

North West Chilterns Community Board
Economic Regeneration & Development Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 27th July 2023

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 7th February 2023.

Priority Objectives: The Action Group reviewed their objectives for 2023/24 during their meeting in March 2023. These were slightly tweaked from last year – amendments in bold:

- To seek schemes and initiatives that support **new and existing** local businesses (urban and rural).
- To prioritise schemes and initiatives that help achieve the Council’s Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.
- To consider any adhoc application in regards to Economic Regeneration **& Development**.

The Action Group also agreed to amend the group name and add the word “Development” (as detailed above).

Action Group: The last meeting was on 9th March 2023 and meets every quarter (approximately). Due to a number of meeting clashes and unforeseen circumstances, the next meeting is not scheduled until 23rd August 2023.

Progress on actions since the last Community Board meeting are as follows:

- **Business Networking Event** – Further to discussions around the shortage of skilled labour and staff and other business concerns, the group plan to hold an event in October 2023 (date to be agreed) at Orchard View Farm, Little Meadle, where local businesses can attend to network and discuss their issues and concerns and find out where tools and resources can be found to help.

Jacqueline Ford, Buckinghamshire Council’s (BC) Senior Economic Development Officer, has agreed with her team to do a presentation on the work BC are doing on the Visitor Economy Strategy.

Town and Parish Council’s will also be invited as Ruth Bryant, BC’s Buckinghamshire Film Officer, will be presenting the following opportunities as this may be of interest to them as well as some businesses (where appropriate):

- Locations Database – which is free to register and can sign post services for all residents/businesses in Bucks.
- Code of Practice – which sets out guidance for film productions operating in Bucks including consultation for impacted residents/businesses.
- Economic Impact: Olsberg Report – review local spend on additional facilities and employment opportunities.
- Screen Tourism – what this means and what we can do together?

The planning of this event is still in it’s early stages, but it is hoped to start formalising the details from August 2023.

- The action group will continue to explore other sources of data that evidence the needs of local business, organisations and individuals and research other possible project opportunities.

Chairman: Cllr Matthew Walsh