hearing how others celebrated. This will help equalise the Christmas experience for 300 families who would otherwise be able to enjoy celebrating.

How does the project achieve value for money?

Christmas can be an emotional time for many, especially for those without a support network or finance. To have support in place and beautiful healthy food hampers/gifts can make a huge difference to a family in crisis. Referrals for hampers to families who may not already be on our radar will help Restore hope put in place a package of support.

Community Board Coordinator comments

Restore Hope is a well-respected local charity delivering food and support to families with at least one child under the age of 16. Many of the residents are housing association residents, often with mental health problems, broken relationships, previous experience of domestic violence and in receipt of benefits. Their support locally has had a positive impact on families who have gained confidence and skills through the charity's learning programmes.

They are working well with other partners including Citizens Advice Bureau, Wycombe Women's Aid,

Waterside School, Victims First Specialist Service, St George's Church, (Little Chalfont), Paradigm Housing, Kings Church Chesham, Kings Church Amersham, Prestwood Foodbank , Chiltern Adult Mental Health Team, Connection Support, High Town Housing, Chartridge Combined School, Christians Against Poverty, Buckinghamshire Council (Children and Family Worker Team). They also work closely with Chiltern Foodbank and have a volunteer delivery team from a wide number of local churches. In addition, they sit on the Newtown Children's Centre Advisory Board and have established relationships with most other family support agencies on the Board, both statutory and voluntary together with the Children's Social Worker team and local Health Visitor team. The partnership working is imperative to their service delivery and beneficiaries of the partners will be contacted regarding a hamper.

Christmas is a difficult time for many, especially financially. The hampers will really lift the residents, provide a positive experience and will be received with much gratitude.

Restore Hope is also applying to Missenden and Amersham Boards and approaching donors to fund the rest of the project.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**

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Organisation Name	Oasis Bagnall Centre
Project Name	Employment, Training & Education Project
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£9000
Amount of Match Funding	£0
Amount being applied for	£9000
Amount suggested	£9000

### Project Summary

The Oasis Partnership requires funds to part finance a project worker, in order to launch its Employment, Training, Education and Volunteering, (ETEV) project for the Chesham and Villages community at its Bagnall Project premises located on Waterside. This project provides a wide range of different opportunities that focus on supporting people to move towards employment, breaking down barriers that may be in their way. This project will also support the Chesham and Villages community as a whole by supporting people to become economically stable and in employment.

The part-time worker will provide a range of different support options depending on assessed need for each individual working to an action plan that has been set in collaboration with the participant. The part-time worker will provide 12.5 hours per week of targeted support. Our ETEV model is well established, and has been running for over 5 years. We have a proven track record of supporting people towards and into employment, achieving successful outcomes.

There are often many barriers that stop people getting a job or starting a training course, which is where we can help. We are able to support people to claim benefits, but we make sure they also have a plan to get into work, and we offer support along the way. This can be a very daunting and stressful task for some, particularly in these times, where many experienced people are finding themselves being made redundant for the first time since leaving school and have to work their way through the system that they have never experienced before, like benefit claiming and job hunting.

We know that the support we offer meets the needs of participants and helps them move forward, reducing stress, mental health issues and a feeling of hopelessness. A part-time ETEV project worker is able to support on average 100 people over a 12-month period with a caseload of about 25 at any one time.

This grant is supporting a role within a larger county wide ETEV project but the post holder will be specifically employed to work in Chesham supporting local residents. Without this grant we may be unable to offer such a targeted service to the Chesham community. The hours worked will be spread throughout the week allowing for flexible service delivery, which can include late night if required. This project worker will be able to support people to access other opportunities that we plan provide in Chesham, allowing a holistic approach to be taken to case management, which leads to an increase in

successful outcomes. At the Bagnall Project Oasis can also offer a range of groups and courses that support employment outcomes, for example we run the Digital Skills course with Bucks Adult Learning and we have recently submitted an application to DWP to provide the SIA (security guard), Training Course, where we plan to train 40 people in Chesham area to gain this statutory accreditation, which is based on a recent successful pilot we ran in Wycombe.

This grant is supporting a role within a larger county-wide ETEV project but the post holder will be specifically employed to work in Chesham supporting local residents. Without this grant we may be unable to offer such a targeted service to the Chesham community.

#### How does the project address local priorities?

**Health & Wellbeing:** We know this project makes a difference and changes people's lives forever, as our beneficiaries begin a training course, start education or secure meaningful and paid employment following their engagement with the project. Participants are able to lead more fulfilling lives, contributing to society and enhancing their self-esteem and improving health and wellbeing.

The support we offer meets the needs of participants and helps them move forward, reducing stress, mental health issues and a feeling of hopelessness. A part-time ETEV project worker is able to support on average 100 people over a 12-month period with a caseload of about 25 at any one time.

#### **Economic Development and Regeneration:**

In light of increasing unemployment, career diversification may be required: capitalising on talents and skills-set. Perhaps following redundancy which may present business start-up opportunities for our participants. Our ETEV project can support such new initiatives and entrepreneurship. There are also potential service users who may not necessarily be digitally aware, may have been in a former long-term job and are un-used to re-crafting a skills-based CV, may benefit from digitally up-skilling and the support we can offer.

This project will support the economic development and regeneration of Chesham and its locale, as its communities become more able to invigorate the local economy, through securing paid and meaningful employment through their engagement with the programme.

The ETEV project will strengthen the Chesham and villages community, providing a clear path to support, especially during the current Coronavirus pandemic social environment, strengthening the Chesham community in its socio-economic recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic.

#### How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

**Strengthening our communities:** The ETEV project will strengthen the Chesham and villages community, providing a clear path to support, especially during the current Coronavirus pandemic social environment, strengthening the Chesham community in its socio-economic recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic. Above all, social wellbeing can be enhanced in the locality, strengthening communities.

**Improving our environment:** The Chesham community will have the opportunity to access this new service, offering more choices for Chesham, and the wider community. Once engaged, residents in Chesham and localities can self-refer to the additional and complimentary health and wellbeing projects

delivered by Oasis at The Bagnall project.

Protecting the vulnerable: As mentioned above, the project is fully inclusive, moving those people furthest away from the job market towards meaningful, fulfilling and productive lives. The service also offers debt management and budgeting advice. People will access targeted training and support that would otherwise be difficult to access via mainstream pathways. Working with key stakeholders we are able to support those most in need.

Increasing prosperity: By the advancement of education, training, volunteering and unemployment support, improving skills seeks to reduce the impact of poverty and hardship on individuals, families and communities.

The service offers debt management and budgeting advice, helping people break away from the benefits trap, saving the public purse. Each participant will have the opportunity to re-appraise their situation, will be empowered and enthused to seek new opportunities, whether furthering their education, re-training, digitally up-skilling or perhaps branching out on their own to establish their own business. There are also indirect beneficiaries, the family members of participants, who will benefit from increased prosperity, owing to securing paid employment through our service.

#### How does the project achieve value for money?

The community board investment will make a difference to the economic outcomes for Chesham, without it participants may not be able to move forward in their lives and possibly become more dependent on limited health and social care resources. The funding will go directly to pay for a worker, in Chesham, a 10% support charge is included to cover HR, IT and mobile phone costs.

The funding requested £9,000, will provide 12.5 hours' worth of dedicated ETEV support each week, in addition to this we are able to match the hours worked with volunteer placements thus increasing support hours by at least 100% .

This individual aspect of the project does not require match funding. However, Oasis will be applying elsewhere for additional funding so we can increase ETEV support hours and provision in Chesham depending on need and also to ensure a sustainable project is provided.

Pending applications associated with this project: There are applications pending to help part fund the cost of a full-time project worker role for Chesham. For clarity: £9,000 in grant funding applied for respectively, to The Rothschild Foundation and The National Lottery Covid Emergency fund. Awaiting outcome of applications. The Oasis Partnership has also recently applied for £5,000 respectively to The Bucks Masonic Centenary Fund and John Apthorp Charity, to fund 10 laptops (including insurance costs), in total, intended for dedicated use at The Bagnall Project for those service users access the Employment, Training, Education and Volunteering project.

#### Community Board Coordinator comments

Oasis aim to offer the right support at the right time which can reduce the risk of developing potential mental health issues, substance misuse problems or negative outcomes, such as stress, suicide risk, gambling, domestic violence issues, health and well-being issues. There are currently ninety-four people residing in the Chesham area that are currently registered with the One Recovery Bucks treatment service, sixty-four of whom are currently receiving UC/JSA, demonstrating the need for this project in the Chesham community within just one cohort of the community. The Oasis plan would be to help any participant that needs additional support. Beneficiaries can expect to acquire life skills, enhancing communication skills, time management abilities, personal presentation, listening skills, financial management and healthy living. They will learn about CVs, job searching and interview processes, receive coaching, gain work experience by supporting other project within the Bagnall project and the wider

community, access volunteering opportunities at Oasis and other organisations.

The Oasis ETEV project costs in the region of £165,000 per year to operate which includes the proposed Chesham post. Oasis has consistently been able to generate funds through fundraising campaigns and income generation and is confident they will be able to fund the much needed posts beyond the community board funding period.

Working with partners including Citizen's Advice and DWP will increase referrals into the service and vice versa.

The have used the PH profile, insight data, DWP and the Business Intelligence Team to identify the need and demographics and revealed benefit claimants have escalated in Chesham during 2020 as follows:

The number of men in Chesham claiming UC and JSA in September 2020 was 948, (ages 18-50+), compared with 318 in February of 2020.

The number of women in Chesham claiming UC and JSA in September 2020 was 711 (ages 18-50+), compared with 242 in February of 2020.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**



Organisation Name	Oasis
Project Name	Food 'n Fun on Fridays
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£5000
Amount of Match Funding	£0
Amount being applied for	£5000
Amount suggested	£5000

### Project Summary

Our new project is aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged families in Chesham. Providing healthy and nutritious food to these families is necessary in current times to ensure children are able to grow and develop in line with their peers. Food banks and free school meals are essential to help disadvantaged families thrive and survive. However, providing food is not enough, families need to know how to cook healthy and nutritious food working within the budgets they have and from the food share parcels they receive. With our training kitchen, activity and arts studios at the Bagnall we plan to engage families in this new project so that they can learn to do things differently and make the most of their situation.

To do this we plan to run a pilot project every Friday throughout 2021. We are calling these sessions "Fun 'n' family Fridays", where we plan to promote a health and wellbeing agenda. Fun n family Fridays will take place afterschool as a healthy cooking session for parents/carers, running concurrently with activity sessions, for the dependents of those parents/carers accessing the project.

The project aims to deliver substantial, tangible benefits to both parents/carers and children, granting parents the ability to focus entirely on their direct involvement in the healthy cooking club whilst their children access fun activity opportunities at the end of the school week. The healthy meals, cooked with donated food from the community fridge or from local food share schemes will be prepared by participants each week with the support of our resident qualified chef Ani (bank worker). The idea is for the parents or carers to plan and cook menus together using basic ingredients on a budget. The outcome of the session will be that participants learn how to cook on a budget and how to cook a balanced meal with limited ingredients. Food cooked and any surplus food share can be taken home by participants.

By example cooking sessions will focus on: one pot suppers and bakes, creating a meal from tinned food, seasonal themed meals, (harvest-time), healthy fake-away meals, cooking for the school holidays, healthy snacks & picnics, vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, allotment produce meals, creative ways with left-overs, the overarching theme being the promotion of healthy eating and cooking, food economy, minimising food waste and cooking on a budget.

Oasis intends to provide this activity at our new Bagnall Project in Chesham, alongside our other social and psychological support services, all of which are designed to enhance an individual's health and

wellbeing. The Bagnall Project is an ideal location which includes a spacious training kitchen that can accommodate up to 6 individuals (8-10 post covid-19), a sports hall, an IT suite and an arts and craft workshop all of which can be accessed safely in line with a covid-19 related risk assessment in a socially distanced context, (complying with Public Health England and Government Covid19 guidelines).

#### How does the project address local priorities?

The aims of our pilot project align fully with Chesham Community Board's health and wellbeing priorities (but equally fit the Community Area Priorities fund) and seeks to reduce social isolation and promote wellness by providing regular healthy cooking sessions and fun activity opportunities. The project also aims to reduce food waste, using our established links with the Food Share charity initiative.

We aim to support families to eat a healthier diet, whilst providing opportunities for children and adults to socially interact with others that they would not normally interact with. This is particularly important given some of the health inequalities identified during the current and recent lockdowns and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Engaging the children of participants in activities will encourage healthy growth and personal development, particularly important given recent issues associated with the lockdown period. Our activities are designed to engage and support young people, with a view that sharing and talking about their concerns can lead to getting peer support and subsequently improved mental health outcomes.

Preventative programmes and projects such as this will promote healthier lifestyle choices, moreover "tackling obesity is one of the greatest long-term health challenges this country faces. Today, around two-thirds, (63% of adults are above a healthy weight, and of these, half are living with obesity. We have 1 in 3 children leaving primary school who are already over-weight, , 1 in 5 living with obesity", (Department of Health & Social Care, 27th July 2020).

We understand that Chesham and Villages have 4,602 residents that are living in households at higher risk of food poverty – 5.8% of the County total, and higher than the average in the County overall. We also know that Chesham has a higher proportion of children living in income deprived households or poverty (15.4%) compared with the county average (12.1%).

This project reaches out to the local community, connecting and engaging with parents and children, offering an accessible service. The Bagnall Project, delivered by Oasis is revitalising the local area, as an inclusive and accessible community space, offering important engagement and health and wellbeing services within a value for money framework, which is important to how positive a community feels about its area", (Local Insight, Chesham & Villages, p.68, 5th September, 2019).

Supporting quantitative evidence, sourced from the Community Needs Index, featuring in the OCSI produced, Local Insight Report for Chesham & Villages, reveals an active and engaged community score of only 15 against the average score in England being 25. This project will promote community participation and engagement and we will look forward to measuring and sharing the successful outcomes and results.

#### How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

Strengthening our communities: This project will help to strengthen the Chesham community, providing a consistent and regular health and wellbeing programme, focusing on two generations. The family unit will benefit as a whole, enjoying a healthy meal together each Friday evening. In addition, it will enhance the choice of social support services available to Chesham and localities. Reducing isolation, loneliness and

hardship, improving skills and levels of physical and emotional health and wellbeing. We will consult with our service users to meet their needs, develop the project as it takes shape. In the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic, this project will help local society recover, promote healthy lifestyles, encouraging people to be more physically active, eat more healthily, bring people together and improve community engagement.

Improving our environment: We will be reducing food waste by our involvement with FoodShare, our Training Kitchen Manager devising dishes, any surplus meals can be donated to local families in need. We have an environmental policy at The Bagnall Project ensuring we operate within a climate emergency framework, recycling, reusing and repurposing where and when possible and where we secure facilities and resource contracts with ethical companies.

Protecting the vulnerable: This innovative project, combines activity sessions with healthy cooking guidance and inspiration for families seeking support and nourishment for body and mind. Seeking to improve community engagement with disadvantaged and hard to reach groups.

Increasing prosperity: The project will provide access to information and advice surrounding cooking on a budget will aim to help to stretch each families' food £ pound, improving health and well-being outcomes.

#### How does the project achieve value for money?

Both the cooking & activity sessions will be delivered in blocks of 8 weeks, equating to 48 sessions in total throughout the year. To ensure equality of opportunity we will discharge families on completion of the 8-week sessions to enable others to benefit from participation, although we will aim to engage as many families as possible, we will ensure that those in need don't go without. We will refer participants into other engagement activities, and if appropriate can offer a further 8-week session. The sessions will continue to run during each of the half term holidays as food and healthy eating is still important.

This regular, weekly service will be available, free of charge to all attendees and will operate each Friday afternoon from 3.30pm to 6.30pm with up to 6 parents and fifteen children being able to access the project within a risk assessed Covid-19 space, with a further 4 parents and up to 20 children being able to participate post Covid-19. During the Easter and Christmas breaks we will be hosting specific holiday related activities, engaging disadvantaged families, these seasonal related fun activities are funded separately.

We have recently connected with Chesham Hills Academy School, a local school. Some children attending this school will be classified as being from disadvantaged families. We plan to target referral routes to ensure we engage with those families most in need. We are able to promote our Food 'n' fun on Friday's project in their school newsletter which will also serve as the mechanism to promote the cooking and activity project alongside other opportunities provided within the Bagnall Project. As the project evolves, we can expand the opportunity across other days and nights, including weekends.

The funding will provide 48 weekly healthy cooking sessions throughout 2021. The delivery of 48 three-hour sessions costed at £90, (£30 per hour) = £4320 and the remainder being for the purchase of cookware, utensils, aprons, Covid safe visors & PBA free re-usable storage containers for families to take their meals home and reuse each week = £680

This project offers value for money as the activity session delivery/management costs are already funded, having secured funds via the Heart of Bucks/LEAP Coronavirus Fund supporting health and wellbeing initiatives. The Oasis Partnership is a charity member of In-kind Direct, which distributes consumer goods donated by companies to UK charities, their range of catalogue items priced at on average 80% lower than retail cost price.

Total Match Funding: A quotient of the funds granted via the Heart of Bucks/LEAP Health and Wellbeing fund will be purposed to fund the children's' activity sessions.

## Community Board Coordinator comments

Oasis have recently secured the Bagnall Centre for the health and wellbeing benefit of the community. They have extensively researched the demographics in the Chesham and Villages area. The direct beneficiaries will be parents and children accessing the sessions (ie, cross generational), though other members of the family unit will also benefit as a healthy family meal will have been prepared at each session and taken home for the family Friday evening meal.

They have established links with Chesham Hill Academy School, the children and parent/carers at this school will form the core of the beneficiaries for the Fun 'n' food on Fridays project. Lewis Baker from the Phoenix Lifestyle Foundation Charity will design and deliver the weekly activity sessions for the children, which is a different project funded from a Heart of Bucks donation aimed at providing physical activities for children. They are working collaboratively with local groups and agencies including Bucks Mind, the Job Centre and Citizen's Advice and comprehensively sourced funding elsewhere for their many projects.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**



Chesham and Villages Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision DD/MM/YYYY

Organisation Name	Citizens Advice
Project Name	Training specialist benefits advisers
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£5128
Amount of Match Funding	£0
Amount being applied for	£5128
Amount suggested	£5128

### Project Summary

Our project is to upskill advisers with specialist benefits training. The objective is to continue to assist local people in Chesham and the surrounding villages with the most up to date, accurate and detailed welfare benefits advice. The benefits system is complex, ever changing and more clients are reliant on it since the outbreak of the pandemic.

We will use a combination of in-house training by our Training Manager and external online training courses to ensure our advisers continue to give excellent advice.

### How does the project address local priorities?

Health and Wellbeing: With specialist training, our advisers can help local people to ensure they claim the income they are entitled to which can prevent further crises such as debt, eviction and homelessness and emotional distress.

### How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

Protecting the vulnerable: Often it is the most vulnerable people in our community who are reliant on welfare benefits. With specialist training, our advisers can help to ensure they claim the income they are entitled to.

### How does the project achieve value for money?

People in the UK are already experiencing the financial impact of COVID-19. Nationally, six million have fallen behind on household bills. Locally, Buckinghamshire authority saw a 197% increase in jobseekers from April - August 2020. This equates to over 10,500 more people and many need welfare support. This is reflected in our own data where the demand for benefits advice in Chesham has almost doubled from the first to the second quarter of the year. People need advice with different aspects of welfare support.

Some have never claimed benefits before and need help to apply. Others are already in receipt and need guidance on how being furloughed affects their benefits. Others, such as those who are disabled, may need help to appeal a decision about the amount of benefit they receive.

While all of our advisers receive general benefits training, the pandemic has highlighted a need for specialist training to help local people with complex benefits issues. The funding is imperative in upskilling the advisers to provide guidance and support.

#### Community Board Coordinator comments

The process of accessing benefits whilst dealing with debt or financial insecurity is daunting and can be harmful to health. Residents in Chesham and the local villages who are struggling financially as a result of COVID (furloughed income, facing redundancy or out of work and need to apply for benefits) will have an opportunity to access specialist advice, guidance and support which can help to alleviate the stress financial situations can bring. Chiltern Citizen's Advice has researched external training courses and identified courses to build their advisers' specialist benefits knowledge.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**



Chesham and Villages - Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21

Date of Decision DD/MM/YYYY

Organisation Name	The Ashley Green and District Community Association
Project Name	Internet Access For All
Funding Stream	Health & Wellbeing/Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£1314
Amount of Match Funding	£0
Amount being applied for	£1314
Amount Recommended	£1314

### Project Summary

This funding application is for the installation and operation of Fibre Wi-Fi in the Memorial Hall and Old School for the benefit of the whole Community and will be free to all. This application covers all 3 of the Community Board Funding categories, but primarily sits in the Health and Wellbeing fund or Community Area Priorities fund. This application has the full support of the Ashley Green and Whelpley Hill Parish Council, who have their meetings in the Old School.

The cost of technology is still an issue for some sectors of our communities. Even for those people who can afford the devices to access the Internet, the on-going Internet connection fees may be too much or difficult to justify for infrequent use. Importantly there are people, especially the older generation (silver surfers) that find it difficult to use technology. Once the Wi-Fi is installed the AGDCA will offer free training for both computer use and smart phone usage.

### How does the project address local priorities?

The project addresses the Health and Wellbeing priority for many reasons. Despite Ashley Green being a lovely village with a good community spirit, it lacks the opportunity for villagers, especially the older generation and young mothers, to meet socially and develop the community spirit. Further the village has the full range demographic population, and we are mindful that there are villagers who do not have access to the internet or at least good quality internet. Mobile reception in the village is notoriously poor causing users' problems in contacting people. The village is blessed with 4 community buildings, the Memorial Hall, the Old School and 2 ancillary buildings the Green Room and Wykes Room where a range of activities taking place including Church Sunday School, Good neighbours Group, Lunch & Chat, Youth drama, Pilates. The village is actively addressing these issues with the children's' playground and wellbeing centre project currently under the earlier planning stages. Integral to the project are plans for a communal sitting area, served by a coffee outlet and access to wi-fi for the benefits of all users. However, the village aspires to develop the community spirit further by attempting to appeal to the whole demographic spectrum by offering free fibre Wi-Fi to all in the village buildings.

### How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

#### Strengthening Our Communities :

The older demographic - often the prospect of new technology can be daunting to people who grew up without computers or the Internet. The key advantage of wireless networks for older people is that they simplify and automate connectivity to the Internet because modern devices are now easily connected to the Internet via Wi-Fi

and remember those connections, re-establishing them automatically on seeing the same Wi-Fi again.

The younger demographic - younger people often live with parents or guardians or peers. Their access issues are likely to be due to not being in control of the Wi-Fi equipment and Internet connection. So, for example they may not be able to access the content they like without others knowing what it is and possibly assenting to it. Also, low quality hardware and Internet services that are out of their control may also limit what they are able to do. Providing good quality services and anonymity may be attractive to these people.

#### How does the project achieve value for money?

##### Expected growth potential:

It is expected that as Wi-Fi would be attractive to potential hirers of our community facilities and if the halls become more attractive to hirers, this will improve the funding position of the Community Association, thus enabling further good works for the community.

##### Costs Analysis:

We have researched the options available and we have decided to go with XLN, as they are a specialist small business broadband company who have come recommended through multiple sources including Community Impact Bucks Forum. It is important to note that for internet provision, provider's offers vary all the time, so hopefully we can negotiate a good deal, but that can only be done at the time of confirming a booking. The price below is what was available when we were in discussions talked with XLN.

There is also an environmental benefit due to community buildings everywhere wasting significant amounts of money in energy bills, where it is so difficult to manage timers on the heating and hot water systems, meaning the building's heating systems remain on when a class is cancelled. Modern Wi-Fi enabled timers would allow the timers to access remotely and adjusted on an actual usage basis. This would save significant costs on energy bills over the year, but also save the country's valuable resources and help reduce CO2 emissions.

Total cost for installation of Wi-Fi per Community Building is £657, which includes installation and a minimum 2-year contract operation period.

#### Community Board Coordinator comments

As referenced by Ashley Green, poor internet connection and quality in rural areas is a barrier for many people, especially true at present regarding the pandemic with more residents/students at home to work and study and families isolated in lockdown. However, the longer term benefits for residents include the older generation as this may help to reduce isolation, the younger generation who will have a safe place to attend which will also include social benefits and the wider community generally who may not have the opportunity to gain a connection, be able to afford the cost of access or have the required skills. The availability of a free Wi-Fi connection can also be an important attraction for people. A number of surveys have shown that people remember where it is available and go out of their way to visit those locations. This creates an opportunity to engage with a larger section of the community. The AGDCA has been asked by a number of hirers whether Wi-Fi is available.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**



Chesham and Villages Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision DD/MM/YYYY

Organisation Name	Hawridge and Cholesbury Cricket Club
Project Name	Hawridge and Cholesbury Cricket Fresh Start
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£11000
Amount of Match Funding	£0
Amount being applied for	£7500
Amount suggested	£7500

### Project Summary

The Club has been playing cricket on the Common since 1885. We have always existed to serve the local community and to be an important part of village life. However, we realise we need to engage in a different way with the men and women and boys and girls who are part of our club as well as the local community. We want to become a better cricket club, playing the best cricket we can from our youngest member (5 years old) to our senior players (over 70). This means we need to work hard to improve our playing facilities, particularly our 'ground's playing surface. Everything good that comes from the Club starts with this. With a better pitch we will be able to give those of all ages and genders more opportunity to participate, increase the number of members and provide an excellent and healthy pastime for a diverse group of local people.

Therefore, our hope is to invest in a piece of ground equipment that will transform how we work as a club. This machinery will not only give us the best playing surface we have ever had, but more importantly, it will reduce hugely the amount of time our volunteers have to spend preparing the pitches. Often our volunteers have to break off from coaching the children and players to prepare the pitches by hand. Going forward they will be able devote their time to giving our members, of all ages and abilities, the best experience they can have at the club. This in turn will mean that the fitness and exercise our members enjoy will increase and help towards a healthier lifestyle.

### How does the project address local priorities?

#### Health and wellbeing:

By improving the playing facilities at the club we will free up valuable volunteer time to increase the health and wellbeing of all those who participate in our activities. This will also attract new people who may not have taken up a healthy lifestyle hobby before, but are inspired by what our cricket club has to offer. Also those who have not considered cricket to be a pastime they could participate in.

The men and women, boys and girls of all ages who are playing or are social members of the club will benefit. Those who live in the community and could be encouraged to join in or come along to watch. Teams from the surrounding area, who we play with, or may use our facilities.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

#### Strengthening Communities

The aim of the project is to improve the participation, health and wellbeing of those living in the community ( i.e. The Chesham and villages Community Board Area). One of our principal aims is to make the people in the villages around us proud of what we do, by having the best facilities which allow us to play a better standard of cricket, we will demonstrate that aim clearly and be a beacon of sporting opportunity and participation, for people also in Chesham and the villages around this part of the Chilterns.

How does the project achieve value for money?

Several quotes have been obtained for machinery. The project costs for the machinery including VAT is £9000 and a secure external steel container for housing machinery is £2000. The project would achieve excellent value for money to increase participation at the club and allow for a smoother operation for years to come. The rest of the funding will be sought elsewhere.

#### Community Board Coordinator comments

The cricket club has a number of grounds machines that they currently use but they are old and in need of regular repairs which is time consuming for volunteers who are mending the equipment. It is unreliable and inefficient. Volunteers would be able to use their time coaching and helping members of all ages if the equipment was functioning rather than distracted with mechanical tasks.

The club had hoped to raise the funds to cover the cost of the machinery but the pandemic and lockdown has had a huge impact on fundraising, leaving little cost for maintenance.

The cricket club has partnered with Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish Council and Christine Stott - Lord of the Manors of Hawridge and Cholesbury who is the landowner, to support this application.

The cricket club is a valuable local asset which requires funding to be operational.

**The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.**

# Consultations

## Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Statement 2021/22 Consultation

We are asking for views on proposals to update the content of the Policy and Statement by providing clarification and more detail to some areas. This is based on feedback we have received over the last 12 months and aims to provide clearer information and guidance to students and families so they can make informed choices about their school transport. The consultation provides an overview summary, an Easy Read summary, associated documents, an [online survey](#) and a printed version of the survey. **Contact** [H2STpolicyconsultation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:H2STpolicyconsultation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or 01296 382891 Ends 7th December 2020

## Taxi Licensing Policy Consultation

Following a public survey in September this year, ongoing conversations with the taxi trade and discussions with Elected Members, the [findings](#) from these have helped inform the development of our Draft Taxi Licensing Policy. The public and stakeholder consultation will ask for feedback on the proposed content within the Draft Policy. It will include an online survey, printed survey **on request** and consultation direct with the trade. **Contact** [taxilicensing.av@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.av@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) Ends 20th December 2020

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## Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy Consultation

Following a [residents' survey](#) and an [organisations' survey](#) in September/October this year, the findings from these have helped inform the development of our Draft Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy. The public consultation will ask for feedback on the proposed content within the Draft Strategy. It will include an online survey and print survey **on request**. **Contact** [energy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:energy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) Ends 16 December 2020

Agenda Item 9

## Countywide Traffic Regulation Orders Consultation

In this statutory [consultation](#) we invite you to comment on 4 'consolidated' traffic regulation orders (TROs). These replace numerous previous orders held under ex-district council names. **Contact** [parkingtro@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:parkingtro@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) Ends 10 December 2020

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