



# Buckinghamshire Council

## Beeches Community Board

### Agenda

**Date:** Thursday 17 September 2020

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Venue:** Via Microsoft Teams

**Note:** Questions from members of the public must be submitted in writing to [jack.pearce@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:jack.pearce@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) two working days before the meeting (5pm on 15<sup>th</sup> September).

Agenda Item	Page No
1 Welcome and Introductions	
2 Apologies	
3 Declarations of Interest	
4 Minutes	3 - 4
5 <b>Introduction to Community Boards</b> To receive a video presentation from the Leader of the Council, Councillor Martin Tett.	
6 <b>Senior Officer Community Boards Update</b> To receive an update from Roger Goodes, Service Director – Policy & Communications.	
7 <b>Updates from Sub-groups</b> To receive an update on the first round of Sub-group meetings.	
8 <b>Highways Applications 2020/21</b> To consider applications for funding for 2020/21.	

**Waiting Restrictions on Rogers Lane, Stoke Poges**

**A355 Farnham Common Infant & Junior Schools**

**Dropped Kerbs on Burnham High Street**

**9 Community Matters**

An opportunity for attendees to raise any community issues. To include an update on the Broadway Car Park, Farnham Common.

Questions from members of the public submitted in advance of the meeting will be answered under this item.

**10 Funding Update**

To receive a presentation on Community Board funding.

**11 Beeches Community Board Action Plan**

**11 - 16**

The action plan is provided for information.

**12 Any Other Business**

**13 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – venue TBC

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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: Jack Pearce on 01895 837224, email [jack.pearce@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:jack.pearce@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).



Agenda Item 4  
**Buckinghamshire Council**  
**Beeches Community Board**

## Minutes

**Minutes of the meeting of the Beeches Community Board held on Wednesday 8 July 2020 in Via Microsoft Teams, commencing at 2.00 pm and concluding at 3.42 pm**

### Members present

D Anthony, R Bagge, M Bezzant, J Carey (Burham Parish Council), D Dhillon, T Egleton, B Gibbs, J Hall (Farnham Royal Parish Council), K Harris (Dorney Parish Council), L Hazell, P Kelly, M Lewis, C Linton (Burnham Parish Council), S Lynch (Stoke Poges Parish Council), N Naylor, D Pepler, M Rolfe (Farnham Royal Parish Council), G Sandy and A Silver (Taplow Parish Council)

### Others in attendance

Tiffany Birch (Consultant in Public Health), Tom Fowler (Democratic Services Officer), Simon Garwood (Localism Manager for the South) and Jack Pearce (Community Board Coordinator for Beeches)

### Apologies

S Moffat (Dorney Parish Council)

### Agenda Item

#### 1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from S Moffat.

#### 2 Welcomes and Introductions

The chairman welcomed the members and guests to the first Beeches Community Board meeting.

Members introduced themselves and Jack Pearce introduced himself as the Community Board Co-ordinator.

#### 3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 4 Community Board Overview

The Community Board Co-ordinator gave an overview of the Community Board and its functions.

- The Board would aim to collaborate with local stakeholders and engage with the community.
- The core membership is composed of the Buckinghamshire Councillors for the Beeches

area, and standing invitations to meetings would be made to Parish Council representatives and other partner organisations; however, the Board is open to anyone who wishes to contribute.

- Beeches Community Board had been allocated £86,000 from the Community Area Priority fund and £27,500 from the Health and wellbeing fund. It had received £0 from the Local infrastructure fund. It was noted that only 50% of the allocated Community Area Priority Fund could be used for Highways matters
- An aim to build upon the connections formed in the Local Community during the Covid-19 crisis.

## **5 Reflections on Covid-19**

The Consultant in Public Health gave an overview of the Public health situation within the Beeches Community area.

- Statistics about the Community Area were noted by the Members of the Board.
- Obesity, mental health issues and rates of degenerative diseases were higher than the average for the County.
- Loneliness for those aged 65 and above was an issue within the area.

Reflecting upon Covid-19, the Board observed the following.

- There was a notable loss of confidence and mobility during the lockdown which would not be easy to re-acquire.
- Some individuals/families were more isolated due to low profile and not naturally joining.
- A multi-faceted approach would be required to restore confidence and engagement.

## **6 Local Priority Setting**

The Community Board considered what the priorities for the Community Board moving forward should be. The following issues were discussed and suggested as possible priorities.

- Highways & Infrastructure issues, including speeding, road disrepair, footpaths, vegetation overgrowth and noise.
- Health and social care, including obesity, mental health provision, social care for the elderly and youth provision.
- Environmental concerns linked to mental health
- Community re-engagement following COVID-19
- Establishment of sub-groups (suggested groups to include Infrastructure and Health & Social Care)

### **Action:**

- **Jack to liaise with chairman and members to establish sub-groups and agree membership**
- **Jack to formulate action plan with priorities and circulate prior to September meeting**



Organisation Name	Stoke Poges Parish Council
Project Name	Waiting Restrictions on Rogers Lane Stoke Poges
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£12,048.19
Amount of Match Funding	£6,024.10
Amount being applied for	£6,024.09
Amount suggested	£6,024.09

### Project Summary

To install strategically placed parking bays at Rogers Lane, Stoke Poges through the section between St Andrew's Church and Stoke Poges Village Centre. These parking bays would act as a natural traffic calming measure allowing a less restricted flow of traffic at the most critical times at the start and end of the school day, whilst also allowing safe parking. This scheme includes the cost of undertaking an informal consultation with residents, Councillors, Stoke Poges Parish Council and the TfB Parking Team. Pending a successful outcome TfB would then carry out a statutory consultation exercise which is required to amend the Traffic Regulation Order. The proposal would include lining works only.

### How does the project address local priorities?

**Infrastructure & Highways:** This project will improve traffic flow at busy times and allow for safe parking in a congested area. It will build on the improvements resulting from the parking restrictions which have resulted in erratic driving being displaced further from the primary school.

**Supporting Older & Vulnerable People:** The scheme will encourage drivers to respect fellow road users and make the road safer for pedestrians, especially older people, people with disabilities and parents/carers with prams and pushchairs.

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

**Protecting the Vulnerable:** This project will improve the safety of vulnerable pedestrians walking along the pavement on Rogers Lane to the Stoke Poges School.

**Protecting Our Environment:** A safer walking route to both schools may encourage more parents/carers to walk with their children to school rather than driving.

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

Stoke Poges Parish Council have confirmed that they will provide 50% match funding for this project.

## Community Board Coordinator comments

The Infrastructure & Highways Sub-group were happy to endorse this scheme which would improve road safety and traffic flows around the primary school. It was recommended that 50% match funding be allocated by the Board to this 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.**



Organisation Name	Farnham Royal Parish Council
Project Name	A355 Farnham Common Infant & Junior Schools
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£10,002.98
Amount of Match Funding	£5,001.49
Amount being applied for	£5,001.49
Amount suggested	£5,001.49

### Project Summary

Installation of “School 20 when lights show” sign assemblies incorporating flashing amber lights, and red coloured carriageway surface patches with white overlaid “SLOW” road markings on the A355 near to Farnham Common Infant and Junior Schools. These improvements will help to safeguard the adults and children travelling along and across the A355 in the course of their journeys to and from school and during the school day, by ensuring that drivers are more aware of the existence of the schools and the likelihood of young children being on the footpaths and possibly in the road in the area.

### How does the project address local priorities?

**Infrastructure & Highways:** This project will improve the safety of pedestrians walking and from Farnham Common Infant and Junior Schools along the A355 by encouraging road users to keep to a maximum of 20 MPH.

**Young People:** This scheme will particularly benefit children and their parents/carers walking along the A355 to access the two schools. It will also be beneficial to teachers escorting children across the road between the two school sites during the school day.

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

**Protecting the Vulnerable:** This project will improve the safety of vulnerable pedestrians walking along the A355.

**Protecting Our Environment:** A safer walking route to both schools may encourage more parents/carers to walk with their children to school rather than driving.

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

Farnham Royal Parish Council have confirmed that they will provide 50% match funding for this project.

## Community Board Coordinator comments

Feedback from the Infrastructure & Highways Sub-group was positive in relation to this scheme. Members supported the application and recommended that 50% match funding be allocated from the Community Board.

It should be noted that Farnham Royal Parish Council initially wished to include the installation of child shaped bollards in this scheme, and this was supported by the Infrastructure & Highways Sub-group. Feedback from Transport for Buckinghamshire was that “considering all the controversy generated last time they were used; the costs and lack of evidence that they improve road users’ behaviour after the initial impact, there is no justification for their use in future”. Therefore their use could not be endorsed in this scheme.

**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	Burnham Parish Council
Project Name	Dropped Kerbs on Burnham High Street
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£7,969.73
Amount of Match Funding	£3,984.87
Amount being applied for	£3,984.86
Amount suggested	£3,984.86

### Project Summary

To install dropped kerbs outside house no. 27 on Burnham High Street to allow level access across the road near to the bus stops. This will allow those in mobility scooters or wheelchairs to cross the road safely without having to travel a distance up the High Street.

### How does the project address local priorities?

**Infrastructure & Highways:** This project will improve the safety of pedestrians on Burnham High Street by providing a level access across the road in a safe location close to bus stops.

**Supporting Older & Vulnerable People:** This scheme will particularly benefit those using wheelchairs, mobility scooters or pushchairs, giving them a designated point of access across the highway and increasing the accessibility of the High Street.

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

**Protecting the Vulnerable:** This project will improve the safety of vulnerable pedestrians crossing the highway and will increase the accessibility of the High Street.

**Increasing Prosperity:** The project will provide a safer pedestrian route to the high street for those using wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. A safer high street will allow more vulnerable customers to access shops and businesses.

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

Burnham Parish Council have confirmed that they will provide 50% match funding for this project.

### Community Board Coordinator comments

The Infrastructure & Highways Sub-group were supportive of this proposal to improve the accessibility of Burnham High Street and to provide a safe crossing for those using wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. The Sub-group recommended that 50% match funding be allocated to this project from the Community Board.

Some concerns were raised by the sub-group over the cost of the scheme, however the cost has been assessed by Buckinghamshire Council's Client Contract Manager and deemed to be acceptable.

**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.**



# **Beeches Community Board Action Plan**

September 2020

Author: Jack Pearce

Date: 8 September 2020

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## Introduction

The Beeches Community Board covers the parishes of Burnham, Dorney, Farnham Royal, Stoke Poges and Taplow. The aim of the Board is to improve outcomes for residents through ensuring strong connections between Buckinghamshire Council and the local community. This will be achieved by ensuring that Board members are able to make recommendations on local issues, and that they can influence the Council's service design and delivery in the local area. The Board will also work in partnership with a range of local stakeholders to find solutions to local concerns.

## Funding

The 16 Community Boards across Buckinghamshire have been given a collective budget of £3.9 million. The budget is split into three funding streams:

- Community Area Priorities Fund
- Health and Wellbeing Fund
- Local Infrastructure Fund

The Community Area Priorities Fund is to be used to support local projects which will help improve outcomes for residents that address the area priorities determined by each Community Board, as well as support the delivery of Buckinghamshire Council's Corporate Plan. The overall budget is split between the 16 Boards with a top-up based on population.

The Health and Wellbeing Fund is to be used to support local projects which will help improve the health and wellbeing of residents. The overall budget is split between the 16 Boards with a top-up based on deprivation.

The Local Infrastructure Fund is to support community infrastructure needs. It can be used to support the upgrading of existing and/or new physical and/or social infrastructure. The overall budget is allocated based on the number of new homes proposed for each Board area according to the draft or published Local Plans.

For the Beeches Community Board, the levels of funding for 2020/21 are as follows:

Community Area Priorities Fund	Health & Wellbeing Fund	Infrastructure Fund	Total
£86, 513	£27,506	£0	£114,019

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a portion of the Health and Wellbeing Fund was allocated to the new Councillor Crisis Fund, which provided a source of funding for organisations and groups responding urgently to the pandemic. Once the Health and Wellbeing Fund is

opened, any applications for funding to support Covid-19 projects will need to be made to the Community Board. Any unspent funding from the Councillor Crisis fund will be reallocated to the Health and Wellbeing Fund budget for 2020/21.

There is no funding allocated to the Beeches Community Board for 2020/21 from the Infrastructure Fund. This is due to the funding being allocated to Boards based on the number of houses proposed in the Draft Local Plan. Allocations to this fund will be reviewed in future years.

### **Local Priorities**

The Community Board has identified some initial broad priority areas which will form part of the criteria for assessing applications to the Local Area Priorities Fund and Health and Wellbeing Fund. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the Board has not been able to consult with a wide range of partners and members of the public in setting its local priorities. The priorities can be reviewed by the Board at any time and it is expected that a review of these initial priorities, including engagement with stakeholders, community groups and residents, will take place within a year.

### **Infrastructure and Highways**

The Board has identified infrastructure and highways as key priorities for the local area. This includes the provision of infrastructure to support increased development and the maintenance and improvement of the highway network. It also includes road safety and improvements of footpaths and pedestrian accesses.

Although major infrastructure projects and highways schemes are out of scope as the Board can only spend up to 50% of its Community Area Priorities Fund (£43,256.50 for 2020/21) on highways, the Board can still play a major role in influencing decisions in these areas.

### **Supporting Older and Vulnerable People**

The Beeches area has a higher proportion of residents aged 65 or older than the Buckinghamshire average. There are also a significant number of residents suffering from long term illnesses which make them more vulnerable and in need of support. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the needs of older vulnerable people, and it is clear that they will need ongoing community support whilst the recovery from Covid-19 is underway and possibly beyond.

The Board has therefore identified supporting older and vulnerable people as a key priority for the local area. This will include issues such as addressing social isolation for older and vulnerable people, helping to support residents who have been shielding and may still not be going out, and increasing the confidence of vulnerable people to leave their homes when they feel able to. The public health profile for the Community Board has identified tackling loneliness in people over 65 as a key priority for the area. Other issues may include engaging

with care homes to ensure that their residents feel part of the community, and supporting elderly residents who may be suffering from degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's or Dementia of which the Beeches area has a higher proportion than the county average.

### **Young People**

The Board has also highlighted supporting younger people (aged 25 and below) as a key priority for the local area. Employment and debt are likely to be issues affecting this group, as a larger percentage of young people work in industries which are more adversely affected by Covid-19 such as the hospitality sector. There will also be issues with children who have fallen behind at school due to the pandemic and may need extra support going forward.

The public health profile for the Beeches Board showed that there are a higher percentage of overweight and obese primary school children in the area than the Buckinghamshire average. Projects which focus on healthy eating and promoting physical activity in young people may be encouraged in order to address this issue. The Board area also has a higher proportion of physically inactive adults than the county average, and intervention in childhood could be an effective way to prevent a new generation from following this trend.

### **Actions for 2020/21**

In order to address the priorities identified above and achieve the aims of the Board, the following actions will be undertaken:

- Establish sub-groups for each of the priority areas and identify volunteers to attend sub-group meetings. Sub-groups will discuss the issues relating to each priority area in greater detail and report back to the wider Community Board membership. Sub-groups may also consider and discuss applications for funding, and make recommendations to the Board on which applications should be supported. They may also discuss more strategic issues relating to their priority area in order to influence decisions which affect the local community, and they may work with groups from other Board areas where appropriate.
- Build and develop connections with stakeholders and partners in the Beeches area. This can be through the Community Board Coordinator or any of the Board members. Local stakeholders and partners should be invited to relevant sub-group meetings.
- Advertise the Community Area Priorities Fund and the Health and Wellbeing Fund through local channels and encourage applications. Work with applicants to ensure that bids are strong and look for alternative sources of funding where possible to facilitate match funding.
- Assess applications and agree recommendations for funding allocation.
- Support applicants to get projects up and running, and promote them within the local community.

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