



Buckinghamshire Council Aylesbury Community Board

Action Notes

Action Notes of the meeting of the Aylesbury Community Board held on Tuesday 17 November 2020 in MS Teams (remote), commencing at 6.30 pm and concluding at 8.10 pm

Members present

M Winn, B Adams, C Adams, M Bateman, J Bloom, S Chapple, A Cole, T Hunter-Watts, A Huxley, R Khan, G Moore, S Morgan, G Powell, B Roberts, B Russel, M Smith and A Waite

S Bateman, F Blakeman, C Bloxham, J Brewer, M Butler, R Butler, K Byrne, B Chapple OBE, J Couper, S Crawford, L Davis, C Drew, D Furze, K Gray, M Hussain, S James, A Jenner, B Lasoye, S Lincoln, L Lloyd, C Marriott, C Martin, L Michelson, R Nutley, C Older, J Oliver, C Paine, A Poland, L Redding, B Russell, C Saunders, K Sidhu, O Sirrell, S Takodra, H Thomas, R Torpey, K Warner, W Wilson JP

Apologies

A Christensen, N Hussain, T Hussain, S Jarvis, R King, S Lambert, W Raja, M Stamp and J Ward

Agenda Item

1 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman Welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Declarations of Interest

Community Board Coordinator Amy Jenner declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Aylesbury Vale & Milton Keynes Sexual Assault & Abuse Support Service who had a funding application for ratification at item 10 of the Agenda. The funding application, and report, had been reviewed and approved by an additional officer, Sophia Comer (Buckingham & Villages Coordinator) and approved as impartial by Marco Dias (Localism Manager).

Councillor Bill Chapple OBE declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Buckinghamshire County Museum, which manages Buckinghamshire Culture who presented at item 7 of the Agenda.

3 Housekeeping

Everyone was briefed on the virtual meeting procedures by Amy Jenner.

4 Actions from the last meeting

The Chairman reviewed the actions from the last meeting.

RESOLVED:-

Member of the committee AGREED the action notes from the last meeting were a correct record.

5 Community Board Subgroup updates

Councillors Winn and Morgan, and Amy Jenner updated the board on the work of the Subgroups which had been formed around the priority areas set by attendees of the September meeting.

COVID-19 (Economic Recovery)

- Positive conversations had been had about encouraging people to shop locally.
- Opportunities were being explored to support young people through job fairs and enterprise opportunities as part of the recovery period post-pandemic. This overlapped with the work of the Young People's Action Group.
- The group would next meet in January and hoped to develop connections with local organisations focused on debt/unemployment.

Enhancing the Lives of our Youth

- The Action Group felt that it was important that young people were represented across the Aylesbury Community Board and would strive to increase youth engagement in all Action Groups.
- A survey would be developed and circulated in early 2021 focusing on collecting the views and priorities of young people in the Community Board area.

Community Safety

- Had discussed issues regarding Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Violence.
- The group were keen to build relationships with local initiatives including Safe Spaces and hoped to explore the impact of drug-related litter in the community.
- Another future aim was learning about the Aylesbury Town centre night-time economy and the impact of the pandemic on the Town Centre.

Health & Wellbeing (including COVID-19 Social Recovery)

- The Action Group hoped to find external partners to provide detailed public health-related updates including, dementia, support for carers, and physical activity/exercise at future Community Board meetings.

Improving the Environment

- Was working with local partners to develop a range of pilot projects to improve green spaces such as parks, schools, and streets. The projects would educate and encourage residents to develop their own green spaces, as well as communal areas.

Road Safety, Transport & Infrastructure

- This Action Group received an update on the Housing Infrastructure Fund which included the links roads around Aylesbury.
- The Group encouraged the use of 'FixMyStreet' as a vehicle for future community reporting and tracking of issues.

Aylesbury Community Food Group

- Had been exploring food poverty in the community since the Spring lockdown and was continuing to work closely with the Community Board since the September meeting.
- The group met to evaluate what provision was available to support residents and to look at opportunities to link people together throughout the second lockdown period.

Councillor Winn confirmed that at future meetings of the Community Board, the Action Groups themselves would have the opportunity to share their ongoing work, and that anyone interested in the existing ideas shared by the Action Groups, or wishing to present their own idea should contact Amy Jenner at aylesburycb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

6 Community Matters

Councillor Winn confirmed that three questions had been received in advance of the meeting, and written responses had been subsequently provided to those who had asked the questions. The written responses would be circulated via an email following the meeting, and would also be appended to the Action Notes of the meeting.

ACTION: Ms Jenner would circulate the written responses to the questions received via email to attendees and collate the necessary information to append to the Action Notes.

Katie Galvin from Buckinghamshire Council's Support Hub gave a brief presentation updating Members on the work of the Support Hub during the second lockdown. The following key points were raised in her presentation:

- Those who had been shielding during the previous lockdown were being categorised at Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and advised not go to work, the shops or to collect prescriptions. Those within this category were advised only to leave the house for exercise, mental health reasons, or to meet someone from their support bubble.
- The list of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable residents increased by 1000 since the previous lockdown, and the Hub was working to contact and support those new additions to the list as well as those requiring support at the end of the previous lockdown (June/July/August).
- Between 10-15 additional people per day needing help with basic care needs were also being contacted.
- The Hub could primarily provide support with food, prescription collection and financial needs. Government food parcels had ceased owing to supermarkets being better prepared with priority shopping delivery slots.
- Those still requiring the most help were much more dependent than last lockdown, with many having not worked since March due to being considered Clinically Extremely Vulnerable or the type of work they do no longer being possible in the circumstances.

- Anyone seeking help from the Support Hub should visit the 'Coronavirus Support and Information' page on the Buckinghamshire Council website or call 01296 395000.

Katie also made the following response to a question from an attendee:

- **Is the Hub able to contact and provide help for those speaking other languages primarily?** – Staff have been identified who are able to speak other languages including Punjabi and Urdu. The Hub also has access to 'LanguageLine'.

Members thanked Katie for her presentation.

ACTION: Ms Jenner to collect any further questions or comments to send to Katie after the meeting.

7 Buckinghamshire Culture

Lallie Davis, Partnerships and Strategy Manager, Buckinghamshire Culture gave a presentation to the Community Board on the Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy and Cultural Partnership. The following key points were raised in her presentation:

- The Cultural Strategy aimed to promote a wide range of creative activities from major, staple cultural hallmarks such as theatre, to smaller hobbies and interests such as sewing and baking.
- The Cultural Strategy provided the framework for the Cultural Partnership, working with and for the sector to highlight the value of high quality creative and cultural experiences to people's lives, and as a benefit to the local economy by increasing footfall on High Streets and in Town Centres.
- Would build on existing successful efforts to promote cultural strengths in Buckinghamshire, whilst also searching for new and unusual creative partners to develop projects. These would fall into one of the following five strengths identified: Literary, Sports, Historical and Cultural Interest, Outstanding Natural Beauty and Cultural and Creative Economy.
- Four priority outcomes were being sought from these efforts: Improvement to the economy and quality of jobs, Equality of access to cultural activities and opportunities, Improved health and wellbeing, and a Revitalised heritage.
- Buckinghamshire Culture would operate flexibly to achieve these outcomes, taking the lead role in developing some projects, whilst facilitating and enabling others to secure joint investment.
- There were a number of ongoing projects including support for the cultural sector to recover from COVID-19 and highlighting the value of culture as part of the recovery from the pandemic.
- It was hoped that a fruitful future partnership could be established with the Community Board to develop projects and network with local artists, groups and organisations in the participatory and creative space.
- Could be contacted online at www.buckinghamshireculture.org, on Twitter

@BucksCulture or on Instagram @bucks_culture

Following questions from Members, Lallie made the following key points:

- **Were there any creative co-working workspace available for artists?** – Spaces were difficult to find/fund but it was hoped that this could be remedied in future.
- **Was there scope to work with drama/creative groups in schools?** – As these cultural/creative opportunities diminished in school curriculums, it was important that this was a key area of focus. It was hoped that the Cultural Education Partnership could be utilised as a vehicle to connect with local schools to this end.

Members thanked Lallie for her presentation.

ACTION: Ms Jenner to pass on any necessary details for those wanting to contact Buckinghamshire Culture through her.

8 Homelessness Update

Sonia Crawford (Housing Team Manager), Julie Oliver (Principle Housing Officer) and Joanne Couper (Oasis Partnership) presented to the Board their work to tackle homelessness during the pandemic.

- A great collaborative effort between the Housing Team, Public Health, Ministry of Justice and a wide range of internal/local partnerships and charities had been undertaken to approach work during the pandemic.
- COVID-19 safe temporary premises had been provided through COVID-19 discretionary powers to ensure that rough sleepers and vulnerable people were able to self-isolate even if they were not listed as priority need. 40 people had been helped in this way.
- Existing suspension of evictions legislation had been extended until January 2021.
- Efforts were being made to source suitable settled accommodation for those in temporary accommodation.
- Expected increase in the number of residents needing debt advice.
- Above average demand for housing advice and from single clients.
- 170 clients had been accommodated across the Buckinghamshire Council area through the 'Everyone In' programme.
- £485.5k revenue funding had also been secured as part of the 'Next Steps' programme. £650k capital award for 15 dispersed move on units across Bucks had been granted, and a further in principal agreement for £650k for the purchase of Ardenham House in Aylesbury. This would be match-funded with Section 106 Affordable Housing money.
- Working closely with those residents without recourse to public funds (EEA Nationals etc) to provide legal advise and support.
- Oasis had been able to refer rough sleepers who had been given temporary accommodation to services offering support with drug and alcohol addiction, medical

care and supported living.

Following questions from attendees, several clarifications were made including:

- Following the recent announcement of effective vaccinations, every effort would be made to assess how these could be made available to people, as it became clearer how the roll out would begin in the coming months.
- Access to safe accommodation with unfettered access was key to tackling the problem of homelessness in the area.
- A Managerial forum was being planned with local Housing Associations to determine the number of people likely to need help when evictions re-commence next year and make appropriate plans to approach it.
- The 'Spare Change or Real Change' campaign would be re-invigorated to ensure that adequate funding reaches those services providing help and assistance to rough sleepers.

ACTION: Any further questions to be passed on through Ms Jenner

9 TVP Update

Inspector Simon Lincoln from Thames Valley Police gave a presentation highlighting the work of the Police in the local area.

- Key focus on drug dealing/supply and targeting affected people through Drugs Warrants and Civil Orders.
- The Neighbourhood Teams were working hard with the Town Centre partnership to maintain good community cohesion through reducing knife crime and burglaries, and utilising Civil Injunctions against inappropriate or anti-social behaviour.
- Responding to COVID-19 social breaches throughout the second lockdown and working with council to issue and enforce £1000 fines where persistent breaches occur. Reported breaches had risen from 20-82 across the second lockdown.

Following questions from Members, Inspector Simon Lincoln made the following comments:

- Contacting a member of the public to explain how information that had been given to the Police was used could put Members of the public at risk and was responsible for a general lack of confidence in the 101 service. This would be combatted by more general communication to residents nearby where Police action had taken place.
- Information concerning COVID-19 social breaches should be reported on 101, or if a crime was occurring immediately, this could be communicated through 999.
- Would examine reports of 'Boy Racing' in the local area to see if action could be taken.

Members thanked Inspector Lincoln for his time and presentation.

10 Funding Ratification

It was confirmed that following review by the Buckinghamshire Council's Unitary Members of the Aylesbury Community Board, the following funding applications had been approved:

- The Healthy Living Centre- LGBT+ Friends & Family Hub service (£4,375- H&WB)
- The Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity- A time to reflect video to support the community to reflect on a difficult year (£1,800- H&WB)
- Community Youth Ventures- set up of a youth outreach unit and supporting activity programme to engage with our young people £15,026.81- CAP)
- Aylesbury Vale & Milton Keynes Sexual Assault and Abuse Support Service- Crisis Counsellor service set up in response to additional service need through Covid-19 (£10,696- CAP)

The full funding recommendations for all above projects had been published with the Supplementary Agenda reports pack and made available to view on the Council's website.

Anyone with ideas for future projects was encouraged to contact Amy Jenner and attend a relevant Action Group to discuss their ideas with local partners.

11 Community News

Amy Jenner drew Members' attention to several useful services, events and project updates including:

- Bucks Online Directory (BOD): <https://directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>
- Bucks Family Information Service: <https://www.bucksfamilyinfo.org/kb5/buckinghamshire/fsd/parent.page?parentchannel=24>
- Fix My Street: <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>
- A number of Town Centre updates in relations to Covid-19 trading, Christmas Events: www.visitaylesbury.co.uk
- E-scooter- 12 Month Trial: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/electric-scooter-schemeslaunch-aylesbury-and-high-wycombe-support-covid-restrictions/>
- A418 Oxford Road Project: www.buckscc.gov.uk/A418OxfordRoad

A full list with further information would be circulated to attendees via email following the meeting and appended to the action notes of the meeting.

ACTION: Ms Jenner to circulate the Community News document via email and ensure that it is appended to the Action Notes of the meeting.

12 Chairman's Close & date of next meeting

Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 18.30 (currently scheduled to be held via MS Teams).

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Aylesbury Community Board- 17th November 2020

Agenda Item 4: Action Notes

A question was raised electronically in response to item 9 'High Street Update' at the Aylesbury Community Board meeting on 29th September 2020. A response has subsequently been sought as below:

Question from Buckinghamshire Councillor:

'Is the recognition of the difficulties business are facing being recognised across the Council? I am aware of council departments coming down hard on businesses?'

Response from Economic Growth Team:

Recovery work was put on hold during the first lockdown and only resumed work from the 1st of August, however, at every stage the Council has been reaching out to businesses to see if business are able to process with the recovery of payment, if not working with the business in question, alternative arrangements can be made.

Some businesses may have started to received back dated bills because where they have only just notified the Council of their occupancy. A requirement of the first round of COVID grants for businesses was to have been registered for business rates prior to 11th March, this led to a lot of businesses getting in contact to make sure that they were registered and providing evidence that they had been in occupation prior to the 11th. Some of these companies had been in occupation of their property for years, and as such, they received quite a large opening bill.

The vast majority of the businesses who have been registered in this manner are likely to be eligible for various reliefs which can reduce or eliminate this bill, however upon creation of the account a bill is automatically scheduled to be produced and posted to the customer. If they haven't applied for any relief before the next print run, they will of course receive a bill for the full amount, which we appreciate can be quite alarming.

Any businesses who are concerned about the back dated business rates should contact them recovery.av@buckinghamshire.gov.uk to discuss their concerns.

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Aylesbury Community Board- 17th November 2020

Agenda Item 6: Community Matters

3 questions were received ahead of the Community Board meeting- the questions & responses can be found below:

1. Question, submitted by Aylesbury Resident:

'In Aylesbury we have seen a huge increase in serious crime committed by the youth and drastic decrease in youth services (apprenticeship, youth enterprise and youth clubs). These two factors are high correlated, what roadmap does the council to deal with these issues?'

Response provided by Buckinghamshire Family Support Service Team:

In Bucks we are fortunate that we have managed to hold on to our Youth Service where many Local Authorities across the country haven't been so lucky. Despite the decrease in the size of the service we are still able to provide a host of support to young people across the county. We have recently reviewed our Youth Work Offer for Bucks which includes;

- **One-One Support-** A series of weekly one to one sessions with a young person that are targeted to address specific, identified needs. The length of the intervention is dependent on the support required. An average intervention would be 8 sessions, but this can be extended dependent on engagement and level of need. Young people can be referred to the service for this support.
- **Targeted Group Work-** We now have Family Centres across Bucks, of which 3 are in Aylesbury; Berryfields, Southcourt and Elmhurst. Small group work programmes are provided of six to eight weeks for young people around specific topics/needs. These topics include:
 - Confidence and Self-esteem
 - Stress, Anxiety and Low Mood
 - Transitions (to secondary school)
 - School Engagement
 - Employability
 - Risk Taking behaviours
- **Weekly Drop Ins-** Weekly Youth Drop-In available in Aylesbury at Southcourt Family Centre Thursdays 3:30pm – 5:30pm where young people can access information, advice and guidance on a variety of issues. From here they can also be signposted to other organisations.

- **School Link Worker Support-** Each Secondary School has a Youth Worker who attends the school 1 morning a fortnight to offer information, guidance and signposting for young people and teachers.
- **VCS Groups/Centres-** There are a variety of youth groups, forums and activities in the local community that are accessible to young people in Bucks. These are predominantly delivered by charities or voluntary groups but BC Family Support Service work in partnership and provide support. In the Aylesbury area we have Quarrendon YC which we have been working hard to identify a new provider and am pleased that Aylesbury Youth Action will be taking on a lease in the next month to provide youth support sessions from the building. We also have The Grange Youth Centre which is still operated by BC directly and The Healthy Living Centre also provide Youth Clubs.
- **Traineeship Offer-** We run an education and training programme with work experience for young people (aged 16 – 24) who are not currently in Education, Employment or training that is focused on giving young people the skills and experience that employers are looking for. This is currently being delivered virtually (due to Covid) but has previously been delivered from The Grange Youth Centre.
- **Youth Voice-** We have an executive committee of young people who meet to discuss issues and priorities for young people across Bucks and ensure young people's voice is heard. We have recently began to link this in with local Youth Councils, of which Aylesbury is one of these. The idea being that a representative from the Youth Council in each area becomes part of the Executive Committee within Youthvoice giving us a broad range of issue to discuss from across the County.

Despite the above offer we recognise there is still a need to provide wider support to young people. The Community Board provides the opportunity for providers in the area, both from Local Authority and local voluntary providers and also importantly young people in the area- to address current issues specific to the area and respond with a wider community approach, recognising the Youth Service does not have the capacity or resource that it once had. It needs to be a community approach and the boards give us the ideal platform to address the issues raised via the original question with the key people around the table in each area.

We are also regularly working in partnership with TVP, Community Safety and The YOS and to identify gaps in the area as well, and YOS in particular are providing targeted work with young people involved or at risk of becoming involved in crime.

2. Question, Submitted by Aylesbury Resident:

'Elmhurst residences have on several occasions complained about groups of teenagers smoking illegal substances in the Alfred Rd memorial park next to the second children playing areas. What action has been taken to stop this?'

Response provided by the Community Safety Team- Buckinghamshire Council:

The Community Safety Team are working closely with our police partners to support the prevention and reduction of Crime and ASB. We have limitations in terms of powers and authority to deal with offences that are committed. Smoking drugs is clearly a crime and a matter for the police to comment on.

These young people are more likely to come from local communities and it is our belief that the community plays a huge part in resolving these problems. This type of activity, however, is not limited to Alfred Rose Park and is replicated in a variety of open spaces across Aylesbury. The answer is not straight-forward but the Community Safety Team would be happy to support Community Boards with advice and guidance as to how these issues can be tackled within communities in future.

Thames Valley Police Aylesbury Neighbourhood Team have also added that this area is patrolled frequently and that it is on their patrol plan as a community Anti-Social Behaviour issue.

3. Question, submitted by Aylesbury Resident for Thames Valley Police Response:

'What actions have you taken and would you like to see (other than from the drivers) as means to reduce speeding along the A41 Tring Road. Please feel free to split the road into different sections as appropriate'

Response, provided by Inspector Simon Lincoln, Thames Valley Police:

TVP Operate a road safety partnership where we work with partners to keep our roads safe. We do this in a variety of ways and speed enforcement is one tactic that we can use. To enable the Road Safety partnership to deploy resources effectively they rely on a variety of sources. This includes (but is not limited to) accident reporting, site surveys and community speed watch. This system is run by volunteers and allows our community to take part. It also provides reliable information on which we can base our decisions on where to carry out enforcement. Unfortunately, Covid-19 has resulted in the brief suspension of this activity.

TVP are still deploying mobile enforcement cameras in areas of concern and our Roads Policing officers frequently conduct speed detection specific areas of concern. I am aware that the Tring road in Aston Clinton has been subject to enforcement recently.

Enforcement is a legitimate tactic, but it is one of many. I have significant experience in this area given my previous role on Roads Policing. I know excess speed is a causation factor in too many collisions. I am happy to refer the community concerns to the Roads Safety Partnership and ask them to review deployment to this area. To do so I will need a specific area to focus on where and when. Enforcement of speed limits is the responsibility of the Police however I hope people can appreciate that deploying officers in one location for a

period of time is resource intensive and may not achieve the long-term outcome the community desires.

Resident with concerns about speeding are welcomed to join the Aylesbury Community Board's Road Safety, Highways and Infrastructure Action Subgroup to look at how the community can work together to help identify and tackle issues, along with other partners including Thames Valley Police. Please email aylesburycb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk to get involved.

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Building Culture in Bucks

Aylesbury Community Board

17th November 2020

Minute Item



Contents

- 1** Why a Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy and cultural partnership
- 2** What does the Cultural Strategy say
- 3.** How Buckinghamshire Culture can help you
- 4.** Some opportunities
- 5.** Local needs and priorities

How we got here

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2018

Work on
Cultural
Strategy
begins

2019

Funding to
recruit
member of
staff

2019

Co-Chairs
recruited to
lead
partnership

2020

First
Development
Board
meeting

Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy

Our vision is to celebrate our identity and increase opportunity.

To use culture to make Buckinghamshire a creative and exciting place to live, study, visit and do business.

We aim to protect and promote our cultural and artistic heritage and help communities to grow.

Cultural Strategy: Cultural Strengths

1. **Literary Heritage** – John Milton, Roald Dahl, Enid Blyton, Terry Pratchett, Mary & Percy Shelley, Thomas Gray
2. **Sports Heritage** – Stoke Mandeville & Ludwig Guttman, National Paralympic Heritage Trust, Silverstone, Dorney Lake, Wycombe Wanderers
3. **Places of Historical & Cultural Interest** – Waddesdon & National Trust properties, Bucks County Museum, Queens Part Arts Centre, Garsington Opera, festivals
4. **Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty** – The Chilterns offer The Chiltern Way, Chilterns Cycleway & environmental heritage
5. **Cultural & Creative Economy** – Pinewood Studios, National Film and Television School, digital, artists & makers, Bucks College Group, Bucks New University, University of Buckingham

Cultural Strategy: Priority Outcomes

1. A thriving economy and high quality jobs

3. Improved health and wellbeing of the population

2. Equality of access to cultural activities and opportunities

4. Revitalised heritage and transformed places

Storytelling

Lockdown Stories,
Arts Council England bid for
pilot Micro Festival 2021,
Development of major,
county-wide, future Festival

Covid-19 Recovery

Culture sector support,
Meeting Recovery Plan leads,
Developing advocacy and
co-commission package to
demonstrate value of culture

Creative/Cultural Audit

Audit of creative/cultural
assets & impact,
Asking Development Board
members, sector & BBF/LEP to
support with data/insight

Bucks in 100 Objects

Page 24
Online lockdown version,
Over 70 nominations,
Potential to build large-scale
culture/visitor economy
project – needs funding

Brand/Logo

Competition for Bucks New
University students to create
brand/logo ideas
Aim to create a cultural
identity that orgs can buy into

Health and Wellbeing

Exploring opportunities to
develop cultural responses
Addressing Covid-19 issues
Potential to build a
partnership to apply for funds

Projects and Activities

How can we help you?

Creativity and culture can be a tool to address priorities

Working with artists can provide amazing and unexpected results

I can help with:

- Brainstorming and defining project ideas
- Building on your local priorities to see where creativity and culture might help address needs
 - Helping groups or organisations to raise additional funds for delivery
 - Helping to find and commission artists to work with communities and groups

Street Art
Trail

Open
Weekend
(2021)

Window
Wander-
land

Bespoke
Commission
...?



Bucks Street Art Trail – local vibrancy



Open Weekend – participation & tasters



Window Wanderland – connection

**Music & Film to Empower
Voices of Groups**
Community Album



Art / Design Packs
Festival of Making



**Combining Arts and
Physical Activity**
Bicycle Ballet



Bespoke Commission...?

Starting points:

- What are the local needs?
- Could they be tackled through creativity and culture?
- Is there a problem area or issue that needs a creative approach?
- Is there a particular group of people that you think would enjoy shaping, and being part of, a cultural project?

More information:

Buckinghamshire Culture:

www.buckinghamshireculture.org

Twitter: @BucksCulture

Instagram: @bucks_culture

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Homelessness Update November 2020 (North)

Buckinghamshire Council Housing Update

Sonia Crawford

- Vesting Day & Covid19
- Forward Plan
- Strategic high priority areas
 - Allocations Policy
 - Homelessness Strategy and Partnerships
 - Rough Sleeping
- Transformation

Covid19 – our role

- Stakeholder work including working with:
 - Public health
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Internal and local partners/charities and faith groups
- Protecting the vulnerable
- Working closely with multiple internal and external agencies including emergency funding by Heart of Bucks and others, facilitating food parcels, working with teams who continued to outreach during lockdown, supporting partner agencies.
- Covid safe premises and TA provisions
- Working remotely

Homelessness Update

Julie Oliver

The Public Health (Coronavirus) Protection from Eviction & Taking Control of Goods (England) Regulations 2020 came into force today- extension of suspending most evictions until 11/1/21. The changes are intended to prevent evictions over the winter period and to reduce health risks and pressures on local authority services.

- **Section 21 notices:** no notice or warrant for possession will be delivered , but there are exceptions:
- **Serious anti-social behaviour:** 4 weeks' notice.
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Serious Rent arrears** (grounds 8,10 and 11):
 - There must be 9 months arrears prior to possession being sought that accrued prior to 20 March 2020

Homelessness Updates(cont'd)

Covid-19 Discretionary Powers

- This enables accommodation to be provided for those who do not have a priority need.
- It has resulted in many more homeless approaches for accommodation
- Modifications to court's civil procedures rule in seeking possession of a property.

Moving forward – the landscape

- New moratorium on Evictions remains until 11 January 2021
- Covid19 Discretionary placements continue
- We are seeking settled offers of housing for all
- Forthcoming Domestic Abuse Bill – we already work to revised statutory guidance and await further areas of change
- Affordability pressures and expected increase in demand
- Private rented sector access– local difficulties and opportunities
- Changes to the planning system and affordable homes delivery and Housing White Paper

Statistics 2019/20 – North Bucks

- 907 Homelessness cases opened
- 957 Advice only cases assisted
- 723 Debt Advice/assistance cases
- 109 Homeless families housed via Bucks Home Choice
- 1647 Bucks Home Choice Applications
- 749 Bucks Home Choice lettings
- 21 Private rent scheme lets
- 352 New homes delivered in the Vale

To date we are experiencing above average demand for housing advice and from single clients.

Everyone in and Next Steps

Sonia Crawford

- **Everyone in**
- MHCLG advised to find a placement for all Rough Sleepers by the end of March
- In excess of 15k clients were accommodated country wide
- Over 170 clients have been accommodated across the Bucks Council area
- In reach is being provided by agencies, support workers, drug and alcohol teams, charities and faith groups.
- **Next Steps** funding is the fund to exit from these placements
- We have been awarded £485.5k revenue funding
- We have also received £650k capital award for 15 dispersed move on units across Bucks and a further in principal agreement for £650k for the purchase of Ardenham House in Aylesbury. We are required to match fund this award.
- Revenue funding will enable us to continue to provide accommodation, find settled placements and to provide focussed work with particular groups such as those with no recourse to public funds.

Joanne Couper Oasis partnership

- Case Study



Aylesbury Vale Local Police Area

Aylesbury Community Board November 2020

Inspector Simon Lincoln



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Drugs

We continue to focus on drug dealing and operate a strategic approach tackling drug supply and supporting vulnerable people who are targeted

'We can only continue to be successful with the support of our community'

Drugs Warrant:

- 2 simultaneous drug warrants completed in Elmhurst/Southcourt area resulting in seizure of
- £30,000 of Class A drugs
- £8000 in cash
- 1kg Silver ingot
- Mercedes AMG motor car

Civil Orders:

- Civil injunction for male associated with drug dealing and violent enforcement preventing entry to Aylesbury
- Partial Closure order for an address used for drug supply in Buckingham Park

What have we been up to...

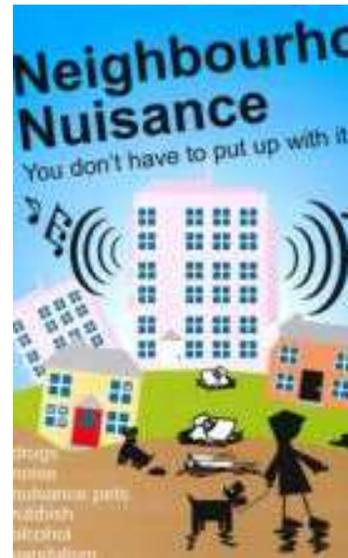
We obtained **an interim civil injunction** for a male that had been inappropriately approaching female's in Fairford Leys.

We obtained a **civil injunction** on a regular street drinker which now prevents him being in the Town centre.

We conducted a **Burglary prevention operation** coinciding with the clocks going back. This resulted in hundreds of individual engagements and the pursuit and arrest of 3 suspects that had committed a spate of Thefts From Motor Vehicles.

We conducted **knife crime reduction** activity as part of Operation Preptre resulting in 39 Stop Searches (2 knives seized). His Knife sweeps of playing fields. 78 knives placed in an amnesty bin'.

Neighbourhood Te...



Covid-19

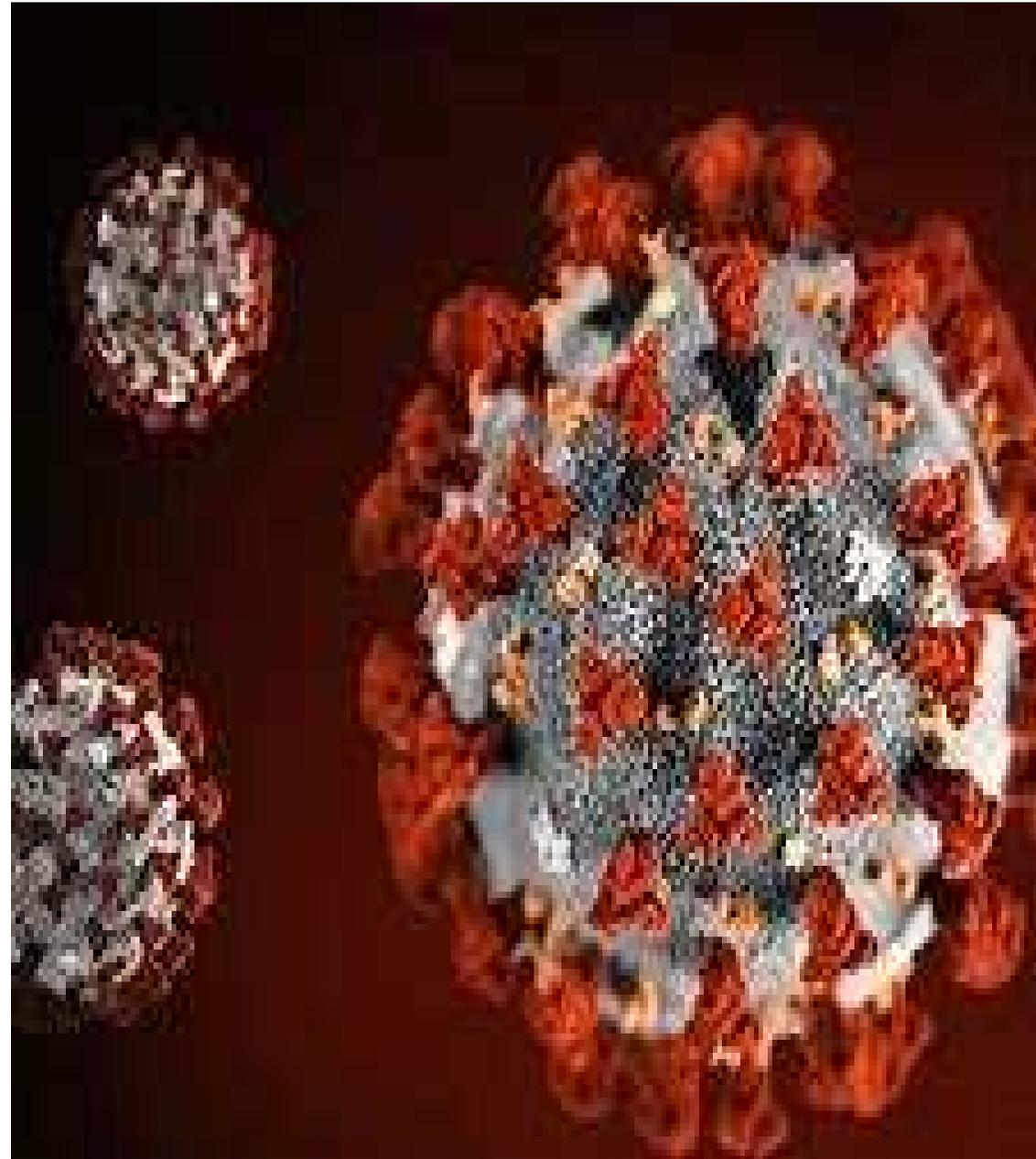
Lockdown 2.0 has come in to effect

Thames Valley Police has **dedicated resources** to respond to reports of Covid breaches.

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We continue to **Engage, Explain, Educate** however where there are persistent breaches we will look to **enforce**

We are working in **Partnership** with the local council to target locations that are breaching guidelines which has resulted in the issuing of £1000 fines.



Questions?

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Aylesbury Community Board- 17th November 2020

Agenda Item 11- Community News

This document highlights some key community activities and updates for the Aylesbury Community Board area. Please click on the links below for more information.

Please note any questions you have related to this content, should be directed to the relevant contact detailed on the website/social media, and that events and dates may be subject to change.

Getting help

Bucks Online Directory (BOD): <https://directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

Find activities, services and groups near you. This directory also includes groups offering support for those affected by Covid-19/lockdown. Groups who are registered with BOD are advised to update their listing.

Bucks Family Information Service:

<https://www.bucksfamilyinfo.org/kb5/buckinghamshire/fsd/parent.page?parentchannel=24>

A place for families to find activities, organisations and services- such as things to do, advice support and details of the local offer for SEND

Fix My Street: <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

Report a problem on a street/road in Buckinghamshire or track the progress of reported issues.

Events & Appeals

A number of **Town Centre updates** in relations to Covid-19 trading, Christmas Events-

www.visitaylesbury.co.uk or Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/aylesburytc/events/?ref=page_internal

Bucks Food Revolution: Online festival: 21st and 22nd November

<https://feedbackglobal.org/the-bucks-food-revolution-is-here/>

From Feedback's **Food Citizens** in Buckinghamshire project, we bring you a programme of exciting and unusual events exploring our relationship with food, from foraging berries in the outdoors, to waste-saving tips and recipes, to a deep dive into how we can work together to protect nature and our planet. We will be hearing from local experts and enthusiasts on growing food, understanding how what you eat affects your health and well-being; as well as discussing the pitfalls of food waste and how to avoid them at home – there is even a food themed story-time session for kids! Our highlight is an online screening of David Attenborough's new documentary 'A Life on Our Planet.'

Christmas Present Appeal <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/2020-christmas-present-appeal-vulnerable-children-more-important-ever/>

The annual Buckinghamshire Christmas present appeal is being run this year for the first time by the new Buckinghamshire Council as part of its 'Helping Hand' community support initiative. And with the difficulties and disruption caused by coronavirus, the need for this popular seasonal campaign is greater than ever. Now in its sixth year, the annual present appeal brings together council employees, councillors, and local communities in a massive drive to get presents to children and young people who otherwise might not receive that much at Christmas.

Because of the national coronavirus restrictions that are in place during November, this year Buckinghamshire Council are not asking people to bring gifts to our council offices. Instead, there's a new Just Giving web page through which supporters can donate to a [Just Giving fund](#) which will then be used to purchase gifts.

Christmas Hamper Appeal

This year, the annual Christmas meal, hosted by St Marys Church is unable to go ahead due to Covid-19 restrictions. Alternative plans include putting together festive hampers for those in need, which includes working with local partners including Aylesbury Foodbank, Aylesbury Homeless Action Group, and Aylesbury College. To support this project, a crowdfunding page has been set up to help raise funds

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?charityCampaignUrl=communityhampers>

White Ribbon Day

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/buckinghamshire-council-supports-white-ribbon-day/>

White Ribbon Day will be marked on Wednesday 25 November 2020, to raise people's awareness of domestic abuse and help reassure victims that help is available. By wearing a white ribbon you will be making a pledge to never commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women. Buckinghamshire Council will be raising awareness of domestic abuse over a week of campaigning aimed at all victims of domestic abuse across the county. The link contains a full briefing- including how to access local support.

Project Updates

E-scooter- 12 Month Trial

The initial fleet of 25 e-scooters in Aylesbury will provide those who still need to travel through the lockdown with an alternative, convenient and 'green' way of getting around. They will also help people cope with the reduced public transport capacity available and allow for better social distancing when making journeys.

Latest update here: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/electric-scooter-schemes-launch-aylesbury-and-high-wycombe-support-covid-restrictions/>

Haydon Hill Cycleway Project- <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/road-projects-and-improvement-schemes/haydon-hill-cycleway/>

- (a) Planning permission was received 16th July 2020.
- (b) Vegetation clearance works were carried out from 20th – 22nd October 2020.
- (c) The main works of the cycleway are expected to start in April 2021 (for a period of 4 months).
- (d) Construction of the cycleway is expected to be completed during summer 2021 (subject to Covid-19 and weather conditions)

A418 Oxford Road Project - www.buckscc.gov.uk/A418OxfordRoad

- (a) The project is being delivered in stages.
- (b) On the 29th of June 2020, work started on the fourth stage of the project and was substantially complete on 12th Sep 2020. The work included upgrades to the traffic lights at the Oxford Road/ Churchill Avenue and widening of Churchill Avenue to two lanes.
- (c) We have now started plans on the final stage of the project, which are the refurbishments of White Hill & Friarage Road signalised crossings and the installation of fibre optic & wireless equipment along the A418 Oxford Road.
- (d) The current programme is to complete works on the final stage of the project by the end of this financial year (March 2021).

Emergency Active Travel Schemes

The Southcourt [Emergency Active Travel Scheme](#) is currently being implemented and should be completed by mid-November. The scheme provides a cycle link from Southcourt to Aylesbury Town Centre and Stoke Mandeville Hospital through the provision of quiet routes (through the introduction of road point closures by utilising planters) and a new section of on road cycleway.

It is part of a £514,000 'pop-up' and temporary emergency active travel programme that we are currently implementing across the council area. The schemes aim to encourage residents to undertake more local journeys by foot and by bike and provide greater alternatives to how we travel through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Aylesbury Garden Town

The Aylesbury Garden Town team is pleased to announce that its community engagement online platform and interactive map for Gardenway is launching on the 25th Nov 2020 and will remain open until the 26th March 2021. To find out more about the plans to create an 18km orbital park, have your say, join our online discussion and post your thoughts, images and videos in the 'put a pin in it' section of the website, sign up at www.aylesburygardenway.co Please share within your networks so that everyone who is interested can join the conversation! (Note that the website has not yet launched so you will not be able to access before 25th November)

Consultations

Aylesbury Town Centre

Kingsbury & Market Square consultation- a change to help Buckinghamshire Council understand what's important to you about Kingsbury Square and/or Market Square to help shape future development: <https://www.kmspublicrealm.org/>

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. We are also asking people to respond on proposed options for how transport for eligible post-16 students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is arranged and paid for from September 2021. The consultation provides an overview summary, an Easy Read summary, associated documents, an online survey and a printed version of the survey. Everything is available on the consultation webpage and print versions are also available on request. We are also holding online consultation events where you can hear about possible changes to the Policy and ask questions. These will take place on Tuesday 10 November, 7-8pm or Thursday 19 November, 10.30-11.30am. Any changes implemented as a result of this consultation are planned to be published in April 2021 for the academic year 2021/22.

Contact H2STpolicyconsultation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or 01296 382891

Closes 07/12/20

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. Open 10/11/20-20/12/20 **Contact:** taxilicensing.av@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

County-wide Composite Traffic Regulation Orders Consultation

This public consultation is a statutory requirement as part of the technical and formal process to align and adopt traffic regulation orders across the county now we are a unitary Council. Runs 13/11/20-10/12/20 **Contact:** parkingtro@buckinghamshire.gov.uk