



## Community Boards

# North West Chilterns Community Board agenda

Date: Tuesday 6 December 2022

Time: 6.30 pm (please register at 6.15 pm)

Venue: The Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, HP27 ODP

### **BC Councillors:**

M Walsh (Chairman), S Adoh, M Angell, S Broadbent, R Carington, D Carroll, C Etholen (Vice-Chairman), G Hall, C Harriss, D Hayday, O Hayday, M Hussain, M Smith, A Turner and P Turner

### **Representatives of the following town and parish councils:**

Bledlow-cum-Saunderton, Bradenham, Downley, Ellesborough, Great and Little Hampden, Great and Little Kimble, Hughenden, Lacey Green, Longwick-cum-Ilmer, Piddington and Wheeler End, Princes Risborough, Radnage, Stokenchurch and West Wycombe.

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: Jackie Binning (Community Board Co-ordinator) [jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or telephone 07816 118011.

### **Questions for the Chairman**

If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Binning, as above, by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. This will allow our Chairman, Councillor Matthew Walsh, to prepare.

We look forward to seeing you at our Community Board meeting.

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>The Chairman's Welcome</b>	<b>18:30</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>18:35</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Notes of the last meeting</b> To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2022.		<b>3 - 10</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>The former Molins site in Saunderton</b> A presentation will be provided by the agents and contractors acting on behalf of the owners of the former Molins site in Saunderton:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rees Westley and Chris den Heijer, BCS Utilities</li> <li>• Dave Burton and David Gaughan, JSM Group</li> </ul>	<b>18:40</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Board Updates</b> The agenda pack includes the following papers:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action Groups briefing reports – to be presented by the Chairman, Councillor Matthew Walsh.</li> <li>• Funding applications and 2022/23 budget – to be presented by Jackie Binning, Community Board Co-ordinator.</li> <li>• Buckinghamshire Council Update – to be presented by Sophie Payne, Community Board Champion/Service Director, Culture, Sport and Leisure.</li> </ul>	<b>19:45</b>	<b>11 - 32</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Community Matters</b> To be presented by the Chairman, Councillor Matthew Walsh.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question time: to respond to questions received.</li> </ul> <p>The link to live countywide and local consultations on the Your Voice page of Buckinghamshire Council's website is included for information:  <a href="#">Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space</a></p>	<b>19:55</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Date of the next meeting</b> Tuesday 7 February 2023	<b>20:00</b>	



## North West Chilterns Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the North West Chilterns Community Board held on Wednesday 27 July 2022 in The Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, HP27 0DP, commencing at 6.30 pm and concluding at 8.25 pm.

### **BC Councillors present**

M Walsh (Chairman), S Broadbent, D Carroll, C Etholen (Vice-Chairman), G Hall and A Turner

### **Town/Parish Councils and other organisations present**

S Henson (clerk) and Cllr V Smith (West Wycombe Parish Council (PC)), Cllr K Butler (Great and Little Hampden PC), Cllr S Breese (Bledlow cum Saunderton PC), Cllr C Davies (Lacey Green PC), Cllr V McPherson and Cllr J Rogers (Longwick cum Ilmer PC), Cllr J Armshaw (Hughenden PC) and H Holman (Ellesborough PC).

### **Others in attendance**

J Binning (Buckinghamshire Council), S Taylor (Buckinghamshire Council) and S Payne (Buckinghamshire Council) C Courtney, L Dowson, P Spence and J Stevens.

## Agenda Item

### **1 Chairman's Introduction**

The Chairman, Councillor Matthew Walsh, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2 Appointment of Vice Chairman**

The Chairman announced that Councillor Carl Etholen would continue as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

### **3 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Buckinghamshire Councillors Robert Carrington, Melanie Smith, Shade Adoh [and Darren Hayday]; Councillor Catherine Campbell, Princes Risborough Town Council; Councillor Simon Cope, West Wycombe Parish Council (PC); Councillor James Cripps, Great and Little Kimble PC; Councillor Stan Jones, Hughenden PC [and Councillor Wendy Monroe-West, Downley PC and Hilda Stearn, Hughenden Street Association].

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Steve Broadbent declared he was a member of the Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership Board.

## 5 **Notes of the last meeting**

It was noted that under the list of members present, it should read 'Cllr J Cripps (Great and Little **Kimble** Parish Council').

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022 were **agreed** as an accurate record subject to the amendment mentioned above.

## 6 **Visit Buckinghamshire**

Lucy Dowson, Tourism Development Manager, Visit Buckinghamshire, provided a presentation, appended to the minutes. Lucy explained that the aim of the project was to boost the visitor economy in Buckinghamshire through promotion and working in partnership with local organisations and businesses by providing business support and advice to help businesses grow, thus increasing jobs. Raising the profile of Buckinghamshire would encourage people to visit, stay longer and spend more. The [Visit Buckinghamshire](#) website received over 30,000 visits per month and provided businesses the opportunity to promote themselves locally, nationally and internationally. The majority of the web page visits were to the 'What's On' page; there was also an active social media presence and access to an online booking system.

The North West Chilterns Visitor Economy Project provided enhanced marketing and promotional support for the area via the Visit Bucks channels. The project started at the beginning of May 2022 with a team of two working one day a week. To date, the team had engaged with 40 businesses and provided various types of support and a considerable amount of marketing.

There were challenges for businesses as footfall had reduced since the pandemic and there were concerns about the cost of living effect on businesses; there were also difficulties in finding staff which was hampering recovery.

The project would continue until October 2022 and aimed to address the lack of manpower and provide support. A fly drop was being carried out to businesses to raise awareness, along with engagement on social media to signpost businesses to Visit Bucks. There was also a networking event on 15 September 2022 at Orchard View Farm, Aylesbury from 5.30-7.30 pm.

The Chairman thanked Lucy for her presentation.

## 7 **Action Groups (reports for each group included in the agenda pack)**

The Chairman emphasised that the action groups were a massive part of the success of the Community Board and thanked the Chairs of the four groups. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Action Group chairs met with Sophie Payne, Community Board Lead Officer, and Jackie Binning, Community Board Manager, each month to discuss the applications/progress. The Chairman highlighted some of the achievements of each group and confirmed that the priorities would remain the same as last year. The following key points were raised:

- Councillor Steve Broadbent, Cabinet Member for Transport, BC, requested that the EV charger scheme be promoted by the Community Board, Parish Councils and Town Council.
- Councillor David Carroll stressed the importance of the parish councils being involved with the action groups; Jackie Binning agreed to make further contact with each of the parish and town councils.

**Action: Jackie Binning**

## **8 Community Board Updates**

### **Funding Update**

Jackie Binning, Community Board Manager, provided a presentation appended to the minutes and advised the CB of the current budget position and applications received as of 18 July 2022. Jackie stated that the CB was able to carry forward £37,500 for the Highway Scheme Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) which had been submitted; if approved, the remaining budget would be £60,080.

**Resolved:** The Community Board members **agreed** to carry forward £37,500 for the Highways Schemes.

It was highlighted that a PID had been submitted in the previous year and that a feasibility study had been carried out. In response to a query on whether it would still stand, Councillor Broadbent explained that all the schemes and feasibility studies would remain on the books and the new contractor would review all the PIDs. A Transport for Bucks (TfB) stakeholder conference was being held in October 2022 and a full update would be provided to CBs at the appropriate time. The Chairman stated he would raise the issue with the Cabinet Member for Communities.

**Action: The Chairman**

### **Small grants' procedure**

The small grants procedure covered projects up to £1,000 and adhered to similar criteria and policies as other funding applications. Approval was carried out by email and there was a quicker turnaround provided the correct information was provided. The Chairman was keen to distribute the funding as widely as possible and asked the CB members to pass on Jackie's details to any interested parties ([Jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk), 07816 118011).

In response to a query on whether there was a limit to the amount of funding used under the small grants procedure; the Chairman advised that he wanted to see grass root schemes supported and that the number of applications would be monitored. Jackie stated she would find out if it was possible for an organisation to submit more than one application under the small grants' procedure.

**Action: Jackie Binning**

### **Community Board Action Plan**

Jackie highlighted that the action plan on the [North West Chilterns website](#) was a live document and was updated regularly.

## 9 Community Matters

### Former Molins site, Haw Lane, Saunderton

Sharon Henson, clerk, and Councillor Vicki Smith, West Wycombe PC, raised the issue regarding the volume of traffic passing through West Wycombe High Street; part of the traffic was from the former Molins site demolition works and part was due to High Speed Rail 2 (HS2) rail works. There had been concern that lorries were frequently overloaded and uncovered, however, this situation had improved recently. Lorries were often driving too fast and had been seen mounting pavements and residents along the Bradenham Road had been affected by chalk dust. The Molins site application was dated 2008; the figures and policies were out of date and the PC had been unaware of the impact it would have on the area. The PC had been told that no planning breaches had occurred even though the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) stated that there would be a maximum of 12 arrivals/departures per hour. However, the volume of traffic was considerably higher (approximately 1500 per day) and was having a huge impact. The demolition was likely to last until the end of August 2022 and the new facility would take four to five years to build resulting in some degree of noise and extra traffic.

Rosie Tunnard, Highways Community Liaison Manager, had visited the site on 27 July 2022. It had been a positive meeting with the site manager who had confirmed all vehicle drivers had been briefed on safety and checks were being made. Road sweeping would continue at various locations. It was agreed that direct contact would be made between the Local Area Technician (LAT) and the manager/site team. Damage to the verge and carriageway on Haw Lane were discussed and no vehicles would be driven through West Wycombe. Cllr Carl Etholen agreed to forward the report to the Bledlow-cum-Saunderton PC clerk for information.

**Action: Councillor Carl Etholen**

It was acknowledged that there were several areas of concern and photographic evidence stating the date and time was required and should be sent to the Chairman.

**Action: All/Parish and Town Councils**

Councillor Broadbent stated that the HS2 and East West Rail projects were devastating the road network. The road network was constantly monitored and a number of failed road surfaces would be repaired this year e.g., Nash Lee Lane/North Lee Lane. Unfortunately, HS2 had powers under their own act but BC would continue to do everything they could to improve the situation. Steve encouraged residents to use the HS2 enquiry mailbox ([hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)) or to contact the HS2 team at BC regarding vehicle concerns ([EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)).

Further points were made regarding involving DVSA with potential contraventions and also about ensuring A4010 footway and cycleway was swept clear of chalk and debris as part of road sweeping.

The following key points were raised in discussion:

- Only the conditions laid out in the planning permission were able to be enforced.
- Weight limits could only be imposed by obtaining a traffic order. However, it had been agreed that lorries would not be driven through West Wycombe.
- There should be a traffic management plan which needed to be adhered to.
- The Chairman agreed to make the Local Area Police Commander aware of the situation.

**Action: The Chairman**

- It was agreed that more communication was required to local residents and it was suggested that the developer shared their plans.

**Action: Jackie Binning**

- Could TfB arrange for 'slow, lorries turning' signs to be put in place?

#### **Petition: Safety Crossing, Naphill**

Jim Stevens, Chairman of Transport and Road Issues Action Group, started by inviting new members to join the action group; the next meeting was on 3 August 2022.

Jim provided a presentation, appended to the minutes. In summary, the ePetition had been submitted in March 2022 and had received 135 signatures. A report had been written by the BC officers and the next steps were being recommended to the CB for approval. A number of photos were shown and Jim provided an overview of the officer recommendations which were supported by the action group. There had only been one accident, which was in 2014, and this fact had driven the decision that it was not a core funding priority for BC. Jim ran through the main points of BC's report and advised that a relief school crossing patroller had been recruited [Immediate action 1] and parents would be notified if a school crossing officer was not available [Immediate action 2].

There were three BC officer recommendations which the action group supported:

- To note their report and the steps BC officers were proposing to take.
- North West Chilterns CB to consider funding feasibility work to establish the technical need and type of formal crossing.
- The school to develop a School Travel Plan (including pedestrian safety initiatives) with BC officers' support.

The action group also recommended 8 immediate (two of these had been completed) and 2 medium term actions (these might become less pressing if actions 1-8 were completed).

#### **Immediate Actions:**

1. Appointing a Relief SC Patroller must be a top priority - **completed**.
2. It was vitally important to continue email notifications to parents (via school)

about SC Patroller absences - **completed**.

3. BC officers to follow up with the Headteacher BC's offer to support the development of a School Travel Plan (STP).
4. Collect walk to school route data as part of the STP.
5. Erect new road safety banners prior to Sept term.
6. Erect additional banners in more prominent locations prior to September.
7. Remove foliage blocking existing signs / yellow flashing lights.
8. Consider the application of red road surfacing at the SCP location.

#### **Feasibility Work:**

9. Third party funding should be investigated now (Clappins Lane development, RAF Naphill).
10. Community Board funding could only be considered from 2024/25.

Steven Broadbent commented that the work in response to the petition carried out by his officers and Transport and Road Issues Action Group could be used as a model at other school crossing patroller sites across Buckinghamshire.

**Resolved:** The Community Board Members **agreed** to support the immediate actions and feasibility work actions listed above.

#### **Buckinghamshire Council Update**

Sophie Payne highlighted the following points:

- Ukrainian guests were still arriving and further help was needed – find out more [here](#).
- Cost of living increase – information was available on the [Helping Hand Scheme](#) which could provide support with food, bills and finances.
- There was a [Holiday Activities and Food](#) (HAF) programme in many local schools, including Princes Risborough School.
- Those who were eligible for a Council Tax rebate and paid by direct debit had received their rebate. Individuals who paid by another method could provide their bank details until 1 August. After this date, all households who had not claimed their rebate would receive a £150.00 voucher instead. There was also an additional discretionary £25.00 Helping Hand top up for those on specific benefits.
- Missed Bin Collections – the position was improving gradually but the heatwave had caused further issues. The garden waste subscription arrangements had been pushed back to September 2022 but people were encouraged to sign up now. Following a query from West Wycombe PC who had garden waste sacks rather than a bin, it was confirmed that further communications would be issued. Three sacks would be delivered and stickers would be issued for sacks and bins to show proof of payment.
- The County Show was being held on 1 September 2022 and the CBs would have a stall.
- The [Bucks Online Directory](#) publicised local community events and anyone was able to add information for free.



**Question Time**

No questions had been submitted.

Jackie Binning reminded everyone that BC consultations and surveys could be viewed at <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/>.

**10 Date of the next meeting**

1 November 2022

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**North West Chilterns Community Board  
Community Resilience Action Group  
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Purpose:** This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**Priority Objectives:** The group continue to look at the viewpoints of young and older people and crime and anti-social behaviour themes and maintain their focus on:

- Road safety around antisocial behaviour (this may at times link with the Transport and Road Issues Action Group).
- Drug issues within County lines, drug trafficking in rural and urban areas.
- Matters around exploitation, including domestic violence, modern slavery, young person's grooming, and school children used as drug runners or mules.
- Solutions around coms and scams.
- Matters around rural crime. Farms or small holdings having machinery or fuel stolen.
- Training and educating young people who are at risk of offending/reoffending.
- Issues around social isolation and loneliness.
- Issues for young children from deprived families.
- Any ad hoc funding application in relation to Community Resilience.

**Action Group – works carried out:** Meetings are held every two to three months, the last one was held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The group discussed their progress on a number of project initiatives which are as follows:

- **Projects around disability:** As confirmed during the last meeting, a site visit was planned at Lindengate to discuss the groups proposals for walking in the countryside during the different seasons, which could be enjoyed by young and older people, especially those who suffer with loneliness or vulnerability.

A meeting was held with Lindengate on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022, and although there was an initial interest, no proposals came to fruition. The Chair of this Action Group and the community board manager (CBM) therefore met with Hughenden Manor on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 who stated they would very much like to work with the Community Board.

Hughenden Manor are currently very busy with Christmas but have said they would contact us early next year to discuss a formal project proposal. This is an exciting venture which potentially allows us to fulfil our aims in walking in nature, and also provides an opportunity to work with a number of volunteers who have a huge amount of experience in walking in the grounds of Hughenden Manor.

- **Grow to Give:** As stated in previous reports, Orchard View Farm have agreed that the Community Board can have a piece of land to grow fruit and vegetables. This initiative is to grow food to give to families in hardship and food banks etc. and to sell some of the produce to put back in the land to make it sustainable.

A meeting was had between the Chair, CBM and the owner of Orchard View Farm on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022. It was agreed that the pigs will now be put on the land to eat the overgrown vegetation. In the meantime, contact will be made with various outlets to obtain tools, chicken wire, fence posts and seeds etc. in readiness for commencing work on the land around early February 2023.

- **Projects around Knife crime:** Four films were produced by children and young people in July 2022, and the website and films were shared with all schools and appropriate groups in the North West Chilterns on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

The Community Safety team at Buckinghamshire Council also contributed to funding this project and have also forwarded to Thames Valley Police and other relevant organisations.

- **Bench project:** The aim of this project is to celebrate the work of care workers during the Covid period. All Parish Council's have been asked if they would like a bench (subject to Community Board approval) and the list with bench locations is near completion. It is hoped this will be ready to go through the funding team shortly at Buckinghamshire Council.
- **Horse Therapy:** The Chairman of this Action Group has contacted the Horses Trust in Speen regarding therapy for those individuals that require help and understanding, where they will get involved in activities with horses to promote human physical and mental health.

It is hoped that a meeting will be arranged before the end of November 2022.

- **North West Chilterns Community Board – Annual Event - Party in the Park:** Meetings continue to be held by the Task and Finish group to organise this event. Note: this event will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at Wades Park, Princes Risborough.

Various community organisation's (including local dance groups, singers etc.), our local Police and Fire and Rescue Teams, plus local businesses have been contacted and invited to have a stand. "Save the Date" invitations have also been sent.

Furthermore, schools in the North West Chilterns will be invited in January 2023 to design a theme for our event. The winning design will be placed on our posters and banners which will be used as part of our comms campaign to promote the event and the Community Board.

**Chairman: Cllr Valerie McPherson BEM**

**North West Chilterns Community Board**  
**Environmental and Climate Change Action Group**  
**Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 6th December 2022**

**Purpose:** This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**Priority Objectives:** The Action Group's priority objectives are to seek and support schemes that have a sustainable and lasting effect on the North West Chilterns area, improve the built or rural environment, reduce the impacts and increase awareness of climate change, and reverse environmental damage. Additionally, the Action Group seeks to help achieve the Council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.

**Action Group:** The Action Group continues to aim to meet bi-monthly; the last meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022. Its agendas cover a mix of policy, strategic and fundraising related matters, many of which have been delegated to the group by the Community Board or raised by local councils, the public or by members of the group.

**Recent work has included:**

- Heard from Cllr Southworth on the Communi-tree Project in Chesham who shared advice on tree planting in verges and how they achieved the project.
- Continuing to identify suitable locations with Town and Parish Council's for tree planting in streets and public spaces.
- Continuing to link in with Buckinghamshire Community Energy (BCE) on a number of projects.
- Supporting Stokenchurch Scout and Guide HQ and the Princes Centre in their projects to install solar panels.
- Encouraging schemes looking at Wildflower planting in meadows and brownfield sites
- Continue to look at options to install Electric Vehicle charging points in public areas.
- Supporting joint community planning and community resilience through planned education programmes.

**Projects planned and actions going forward**

- Liaising with the Chiltern Society on the restoration work of the Whiteleaf Cross and car park.
- Now looking expanding this potential joint project with Wycombe CB to implement Bee Squared to a number of neighboring community boards. A meeting is scheduled with community boards and other interested partners to discuss ways forward.
- Will invite the chair of the Transport and Road Issues Action Group to our December meeting to look at a combined work on verge cutting and wildflower planting
- The Chiltern Society hedgerow project has been prepared and we are now waiting on the funding application.

- Compiled a spreadsheet of potential areas and objectives where it was felt the subgroup could encourage applications in. This has led to conversations with organisations such as the Bucks Fungus group and BBOWT.
- Using the BCE as our preferred partner we prepared a proposed Public Awareness Energy Efficiency Campaign for the North West Chilterns after liaising with Buckinghamshire Council. The recommendation report for the funding application was approved by the Community Board in November 2022.

**Chairman: Cllr Robert Carington**

**North West Chilterns Community Board**  
**Economic Regeneration Action Group**  
**Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Purpose:** This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**Priority Objectives:** The Action Group continue with their objectives which are as follows:

- To seek schemes and initiatives that support local businesses (urban and rural).
- To prioritise schemes and initiatives that help achieve the Council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.
- To consider any adhoc application in regards to Economic Regeneration.

**Action Group:** The group continue to meet regularly; the last meeting being held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Recent work and projects planned and/or discussed have included:

- **Risborough Area Community Bus (RACB):** As a reminder - due to covid, the Bus needed to attract new passengers and indeed a younger age profile to provide longevity to both the bus operation and town centre business viability. The Community Board awarded funding in June 2022 to deliver a social media campaign over a three month period to attract younger passengers.

This campaign is now complete and RACB recently provided an end of project evaluation for the action group to review – this will be carried out shortly.

- **Visit Buckinghamshire (VB) – Marketing and Promoting “Local”:** The Community Board awarded funding to VB in December 2021 to deliver a project which aimed to help the recovery and rebuilding of the local visitor economy. The project commenced in May 2022.

As part of this project an event was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at Orchard View Farm where local businesses were invited to learn more about this project and to allow some networking between them. A high number of businesses attended and the occasion proved to be very successful.

The project is now complete and we are waiting for an end of project evaluation which we are expecting soon.

- Due to the shortage of skilled labour and staff, the action group would like to arrange a seminar where local businesses and schools could attend to discuss their issues and concerns and to signpost them to tools and resources where help can be found. Further work/investigation to be carried out.
- The action group will continue to explore other sources of data that evidence the needs of local business, organisations and individuals, and to continue research into other possible project opportunities.

**Chairman: Cllr Matthew Walsh**

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**Community Board – North West Chilterns  
Transport and Road Issues Action Group  
Briefing Report for the Community Board – 6 December 2022**

**Purpose:** This report provides a very brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**Meetings:** The Action Group is local authority representatives and residents from across the NWC area. One new member joined the Group since July. The Group meets monthly (virtually).

**Priority Objectives:** The Group has ten priority objectives and all are discussed at each meeting in the context of specific local transport/road issues or broader transport policy matters.

**Outputs from the Action Group:** Most, if not all, of the outputs from the Group's discussions require action and/or input from Buckinghamshire Council. The Group is becoming increasingly concerned with slow or no responses from Buckinghamshire Council and that its voice is not being heard.

**Snapshot of recent work:**

- The Group received a presentation on Disabilities and Transport from Ann Frye OBE, who is a National and International Expert, Consultant and Government Advisor on this subject. Ann's presentation and the discussion that followed gave the Group an insight into disabilities legislation and the vast range of everyday problems that people with disabilities face when using the transport system. It was of concern to the Action Group that despite the legislation, these problems still exist and are still being created. The Group will do its best to raise the profile of addressing this problem.
- The Group has produced a draft, aspirational Local Cycling and Walking and Plan for the NWC area to support the Council's County-wide Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). The Group hopes to issue its draft plan to all Community Board Members for input to help develop the final version. It is hoped to do this within the next month.
- The Action Group has responded to the draft High Wycombe Town Transport Strategy Public Consultation, which includes the draft High Wycombe Town LCWIP. The Group made seven substantive comments, which it hopes will result in major changes to both strategies.

**Actions going forward:**

- Meet with Arriva and School Transport bus representatives about bus idling engines.
- Consider a 'turn off your engine off when stationary' initiative in Stokenchurch.
- Maintain the focus on the locally inspired A4010 Strategy.
- Consider transport and accessibility issues in Princes Risborough High Street.

**Chairman:** Jim Stevens

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## Funding Summary Report North West Chilterns Community Board 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022

This paper provides a summary of the funding applications received since the start of the budget year (2022/23).

### Community Board Budget Overview

The table below details the current budget position for the North West Chilterns Community Board (NWC CB). This includes all Highways schemes that are to be carried forward to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval).

Community Board Fund 2022/23	Total Project Costs as at 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Funding allocated to date (Funding approved only)	Remaining budget as at 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
£125,177	£229,181	£69,985	£55,192

**Note:** The NWC CB have a number of “pending” applications that are still going through the funding process, amounting to the total sum of £17,445.

### Funding Applications Status Summary

Funding applications that have been received and reviewed as part of the funding process are as detailed below.

Funding applications received between 1 <sup>st</sup> April to 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022				
Organisation	Project title and description	Amount of funding requested from Community Board	Amount of contributory funding	Community Board funding recommendation
Wycombe Refugee Partnership (multi board project)	Food Vouchers, Hardship and Access Fund	£7,000	£0	Approved – carried forward from 2021/22. £7,000 allocated as Government food vouchers not available – as agreed last year.

**Funding applications received between 1<sup>st</sup> April to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project title and description</b>	<b>Amount of funding requested from Community Board</b>	<b>Amount of contributory funding</b>	<b>Community Board funding recommendation</b>
Training2Care	Dementia Virtual Bus Tour <b>(multi board)</b>	£880	£84	Approved
Bledlow Village Cricket Club	Club refurbishment (BC Purchase Order 2)	£9,055	£1,894	Approved - 2021/22 PO 1 – 2021/22 £895 PO 2 – 2022/23 £9,055
Wycombe Mind	Free Space project <b>(multi board)</b>	£2,000	£3,000	Approved
Hughenden Street Association	Comms tools	£635	£0	Approved
Risborough Area Community Bus	Social Media Campaign	£1,013	£337	Approved
Stokenchurch Youth Group	Supply of 24 t-shirts	£214	£0	Approved
UK Astronomy	Bringing the skies to you <b>(multi board)</b>	£1,015	£0	Approved
Risborough Scout and Guide Centre Scout Hut	Asbestos removal	£5,300	£5,488	Approved
Lighthouse Princes Risborough	Children’s Holiday Club	£1,500	£0	Approved
Longwick cum Ilmer Parish Council	Highways scheme (2021/22): Toll Bar Corner – cost for Road Closure	£1,874	£0	Approved
Great and Little Kimble Parish Council	Highways scheme: Feasibility Study (s106 funding being provided - £11,163)	£1,721	£1,721	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
Great and Little Kimble Parish Council	Highways scheme: Kimble School - Feasibility Study	£3,885	£3,885	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)

**Funding applications received between 1<sup>st</sup> April to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project title and description</b>	<b>Amount of funding requested from Community Board</b>	<b>Amount of contributory funding</b>	<b>Community Board funding recommendation</b>
Great and Little Kimble Parish Council	Highways scheme: Marsh Lane – Feasibility Study	£2,210	£2,210	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
Hughenden Parish Council	Bollards/road edge markings	£5,625	£5,625	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
Lacey Green Parish Council	HGV Signs – Feasibility Study	£3,752	£3,752	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
Lacey Green Parish Council	The White House - Feasibility Study	£5,717	5,717	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
West Wycombe Parish Council	Lining work	£8,012	£8,012	Agreed at NWC CB meeting on 27.07.22 to c/f to 2023/24 (subject to Cabinet approval)
Wycombe District Dementia Action	Comms Tools <b>(multi board)</b>	£775	£450	Approved
Community Centre, Studley Green	New doors and alarm system	£2,500	£4,160	Approved
Longwick cum Ilmer Parish Council	Highway scheme (2021/22): Toll Bar Corner – increase in cost for red friction road surface	£3,363	£0	Approved

**Funding applications received between 1<sup>st</sup> April to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project title and description</b>	<b>Amount of funding requested from Community Board</b>	<b>Amount of contributory funding</b>	<b>Community Board funding recommendation</b>
Stokenchurch Parish Council	Halloween Scavenger Hunt <i>(Small Grant)</i>	£599	£0	Approved
Buckinghamshire Community Energy	Public Awareness Energy Efficiency Campaign for the NWC. <i>(Environment &amp; Climate Change Action Group initiative)</i>	£1,340	£0	Approved
Princes Risborough Charity	Christmas Hampers	£2,000	1,100	Pending
Hughenden Valley Residents Association	Christmas Goodie Bags <i>(Small Grant)</i>	£445	£0	Pending
Monks Risborough Parochial Charity	Lily Bottom Lane Allotments	£15,000	£4,008	Pending
Princes Risborough Town Council (PRTC)	Wades Centre Decarbonisation & Energy Use Reduction Project	£490	£0	Was not supported by BC's funding panel – see note below**.

\*\*Buckinghamshire Council (BC) received a number of similar funding applications so it was not supported on this basis. However, the funding panel advised that they would be happy for PRTC to apply for funding for the agreed option from their feasibility study.



## **An update for Community Boards from Buckinghamshire Council Late Summer (September 2022)**

**Buckinghamshire Council Update  
September 2022**

### **Help in these difficult times**

As we move into autumn there's one issue above all others that stands out and that, of course, is the current cost of living pressures, especially where energy and food bills are concerned.

This is impacting everyone; businesses, residents and particularly those who are already struggling. For some households the prospect of what winter will bring is extremely worrying. Many people are in need now and want to know what extra support is coming in the winter months.

The council is taking a range of actions to help residents with the cost of living and it's a package of support that will continue to develop over the coming months.

The community boards have a critical role to play in this, both in helping to identify areas of need and supporting the provision of help. Work is already underhand looking at how best boards where it is appropriate can help with this work.

### **Support available to those who need it:**

#### **Helping Hand**

The council's Helping Hand team offers advice, help and information to people who need it, including financial help to cover the food and energy costs to households in crisis, as well as helping with paying for other essentials like sanitary items and nappies. The team is available to help individuals or families in need, those on low incomes and those who are experiencing a financial emergency or crisis.

Our Helping Hand programme provides support to local individuals and families who are experiencing financial hardship. They can call the team on 01296 531 151 or use the [online contact form](#). You can read more about the help available on the [dedicated section of our website](#).

The Helping Hand team is issuing Post Office vouchers to some 8,000 pensioners in Buckinghamshire who are in receipt of Council Tax reduction or who have previously been supported by Helping Hand; this will ensure there is support available to those who need it most.

### **‘Welcoming Spaces’**

We will be joining forces with other organisations across Buckinghamshire to create a network of welcoming spaces this winter, to assist when the weather turns colder.

Starting with council libraries, these locations will provide a warm, welcoming and supportive space for anyone who needs it. Anyone who comes in from the cold will be welcomed and will be guaranteed respect, dignity and warmth; the aim is to offer a friendly ear and, overall, to create places that help people save on their heating bills and that also offer advice and support. This is an example of an area where community boards can play a key role in working within their communities to identify potential welcoming spaces and help set them up.

### **Information and advice**

Our fantastic network of volunteer groups and charity organisations plays a vital role in providing community support and specialist advice and information. We have created a [‘Cost of Living’ section on our website](#) to make it easier to find advice and information. You can also search our [Family Information Service website](#) for more information on the wider support and advice available to any households that need it.

There are a number of great community projects that offer help in different ways. For example, take a look at the [‘Grow It, Cook It, Eat It’ project](#) that the council supports and we have already seen being developed through community boards. This includes a range of initiatives that help with the cost of food, ensure food isn’t wasted and has a number of health and environmental benefits. Local initiatives like this play a vital part in the overall general support available to residents who need a helping hand.

There is also the support on offer from central government this winter. This is the current package:

- Eligible residents in receipt of disability benefits will receive a £150 cost of living payment from 20 September.
- All households in Great Britain will receive a £400 discount on their electricity bills this winter, applied in six monthly instalments, automatically coming off bills, starting in October.
- In addition to this, households on means tested benefits including Universal Credit, Pension Credit and Tax Credits will receive a Cost of Living payment of £650 this year.

**You can find out more about these payments on the government’s website [here](#) and access wider information about the overall support available to households via [their website](#) – this contains information on transport and childcare costs too.**



In addition, the websites of the main energy providers contain valuable tips about how to save energy in the home.

## **Highways – a new contract and what it means for community boards**

Maintaining and improving the roads in the county is one of the issues that matter most to residents and is a top priority for Buckinghamshire Council.

As you will be aware, Buckinghamshire Council will be starting new highways contracts in April next year and this will have an impact on community board projects currently in the pipeline. It is also an opportunity to build in a delivery model with community boards in mind.

### **The current situation**

Across all the community boards there are currently about 58 projects which have been agreed and funding committed but are yet to be completed by the outgoing contractor (Transport for Bucks, TfB). The status of these approved projects is as follows:

- 22 projects are rated Green and are scheduled to be completed by the end of March next year
- 10 projects have been rated as Amber and delivered to a gateway stage ready for the new contractor to take forward eg. design, feasibility
- 26 projects are rated as Red and are under review but may not be started at all because of their complexity or the time to implement overlaps with the change in Highway's service provider.

All Amber and Red projects continue to be reviewed with TFB to determine if any can be delivered under the current contract by March 2023. Updates will be provided if the situation changes. Furthermore, the Highways service will work closely with our new service provider to determine if they are able to deliver any amber and red projects prior to the contract start date in April 2023.

There are also about 55 projects that have been proposed with PIDs drafted for which no decision to proceed has yet been taken. These projects will not be taken forward until the new contract has started to ensure that they are priced correctly by the new service provider and firm timescales can be agreed for implementation.

Boards can still reserve funding for these schemes from the current 2022/23 budget, but the final prices will need to be confirmed with our new service provider. You can also continue to discuss highways priorities and solutions.

Balfour Beatty Living Places has already been awarded the new highways maintenance contract and the new consultancy contractor will be announced in late September. The council will be working with the new contractors and outgoing contractors Ringway Jacobs

to ensure a smooth transition to the new arrangements under the name Buckinghamshire Highways.

### **Looking Forward**

As advised already, given the changes to the highway service, Boards should not accept any additional applications highway schemes in 2022/23 and no further projects should be submitted for consideration for 2023/24. Community Boards will be consulted on the development of a new protocol and process for Highway schemes during the transition to the new contract ready for April 23, please therefore keep any new schemes on hold pending the new process for taking these forward.

The new highways working arrangement will include a community-based design delivery model for small schemes specifically for Community Boards to develop their local highway schemes. We will also provide greater clarification on which highway schemes are appropriate for Community Board to bring forward.

Additionally, and to further help support Community Boards, a 'menu of options' will be developed for small highways schemes that show the indicative prices and implementation timescales for a range of suitable small local highways schemes to better inform the Boards in decision making.

Any partners currently with a live scheme on the RAG list will continue to receive communication from the TfB/project technician and their Community Board Manager, and community boards, Highways and TfB will continue to work closely during the transition.

While we appreciate the delay to delivering schemes will be disappointing, the new approach being adopted does highlight the commitment to the work of the Boards in delivering local highway improvements in the new contract.

## **Support for Ukrainian guests continues across the county – further help is still needed**

Arrivals from Ukraine are still coming into our county with 700 hosts now offering accommodation to over 1,200 Ukrainian guests.

We continue to work hard to make sure the families can access schooling, work, finance, practical items, English language lessons and emotional support through our Helping Hand for Ukraine scheme – further details at [A Helping Hand for Ukraine | Buckinghamshire Council](#).

We recognised the significance of Ukraine Independence Day (24 August) as everyone reflected on their personal journey and loss. The summer break also brought the challenge of keeping our younger guests occupied and this year we offered free holiday activities and food on the HAF scheme and Boredom buster bags from our partners LEAP.

We also continue to work with our voluntary sector colleagues and local community groups, now with an eye on the new challenges coming up. We also have over 150 staff in sponsor liaison roles, in addition to their day jobs, who keep regular one-to-one contact with sponsor households.

We recognise that Ukraine families living in Buckinghamshire will be concerned about what happens when their current sponsorship arrangements come to an end. This is especially a concern for those families that have settled into communities and schools. In some locations, it will be challenging to find alternative accommodation locally due to a lack of availability and high housing costs. We want to help our guests from the Ukraine as much as we can and are looking at solutions which will require all tiers of government, the private and voluntary sector to work together. Options being considered include:

1. Extend with sponsor – If both parties are happy to stay together then once agreed the guests can continue living in the same area and keep their local support network.
2. Rematch with a new sponsor – The Council will help the guests rematch with a new sponsor home or the guests can find their own rematch, although this could mean they would need to move to a different area which would impact on their support networks including schools/employment.
3. Private rental – Guests can look at renting privately if they can afford this. High rents across the south east make finding affordable housing difficult for many. Some guests may be eligible for a Local Housing Allowance to help meet rental costs and we will help them find out if this support is available to them. The Council may also be able to help with a deposit guarantee and one month's rent upfront. Again this could mean guests having to move to a different area if there is no affordable private rental accommodation locally.
4. Social housing – All guests are eligible to apply to join the Council's housing register. However, there is a very high demand for social housing in Buckinghamshire, so depending on the type and size of property they are looking for, there is likely to be a long wait for a property.

On top of the housing issue, there is the cost of living crisis hitting us all – the impact on both hosts and guests is already evident so we are working with central Government to

make sure Bucks' residents' voices are heard; tangible, long-term solutions are found; and we can continue to support both our residents and our guests.

## **Waste and recycling missed bins and garden waste charges**

### **Missed bins**

Unfortunately, in some pockets of the former Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe district areas of Buckinghamshire, disruption as a result of re-organising waste rounds continues. Although on average 99.6% of bins are being collected successfully every day since the start of the reorganisation, there are still a significant number of bin collections being missed every week.

Our contractor Veolia continues to work at bringing service levels up to the standard that we expect. The council is continuing to hold Veolia to account for delivering greater progress and meeting the required standard and is closely monitoring the service.

We continue to ask any residents experiencing pockets of poor service to report missed bins on the council website ([www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/missed-bin](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/missed-bin)) as soon as they can.

### **Garden waste charges**

New garden waste subscription arrangements began on Monday 26 September. A campaign has been running to raise awareness of the change and the need to subscribe to the service to have garden waste collected from this date. The service is now a single chargeable 'opt-in' garden waste collection service, at a cost of £50 per bin per year (or reusable bags for properties not suitable for wheeled bins).

This means anyone who has previously received free collections of garden waste will now have to subscribe, paying an annual fee to continue receiving fortnightly kerbside garden waste collections from the council. Our household recycling sites continue to provide free disposal of garden waste for anyone not wanting to pay for the subscription service.

More information on how the service works can be found at [Buckinghamshire Council's Arrange a garden waste collection web pages](#).

## **New on-demand PickMeUp service for Wycombe**

Described as a cross between a bus and taxi service, a new 'demand responsive' service was launched by the council and Carousel on 27 September in the High Wycombe area as part of a pilot scheme funded by the Government's Rural Mobility Fund. The trial service will run for three years, with scope to run for longer if successful, and an Aylesbury pilot is due to launch later in the autumn.

Sitting under Carousel's 'PickMeUp' brand, the Wycombe pilot will serve several communities, including Booker, Daws Hill, Wooburn Green, Wycombe Marsh, Loudwater and Downley. These either have a limited bus service or a route which only serves part of the community. The PickMeUp service will also improve access to areas with steeper gradients.

Users will be able to book one of five fully accessible minibuses to collect them either directly from their home, or from one of the 500+ pickup points in the local area. Ideal for those who may not have access to a bus stop either by their home, or a service that operates direct to their desired destination, the DRT service is quick and easy to use for commuters, students, and people with accessibility issues.

Buses can be booked in advance of a trip via an app (through which passengers can also pay for tickets and track buses in real time) or by calling 01494 296021. Buses can be booked in advance, or on the day of travel, and will run from Monday to Friday, 6am-7pm. Journeys will only cost a little more than a local bus service – between £2 and £3.50 per trip depending on distance travelled, and concessionary bus passes will be accepted for free travel.

## **Community boards success at county show**

The county show was a fantastic success for the community boards, it was a great opportunity to reach a huge number of residents and also other organisations that we could network with in the future.

The main themes coming through were lack of activities for young people, better bus services including community buses, speeding and litter issues. In addition, we managed to sign up more residents to receive our newsletters.

In summary, it was a great event for us to attend.

## **Town and Parish Charter**

Buckinghamshire Council's Town & Parish Charter was agreed and published on our website in July. This charter is founded on our respect for all councils in Buckinghamshire as independent, democratically accountable bodies and has one simple aim – to articulate and demonstrate our commitment to working together to serve the people of Buckinghamshire.

Community boards have a great record of working with our local councils and this charter is essential reading – you can view it at [Town and Parish Charter | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## **Better enforcement for moving traffic offences**

Buckinghamshire Council is one of a handful of local authorities in England outside of London to have successfully applied for powers to enforce moving traffic offences (MTOs) that were previously only enforceable by the police. These offences are where drivers ignore restrictions in place at a location – for example driving through a no entry sign, making banned turns, entering a yellow box junction without a clear exit or driving on bus or taxi routes.

The new enforcement powers will make use of automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology at 14 locations across Bucks. The locations were listed as part of a consultation about support for the council's plan to apply for the powers from February to April 2022; they are places where restrictions have been in place already for some time for road safety reasons or to prevent traffic congestion.

The locations where cameras will start to be installed from December will be highlighted through council communications. Signage will be erected well in advance at the camera locations to give drivers plenty of notice of the enforcement powers.

The cabinet decision can be seen at

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=17388&x=1>

## **Local Heritage Listings**

Buckinghamshire Council is one of 22 local authorities to receive funding to develop a Local Heritage List as part of a national initiative to improve the provision and standard of locally held Lists of Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHA). The list seeks to identify locally significant assets and celebrate their contribution to local identity and character.

Developing this list provides a rare opportunity for Buckinghamshire residents to nominate important assets around the county that are not currently listed but that have significant heritage interest. By adding these heritage assets to a Local Heritage List we can ensure their local importance is recognised and taken into account in the planning process.

Once on the list, these assets become known as Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHAs). They differ from those sites that have statutory protection and national designations, such as Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens.

Working with a team of volunteers, we are currently assessing over 2,000 nominations ranging from mileposts, street art and open spaces to historic buildings, water mills and chapels. We intend to adopt a phase one local list this winter, with a phase two in 2023. For more information visit [Home - Buckinghamshire's Local Heritage List \(local-heritage-list.org.uk\)](https://local-heritage-list.org.uk) or email [localheritagelist@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:localheritagelist@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

## **Current and upcoming consultations**

### **Buckinghamshire Council consultations**

Current consultations and surveys from Buckinghamshire Council are available to view on our website <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/>

Where appropriate, we also list NHS consultations and surveys as well.

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