

Community Board – North West Chilterns

Young and the Elderly

Briefing Report

Notes on the initial discussions

An action plan was produced following the formation of the subgroup and a virtual meeting was held on 30th July when there was positive wide-ranging discussion on the potential focus of the subgroup.

The Aims and Objectives

The aim of the Young and The Elderly Working Group is to collate and discuss concepts and applications submitted to the North West Chiltern Community Board that come under the remit of the group and forward recommendations to the North West Chiltern Community Board for decision making.

Objectives

- Identify projects and initiate solutions to the Community Board for approval within the remit of the working group.
- Engage with the Community, Town and Parish councils, local organisations, voluntary sector, local authority and emergency services to identify trends.

The Strategy

It was agreed that:

- of the many possible areas of work, it was important to select projects for the subgroup that could make a positive difference to residents within the North West Chilterns Community Board area.
- projects that are agreed to commence this calendar year, are anticipated to continue seamlessly into the next phase of the Buckinghamshire Council after the elections in May 2021.
- measurable objectives are to be defined for any project.
- one project should be chosen to support The Elderly and another to support Youth.
- Cooperation with other Community Boards may be helpful in determining a strategy.

The Elderly

One topic of discussion at our July meeting was several surveys that highlight the significant social isolation of many elderly living alone. Mention was made of the Kraydel project being trialled by The Clare Foundation.

A subsequent presentation to the South West Community Board on the same subject matter has produced further information and the details are attached to the email with this note. On a trial basis, either a smartphone or a Kraydel Konnect Hub that connects to an existing TV, is being supplied to a number of the elderly who live alone. This enables weekly 'facetime' wellbeing calls with volunteers that are greatly appreciated by those elderly people living alone. It is a project that provides significant wellbeing benefits.

Since that meeting our subgroup has also met with The Clare Foundation and agreed that a meeting be held in October 2020 (date to be agreed), to discuss this project in more detail with other interested Community Boards and to agree next steps.

The Young

Anti-social behaviour is a problem with a significant minority of young people, many of whom live in a home that is designated as being in poverty.

Children in families with a single parent are at a disadvantage particularly if there are siblings as discretionary leisure time is more limited.

Subsequent to the July meeting, a meeting was held on 3rd August with James Cavalier from Active in the Community. This charity provides sporting and educational activities for young people of all abilities and is supported by BC with a grant.

Active have recently taken over the booking's administration for the out of school hours use of the significant playing fields, green spaces and gymnasium that are part of the Risborough School facilities. Active in will be offering organised activities for Young people and could provide a tailored offering to the Community Board.

We await an initial proposal from Active In to produce a choice of possible activities and the costs.

In addition to the above, a meeting was held with Children Services to investigate where we could obtain relevant data, to enable the subgroup to make an informed decision on our way forward on this theme.

Subgroup Meetings

At the next meeting on Monday 12th October we plan to do the following:

- Establish a meeting timetable, probably monthly.
- Discuss the above potential projects and decide the next actions.
- Engage with stakeholders and officers who can assist with progression.
- Outline strategies and a programme for achieving the objectives.
- Provide estimates of costs for the projects.

There is a North West Chilterns Community Board pre-meeting on Wednesday 23rd September. Responses to these notes before then would be useful.

Graham Peart

Chair of the subgroup

30 September 2020

Attachments:

- Kraydel Konnect Leaflet
- Presentation – Kraydel Konnect Overview
- Press Release – The Clare Foundation