



Community Board – N W Chilterns

Member Briefing for Meeting on 9 July 2020

The aim of Community Boards

Buckinghamshire Council wants to create networks for real conversations about issues that matter the most to communities, and find creative solutions to solve them. The aim of the Community Board is to build strong links with our residents, key partners, Town and Parish Councils and voluntary and community groups (and others), fostering collaborative working to make the best use of people's expertise, skills, knowledge and passions. This in turn will identify opportunities to make a real difference to people's lives and the communities they live in.

Purpose of this report

This discussion document summarises the areas of priority and views given by Buckinghamshire Councillors and Town and Parish Council's (T & PC) to help inform the board's discussion on interim priority setting at the meeting. Ahead of the formal launch of Community Boards in September, the Community Board Co-Ordinator will be working with board members to liaise with local community and voluntary groups, residents and other key stakeholders, to carry out wide ranging engagement, build relationships, and ensure they are able to actively influence and shape priorities, service design and delivery on local issues. This wider engagement will help the board to review interim priorities and ensure they reflect the views of the wider community.

During our meeting we would like to agree interim priorities, including those relating to the recovery phase of Covid-19, utilising the views from Councillors and evidence of local needs and issues (see Health and Well Being and BI reports attached).

Next Steps:

The Community Board will develop an action plan to deliver on it's priorities. This will include a section on local Covid recovery.

Sub groups can also be set up and established to focus on specific key issues. These will include a wider range of partners and community groups.

Terms of Reference and Funding

You will have received the Terms of Reference for Community Board meetings and funding information around the streams, criteria, process and allocation of funding for 2020/21. For ease of reference around funding, the following has been agreed for North West Chilterns around three funding streams:

Funding Stream	Detail	Fund Allocation
Community Area	To support local projects which will help improve outcomes for residents that address the area priorities determined by the Community Board.	£98,394
Health and Wellbeing (for one year only)	To support local projects which will help improve the health and wellbeing of residents.	£25,055 50% already allocated for Coronavirus Councillor Fund
Local Infrastructure	To support community infrastructure needs. It can be used to support the upgrading of existing and/or new physical and/or social infrastructure. The funding source is from central government's New Homes Bonus Scheme. There is uncertainty on the continuation of this funding stream beyond 2020/21.	£120,362 based on 2469 new houses identified in the existing Local Plans

Priority setting – information to be considered when agreeing our priorities.

Specific priorities based on discussions with Members and Town Parish Councils

1) Strengthening our Communities

- Mental Health - post Covid support.
 - Harness what is good about the increased community activity and formation of community groups that have occurred through the Covid-19 pandemic. Also, share learning within the area and ensure duplication of funding and effort is minimised.
 - Support our Charities – for example the UK Centre for Hearing Dogs for the Deaf in Saunderton, the Stokenchurch Dog Rescue, the Princes Centre in Princes Risborough (which also manages the day care provision in Bourne End), Risborough Community Bus (currently has about 35 volunteer drivers), Rural
-

Area Defibrillator Group (defibrillators held in village halls which can help save a life - have about 30 of these dotted around the area) and Lacey Green Community Shop (helping the elderly or anyone else that can't get to a shop, which again is run by volunteers).

- Providing homes, including affordable housing.
- Supporting people with the challenges of finding a job best suited to them.
- Review of drug dealing in some area's of the board.
- Dealing with the arrival of Travellers, causing chaos and a mess after they leave.

2) Supporting the Economy, Regeneration and Business Support

- Continue with the financial recovery plan for businesses (with Bucks Business First).
- Post Covid support and regeneration. The economic impact with the soon to be coming recession / and possible 'no Brexit' implications.
- Expand funding for the Risborough Basket scheme to help local retailers and the board area.
- Managing play areas during the recovery phase (Radnage and West Wycombe Parishes).
- Managing community halls during the recovery phase. (Radnage Parish Council) and, Community hall (run by the Memorial Hall Committee) is struggling due to the pandemic. They have not received rents etc. and is causing monetary problems. (Great and Little Hampden Parish Council).

3) Supporting the Elderly and Vulnerable

- There is a significant risk that a second wave of Covid-19 or localised spikes may occur in the coming months. Therefore, we need to plan how we can aid the vulnerable and coordinate local support in specific areas across the Chilterns.
- As volunteers return to work we need to accommodate the gap.
- Financial insecurities – debt due to redundancy/loss of income.

4) Supporting Young People

- Provide sufficient youth provision/reopening of Youth Clubs.
- The use of Nitrous Oxide Canisters (young people inhaling them in balloons).

5) Transport and Highways

Speeding issues:

- Speeding and parking issues (such as major lorry parking issues along Warrenden Road, Hughenden Valley) that may require structural changes to the network - either building infrastructure or with enhanced controls. Funding for a feasibility study to look into this major problem to be considered.
 - Problem with speeding, particularly on Plomer's Hill, Coates, Hughenden Hill and Little Brooke Road – High Wycombe.
-

- Speeding issues and how to minimise risk to cyclists in certain hotspot areas. One such hotspot is the A40 near Studley Green which saw two fatal accidents last month. There are other places within the Chilterns considered to be of high risk and in light of an increase in walking, jogging and cycling, as a priority we need to highlight places which are considered to be 'risk points'.
- Speeding cars and 'car meets' where people show off their flashy cars and then go racing in the streets.

Parking issues:

- Parking in the entrance of Mines Close, High Wycombe. There recently had been an emergency where an ambulance was called and it couldn't access the road.
- Ridge School, Chinnor Road – Parking solutions required.

Road hotspots:

- Bar Lane junction on the Thame Road A412 - drivers don't see the junction so is a hot spot for accidents.
- Drivers taking short cut through Hughenden Avenue, along The Pasture and Plomer's Hill to get to West Wycombe. They do this because they don't want to go through all the traffic lights in Wycombe - issue mainly around 6 to 8pm.

Road Safety:

- Risborough Relief Road progression.
- Road safety within the Parish is an issue (Longwick-cum-Limer). The parish have an extra 300 homes new homes / some already built and others are following very quickly, so we need to look at our speeds and roads and main infrastructure to make improvements. Speeding and reduction of speed needs to be addressed as well.
- Traffic through the local village is an issue due to increased development (Great and Little Hampden Parish Council).
- The safety of the A40 stretch of road from Studley Green to West Wycombe (there have been a number of deaths and RTAs).
- Pending application that went through the LAF for a survey to be carried out on West Wycombe High Street. It's a very narrow High Street causing parking and driving issues (needs to be picked up again).

Other:

- MVAS (Movable signs for checking speeding). Brought by two Wycombe District Councillors and now don't know what happened to them and whose looking after them.
-

Suggested Key Sub-Groups from the Chairman

Taking received views into consideration, the following sub groups could be considered.

- Environment & Climate Change
- Parking
- Traffic, Speeding and Road Safety

Suggested Key Focus Projects from the Chairman (detailed also within Member and T & PC section above).

- Economy / Regeneration / Business Support (Expanding Risborough Basket across the board area for example)
- Risborough Relief Road progression
- Youth
- Post Covid Support and Regeneration
- Mental Health post Covid support

Priorities raised by Public Health – Health and Wellbeing Report / Supporting Information - BI

The Health and Wellbeing report and Board profile is attached to this report, and should be reviewed when making decisions around key priorities and local needs.

Please note that the Board profile only includes the services that were taken from a list of Bucks County Council properties last year and does not include any services that would have fallen under what were the district councils.

It is hoped the above will inform the discussion to agree the Community Boards interim priorities including those around the recovery phase of Covid 19.

Please note that these priorities will be reviewed in November 2020.
