

North West Chilterns Community Board
Economic Regeneration Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 10 February 2022

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 3rd November 2021.

Priority Objectives: The Action Group have updated their objectives which are as follows:

- To seek schemes and initiatives that support local businesses (urban and rural).
- To prioritise schemes and initiatives that help achieve the Council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.
- To consider any adhoc application in regards to Economic Regeneration,

Action Group: The group continue to meet regularly, the last meeting being on 2nd February 2022. Recent work and projects planned has included:

- Meeting with the operator of the Community Bus to agree a project opportunity in funding free travel on a Saturday and market days, to promote the bus and increase footfall into Princes Risborough High Street. A proposal is being drafted and a funding application will follow.
- Investigating sources of data that evidence the needs of local business, organisations and individuals.
- Reviewing the issues and needs of gigabit broadband within the Board area.

A detailed analysis of the fibre provision is currently being created. This includes mapping out a proposed consultation scheme with the addition of build out opportunities. For example, the installation of a Swish fibre network into Princes Risborough creates a spine network that could enable faster full fibre rollout in the Board area.

- Approval of funding applications received from Buckingham Business First on multi board projects . These include:
 - Net zero project to help small businesses understand their carbon footprint and how to reduce it.
 - Helping businesses (particularly tourism and hospitality) to make adaptations to improve accessibility.
 - Working with Visit Buckinghamshire on marketing and promoting tourism within the North West Chilterns.
- Research into other possible project opportunities.

Chairman: Cllr Matthew Walsh