

North West Chilterns Community Board
Community Resilience Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 6th December 2022

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 27th July 2022.

Priority Objectives: The group continue to look at the viewpoints of young and older people and crime and anti-social behaviour themes and maintain their 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 7th November 2022. The group discussed their progress on a number of project initiatives which are as follows:

- **Projects around disability:** As confirmed during the last meeting, a site visit was planned at Lindengate to discuss the groups proposals for walking in the countryside during the different seasons, which could be enjoyed by young and older people, especially those who suffer with loneliness or vulnerability.

A meeting was held with Lindengate on 17th August 2022, and although there was an initial interest, no proposals came to fruition. The Chair of this Action Group and the community board manager (CBM) therefore met with Hughenden Manor on 19th October 2022 who stated they would very much like to work with the Community Board.

Hughenden Manor are currently very busy with Christmas but have said they would contact us early next year to discuss a formal project proposal. This is an exciting venture which potentially allows us to fulfil our aims in walking in nature, and also provides an opportunity to work with a number of volunteers who have a huge amount of experience in walking in the grounds of Hughenden Manor.

- **Grow to Give:** As stated in previous reports, Orchard View Farm have agreed that the Community Board can have a piece of land to grow fruit and vegetables. 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.

A meeting was had between the Chair, CBM and the owner of Orchard View Farm on 4th November 2022. It was agreed that the pigs will now be put on the land to eat the overgrown vegetation. In the meantime, contact will be made with various outlets to obtain tools, chicken wire, fence posts and seeds etc. in readiness for commencing work on the land around early February 2023.

- **Projects around Knife crime:** Four films were produced by children and young people in July 2022, and the website and films were shared with all schools and appropriate groups in the North West Chilterns on 9th November 2022.

The Community Safety team at Buckinghamshire Council also contributed to funding this project and have also forwarded to Thames Valley Police and other relevant organisations.

- **Bench project:** The aim of this project is to celebrate the work of care workers during the Covid period. All Parish Council's have been asked if they would like a bench (subject to Community Board approval) and the list with bench locations is near completion. It is hoped this will be ready to go through the funding team shortly at Buckinghamshire Council.
- **Horse Therapy:** The Chairman of this Action Group has contacted 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.

It is hoped that a meeting will be arranged before the end of November 2022.

- **North West Chilterns Community Board – Annual Event - Party in the Park:** Meetings continue to be held by the Task and Finish group to organise this event. Note: this event will take place on 24th June 2023 at Wades Park, Princes Risborough.

Various community organisation's (including local dance groups, singers etc.), our local Police and Fire and Rescue Teams, plus local businesses have been contacted and invited to have a stand. "Save the Date" invitations have also been sent.

Furthermore, schools in the North West Chilterns will be invited in January 2023 to design a theme for our event. The winning design will be placed on our posters and banners which will be used as part of our comms campaign to promote the event and the Community Board.

Chairman: Cllr Valerie McPherson BEM