



## Amersham & Villages Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Amersham & Villages Community Board held on Thursday 30 September 2021 in MS Teams Virtual Meeting, commencing at 18:30pm and concluding at 20:20pm.

### **Committee members present**

J Barnes, P Carroll, D Conway-Read, R Dineley, Cllr M Dormer, Cllr M Flys, R Funk, A Garnett, J Gocher, A Greenhalgh, Cllr M Harker, Cllr G Harris, Cllr D King, P Lawson, N Magrath, Cllr R Matthews, P Matza, R Newall, O O'Neill, M Pegg, D Pinkney, K Ridout, M Roberts, Cllr S Rouse, D Rutter, M Stokes, Cllr M Tett, Cllr L Walsh, Cllr J Waters,

### **Others in attendance**

A Polding, S Salwa, J Sexton, J Steadman, S West, O O'Neil

### **Officers in attendance**

A Kenward, K Wager, L Wright

### Agenda Item

#### **1 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting.

The Chairman informed the community board name has changed from Amersham to Amersham & Villages to correctly reflect the area.

Ms L Wright, Community Board Co-ordinator gave a refresher presentation on the focus areas of spend and minimum spends. These include Economic Regeneration and Recovery minimum 15% spend or £26k, Improving our Environment minimum 15% spend or £26k, Health and Wellbeing and Transport maximum 25% spend or £43k.

#### **2 Notes from the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** Minutes from the meeting held 15 July 2021 were **AGREED** as an accurate record

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4 Chiltern Youth Club**

Mr O O'Neil, Youth Worker for Amersham Youth gave an update on the activities

and services they provided young people over the summer to increase youth engagement.

The proposals for future actions were outlined including a Buckinghamshire Council run positive relationships course after half term, Red Box project, encouraging talking to each other in a positive way and soapbox racer partnership.

The Chairman reiterated the Community Board was available to help Amersham Youth financially in the future if the funding was available.

There was an open day at the new Amersham Youth Centre on Saturday 2nd October.

## **5 Chilterns Lifestyle Centre**

Mr S Salwa Contract Manager for Everyone Active provided an update on the new Chiltern Lifestyle Centre a copy of which was appended to these minutes.

It was confirmed the new centre was on track to open on the scheduled date.

**ACTION Mr S Salwa to add the opening date of the new centre to the minutes once confirmed.**

A question was raised concerning the safety of fencing between the demolition site and the new lifestyle centre site.

**ACTION Ms L Wright** to raise the issue with the relevant service area in Buckinghamshire Council.

A question was raised regarding parking and if the first hour of parking will be refunded if using the centre.

**ACTION Mr S Salwa** to check with the relevant service area at Buckinghamshire Council as the car park is council owned.

## **6 Board activity and updates**

Ms L Wright, Mr M Dormer and Ms R Matthews gave a presentation providing updates on the four focus areas.

Vice Chairman Ms R Matthews provided an update on ongoing proposals for Economic Regeneration.

- Increasing footfall and improving accessibility with the following proposals; cycle racks in key areas, increased signage to highlight areas of interest and benches along areas of interest. Visit Bucks to promote events and engagement online.
- Artistry and murals to brighten up areas of town, potential for local artist Dan Wilson to paint the wall by Royal Mail sorting office. Local schools could have input into murals.
- Bucks Business First have put forward proposals for local businesses including a net zero initiative to reduce carbon footprint, raising awareness and accessibility for those with disabilities, a voucher scheme to support businesses with digital skills and a be your own boss scheme.

Community Board Co-ordinator Ms L Wright provided an update on ongoing proposals for Environmental projects.

- Innovative projects include bee bus stops, biodiversity study for the local area, restoration of local wildlife hubs, community grow and share and reducing single use plastic.

There was a call for volunteers to help with improving the local environment.

Vice Chairman Mr R Matthews provided an update on ongoing proposals for Health and Wellbeing.

- Mapping of defibrillators in the local area underway, Bucks Mind to attend school assemblies, mental health training for secondary school teachers, Chiltern Open Air Museum to offer accompanied walks for adults with learning disabilities, dementia friendly initiative and more exercise equipment in play areas.

Mark Flys was in discussions with JCDecaux regarding advertising boards with defibrillators included for free, further discussions with Buckinghamshire Council were required as to locations.

Chairman Mr M Dormer provided an update on proposals for Transport.

- The focus of spending would be on danger hotspots and the prevention of accidents. Wooden bollards would be placed on Stanley Hill by St George's School to stop dangerous parking.
- Parking restrictions would be enforced near the Amersham industrial estate and Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign would be used in certain hotspots to tackle speeding and to collect speeding data. A full parking review would be undertaken in 2023.
- Projects in the pipeline included Roughwood Lane feasibility study to make it a one-way street, reduce speed advisory to 20mph outside Dr Challoner's School and wider parking review.

The Chairman requested more volunteers participate in the working groups and highlighted the new ideas form available online.

Ms L Wright encouraged more people to sign up to the community board newsletter. There had been an increase in followers and daily reach of the board on Facebook. There was a request to advise the co-ordinator of any community events which can be promoted on the Facebook page.

The Chairman reported £14k of the budget spent so far, with approx. £97k provisionally allocated which was over half of the total budget

## **7 Community Matters**

Little Chalfont Primary School had requested support to develop an area of the playing fields into forestry so pupils can learn about conservation.

The Chairman requested help from any volunteer groups.

Chiltern Food Bank was looking for a new premise and requested if anyone knew of

a suitable site which was close to public transport, on one level and had sufficient parking to contact Ms L Wright the Board Co-ordinator.

Ms L Wright notified the board that local voluntary organisations could now manage their own listings on the Bucks online directory and there were a number of Consultations that residents could take part in on the Your Voice Bucks website.

There was a Big Bucks Tidy-Up organised by the Council for the end of October and start of November to target grotspots for litter picks and street cleansing. If there were any areas of concern contact Ms L Wright by 18th October who could inform the team.

**8 Date of next meeting**

12<sup>th</sup> February 3pm



# Amersham & Villages Community Board

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

# Summer Team 2021

- George, Tristram, Bella and Alix were employed for the 6 week summer holidays.
- Alix had to step back for personal reasons so Oli supported the team on trips with George taking on a leadership role in the team.
- Maria provided training to the new team and mentored Oli in delivering the training at the same time.



# Summer 2021 Youth Activities



5th August	Messy Games	17:00	King George V Park	Free
6th August	Bake & Share	13:00	Chiltern Youth Centre	Free
7th August	Sports Day	11:00	Aylesbury (Minibus)	Free
10th August	Inflatable Water Park	TBC	Windsor (Minibus)	£18.00
11th August	Mountain Biking	14:30	Wendover (Minibus)	Free



17th August	Decorate Our Building	12:00	Chiltern Youth Centre	Free
19th August	Spider's Web Challenge	18:00	Chiltern Youth Centre	Free
26th August	Beach Trip	10:00	Bournemouth (Minibus)	Free



- Huge variety of activities offered throughout the summer, averaging 3 days per week.
- Young people were given the opportunity to give back to the community.
- A lot of time was spent getting to know the young people and promoting the new centre.
- We finished the summer with our traditional beach trip to Bournemouth!

# Facts and Figures

- 346 hours of youth work delivered in 6 weeks.
- Lots of new faces appeared, lots of whom are eager to get into our new building when it opens!
- Aqua park and the beach trip were by far our most popular trips.
- Most trips were free to attend.





# The Needs of Our Young People

- Summer Team is a great opportunity to spend time with our young people and identify the needs they have, often determining the work we do in the autumn.
- Period Poverty
- Post-Covid Anxiety
- How to Talk to Each Other (including sexism and racism)
- Positive Relationships

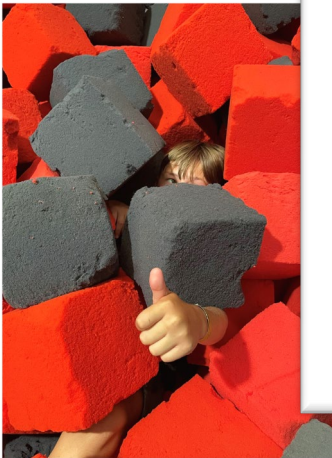


# How We Propose To Help

- Bucks Council will be offering a positive relationships course here after half term.
- Red Box Project
- Good youth work should encourage talking to each other in a positive way.
- Soapbox Racer partnership.



# Some Memories...





**Any Questions?**



---

# Community Board Amersham and Villages

# Priority Areas of Focus

- *Economic Regeneration and Recovery - min 15% (approx. £26k)*
- *Improving our Environment – min 15% (approx. £26k)*
- *Health and Wellbeing*
- *Transport – max 25% (approx. £43k)*





# Economic Regeneration

## Ongoing discussions for 2021-22 projects:

- Increasing footfall and improving accessibility :
  - Cycle racks in key spaces
  - Signage to highlight important areas of interest
  - Benches along walking routes
- Buckinghamshire Business First:
  - Projects to support business to thrive
  - Develop skills for young people
- Local heritage and tourism:
  - Artistry/murals
  - Visit Bucks – promoting the local area





# Environment

## Ongoing discussions for 2021-22 projects:

- Bee bus stops
- Biodiversity study
- Restoration of local wildlife hubs (Stony Dean, St Mary's School, Amersham Hospital)
- Reducing single use plastic and coffee cups
- Community Grow and Share



## Pipeline projects for 2022-23

- Plant share schemes
- Litter campaigns
- Renewable Energy







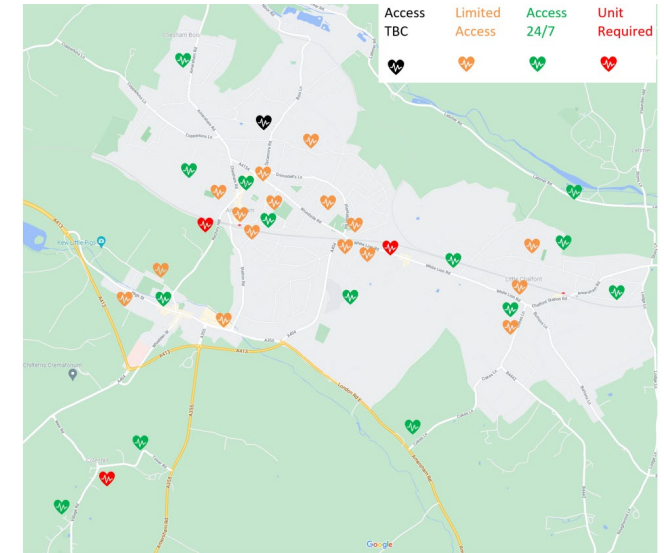
# Health & Wellbeing

## Ongoing discussions for 2021-22 projects:

- Mapping of defibrillators in the area and identifying gaps
- School Assemblies to support KS1 students and their parents and teachers with mental health
- Mental Health First Aid training for secondary school teachers
- COAM Accompanied Walks for adults with learning disabilities
- Older Person's Day
- Dementia Friendly initiatives

## Other ideas raised:

- Exercise equipment in parks
- Supporting people suffering from Long Covid





# Transport

## Ongoing discussions for 2021-22 projects:

- Bollards to stop dangerous parking
- On-street parking restrictions (e.g. yellow lines)
- MVAS to help tackle speeding and gather data

## Pipeline projects/applications for 2022-23

- Roughwood Lane feasibility
- 20mph flashing speed indicators – Dr Challoner's Grammar School
- Allocations towards area wide parking review



## **Join an Action Group:**

- *Environment Action Group*
- *Economic Recovery Action Group*
- *Health & Wellbeing Action Group*
- *Transport Action Group*

## **Submit an idea:**

- <https://forms.office.com/r/Nuk90YR599>

## **Join our next Board Meeting:**

- *18 February 2022 6:30pm*

### **Project Title:**

---

### **Brief Description (max 200 words)**

- Explain how the project will benefit the wider community
- How will the project run beyond initial funding?
- What partners, groups are involved in delivering the project?

### **Estimated cost**

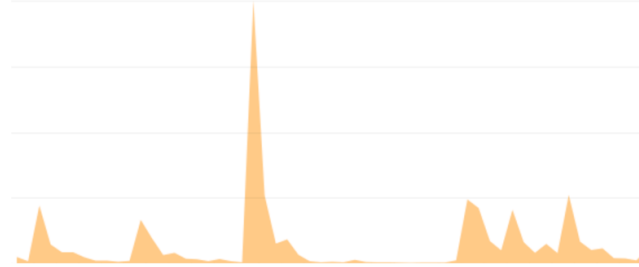
---

### **Contributory funding (if applicable)**

- *Newsletter sign-ups*
- *Facebook stats*
- *Promotional events*

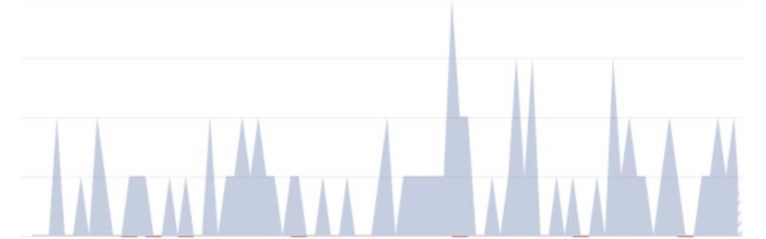
**Daily Reach**  
1-Jul to 30-Sep

38,493  
Average 137% ▲



**Page Followers**  
1-Jul to 30-Sep

390  
Page followers 90% ▲



## Amersham Community Board

Working together: Local voices, local choices, local action

To keep up to date with the community board, sign up to receive our quarterly e-newsletter:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

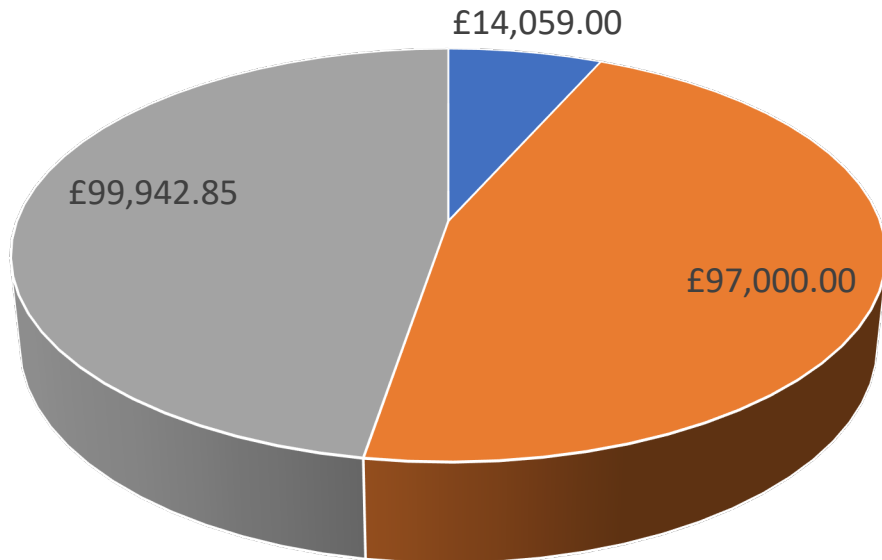
**Privacy**

We use Dotdigital to deliver our e-newsletter and gather statistics around email opening and clicks to help us monitor and improve. You will be able to unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the unsubscribe link at the end of any e-newsletter you receive from us. We will store this sign-up form securely until the information is captured on Dotdigital and then it will be destroyed.

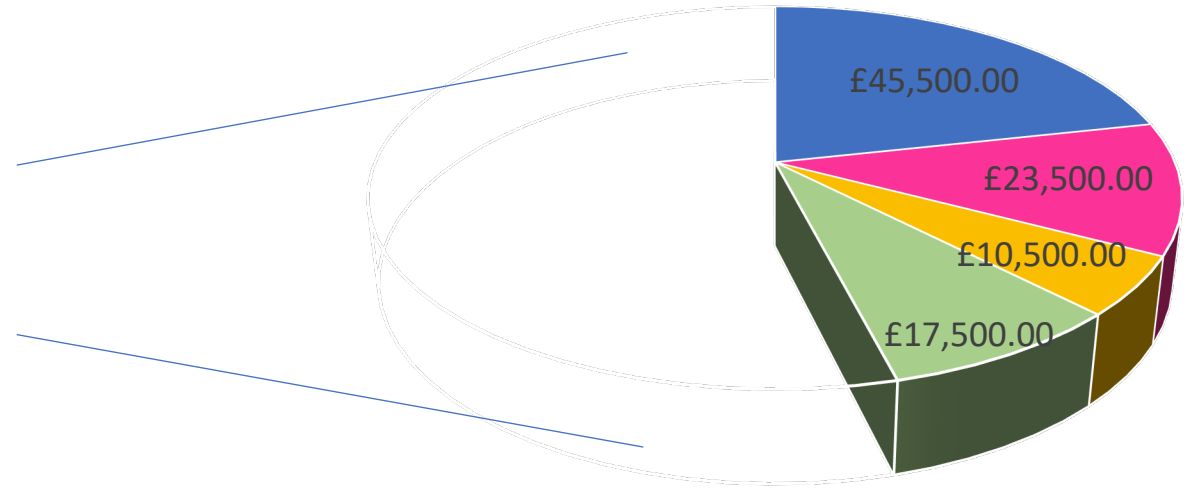
When we collect personal information, we are regulated under the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR, and for the purposes of those laws we are the 'Data Controller'. If you have questions please see our Privacy Policy (<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/privacy/>), or contact our Data Protection Officer at Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF or email [dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

# Funding

Total Budget: £211,002



Pipeline Projects (Estimated Spend by Area of Focus)



■ Funding Allocated ■ Pipeline Projects ■ REMAINING BUDGET

■ Transport ■ Health & Wellbeing  
■ Economic Regeneration ■ Environment

# And finally...

- Questions from the public
- Premises for Chiltern Foodbank
- Consultations & Petitions
- Bucks Online Directory
- Big Bucks Tidy Up



[yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/](https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/)

- **Community Safety Survey: Closes 22 Oct 2021**

To find out the community's concerns in relation to crime, anti-social behaviour, drugs and alcohol

- **Buckinghamshire Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services Survey: Closes 29 Oct 2021**

To make sure children and young people in Buckinghamshire can easily access high quality mental health services that will support their wellbeing in the right way and at the right time.

- **Parking control request form: Closes 1 Sep 2022**

For Community Boards to consider a new parking control where on-street parking is causing significant problems. This might include risks to health and safety, blocking or restricting access and causing traffic congestion.

- **Coming Soon - A355 Speed Limit – Expected to open 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021**

---

## Secondary schools application process

If you are a parent who has recently been through this process and would like to get involved and help the Council improve the service, you can complete a short form and a member of the team will contact you to invite you to attend a session at a convenient time. To thank you for your time, we'd like to offer a £20 Amazon voucher for each session you attend. <https://crowd.in/2D90eR>



[Directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](https://Directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

## NEW feature:

Organisations can now add and manage their own information

## NEW feature:

Short term events can be promoted using the tool

The screenshot shows the 'Bucks Online Directory BETA' website. The header includes the Buckinghamshire Council logo and the text 'Bucks Online Directory BETA'. Below the header, there is a navigation bar with 'Home / Service directory'. The main heading is 'Find activities and organisations near you'. There are two search input fields: 'Search' with the placeholder 'Enter a search.' and 'Where' with the value 'Amersham'. A magnifying glass icon is next to the 'Where' field. Below the search fields, there is a section titled 'Showing results near Amersham' with a 'Show map?' toggle. On the left side, there are filter options: 'Things to do', 'Advice and support', 'Education and learning', 'Staying active', and 'Environment', each with a radio button. Below these are expandable filters for 'Suitable for', 'Access needs', 'Ages', 'Days', and 'Only show', each with a chevron icon. At the bottom of the filters is a 'Clear all filters' link. The main content area displays four search results:

- Samaritans**: Counselling - emotional support. We listen, we don't judge and we never tell people what they should do... Less than a mile away • Recently updated
- Amersham Coronavirus Help**: Amersham Coronavirus Help was set up in March 2020 with the aim of assisting our more vulnerable residents... Less than a mile away • Recently updated
- Amersham Temporary Library**: We are currently open on restricted hours please visit our website for up to date opening hours. A... Less than a mile away • Free • Recently updated
- Amersham Community Board**: If you are interested in working with the council and other organisations in your area to look at... Less than a mile away • Recently updated





## Working together for a cleaner, greener and safer Buckinghamshire

- Help Buckinghamshire Council's teams to identify local 'grot-spots' and areas to be tackled within your Community Board.
- Suggest which activities are needed to help spruce up your local parks / public spaces / high streets.
- Tell us what else, or what more, you'd like to see for future phases
- Consider what more can you do in the Board area to compliment this work – e.g. community litter picks? Environment action day? Flower bed planting and improvements?  
– the more activity, the greater the impact!
- Celebrate group, individual and organisation contributions to helping keep Buckinghamshire clean, green and safe

Please choose **one** option from the following list which comprises activities Buckinghamshire Council can bring to your community:

- Litter picking** – Tell us where you think there is an issue, and we can send some staff to clean up the area
- Street Sweeping** – A mechanical sweeper will visit the area to sweep the roads and kerbs, giving the area a spruce up
- Street nameplate cleaning** – Our team can clean the street name signs removing dirt, moss and traffic residue to freshen them up
- Road island cleaning** – Our team will clean the road islands in your area by removing dirt and debris and giving the bollards and signs a clean.
- Adopt a patch initiative** – for your local area/ park/ public space (please note there is a £430 charge to the Community Board for this option)

Please tell us the areas / public spaces in your community you think your chosen activity would work best in?



This page is intentionally left blank