



Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye Community Board held on Wednesday 11 October 2023 in Via MS Teams, commencing at 7.31 pm and concluding at 9.13 pm.

BC Councillors Present

J Waters, S Barrett (Chairman), M Bracken, T Broom, R Gaffney, D Johncock, J Ng, N Thomas, A Wheelhouse and A Wood

Others Present

C Green, M Devlin, L Charter, D Sanders, M Bewley, R Chalmers, P Mason, M Firmin, P Stack, D Hulme, P Maddock and K Hammond.

1 Welcome and Introductions

Point of meeting – can educate and empower. This is the intention of the meeting, to empower community activity. Since becoming Chair, I have been going round meeting people, and will continue to do this to connect, identify community projects and support those groups to partner with the CB. Point of meeting – to talk about what is happening and what is going on, encourage dialogue and ideas. Sole focus on what good we can do for the community

2 Apologies/Minutes/Declarations

Minutes of last Minutes of last meeting – agreed as an accurate record. Apologies from Cllr Michael Bracken, Krissie Hutton, Cllr Catherine Oliver, Cllr Jonathan Waters, Cllr Katrina Wood, Cllr David Watson, Rhiannon Scott, John Ratcliff

3 Roundtable discussions - Local Groups/Projects

Summary Introductions around the room: Keely from Community Pantry at Flackwell Heath. Non referral self-serving pantry, SB & CG visited, SB epitomises the what the CB is all about. Richard Chalmers from Oasis Bereavement Support supported over 4000 people in Flackwell Heath, have a wide reach from Denham, Princes Risborough & Henley. Soon to celebrate 25th anniversary. Michelle Bewley, Social Prescribing, Arc Bucks PCN – works with 6 GP practices, run talking cafes, community connector training. Marcus Firmin, resident. Started a project to keep areas tidy, planting wildflowers, with neighbours, took off with more people around the area. Cllr Andrew Wood, GX, Hedgerley and Sth Beaconsfield; Alison Wheelhouse, Cllr for Beaconsfield Ward, Chair of H&WB Action Group, Cllr Ron Gaffney for Hazelmere – lifetime at BC as trainee acct to Company Secretary; Paul Stack Chiltern Rangers, Cty Projects Manager, many local projects eg. rebuilt a pond at Juniper Hill School, Deborah Sanders representing the Mosaic Group in Beaconsfield – have installed 3 community led mosaics, also represent WI (who have worked with Chiltern Rangers). Paul Maddock of Beaconsfield School, also worked with CR. SB offered to do a talk in school as a barrister, runs a social mobility charity. Cllr Nathan Thomas (Tylers Green & Loudwater) and currently setting up a Youth Forum for the board. Cllr David Johncock (Flackwell Heath, Little Marlow and parts of Marlow Town, also on SW Chilterns Board). Chairman of Highways Action Group. Paul Mason, town councillor in Beaconsfield and Dep Major, chairing planning cttee. Debbie Hulme, oversees Beaconsfield Family Centre. Makyla Devlin CBM SW Chilterns & South Team Mgr, Cllr Thomas Broom; GX, Hedgerley and Sth Beaconsfield Liz Charter CBM DGXC CB and supporting Caroline.

Youth Forum Update from Cllr Nathan Thomas

Summary A priority for a long time for the board. Plan to engage with all secondary schools in the area: Sir William Ramsey, The Beaconsfield School and Beaconsfield High. Looking for 2-4 students from each to join the Youth Forum. Going to put resources behind to help the students make a difference in the community. First meeting intended for November. Partnered with Participation Co-ordinators in the council. SB – vitally important to empower young people, great opportunity to engage. Paul Maddox, creating ambassadors within the school as well, environment and wellbeing are priorities. NT – environment seems to be one of the biggest priorities for the schools. Paul Stack – is Alfriston school on the list? Action

NT to follow up and check for others that may have been missed. CG, contact? PS to email Dave Waterman & cc CG.

Chiltern Rangers – Paul Stack

Summary Gave overview of projects that have delivered with support of CB and other partners, incl Beaconsfield Town Council, local schools. Slides shared and attached to minutes. 1. Allotments 2. Stepping Stones Programme. 3. Alfriston School – woodland restoration – new orchard, including a wildflower and tree nursery. SB – would like to connect those working in supporting mental health in youth. PS – about communities and

conservation – communities first. Paul Maddock explained 3 projects with CRs that have had positive impact on school lives. New projects listed on slide. Question Deborah Sanders, CR work with WI and river clearing conservation work. PS – proposed to explore mixed age volunteering.

Richard Chalmers, Oasis at Christchurch

Summary Bereavement work in the community. Meet once a month in the evenings. second Weds of the month and 2 afternoons. High numbers attend. Give talks to local doctors and local groups. Run on donations and run fundraising events. Launched a group in Beaconsfield. People come from Denham, Uxbridge. Want to support people. Comment: Michelle Michelle Bewley – Arc Bucks PCN as a Social Prescriber

Summary Social Prescribers help people with non-medical issues. Help & support for 12 weeks, set small goals and send out into the community. A lot of work is with social inclusion. 86,000 patients. Want to build on social capital. Here to network. These meetings very valuable. Run talking cafes in local communities, led to launch of Digital Cafes in local libraries – to help those with social media. Partnered with NHS digital trust to get on NHS digital app. Shared slides attached to minutes. Have a Get online week on Oct 17th, coincides with launch of Digital Cafes. Also walks, weight, wellbeing, working with CR. SB – select cttee looking at digital exclusion/inclusion. Alison Wheelhouse – will share on Beaconsfield social media. Connect with Paul Maddoc to work with younger people. Action – share emails. Keely how to connect in other ways other than digital. Action – SB & CG to discuss how to use notice boards.

Marcus Firmin

Summary Slides shared – with minutes. Turned verges outside his house to wildflower verges, caught attention from neighbours and created how to videos and project grew. Like to understand interest and how to make Flackwell Heath a richer greener space, run a pilot project. Different people look after different areas of land, 100's of people interested, residents association, FB group, football club, potential with schools and churches. Action SB & CG to visit and work out how to make it happen.

Keely – Community Food Bank Provision

Summary Used to be student welfare officer at John Hampden. Would like to collaborate with Chiltern Rangers to explore GICIEI. Summarised all the good ideas that can share. Asking for one action – if you hear of anyone through your connections who are struggling with cost of living and finds it difficult to walk through a door to ask for help, please do this for them.

4 Corporate Update

To be shared with meeting minutes

5 Date of Next Meeting

Date of Next Meeting: Jan 31st 2024

Summary SB – the style of delivery of this meeting was to make it more dynamic, get people talking, listening and helping – making connections. Made a great start and hopefully conversations & meetings will grow.

September 2023 Update from BC for CBs

Share your views and help us keep Buckinghamshire safe

The Safer Buckinghamshire Board is a local Community Safety Partnership that brings together experts from the police, fire service, probation, health and social care services. The board develops an annual action plan to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in Buckinghamshire and help keep it a safe place to live and work.

To help develop this plan, we want to hear from local residents to understand:

- the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area
- their experience of reporting crimes
- how safe or unsafe they feel in Buckinghamshire

[The survey](#) is open to anyone living, working and/or studying in Buckinghamshire and will be open from 11 September until 29 October.

The results of the survey will be combined with an analysis of all crimes that happen in the county to help develop partnership activities for the following year.

Residents can complete the survey on [Your Voice Bucks](#) and enter into our prize draw to win one of three £100 leisure vouchers*.

A communications toolkit including newsletter copy, social media copy/graphics and a digital poster will be provided before the survey launches so you can share with your local communities.

*Terms and Conditions apply

Local Plan – progress and next steps

The Local Plan for Buckinghamshire (LP4B) provides a major opportunity to shape the growth of Buckinghamshire over the next 15 years and beyond. It will identify areas for new housing and employment, while also designating areas for protection and enhancement, such as our valued landscapes, natural habitats and heritage.

Earlier this year we carried out a public engagement survey on the draft vision and objectives for the LP4B. We received about 700 responses to the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire Vision and Objectives which we are in the process of analysing and considering.

We have now published an [interactive map and basic details](#) of the 1,000 or so sites which were submitted in response to our two Calls for Brownfield Sites and our Wider Call for Sites. We are assessing these sites for their suitability, availability and achievability

(including viability) to accommodate development. This work will help us to shape the first Buckinghamshire Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA).

Our next local plan public engagement work is likely to take place in early 2024, subject to Cabinet approval. This will be on possible high-level growth scenarios for the spatial distribution of new development to meet assessed levels of housing and employment need.

PickMeUp expands to Flackwell Heath

Wycombe's PickMeUp on-demand bus service, introduced by Buckinghamshire Council to reach residents not serviced by regular bus routes, has expanded to include Flackwell Heath. The expansion will help improve links from Flackwell Heath to Loudwater, Cressex, Booker and other parts of town.

Launched as a pilot in September 2022, it is funded by a three-year, central Government Rural Mobility Fund grant. It has proved popular, providing 1,500 rides per week and running Monday to Friday from 6am to 7pm.

Now after reviewing how the service is being used, and in response to requests from the local community, the council and operator Carousel Buses are pleased to extend the benefits of the service to many more potential passengers.

An additional vehicle will now operate at the morning and afternoon peak to keep up with demand. Fares reflect other local bus services and bus tickets such as Wycombe Smart Zone tickets and Concessionary Bus Passes are valid.

Bookings are made in advance via the PickMeUp High Wycombe app or by calling 01494 296021 to arrange a convenient nearby pickup point.

www.pickmeupwycombe.co.uk

Cost of Living update

Community Food Chain Campaign

The Helping Hand team has recently launched the Community Food Chain Campaign which aims to increase public food bank donations and raise awareness of volunteering opportunities available at local food support organisations. You can find out more here – <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/campaign/community-food-chain/>

If you would be interested in finding out how you can support this campaign please contact Hannah Tomlin, Food Lead Co-ordinator, Helping Hand Team – hannah.tomlin@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Helping Hand team/ MEAM referrals

The Helping Hand team has identified a cohort of residents who are within Opportunity Bucks areas and have made a high number of applications for support from the team. With their agreement, these residents have been referred on to our Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) Team who can offer intensive support to develop a better understanding of the challenges these residents are facing and help to connect them with additional services who can further support them.

Welcoming Spaces

There are locations throughout the county, including Buckinghamshire libraries and community venues such as churches and halls, that have continued to offer a Welcoming Space to residents throughout the summer months.

Now that we are moving into autumn we are looking at ways in which Welcoming Spaces can again offer residents warm and friendly places to go and meet with others this coming winter. More information on resources and guidance for setting up a Welcoming Space will be available shortly.

If you have any queries in the meantime please contact Laura Davies, Operations Manager, laura.davies@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Energy Doctor

Buckinghamshire Council has introduced a new Energy Doctor scheme as one of the initiatives funded by its allocation of the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Under the scheme, domestic resource efficiency officers are visiting qualifying homes to assess and advise on measures that can reduce energy consumption and costs.

The team also installs suitable low-cost measures in homes such as draught proofing, hot water cylinder insulation jackets, reflective radiator panels, secondary glazing film and LED lights.

To qualify for an Energy Doctor visit, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- They rent the property through a private rental agreement, or own and live in the property
- The household has an income of £30,000 or less (before tax), is in receipt of means-tested benefits such as Universal Credit and Council Tax Support, or a member of the household is disabled
- The domestic property has an energy performance certificate (EPC) rating of D, E, F or G, or does not legally require an EPC

To find out more about the Energy Doctor scheme, and to request a visit, go to the [council's website](#).

Have your say on council spending

Our budget consultation is now open and residents and organisations throughout Buckinghamshire are invited to take part.

As with councils across the country, our budgets are under immense pressure, particularly with more and more people needing social care. As a result, some difficult decisions will have to be made.

So it's essential that residents and organisations have their say on where their council tax is spent. The survey is at buckinghamshire.gov.uk/money-matters-consultation. We would also really appreciate your support in sharing this message with people and organisations throughout all our local communities.

The consultation closes at 11.59pm on Sunday 15 October.

Buckinghamshire Council consultations

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





We turn this...

...into this





...and this



How to . . . *FlackWild Heath*



Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Choose Your location	Select your seed mix	Mark Out & Mow	Scarify	Sow the seeds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Find a grass verge in the village * Preferably close to your house * Think about consulting your neighbours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Is it in direct sunlight or partially shaded? - Choose the right mix! * Always choose NATIVE wild flower seed * 3 types of seed are required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mow a tidy grass boarder of approximately 1 metre around the edge * Mow everything else as short as possible * Remove all of the clippings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Rake the mown patch really hard * Use a scarifier if possible * Expose at least 50% soil. * Do not dig * Do not rotovate * Remove all of the thatch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Scatter the seeds evenly across the patch * Gently rake the seeds and tread in into the ground * Water thoroughly * Put up your sign
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The location you choose will be your responsibility to maintain * The council will be asked NOT to mow it * You should be prepared to maintain its tidy appearance * The best time to sow is Autumn when it's not too dry, not too wet and not too cold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * www.wildflower.co.uk (100% Wild Flower Mixes) * Type 1: Yellow Rattle - to compete with the grass * Type 2: Cornfield Annual - to provide colour in year 1 * Type 3: Perennial Mix - to establish in year 1 and flower from year 2 * 3-5g of seed per square metre is ideal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The grass boarder should be maintained for traffic safety and tidy appearance * Mowing the centre short allows the seed to establish into existing grass * Wild flowers prefer poor soils so remove the clippings to prevent nutrients going back into the soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Raking & scarification stresses the grass giving the seed a chance to germinate * Rotovating allows the grass to re-grow too easily, so don't do that * Digging removes the grass but we want to keep some grass to establish a meadow, so rake or scarify instead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mixing the seed with sharp sand helps with even distribution * Raking & Teading helps with seed to soil contact * Request a sign from the FlackWild Heath Facebook page

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