



## Missendens Community Board agenda

Date: Tuesday 1 December 2020

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: MS Teams

**Please note that this meeting will be recorded and will subsequently be available to view via the Buckinghamshire Council website.**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>1 Welcome and apologies</b>	
<b>2 Declarations of Interest</b>	
<b>3 Minutes of the last meeting</b> To agree the notes of the meeting held 15 September 2020.	<b>3 - 8</b>
<b>4 Introduction to The Missendens Board Champion</b> To be presented by Elaine Quesada.	
<b>5 Funding applications</b> To review of funding process and any applications.	<b>9 - 28</b>
<b>6 Reports from the sub-groups</b> a. COVID b. Transport & Environment c. Community Safety d. Young People e. Health & Wellbeing	
<b>7 Guest Speaker</b> Guest speaker Carole Eaden, Great Missenden and Prestwood Revitalisation Group.	
<b>8 Date of the next meeting</b> To be confirmed.	

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: Clerk - Anne-Marie Kenward on 01296 382236, email [democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).



## Missendens Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Missendens Community Board held on Tuesday 15 September 2020 in Microsoft Teams Meeting

### Present

S Baker (Little Missenden Parish Council); P Batting (BBF); C Bunting; Stephen Burke (Little Missenden Parish Council); E Burgham (CAB); S Burns; J Cadman; L Charleston (Community Board Co-ordinator); A Cordiner; S Egan; M Etkind; J Fallon (Little Missenden Parish Council); L Farn; M Johnson (Great Missenden Parish Council); R Gibson; A Kenward (Buckinghamshire Council); W Marzouk (Little Missenden Parish Council); Michel; M Olsen; Eric Thickett; C Veysey; J Veysey; R Vine (TVP)

### Agenda Item

#### 1 Introduction & welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Bob Cox, Fran McLean, Anne Hewett (Great Missenden Parish Council), Councillor Robert Jones, Jill Stiel, Carol Eaden and Barbara Rowett.

#### 3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 4 Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the last meeting were reviewed; it was noted that 'Thrift Hill' should be amended to read 'Frith Hill' under agenda item 8, Forthcoming works.

**RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2020 were AGREED as an accurate record subject to the highlighted change being made.**

#### 5 Leader update

A YouTube video from Councillor Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, was shown regarding the launch of the Community Boards (CB).  
<https://youtu.be/f0i722i79hw>

#### 6 Update from sub-groups

### **Covid-19 Recovery and Economic Regeneration – Ms L Farn**

- Lindsey advised she had co-ordinated the Prestwood and Missenden area community group and volunteers during lockdown.
- There was still a private Facebook group and approximately 130 volunteers were available to help the vulnerable and elderly in the event of a second wave.
- The sub-group was working with the local Co-op to arrange deliveries to the elderly and vulnerable; the service had reduced to two days a week due to less demand at the moment.
- The effects of furlough and debt concerns had been discussed, particularly those who were not able to obtain support from the government. More people would be impacted when the furlough scheme ended in October 2020. The group would publicise information and services/advice and options for financial support.
- Many facilities had been closed until recently which had affected young people and people's mental health. The group had discussed utilising local facilities.
- Working with local street associations to support the elderly and vulnerable – could more shops become part of the delivery scheme?
- Domestic abuse support for the high volume of cases since lockdown.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- It was recommended that the GP surgeries be contacted to advise of the work being carried out by the sub-group.
- It was agreed that the group should build on the volunteer action through Covid-19.
- A list of key contacts/facilities/funding opportunities was being created and could be promoted via Facebook.
- The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) was able to provide information on debt advice. Food vouchers could also be obtained from the CAB. The CAB was planning to re-open the outreach centre in Prestwood. Emma Burgham to action the CAB Social media person to connect with the CB on Facebook.

**ACTION: Emma Burgham**

### **Health and Wellbeing – Mr M Etkind**

The following discussions had taken place:

- Integration between Health and Social Care and the CB.
- The inter-relationship between the primary care network (PCN) and CBs – the PCN had an interest in four CBs – need to see how to integrate.
- Mental health related groups - Road Farm and Lindengate – contact to be made with the Getting Bucks Involved steering group.
- Promote wellbeing locally via The Source.
- Social prescribers – there was a recruitment campaign to recruit three full time people.

- Use of the Better Care Fund.

In response to being asked whether GPs could become involved with the CB; Mr Etkind advised that he would be attending a Patient Group meeting and he would recommend attendance at the CB from the PCN.

### **Transport, Highways and Environment – Mr J Cadman**

- The group had expanded to include environment.
- Since Covid-19, public transport demand had declined and there was no option to car share. Therefore, it had been agreed that the public transport area of the sub-group would cease until further notice.
- The group had focussed on the environmental side, particularly anti-social behaviour (ASB); however, it was outside the remit of the group to get the police involved with ASB.
- The Chiltern Conservation Board had highlighted an orchard which needed work.
- Some of the budget could be used for litter picking – a good community activity. The Chairman added that litter picking was being carried out, in a safe way, during weekend of 19/20 September. It was also noted that a litter picking group had been formed in Holmer Green after being issued with litter picking equipment.

### **HS2 update – Mr M Johnson (GMPC)**

- Mr Johnson provided a slide showing a map of the CB areas with the route of HS2 superimposed.
- Another map showed the HS2 construction sites in the CB area.
- Mr Johnson advised he had requested an updated map as he was concerned about the excavation and the internal haul road. He would provide more detail at the next meeting.
- Enabling works continued and the main works had also commenced.
- It was highlighted that HS2 was a concern for many residents and its effects rippled far into the area.

### **Community Safety – Thames Valley Police – Inspector Richard Vine and Sgt Darren Walsh**

The following update was given:

- The first meeting explored the main issues; burglary, ASB, litter and fly tipping, speeding (a big concern), nitrous oxide and parking around schools.
- Burglary – the numbers had decreased after a spike at the start of the year. Prevention was always better as detection rates were much lower than burglary rates.
- ASB – there had been issues in Holmer Green. ASB was often mentioned on social media but not reported to the police. It was stressed the importance

of reporting bad behaviour and advised that a article had been written for the Chiltern Forum which had also been circulated to various organisations in the area.

- Fly Tipping – to be reported on the BC website.
- General litter picking – efforts were being made in the local area.
- Speeding – the new TVP lead on Community Speedwatch was based in Amersham.
- Schools Parking – schools to be contacted.
- The [Chiltern Community Forum](#) held quarterly meetings to discuss/set local policing priorities.
- The neighbourhood team had been subsumed into the response teams to ensure a 999 response during the pandemic.
- Speed enforcement had been carried out recently by Sgt Walsh and his team.
- Everything the police did was based on threat, harm, and risk.
- Burglary and exploitation (young people/drugs) had taken priority; accident hotspots/designated sites for speeding were dealt with by the speed vans.
- Anti-social driving had been picked up with when dealing with burglary using a tool which would give the person a Section 59 warning for 12 months.
- ASB – the police had been dealing with groups breaching Covid-19 regulations.
- There was a limit on what could be dealt with due to resources.
- It was confirmed that the automated number plate recognition (ANPR) camera in Prestwood High Street had been installed.

### **Youth Support and Provision - Colin Veysey**

- Covid-19 had placed young people in a very difficult position in terms of schooling and support structures.
- The number of people thinking about young people was low; work was being carried out by a number of organisations with little cohesion with youth services locally.
- The council funded youth services had a high bar for referral for help due to cuts.
- High Wycombe would have a dedicated house to provide small scale counselling but it was not felt to be of help to young people in the local area.
- It was recommended there should be a communication strategy for an integrated approach, possibly a directory for support such as there was for older people's services.
- There was a need to approach the schools now term had started to identify the issues and find help.
- Cllr Mimi Harker advised there was a new programme due to start in Chesham for young people with issues related to Covid-19; however, transport links to Chesham were not good. M Harker agreed to provide further updates to inform the Community Board of the progress.
- Public transport for young people was difficult as the area only connected to London and Aylesbury.

## **Communications and Engagement – The Chairman and Ms L Charleston**

- This group provided an important link across all the subgroups.
- The group would make use of existing channels within the villages.
- Support from the BC communications team was available.
- Using simpler language and clarity.
- Communication between BC and the parish councils could be improved.
- Ms Charleston and the Chairman aimed to meet people in the community using libraries/coffee shops etc.
- Holmer Green Village Society had had difficulty contacting TfB and Environmental Health to comment on risk assessments/plans for events. There was a long wait time on the telephone and there was no email contact. Previously booked plans had been lost. The would take this forward.

### **ACTION: The Chairman**

Quality of communications – BC Communications was poor. There was a need to reach different groups in the way to suit residents. Twitter usually provided quick responses. It was difficult for councillors/public to find out who to talk to. Information needed to be targeted to local areas. The use of online forms/email should be encouraged to ensure direction to the correct department. The public could also contact their local councillor if needed. Feedback to be provided on the communications.

## **7 Chiltern Citizens Advice Bureau**

Ms E Burgham, Chief Officer, Chilterns Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), highlighted the following:

- CAB Outreach provision had ceased during Covid-19. The team had been working from home providing advice by telephone or email and sometimes via video call. Face to face meetings had re-started in Chesham where needed. Meetings at the Methodist Church in Prestwood would re-start in the future; however, the Chequers surgery venue was too small to enable social distancing.
- Covid-19 had resulted in a change in the type of advice provided; there had been a plateau in demand for debt advice, probably short term, perhaps because of payment holidays.
- Support would be provided for those at risk of eviction, which usually occurred as a result of change in circumstance.
- Support in accessing and managing universal credit claims.
- The CAB was looking forward to working with the CB to help residents.

Cllr Isobel Darby added that Wycombe Homeless Connection had just relaunched their legal advice service specifically for homelessness. They were able to share specialist advice with other areas for those at risk of illegal evictions. BC was working hard to prepare for a rise in homelessness when the eviction moratorium ended.

## **8 Bucks Business First**

Ms P Batting, Managing Director, Bucks Business First (BBF), highlighted the following points:

- All businesses, self-employed and sole traders in Buckinghamshire could be referred to BBF.
- BBF could signpost businesses to approximately 700 schemes for support.
- Communication was key and BBF wanted to ensure businesses thought at a local level not just at county level.
- BBF had 60 staff on hand for face to face or telephone conversations on a business's options.
- BBF would happily provide the CB with local economy statistics if requested.
- BBF asked for help in reaching businesses in the CB area. Philippa would be contacting the CB on a monthly basis to advise of opportunities/support.
- The crisis seemed to be plateauing, some businesses had been able to take advantage of the pandemic. The second phase was likely to hit in the next few weeks as further job cuts were made. The third phase would be from March 2021 onwards when loans needed to be repaid which would result in a rise in business failures. BBF was a valuable part of the community and was currently supporting five times more businesses than before.
- BBF was looking at ways to get businesses supporting the local community e.g. food bank support.
- CBs were not an island, there would be learning and commonality across the county – if businesses talked to BBF they could join the dots.
- The Chairman advised that a number of ways would be used to disseminate the relevant communication e.g. via the Buckinghamshire Council CB webpage, the communications sub-group etc.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Community Hubs were now called Community Access Points (CAPs) with some being CAPs+ which would offer an enhanced service. The CAPs were based in the legacy district council buildings and some of the libraries. The list could be found on the [BC website](#).
- The Chairman apologised for the recent missed bin collections. Veolia had taken over the contract but there had been teething problems.

What function/impact would the CB board have and how would it achieve the issues raised? The Chairman advised that the sub groups would create action plans to address the issues. Communication was a high priority along engaging younger people to find out how they could be helped.

#### **9 Funding**

This item was not discussed.

#### **10 Date of the next meeting**

10 November 2020, 7.00 pm  
Further details to follow.



Organisation Name	CAB
Project Name	Home Advisor
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£8,755
Amount of Match Funding	N/A
Amount being applied for	£8,755
Amount suggested	£

**Project Summary**

A specialist adviser to give one to one advice to people over 65 or in poor health in the Missendens.

The objective is to address clients' isolation, maximise their income and help them find a way forward. Chiltern has an ageing population. Nationally, 18% of people are aged 65 or over. In Chiltern the proportion is 21% and in Missendens specifically, it is 26%. By 2026, people in this age bracket will make up almost a third of the population.

Now in its third year, Home Advice was set up as a home visit service to address isolation in older people and those in poor health in Amersham and Chesham. Many are unable to travel to our offices or outreach locations due to health reasons and often struggle financially. Our Home Adviser reviews clients' welfare benefit entitlements, helps to reduce their utility bills, arranges food bank parcels, helps clients with issues such as housing, debt, income tax and applying for a Blue Badge. Pre-COVID, he also provided information on socialising in the community.

During the pandemic, we have adapted our service to give telephone support and have a fast-track direct line.

This is more important than ever as isolation is enforced on the elderly and vulnerable. Our Home Adviser also has an increasing amount of work relating to appeals – particularly for Personal Independence Payment (a disability benefit) – which are often complex and can last for many months. Our adviser will revert to home visits subject to the lifting of government restrictions and our own COVID-19 risk assessment.

The referral process with other local partners such as Chequers Surgery, Prospect House Surgery, Buckinghamshire Council, Connection Support, Bucks Mind, Carers Bucks, Paradigm Housing - as well as our own internal referrals – is well established.

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

**Health & Wellbeing**  
(No further information given)

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

**Protecting the vulnerable:** Our Home Adviser helps improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable people who are older and/or in ill health by:

- Addressing any emergencies i.e. providing food and/or fuel vouchers if no income
- Claiming for welfare benefits to maximise income e.g. Pension Credit
- Supporting appeals to benefit claims e.g. Personal Independent Plan (PIP)
- Reviewing utility bills to reduce costs

How does the project achieve value for money?

From April to September 2020, we helped 84 clients. By reviewing their eligibility to benefits, we have confirmed £149,374 of additional income, with a further £118,511 pending. This is a total of £267,888 which is an average of £3,189 in additional income per client.

Our results show the importance of this service and we would like to extend its reach to help older people in the Missendens.

Community Board Coordinator comments

CAB have run this scheme as a pilot in other areas of the Chilterns with funding from the LAF. The scheme has been successful and has enabled a number of people to get or increase their entitlement to benefits and assistance with getting (for example) blue badge parking permits and signposting to other services.

Offering a local advisor would bring local knowledge of events and services and of issues with accessing services. It would be essential for the CAB to link with local partners to ensure that funding is spent in the Board area and to the benefit of the residents in both parishes.

**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.**



The Missendens Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision 01/12/2020

Organisation Name	Chiltern Arts
Project Name	Sacconi String Quartet concert
Funding Stream	Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£2,000
Amount of Match Funding	N/A
Amount being applied for	£1,000
Amount suggested	£

### Project Summary

We would like to promote a concert in March 2021 in St Peter & St Paul's Church in Great Missenden. The artists would be the rather glamorous and very accomplished Sacconi String Quartet (<http://sacconi.com/>); the programme will include Dvorak's famous and lovely American Quartet.

We would hope that the concert will provide a little ray of sunshine in these difficult times by giving folks the opportunity to hear live music played by an accomplished quartet. But because of the need for social distancing, a 'full house' means that the venue can only be a third full.

Like all those promoting music events at this time, we are struggling to keep our noses above water. Yet I'm sure that, like me, you think that the arts add to the well-being of a community. So, I wonder whether the Missendens Community Board could see their way to helping us fund the concert by giving us a grant of, say, £1,000 which would be half the artists' fee. Full attribution would, of course, be given in all our publicity and on our website. It would also be a way of giving the Board some valuable, visible publicity.

How does the project address local priorities?

#### Health & Wellbeing:

Access to the arts can increase well-being of individuals and can bring a community together.

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

**Strengthening Communities:** By providing live music in these difficult times

**Improving our environment:** The arts add to the well-being of a community.

How does the project achieve value for money?

Value for money is limited as the event is not open to all due to restrictions on live events and social distancing.

#### Community Board Coordinator comments

Whilst this is undoubtedly an excellent opportunity to hear a renowned group playing, the value to the community is limited to the number of seats available at the concert.

In addition, there is still considerable uncertainty on the restrictions around the staging of live events and this is unlikely to ease before March 2021. Given this, there is a risk that the organisers will be unable to obtain insurance for cancellation of the event or to be able to put together a satisfactory risk assessment.

I would recommend that the organisers re-apply in spring next year when conditions can be better gauged for the staging of live events and the probability of being able to proceed is higher.

**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.**



The Missendens Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21

Date of Decision 01/12/2020

Organisation Name	Chiltern Voice Ltd
Project Name	Chiltern Voice Radio
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£20,000
Amount of Match Funding	£ various from other sources – Amersham/Chesham boards/sales/fundraising
Amount being applied for	£5,530
Amount Recommended	£

### 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 Communications & Engagement

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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The Missenden Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision 01/12/2020

Organisation Name	Great Missenden PC (for the Chamber of Trade)
Project Name	Christmas Trees
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities / Health & Wellbeing
Total Cost of project	£2,000
Amount of Match Funding	N/A
Amount being applied for	£500
Amount suggested	£

### Project Summary

We aim to raise funds to purchase and install Christmas tree decorations in Great Missenden High Street and Station Approach.

This is an annual event which helps to raise awareness of the High Street and stimulate trade for the shops and restaurants. Particularly necessary this year to raise spirits during these difficult times.

### How does the project address local priorities?

Covid and economic recovery,  
Health and wellbeing  
Youth support and provision

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

**Strengthening our communities:** To help the mental wellbeing of the community during these difficult covid times.

**Increasing prosperity:** encouraging people to visit the high street thus stimulating businesses in the area

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

The project will generate interest in the High Street and increased trade for local businesses. Increase in well-being for those who see the trees and visit

### Community Board Coordinator comments

The local area is in need of increased support at this difficult time. Provision of funding for trees brings a sense of normality back to the High Street and will encourage visitors to the High Street

**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.**



*The Missendens Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21*      Date of Decision *01/12/2020*

Organisation Name	Holy Trinity Church, Prestwood
Project Name	Prestwood Ashes Garden Memorial Wall
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities
Total Cost of project	£20,940
Amount of Match Funding	£ various from other sources – Local donations, Garfield Weston, AllChurches, Stoke Mandeville, Waitrose
Amount being applied for	£5,400
Amount Recommended	£

### Project Summary

Within the churchyard of Holy Trinity Prestwood (HTP), is an area reserved solely for the interment of ashes, this is a Christian space within the estate of the Church, but is open for the whole community of Prestwood and Great Kingshill, not just those who worship at HTP.

Currently, ashes have been interred in containers or caskets usually with a memorial plaque or marker of some sort placed above them. This takes up a finite amount of space; the garden is now nearly full and within two years will no longer be able to receive further interments. We thus wish to build an appropriate memorial wall where ashes can be buried at the base of the proposed monument, rather than in caskets as present, and people can be commemorated by inscriptions on the wall, enabling a much higher usage density which should allow the garden to be kept open for many years to come (>50 years) and maintain a connection between the local community and the last resting place of the remains of their loved ones. If we are unable to raise these funds, then the site would normally be handed over to the Council for admin/maintenance purposes.

The existing Ashes Memorial Garden will be full within the next two years. Unless we are able to increase the interment capacity of these Gardens, then all future interments will typically be in Amersham. This means that the local community (and previous villagers who have moved away) will not be able to be interred locally, as they may wish and with their existing families and friends.

### How does the project address local priorities?

#### Health and wellbeing

The project will provide a continuing point of commemoration for local families, maintaining a connection for the community. There is the probability of future interments being in Amersham should this not proceed, meaning that there will be increased travel and difficulties of access for the community.

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

Strengthening our communities, Improving our environment

**Strengthening our communities:** The continued provision of Local ashes (cremated) interment facilities for Prestwood, Great Kingshill and the surrounding area will help keep the community connected. Allowing families and friends to visit their loved ones, to pay their respects and share memories, within the village setting, rather than travel to another area. This is a very important part of the community feel/environment for the local area, and the Church is keen to be seen providing, in addition to spiritual guidance, practical assistance by way of, christenings, marriage, burial, interment, food bank, playgroups etc.

**Improving our environment:** The current gardens are maintained by groups of volunteers, and includes a wide range of ages from the congregation, members of the local community and often members of the family/friends of the recently interred/buried.

The site is designated as an internationally important waxcap grassland, and along with Prestwood Nature, we manage the site so that it is available for lectures, talks and Nature Walks.

How does the project achieve value for money?

HTP have been fundraising and have gained support from other funding organisations. They are looking for approximately 25% of the total cost from the Board towards their costs. Ongoing maintenance will be funded by the Church or carried out by volunteers.

Community Board Coordinator comments

The memorial provides a focal point locally for commemoration by the whole community. In addition, the site provides an important environment for nature and is used as an educational environment. The volunteering programme for maintenance offers an opportunity for the community to come together.

**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.**



The Missendens - Community Board Funding Recommendation - 2020/21 Date of Decision 01/12/2020

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	£1000
Amount suggested	£1000

### 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 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 Chesham & Villages 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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The Missendens Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision 01/12/2020

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	N/A
Amount being applied for	£5,000
Amount suggested	£

### 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 Missendens 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 Missendens 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. They already work closely with Trading Standards, local police and bank personnel and will initially focus on avoiding all forms of financial abuse. 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 people who attend their groups and to help identify them in the future.

Voices and Choices work collaboratively with other services and providers 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 elderly 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.

Evidence from the Public Health profile of the Community Board shows that The Missendens area has a slightly older age profile compared with the County overall. The Board should encourage community cohesion and befriending. 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:** 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. 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 to the The Missendens Board area – social isolation is an issue which has already been highlighted to the board as an area of focus within the Public Health Profile.

The Missendens Board area has an older age profile compared with County, with 25.9% > 65 years old (County average = 18.7%).

In addition, the loneliness indicator for those over 65 is higher than the county average.

Voices and Choices have applied to other Community Boards (Amersham, Chesham & Villages and Denham, Gerrards Cross & Chalfonts) however have confirmed that any funds paid by the Missendens Community Board will only be used for services within the board area.

Community Board Coordinator comments

Connection Support offer a countywide service on a similar basis which provides support to residents who are socially isolated, links them up with local groups and services and helps to build confidence for individuals to develop relationships and support networks and regain their independence. This service is time limited to up to 6 visits within an 8 week period in order to reduce any potential dependence that could come from offering ongoing support, which could consequently impact on the number of residents that could be supported each year.

Voices and Choices 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 Amersham 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 should be 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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