

North West Chilterns Community Board
Community Resilience Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 27th July 2022

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 10th February 2022.

Priority Objectives: As a reminder the Action Group is combining the viewpoints of young and older people and crime and anti-social behaviour themes, looking across the broad range of ideas which will connect both boundaries. The group will focus on:

- Road safety around antisocial behaviour (this may at times link with the Transport and Road Issues Action Group).
- Drug issues within County lines, drug trafficking in rural and urban areas.
- Matters around exploitation, including domestic violence, modern slavery, young person's grooming, and school children used as drug runners or mules.
- Solutions around coms and scams.
- Matters around rural crime. Farms or small holdings having machinery or fuel stolen.
- Training and educating young people who are at risk of offending/reoffending.
- Issues around social isolation and loneliness.
- Issues for young children from deprived families.
- Any ad hoc funding application in relation to Community Resilience.

Action Group – works carried out: Meetings are held every two to three months, the last one was held on 14th April 2022. During this meeting, the group agreed a number of project initiatives they would like to pursue. Progress to date is as follows:

- Projects around disability: As confirmed during the last meeting, we had spoken to the Chiltern Society and discussed our proposals for walking in the countryside during the different seasons, which could be enjoyed by the young and older people especially those who suffer with loneliness or vulnerability. Unfortunately the Chiltern Society could not accommodate a project proposal but suggested we contact Lindengate

A meeting was held with Charlie Powell of Lindengate on 30th June. Charlie confirmed that she could assist but requested we make a site visit to see what Lindengate is all about and a project brief.

This meeting is yet to be arranged but we are mindful that we would only want the residents from the North West Chilterns to be involved. This is to be agreed.

If Lindengate cannot guarantee this, we are also thinking of contacting University of Third Age and the Woodland Trust.

- **Grow to Give:** As stated in the previous report, Orchard View Farm have agreed that the Community Board can have a piece of land to grow fruit and vegetables. As a reminder, this initiative is to grow food to give to families in hardship and food banks etc. and to sell some of the produce to put back in the land to make it sustainable. We have two interested gardeners (volunteers) who will hopefully lead on the project and looking for more volunteer gardeners to do a rota. We also have another possible interested gardener but we are waiting for a meeting.
- **Jim McKellar** from Orchard View Farm has agreed to put his pigs on the land to eat the overgrown vegetation around October time to allow it to be cultivated and for the areas to be cleared. In the meantime, we have created a list of equipment that we require and will be looking for donations from various organisations.
- **Projects around Knife crime:** This application is about young people from junior and secondary schools, producing four films which includes the process of script development, script writing, pre-production, (which involve casting who is going to act, crewing, filming, and editing). A current update is expected shortly.
- **Bench project:** The aim of this project is to celebrate the work of care workers during the Covid period. A meeting has taken place where possible locations and suppliers have been discussed.

Further work is to be carried out and it is hoped that additional information will be given during the next Community Board meeting in November 2022.

- **Horse Therapy:** The Chairman of this Action Group will be speaking to the Horses Trust in Speen regarding therapy for those individuals that require help and understanding where they will get involved in activities with horses to promote human physical and mental health.
- **North West Chilterns Community Board – Annual Event - Party in the Park:** A number of meetings have been held to formalise this event. The Princes Risborough Town Council have agreed to allow Wades Park to be used for this event free of charge to the Board.

The event will take place on 24th June 2023 where it is hoped that various community organisations (including our local Police and Fire and Rescue Teams) will attend. We would also like to invite local dance group (s)/singers, bands and food stalls to be part of this event (all to be agreed).

A task and finish group has been established, made up of Valerie McPherson (Chairman of the Action Group), Shade Adoh (Buckinghamshire Councillor), Josephine Biss (Princes Risborough Town Councillor) and Jackie Binning, to lead and move this forward.

We also would like for our Community Board Chairman (Matthew Walsh) to present the Proud of Bucks Awards agreed during 2022.

Chairman: Cllr Valerie McPherson BEM