



Community Boards

South West Chilterns Community Board agenda

Date: Wednesday 16 November 2022

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Via MS Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

BC Councillors:

D Barnes (Chairman), A Collingwood, P Drayton, C Heap, D Johncock, S Kayani, N Marshall (Vice-Chairman), Z Mohammed, J Towns, M Turner, D Watson and S Wilson

Town/Parish Councils and other organisations:

Fawley Meeting
Great Marlow Parish Council
Hambleton Parish Council
Hedsor Meeting
Ibstone Parish Council
Lane End Parish Council
Little Marlow Parish Council
Marlow Town Council
Marlow Bottom Parish Council
Medmenham Parish Council
Turville Parish Council
Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council

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Councillors

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For further information please contact: Makyla Devlin (Community Board Co-ordinator) on 07932 240072, email Makyla.Devlin@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Item No	Item	Time	Page No
1	The Chairman's Welcome	18:30	
2	Apologies for Absence		
3	Declarations of interest		
4	Notes of the last meeting To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2022.		5 - 10
5	Buckinghamshire Council Public Health Update To be presented by Sarah Winchester, Public Health Consultant.	18:40	
6	An Introduction to Arc PCN and how networking might improve our community's health To be presented by Dr Penny MacDonald.	19:00	
7	Live Well, Stay Well To be presented by Hannah Blatchly.	19:15	
8	Scam Awareness To be presented by Aldo Simone, Trading Standards.	19:30	

9	<p>Community Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckinghamshire Council Update – to be presented by Steve Bambrick, Service Director and Community Board Champion. • Funding Update – to be presented by Makyla Devlin, Senior Community Board Co-ordinator. • Court Garden Leisure Centre Pool Liner – to be presented by Makyla Devlin. • Public Questions, received in advance, to be presented by the Chairman. • The Action Group updates are attached for information. 	19:45	11 - 26
10	<p>Date of the next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 8 February 2023 • Community Engagement Event – date TBC 		

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South West Chilterns Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the South West Chilterns Community Board held on Wednesday 13 July 2022 in Via MS Teams, commencing at 6.30 pm and concluding at 8.15 pm.

BC Councillors present

D Barnes (Chairman), A Collingwood, P Drayton, C Heap, N Marshall (Vice-Chairman), Z Mohammed, D Watson and S Wilson

Town/Parish Councils and other organisations present

A Bristow - Great Marlow Parish Council

Others in attendance

S Crawford (BC); M Devlin (Buckinghamshire Council (BC)); N Dicker (BC); O Elliot; A Foister; C Hawkes (BC); C Horn (Marlow Ukraine Collective (MUC); L Jeffries (BC); C Killington; A Leibowitz (MUC); J Loader (BC); D Munday (BC); A Onischen; T Orlova (Community Impact Bucks (CIB); J Sambrook; C Scott (CIB); A Taylor; J Wilson (Adult Learning) and S Xmazur

Agenda Item

1 The Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, Councillor Dominic Barnes, welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the topic of the meeting would be around Ukraine.

2 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman announced that Councillor Neil Marshall would continue as Vice-Chairman of the South West Chilterns Community Board for the ensuing year.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Liz Lorente, Transition Town Marlow; Geoff Pegg, Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association; Councillor Richard Scott, Marlow Town Council; Councillor Mark Turner, Buckinghamshire Council (BC) and Councillor David Johncock, (BC).

Note 1: Cllr Zahir Mohammed left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

4 Declarations of interest

The Chairman declared a personal interest and stated he was the Chairman of Marlow Round Table under item 8, Marlow Ukraine Collective Update.

5 Notes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2022 were **agreed** as an accurate record.

6 Helping Hand for Ukraine Programme Update

Claire Hawkes, Service Director, BC, provided a presentation, appended to the minutes, and explained that she was part of the Ukraine Response Team which involved volunteers and staff secondees who supported the Homes for Ukraine scheme. The following was a summary and more detail was available on the slides.

Claire highlighted that BC was also supporting Afghanistan refugees and was mindful that there were some Ukrainian families on the Family Scheme Visas. The South West Chilterns area had the highest number of sponsors (60) and a map showed the areas with the highest number of Ukrainian children (High Wycombe). A Local Strategic Partnership Board had been formed early in the response to collaborate with a number of organisations such as the NHS, Thames Valley Police, Business and the voluntary sector. Several teams across the Council e.g., housing, education and Adult Learning were involved in the 'whole Council' approach. Approximately 150 staff had volunteered to be a Sponsor Liaison Officer and had been paired with a sponsor for one to one contact.

It was now month four and Bucks communities had shown fantastic support and community spirit. Particular thanks went to community groups such as Marlow Ukraine Collective and others offering support networks or drop ins for guests to socialise. Overall feedback had been positive, but BC was aware that some guests were experiencing challenges, which it recognised many Bucks residents faced e.g., transport, the benefit system and available housing. These were all being fed back to government task and finish groups weekly. A Temporary Sponsorship Scheme was in place for swift emergency 're-matching' and could appeal to people – anyone interested should contact ukrainesupport@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Claire stressed the need to put plans in place for the 'post 6 months' period and the importance of continuity being available where possible as children had settled in schools or communities. This would mean all tiers of government and the community working together to look at sustainable solutions. The project team had been extended to one year and two housing officers were being recruited as rental housing prices were high and creative solutions were required.

Nigel Dicker, Service Director for Housing, emphasised that there were 5,000 + on the housing list; it was about homelessness prevention and BC would support and respond as best they could but more help was needed from the Government.

Jacqueline Wilson, Principal, Adult Learning, provided information on the amount of English tuition which had been provided to the Ukrainian people. New venues had been set up in Lacey Green, Amersham and Beaconsfield and extra teaching staff would be recruited; classes would be offered in Marlow.

Debbie Munday, Admissions and Transport Manager, explained that the British and Ukrainian education schemes did not match and children were being put in slightly different year groups but children were grouped together where possible. The Fair Access Protocol enabled schools to go above their planned admission number; the Buckinghamshire School system had stepped up but had to treat the Ukrainian children the same as all other children, bearing in mind their circumstances.

Claire thanked everyone for their support. The following key points were raised in discussion.

- In response to being asked what advice should be given to new arrivals regarding schooling; Debbie advised it was not possible to guarantee a place for the start of term in September but stressed that the team would do the best they could. It was emphasised that this would also be an issue for any parent moving into the area. Head teachers could be contacted in an emergency but Debbie would need to ascertain if they were prepared to be contacted during the summer holidays.

Action: D Munday

- Any Ukrainian families who moved area would need to follow the same process as all other children to obtain a school place.
- Further work would be undertaken in collaboration with community groups to understand key needs going forwards, housing concerns and progress escalations.

Action: C Hawkes

The Chairman thanked Claire, Nigel, Jackie and Debbie for attending.

7 Representing a Hosting Family

Councillor Stuart Wilson introduced himself as a host and provided a presentation, appended to the minutes. Cllr Wilson stated he lived in Bourne End with access to public transport and had been hosting a family since 5th May 2022. The family consisted of the grandmother, mother and two daughters; the father was serving in the military in Ukraine. Only one family member spoke good English. Cllr Wilson advised that the Marlow Ukraine Collective had been really helpful; he had also had a small amount of interaction with BC and government departments. His observation from a host's point of view, was that the experience was humbling and gratifying, and one that he would repeat. His guests' desire to contribute to his household, society and work was phenomenal and they would be a new extended family for life. The Language apps had been a life saver, along with bus passes. Cllr Wilson felt he had provided support as a taxi service, financial consultant, employment consultant etc. What happened next was the big question. Marlow Ukraine Collective had been a pioneer and Cllr Wilson thanked them for their invaluable assistance.

The following key points were raised in discussion.

- Cllr Wilson was asked what he was expecting to happen next. Cllr Wilson advised that the Government FAQs stated that sponsors should give two

months' notice to BC if they intended to cease being part of the scheme. For those coming up to the cut off time, there were many issues associated with housing, moving schools, etc. which needed resolving and further information would be useful.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Wilson for being a sponsor and his presentation.

8 Marlow Ukraine Collective Update

Chris Horn and Ali Leibowitz, Marlow Ukraine Collective (MUC), provided a presentation, appended to the minutes. The MUC had been a success due to knowing what people needed and because other people had wanted to deliver. The [website](#) had been a great source of information. A number of Ukrainians had secured jobs; however, Ukrainians being hosted in Frieth were required to attend Reading Job Centre which was not an easy journey and hosts were constantly spinning plates to try to relieve the stress for the Ukrainians.

An event was held to welcome Ukrainian families to Marlow on 18 June 2022; positive feedback was received and Chris thanked Amanda Foister for donating Longridge for the day. The Rotary Club and Marlow Round Table also wanted to continue to help.

Ali highlighted the three big needs: clarity on school places/school transport, English lessons and what happened after six months. Ali emphasised that if the structures were improved, the hosts would be more likely to endure the situation. Unfortunately, there were no summer camps in place for children aged 14+. The South West Chilterns area had the biggest number of refugees but there was a lack of language provision and Ali had not heard about the four week summer school until this meeting. Transparency was required on how the funding process worked.

Chris thanked the SWC CB for listening and stated he would appreciate deeper conversations with other organisations. Chris recommended visiting the [website](#) for further information.

The Chairman advised that he was the local councillor for Frieth and was surprised that he not been informed that there were 50 guests in Frieth. The Chairman emphasised that there were three local councillors for the area and they were willing to help but stressed that they could not leap frog the system. The Chairman also confirmed that the councillors did receive briefings on the Scheme and it was explained that they were not provided specific information due to General Data Protection Regulations. Cllr Wilson confirmed that he had raised issues to Claire from a councillor and host perspective.

The Chairman thanked Chris and Ali for their presentation.

9 Buckinghamshire Ukraine Community Support Project

Tania Orlova and Cheryl Scott provided a presentation, appended to the minutes. Tania described herself as a 'bridge between two worlds', she was a refugee with an

eight year old son and was participating in many events and knew about what was being carried out in the communities. Tania had had to move eight times and was now looking for a new place to live as she needed to be independent. Sponsors were using their free time to help the Ukrainians and communities were helping each other. Community Impact Bucks (CIB) understood the top three problems – language, employment and housing and the [website](#) included information on how to find a volunteer and how the service worked.

Cheryl explained that there was also a Volunteer Interpreter Service with interpreters available for a community service (not to visit the Department for Work and Pensions). A form was available on the website to request an interpreter.

The Chairman thanked Tania and Cheryl for their presentation.

10 The Good Sides and Bad Sides of the Ukrainian Scheme

Sofia Xmazur presented the item and provided a presentation on behalf of Oksana Oganezov. Oksana had asked for feedback on the Ukrainian Scheme and the three main issues were education for teenagers aged 15+, Job Centre check-ins and free in-person English classes.

The Ukraine school system finished at age 17 but there was no information available on the difference between the UK and Ukrainian school systems and what was available.

Job Centre check-ins – Ukrainians received a £200 monthly payment but spent approximately £100 on a taxi for their weekly check-in at the job centre. There were communication difficulties at the job centre and it would be better for the Ukrainians to learn basic English before attending the job centre.

English classes with Ukrainian born tutors would be beneficial. Some Ukrainians did not possess the technical skills or equipment to use online resources. However, there was positive feedback on the sponsors, social support and kindergarten schools.

Sofia thanked everyone for the work being carried out. The Chairman thanked Sofia for her presentation.

11 Community Matters Buckinghamshire Council Update

Lloyd Jeffries ran through the BC update, appended to the minutes, and highlighted the following:

- The Helping Hand Scheme - support was available for those on a low income.
- Waste and recycling missed bins – apologies had been issued from the Council due to the recent bin collection problems. A 'lessons learned' document had been produced and would be circulated to the board members.

Action: L Jeffries/M Devlin

- Garden Waste Charges – The new waste subscription arrangements had been moved back and would commence on Monday 26 September 2022; there would be an ‘opt-in’ garden waste service charge of £50 per bin per year.
- The Community Boards would have a stall at the County Show on 1 September 2022 at Weedon Park, near Aylesbury.
- Council Tax Energy Rebate – over 80% of the £150 rebates had been paid. There was also an additional discretionary £25 Helping Hand top-up for those on specific benefits.

South West Chilterns Community Board Funding for 2022/23

The Chairman advised that the budget for 2022/23 was £122,528 and explained that there were the following action groups which were open to anyone and new participants would be very welcome (contact Makyla Devlin, Senior Community Board Manager - swccb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk):

- Transport and Highways
- Economic Recovery and Development
- Environment and Climate Change
- Community Engagement

Small grants funding had now been released for funding up to £1,000 and information was available on the [South West Chilterns Community Board](#) page of the BC website.

Makyla added that information was expected imminently regarding the process for transport related projects and would be forwarded to the Transport and Highways Action Group.

12 Date of the next meetings

Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 1830 and 8 February 2023 at 1830.



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

Buckinghamshire Council Update September-November 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) 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 \(local-heritage-list.org.uk\)](#) or email 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.



Community Board South West Chilterns

Action Group: Community Engagement

Chairman: Cllr Carol Heap

Vice Chairman: Cllr Jocelyn Towns

This has been a busy year and the action group has been well attended throughout.

We have welcomed presentations and engagement from many organisations from across the SWC Board area including Community Impact Bucks, The British Red Cross, Talking Newspapers, Neighbourhood Watch, Buckinghamshire Council Community Engagement, Simply Walks and Libraries to name but a few.

Outside of that, as a Board we have been delighted to have been able to drive some applications through to completed projects including:

Dementia Action Marlow Singing Therapy, Bourne End Academy breakfast club, Lighthouse Marlow -Summer Activity Week, Longridge Activity Centre - bell boat project, Interactive Dementia awareness experience and the Wet Room conversion at the Princes Centre in Bourne End.

Looking forward, as a Board we will be hosting an Interactive Autism Awareness Day partnering with Longridge Activity Centre. A specially adapted vehicle will offer an interactive session on how life could be living with Autism. Alongside that, Longridge will offer activity taster sessions for a nominal fee. The proposed date is 18 March 2023 which falls within Autism awareness month.

Hopeful that further projects will come to fruition, we would welcome applications from across the board area.

Maximum project funding from the Community Board is £15,000. Any project over £1,000 requires contributory funding and there is also a small grants process for total project applications of up to £1,000, no contributory funding is required.

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Community Board South West Chilterns

Action Group: Economic Regeneration and Development

Chairman: Cllr Alex Collingwood

Vice Chairman: Cllr Zahir Mohammed

Coming through the pandemic and looking at ways that the Board could support the Economic regeneration has proven to be challenging in terms of projects.

A crossover project with the Environment action group has provided financial support to Bourne End Junior Sports Club so they are able to improve the failing lighting in the main hall and the climbing wall area which attract so many members of the community on a daily basis and also provide facilities to the local schools.

Rural Economy has been a focus and the action group have undertaken a site visit to Kensham Farm where it was explained how the farming community have had to diversify in terms of income generation due to the pandemic and look at ways of funding their core farming costs. Looking at other farms within the area to gain a further understanding of the challenges that are still being faced.

Other areas of focus moving forward is to look at tourism across the Board area. Currently there are certain villages of interest that attract visitors due to film and TV focus which the local businesses benefit from.

Discussions have taken place about disused land that is around the Board area and how they can be developed and improved for the benefit of the community.

Local parks and play areas are also a forward focus and the Community Board are always looking at ways they can engineer improvements or provide additionality.

Looking ahead, the action group are looking to work closely with Buckinghamshire Council Regeneration Team and work on a plan to encourage some project development into the Board.

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Community Board South West Chilterns

Action Group: Environment and Climate Change

Chairman: Cllr Neil Marshall

Vice Chairman: Cllr David Johncock

This year has seen the installation of solar panels at Spinfield School in Marlow which was funded in part by the Community Board. Although this was a challenge to ensure that no stone was left unturned, the school are delighted with the achievements not just with the obvious impact on their carbon footprint but also from an educational perspective for the attending pupils.

It has also spurred on another potential application for solar panels from another school in the Marlow area which we look forward to receiving.

Solar compacting waste bins have proved to be a topic of conversation within the Board for many months and we were delighted to secure a free trial in Higginson Park, Marlow for 2 months from the beginning of October. To date, it has been operated over 1100 times, has been compacted 80 times and is currently 83% full and due to be emptied for the first time this week. (photo below). It is situated just off the path from the main entrance towards the river.



The action group are also in discussions on how they might pilot a Car Club across the Board area and looking to explore options around this which have been adopted in other counties successfully.

There has been full support of a project to purchase a thermal image camera to look at heat loss in residential properties which was the idea of The Marlow Energy Group and already there has been a massive response from residents.

Chiltern Conservation have submitted a hedgerow project which would not only fulfil the criteria for the Boards priorities in terms of environment, but, will also have an impact on the rural economy as well. Following a site visit with a full explanation being given on the advantages of this project we are delighted that an application has been received and is progressing through the internal due diligence process.



Community Board South West Chilterns

Action Group: Transport and Highways action group

Chairman: Cllr Mark Turner

Vice Chairman: Cllr David Johncock

The South West Chilterns Community Board have continued to hold regular Transport and Highways action group meetings this year over and above the recommended two.

Highways projects are both complex and costly in relation to the Board budget and careful consideration takes place on any application received into the Board.

Implementation of schemes can take time to come to fruition as there are many stages to progress through.

Following Unitary and the creation of Community Boards, an application deadline of September 30th has been set and many projects have been received, a project initiation document (PID) has been produced which outlines the application and the design elements.

Buckinghamshire Council are currently in a transitional phase with new contractors for Highways who are formally in place from 1 April 2023. It was agreed that applications would not be accepted by the Community Boards for September 2022 to allow some breathing space for outstanding projects to be completed during the 2022/2023 year.

Projects that are progressing currently are:

- South West Chilterns Parking Review
- A4155 Medmenham – 40MPH extension
- School wigwags – Wooburn Green
- 40 MPH limit – Fawley
- School markings – Wethered Road, Marlow
- Bollards – Pound Lane, Marlow

There are other projects that are in the pipeline and waiting to be assigned to engineers and awaiting changing over to the new contractor.

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