



Community Board Beeches

Action Group: Improving Our Environment

Meeting date: 4th May 2022 at 6pm on Teams

AGENDA and NOTES

No	Topic	Lead
1	Welcome and introductions In attendance: Dev Dhillon, Carol Linton (Burnham Parish Council), Zoe Hatch (Burnham Parish Council and Taplow Parish Council), Andy Chapman (CB Manager)	Chairman
2	Apologies for absence Kirsten Ashman, Rachel Horton-Kitchlew (Taplow Parish Council), Paul Bunce (Burnham Parish Council), Aidan Carlisle (Burnham Parish Council), Alan French (Burnham Beeches Rotary Club)	Community Board Manager
3	Action group priorities The ongoing priorities for the group were restated as: to understand local issues, to host a themed Community Board meeting, to address littering, to discourage single use plastic, to encourage biodiversity	Chairman
4	Funding update It was noted that the Beeches CB budget for 2022-23 is £100,388. Changes to the funding criteria include a request for contributory funding towards projects in excess of £1,000 and a ceiling, except in exceptional circumstances, of £15,000 per project. A small grants fund is in development and an update will be provided when available.	Community Board Manager
5	Project proposals and updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bike to Burnham – bike racks	Chairman

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink Well Burnham – water fountains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CL and ZH provided an update from the parish council, including on the transition to a new parish clerk. It was acknowledged that the two original applications had not contained sufficient detail and that Burnham PC wished to review the proposals before proceeding further • Eco Audit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ZH introduced a proposed scheme from Burnham PC which would make an assessment of the current environmental impact of council activities, including management of open spaces, office procedures, fossil fuel use, and identify potential cost and carbon footprint savings. It was noted that the provider, 3 Acorns, had worked successfully in partnership with Chesham Town Council. The total project cost was anticipated to be in the region of £4,000 and a funding application would be submitted in due course. It was stated that Taplow PC was also keen to engage the same provider, and that a project there would be at a lower cost. AC to liaise. • Bee Squared – Taplow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ZH provided an update on the wildflower seed distribution scheme. There was scope for extending the project to other areas. A bee information booklet was in production; the project was looking to work with more youth groups • Solar Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DD had met with the Chairman of the Wycombe CB to find out more about their project. It is anticipated that in time equipment will become more affordable, and that government grants/support to companies increase, but it was acknowledged that current concerns about inflation and the cost of living could be a deterrent at the present time. 	
6	<p>Topics for future discussion</p> <p>It was asked whether churches could apply for project funding. AC advised that both St Peters and St Nicolas had successfully applied for Board funding.</p>	Chairman

	<p>ZH asked whether Community Boards could compile recommendations on trusted local companies. DD counselled that a colleague had promoted a company which subsequently collapsed and that promoting some companies over others can be problematic.</p> <p>It was agreed that increasing community engagement should be a priority. Keeping meetings on Teams was seen as preferable as participants would not need to travel. It was recognized that messaging needed to be honest and to reflect reality, but should also emphasise hope through action.</p>	
7	<p>Agree actions to take forward</p> <p>As above</p>	Chairman
8	<p>Any other business</p> <p>None</p>	Chairman
9	<p>Dates of next meetings – 6th July 2022, 7th September 2022, 9th November 2022</p>	Community Board Manager