



Buckingham & Villages Community Board agenda

Date: Thursday 12th October 2023

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Via MS Teams [Click here to join the meeting](#)

H Mordue (Chairman), P Fealey (Vice-Chairman), J Chilver, C Cornell, J Jordan, Cllr A Macpherson, F Mahon, A Osibogun, M Rand and R Stuchbury

J Harvey (Buckingham Town Council), M Taylor (Thornborough Parish Council), Gittens (Calvert Green Parish Council), P Wright (East Claydon Parish Council), J Riches (Middle Claydon Parish Council), T Lightfoot (Tingewick Parish Council), R Scott (Foscote Parish Meeting), P Hardcastle (Maids Moreton Parish Council), R Marshall (Water Stratford Parish Meeting), M White (Radclive-Cum-Chackmore Parish Council), S Holland (Akeley Parish Council), S Boulet (Stowe Parish Council) and T Cavendar (Buckingham Canal Society)

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: Alice Williams (Community Board Manager) on , email bvcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Item No	Item	Page No
1	Chairman's Welcome To be presented by Howard Mordue, Buckingham & Villages Community Board Chairman.	
2	Apologies for Absence To be noted by Alice Williams, Buckingham & Villages Community Board Manager.	
3	Declarations of Interest Declarations of interest related to items on the agenda to be noted by Alice Williams, Buckingham & Villages Community Board Manager.	

4	<p>Minutes/Actions from Previous Meeting Updates on actions to be noted by Alice Williams, Buckingham & Villages Community Board Manager.</p> <p>Notes of the previous meeting to be AGREED by the board.</p>	3 - 6
5	<p>Corporate Update To be presented by Sara Turnbull, Service Director for Adult Social Care Operations, Buckinghamshire Council.</p>	7 - 10
6	<p>Update from the National Trust Update on National Trust community initiatives and local venues.</p>	
7	<p>Silver Sunday Talk from Westbury Parish Council on Silver Sunday event.</p>	
8	<p>Community Board Updates To be presented by Alice Williams, Buckingham & Villages Community Board Manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Funding Update · Community Board Activity / Projects Update 	
9	<p>Community Matters Opportunities for members of the public and the board to raise questions and matters of interest to the local community.</p>	
10	<p>Date of Next Meeting 8th February 2024.</p>	



Buckingham & Villages Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckingham & Villages Community Board held on Thursday 6 July 2023 in Akeley Village Hall.

BC Councillors present

H Mordue (Chairman), P Fealey (Vice-Chairman), A Osibogun, R Stuchbury and W Whyte

Town/Parish Councils and other organisations present

D Child (Buckingham Society), J Harvey (Buckingham Town Council), F Hockham (UK Astronomy, Guest Speaker), R Hockham (UK Astronomy, Guest Speaker), S Holland (Akeley Parish Council), J Mallinson (Akeley Parish Council), G Maw (Maids Moreton Parish Council), V Nash (Energy Doctors, Guest Speaker), J Riches (Middle Claydon Parish Council), M Simons (Buckingham Trader Association), M Taylor (Thornborough Parish Council), M White (Radclive Cum Chackmore Parish Council), P Wright (East Claydon Parish Council)

Officers in attendance

A Jenner, C Martin, S Turnbull, A Williams

Agenda Item

1 Chairman's Welcome

Howard Mordue, Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted that the temporary banking hub had officially launched in Buckingham Library. A permanent hub was in development and an official press release would be released the following day.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Caroline Cornell, Frank Mahon, John Chilver, Angela Macpherson, Michael Rand, Jilly Jordan, Thornton Parish Meeting, Stowe Parish Council, Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council, Foscote Parish Meeting, Calvert Green Parish Council, Tingewick Parish Council, Buckingham Canal Society, Project Street Life, Trading Standards and David Williams.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

4 Notes/Actions of Previous Meeting

Alice Williams, Community Board Manager updated on the actions from the previous meeting. All action were either complete or ongoing. No required changes

to the previous notes were requested.

RESOLVED: Action notes of the previous meeting were AGREED as an accurate record.

Members of the community board raised some concerns about the banking hub as they felt it was unclear who was responsible for the operation and management. It was clarified that Cash Access UK is a national company and the service is funded by the major UK banks. Social media had played a part in confusion due to mixed messages but the official press release should provide clarification.

[Buckingham temporary Banking Hub opens | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

5 Corporate Update

Sara Turnbull, Service Director for Adult Social Care and the service director representative for the Buckingham and Villages Community Board presented the update circulated with the agenda.

Sara highlighted the consultation for the proposed relocation of Furze Down School sixth form to Wells Street, Buckingham (to share a space with the Buckingham Opportunities Centre).

Members of the board raised concerns over the risk of congestion during school pick up hours. It was highlighted in response that the school would stagger collection times in order to manage traffic volume. Other members of the board expressed their support for the proposal, as the building is currently underutilised. The move would provide better opportunities for Special Educational Needs (SEN) students and would support OFSTED recommendations. Transport officers had reviewed the space and would take measures to reduce congestion. The school would advocate for walking to school. Members of the board were encouraged to read and participate in the consultation.

ACTION: Alice to circulate the link to the consultation in the notes.

[Proposal to move Furze Down School sixth form - Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space](#)

6 Domestic Resource Efficiency Service (Energy Doctors) Introduction

Vicky Nash, Energy Doctor conducted a presentation about the scheme and the initiatives available to improve energy efficiency. There were small measures that could be undertaken to make improvements to homes. The scheme would run until 2025. There was a limited budget and the service would source additional funding if required.

In response to queries about how the scheme was rolled out, it was clarified that the scheme would commence in March 2023 in Opportunity Bucks areas (Aylesbury, Chesham and Wycombe) before being rolled out more widely. Initially it would be specifically available to private rentals. Residents could request an assessment online:

Sara Turnbull asked Vicky if they could have a discussion outside of the meeting regarding links with Adult Social Care.

ACTION: Alice to provide Vicky Nash contact details to Sara Turnbull.

7 Community Board Project Update - Bringing the Skies to You

Ross Hockham provided a project update from UK Astronomy (project received funding from the Buckingham & Villages Community Board).

The presentation included details of the project beginnings and how it has developed into an educational charity, teaching people of all ages about astronomy. UK Astronomy now has an inflatable planetarium that can be used to conduct sessions during poor weather. The project will soon be rolled out to local secondary schools. The planetarium could fit 40+ young people. It was most suitable for Year 6 and above but they have recently acquired software that was targeted towards younger children.

Ross highlighted that free software is available- [Stellarium Astronomy Software](#). This can be accessed from home for self learning.

8 Community Board Update

Alice Williams highlighted the funding report on page 15 of the agenda pack.

As part of the update, the funding process was clarified. Applicants were required to speak to the Community Board Manager before submitting an application to ensure that the project was suitable for community board funding. There were two funding streams- community project funding (over 1,000) and small grants (up to £1,000). Contributory funding was required for project funding but not small grants.

The Community Board priorities had been set for 2023/24. These were: Youth, Health and Wellbeing, Road Safety and Economic Regeneration. Action groups would be formed around the theme of each priority to initiate and develop projects around these themes. An online form has been set up for residents to submit ideas, this would be shared and promoted on social media: <https://forms.office.com/e/9EJWVumtGQ>

Alice gave thanks to all who had attended the Community Engagement and Partnerships / Proud of Bucks Awards event on 4 May 2023. A member of the board raised that the social media posts celebrating the winners / highly commended nominees did not explain why they had won their awards. Alice responded that the reason for this was to keep social media posts short and concise, however the community board summer newsletter would provide detail.

Alice advised that she frequently worked “on the patch” and her schedule was to

base herself at Molly's Community Café, Steeple Claydon on Wednesdays, 10am-1pm and Buckingham Library on Thursdays, 10am-1pm. Board members were welcome to drop in at these times, but were advised to let Alice know beforehand in case there were diary conflicts.

ACTION: Members of the board to contact Alice if they had a project idea or wanted to be part of an action group.

ACTION: Alice to share link to the online form:

9 Community Matters

No questions were submitted in advance.

A member of the board highlighted local events taking place over the summer, including Buckingham Play Day: [Buckingham Play Day - Buckingham Town Council \(buckingham-tc.gov.uk\)](http://buckingham-tc.gov.uk)

It was requested that communication be sent to Town and Parish Councils about community safety engagement and Thames Valley Police (TVP) surgery dates.

A member of the board asked if letters could be sent on behalf of the community board to celebrate local milestones, such as 100 years of Stowe.

ACTION: Members of the board to send Alice any local events that they wanted promoted in the summer community board newsletter.

ACTION: Alice to send details of TVP surgeries to town and parish council contacts.

ACTION: Alice to follow up regarding local milestones.

10 Dates of future meetings

12th October

8th February

Thanks were given to Akeley Parish Council for hosting the meeting at Akeley Village Hall.

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](#).

Revenues and Benefits

Council tax collection remains on target despite obvious pressures in the community and as a result additional funding is being made available to the discretionary housing payment

fund to support residents who may have one-off difficulties preventing them paying their rent.

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/>