

North West Chilterns Community Board
Environmental and Climate Change Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 7th February 2023

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 Action Group's priority objectives are to seek and support schemes that have a sustainable and lasting effect on the North West Chilterns area, improve the built or rural environment, reduce the impacts and increase awareness of climate change, and reverse environmental damage. Additionally, the Action Group seeks to help achieve the Council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.

Action Group: The Action Group continues to aim to meet bi-monthly; the last meeting was held on 2nd November 2022, with the next planned for the 30th January 2023. Its agendas cover a mix of policy, strategic and fundraising related matters, many of which have been delegated to the group by the Community Board or raised by local councils, the public or by members of the group.

Recent work has included:

- Continuing to identify suitable locations with Town and Parish Council's for tree planting in streets and public spaces.
- Continuing to link in with Buckinghamshire Community Energy (BCE) on a number of projects.
- Supporting Stokenchurch Scout and Guide HQ and the Princes Centre in their projects to install solar panels.
- Encouraging schemes looking at Wildflower planting in meadows and brownfield sites
- Continue to look at options to install Electric Vehicle charging points in public areas.
- Supporting joint community planning and community resilience through planned education programmes.

Projects planned and actions going forward

- Liaising with the Chiltern Society on the restoration work of the Whiteleaf Cross and car park.
- Now looking expanding this potential joint project with Wycombe CB to implement Bee Squared to a number of neighboring community boards. A meeting is scheduled with community boards and other interested partners to discuss ways forward.
- Will invite the chair of the Transport and Road Issues Action Group to our December meeting to look at a combined work on verge cutting and wildflower planting
- The Chiltern Society hedgerow project has been prepared and we are now waiting on the funding application.

- Compiled a spreadsheet of potential areas and objectives where it was felt the subgroup could encourage applications in. This has led to conversations with organisations such as the Bucks Fungus group and BBOWT.
- Using the BCE as our preferred partner we prepared a proposed Public Awareness Energy Efficiency Campaign for the North West Chilterns after liaising with Buckinghamshire Council. Energy Efficient Homes Clinic planned to be held at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on 11th March. The roadshow will also go to Stokenchurch and Aston Clinton.
- Continuing work on Bee Squared with an application expected from Princes Risborough Town Council.

Chairman: Cllr Robert Carington