



Community Board South West Chilterns

Action Group: Community Engagement

Meeting date: 20 January 2022

ACTION NOTES

(high level notes for the purpose of tracking/monitoring activity)

Present: David Johncock, Makyla Devlin, Geoff Pegg, Carol Heap, Valerie Brownridge, Hilary Martin, Michelle Bewley, Jocelyn Towns, Lew Headley, Zahir Mohammed, Penny Drayton, Monica Bergh, Aldo Simone, Neil Marshall, Katie Higginson, Danielle Abbot Mugridge, Mark Humphries, Helen Mee, Michael Hyde, Michelle Sandalls

Apologies: Sophie Kayani, Alex Collingwood, Dave Bull, Ray Isted

No	Topic	Lead
1	Agree notes of last meeting The notes from the last meeting were approved by the group.	Carol Heap
2	Community Impact Bucks – Overview Lew gave an overview of what’s happening in Community Impact Bucks and what they do. (Information on Community Impact Bucks and the VCSE Support Service are attached to the end of these notes). Carol encouraged the group to sign up to the Community Impact Bucks weekly newsletter, which is a comprehensive overview of up and coming events, training and general information about the voluntary sector.	Lew Headley
3	Neighbourhood Watch	Geoff Pegg

	<p>Geoff spoke about their involvement in the development review of the Neighbourhood Watch schemes across the Wycombe district and their ambitions to make people more aware of what they can do for themselves.</p> <p>https://neighbourhoodwatchwycombe.org/</p>	
4	<p>Back to School project</p> <p>The back to school project was born out of lockdown and the cost of living crisis which has now hit us quite heavily, with the aim of ensuring that every child, no matter their background has everything they need to start school from young children when they start school all the way up to sixth form.</p> <p>The project provides socks, shoe vouchers, school trousers, skirt, logoed PE tops and if a secondary school, blazers. The cost is approximately £100/child.</p> <p>Action: Makyla to link Mark up with Hannah Tomlin and the team at Helping Hands in Buckinghamshire Council</p> <p>Helen, indicated that the Clare Foundation would be happy to consider funding this project again but they would be looking at match funding. She also mentioned that it may be worth considering bringing in corporate partners.</p>	Mark Humphries
5	<p>Hambleton Cinema</p> <p>The cinema is a subcommittee of the Village Hall in Hambleton. They had their first screening of the cinema in January 2020 and the second one was scheduled for March 2020 but was then obviously suspended because of Covid. There has been a long gap between the first and second screening which took place in October 2021.</p> <p>The idea is to provide a great community experience and an opportunity for an entertaining evening for the community to come together and enjoy the space in the village hall. The cinema is proving to be very popular and there has been some lovely feedback. The aim of the cinema is, as well as providing that experience, is to return some of the income to the cinema when a profit is made.</p> <p>To date the equipment has been hired from a charity called Cinema For all, based in Brighton and Birmingham. For each screening a volunteer is having to travel to one of the locations to pick up the</p>	Katie Higginson

	<p>equipment. The arrangement to have the equipment on loan is coming to an end and they would like to buy their own equipment and are looking at the Community Board for some support.</p> <p>The application being put together is for funding of between £7,000-£10,000.</p> <p>Neil mentioned other village halls may be interested in this and that it would be worth considering a central holding, so the equipment can be passed around.</p> <p>The next screening is showing 'Yesterday' on Saturday 19 February and anyone is welcome to come along.</p> <p>http://Www.hambledencinema.co.uk</p>	
6	<p>Actions Arising (not on agenda)</p> <p>Dementia Bus: Due to the success of the last experience, the wheels are being put in motion to run this experience again and to also look at the Autistic experience. Action: Makyla to contact the company to confirm costings for both experiences</p> <p>Penny suggested that Bourne End Community Centre would be a good location for running the experience.</p> <p>BOPAG: They are holding again, their Golden Years Information Day on 8 April, 10am – 1pm at The Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, HP27 ODP. It is open to anyone who would like to attend.</p>	Carol Heap
7	<p>Any other business, topics for future discussion</p> <p><i>Reminder:</i> Community Event in Higginson Park on April 2nd. Save the date and further information to follow.</p>	
8	<p>Date of next meeting 17 February 2022</p>	

Community Impact Bucks is a local charity which supports people and groups to make a difference in Buckinghamshire communities. We do this in a variety of ways:



SUPPORTING CHARITIES, VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

- **Improving access to funding:** including round-tables with funders, signposting to [latest funds](#), [Bucks Funding Search](#), [tips on writing a successful grant](#).
- **Providing resources and tailored support:** we offer [guidance and advice](#) to help local charities run their group or get started.
- **Training and advice:** we facilitate [training](#) to groups in Buckinghamshire covering topics such as safeguarding, funding and governance and how to recruit and manage volunteers, as well as expert coaching and pro bono legal advice clinics.
- **Finding volunteers:** we [support](#) groups with volunteer recruitment, developing volunteering policies, role descriptions and volunteering strategies. We also promote general and expert volunteer vacancies, including trustee roles. The [Buckinghamshire Volunteer Matching Service](#) has been placing volunteers with groups and organisations since Spring 2020.
- **Connecting the voluntary sector and facilitating cross-sector partnerships:** through both place-based and interest-specific peer support networks. We are part of a number of policy groups in Buckinghamshire and neighbouring counties to ensure cross sector collaboration in areas such as healthcare and community led housing, making sure that the voice of the voluntary sector is heard and taken into account.

KNOW A CHARITY OR VOLUNTARY GROUP THAT NEEDS OUR HELP?

Our VCSE Support Service - funded by Buckinghamshire Council - can help with all aspects of running a charity or voluntary group including leadership, funding, governance and volunteer recruitment and management, with priority given to those with income of less than £100,000. [Complete our simple form](#) to let us know.

HELP WITH SECURING VOLUNTEERING ROLES

- We mobilise registered volunteers to roles where they are most needed through the [Buckinghamshire Volunteer Matching Service](#).
- We signpost potential volunteers to new opportunities.



HELPING TO BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

- **Helping people without access to transport:** we answer over 500 calls on our [Community Transport Hub hotline](#), connecting people with volunteer-run transport schemes in their area. 73% of callers need help to attend medical appointments.
- **Helping people stay connected and live independently:**
 - our [Handy Helpers](#) team has completed thousands of tasks in the homes of vulnerable Buckinghamshire residents, including general maintenance, preventive measures and practical tasks.
 - As well as providing our established cohort of clients with a garden clearance & maintenance service, our [Gardening and Wellbeing Project](#) supports them to be active participants in their wellbeing by empowering them to explore what they 'can do' for themselves/ others in their community.
 - Our new Community Growing Project supports communities to develop sustainable community food growing projects. Commissioned by Buckinghamshire Council, we are establishing three sites in Wycombe, Iver and Buckingham.
 - Our [Pub Lunch Club Project](#) was suspended during lockdown but is now cautiously resuming. We are working with a number of communities to support the relaunch their Pub Lunch Club to help address social isolation for our older residents.
- **Supporting key community assets:** Volunteer-run community buildings, such as village halls, community centres, sports pavilions and church halls are a vital part of community life. We have seen a significant rise in the number of enquiries since the start of the pandemic so we are providing [tailored advice](#) and a peer support network - adapting our service to meet these evolving needs.
- **Supporting community resilience,** working alongside Buckinghamshire Council to support communities to be prepared against flooding.

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

- To find out more about our work supporting the voluntary sector and communities in Buckinghamshire, [visit our website](#)
- If you know of a charity or community group that needs our help please let us know: [complete our simple form](#)
- [Sign up](#) to be notified by email about latest advice and guidance for the voluntary sector, funding opportunities and future events.
- Call or email us: 0300 111 1250 / info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk
- Community Board Co-ordinators have a designated point of contact at Community Impact Bucks:
 - North – Frankie Hockham frankie@communityimpactbucks.org.uk
 - Central – Stephanie Thompson stephanie@communityimpactbucks.org.uk
 - South – Lew Headley lew@communityimpactbucks.org.uk





Comprehensive support for Buckinghamshire's voluntary and community groups

Does your charity, social enterprise, community group or grassroots organisation need some support to help you thrive and grow? Or perhaps you know of or work with an organisation that would benefit from some tailored advice or training?

Community Impact Bucks is here to help. Our **VCSE (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) Support Service**, funded by Buckinghamshire Council, can help with all aspects of running an organisation including leadership, funding, governance and volunteer recruitment and management, with priority given to those with income of less than £100,000.

We can offer:

- Guidance, resources and tools
- Bespoke and tailored support
- Training, peer support and networking opportunities

We are here to help new ideas get off the ground, help charities and groups to set up or grow, and help organisations put in place the structures, funding and people they need to be successful. We can also help when charities and groups are going through difficult times, offering support to help them be stronger and more resilient so they can keep making a difference.

Getting started is easy:

- Have a look at our online guidance on www.communityimpactbucks.org.uk
- Complete a short form requesting support:
www.communityimpactbucks.org.uk/request-for-support
- Call or email us for a chat: 0300 111 1250 / info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

About Community Impact Bucks:

As a registered charity (No. 1070267), we exist to help people get involved and make a difference to their communities in Buckinghamshire. We believe that a thriving, vibrant network of charities, voluntary and community groups and social enterprises is vital for our society.

Funded by



**Buckinghamshire
Council**



Community Impact Bucks
supporting charities, communities, volunteering