

Community Board
North West
Chilterns

2022/23 Annual Report

Published 13th June 2023

Introduction

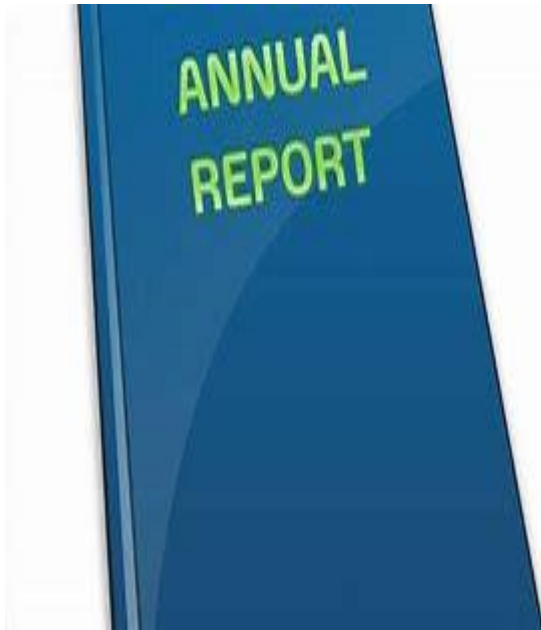
The North West Chilterns Community Board (NWC CB) is proud to stand at the heart of the council's ambition to be a council that understands and responds to the needs of our communities.

The NWC CB tailors itself to the needs of the local area with the common goal of bringing communities together to make a difference. The board uses local data and intelligence, and together with engagement and listening to residents, partners, local groups and organisations in the community, it prioritises areas of focus and explores the issues that are of greatest importance.

The overall aims of the NWC CB are:

- To develop good working relationships with the community to understand and address local issues.
- To understand what is important to the community board area.
- To develop action groups to explore key areas of focus and identify how to take action as a community.
- To identify opportunities and projects that meet the community board priorities and support with financial and non-financial resources.
- To promote the community board and the community board fund to the local community and encourage engagement.
- To support the council in delivering strategic priorities at a local level.

Aims of this report



This annual report covers the financial year for 2022-23 and provides an overview of the North West Chilterns Community Board, including its priorities, projects, and engagement activities. This report also examines the impact of the board on the community.

The Community Board has worked extremely hard to support and fund a number of wide ranging projects which cover the entire board area.

It is also pleased to announce that for every £1 it committed in funding, it was matched with £1.61 in contributory funding, the second highest out of the 16 Community Boards.



Cllr Matthew Walsh
Chair



Cllr Carl Etholen
Vice Chair

The Community Board Manager is Jackie Binning

Buckinghamshire Councillor Membership

- Shade Adoh
- Marcus Angell
- Steven Broadbent
- Robert Carington
- David Carroll
- Gary Hall
- Clive Harris
- Darren Hayday
- Orsolya Hayday
- Maz Hussain
- Melanie Smith
- Alan Turner
- Paul Turner

Corporate Director

Sophie Payne

Sophie (Service Director for Culture, Sport & Leisure) is the Corporate Director for the North West Chilterns Community Board.

Not only does Sophie represent the Board from a corporate perspective, she also attends the quarterly Board meetings to deliver our 'Buckinghamshire Updates' and takes questions.

In addition, Sophie regularly attends our Economic Regeneration & Development Action Group meetings.



Connecting with our Parishes

The Community Board is proud to have 14 parishes in its area, which play a vital role in supporting the livelihoods of urban and rural communities.

- Bledlow cum Saunderton
- Bradenham
- Downley
- Ellesborough
- Great and Little Hampden
- Great and Little Kimble
- Hughenden



- Lacey Green
- Longwick cum Ilmer
- Piddington and Wheeler End
- Princes Risborough
- Radnage
- Stokenchurch
- West Wycombe

Some of the organisations
we have worked with...



2022/23 Priorities

- **Community Resilience**

- To support the community around physical, behavioural, social and environmental health and wellbeing, as well as crime and antisocial behaviour.

- **Economic Regeneration & Development**

- 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.

- **Environment & Climate Change**

- 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.
- To seek and support schemes and initiatives that help achieve and inform the Council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.

- **Transport and Road Issues**

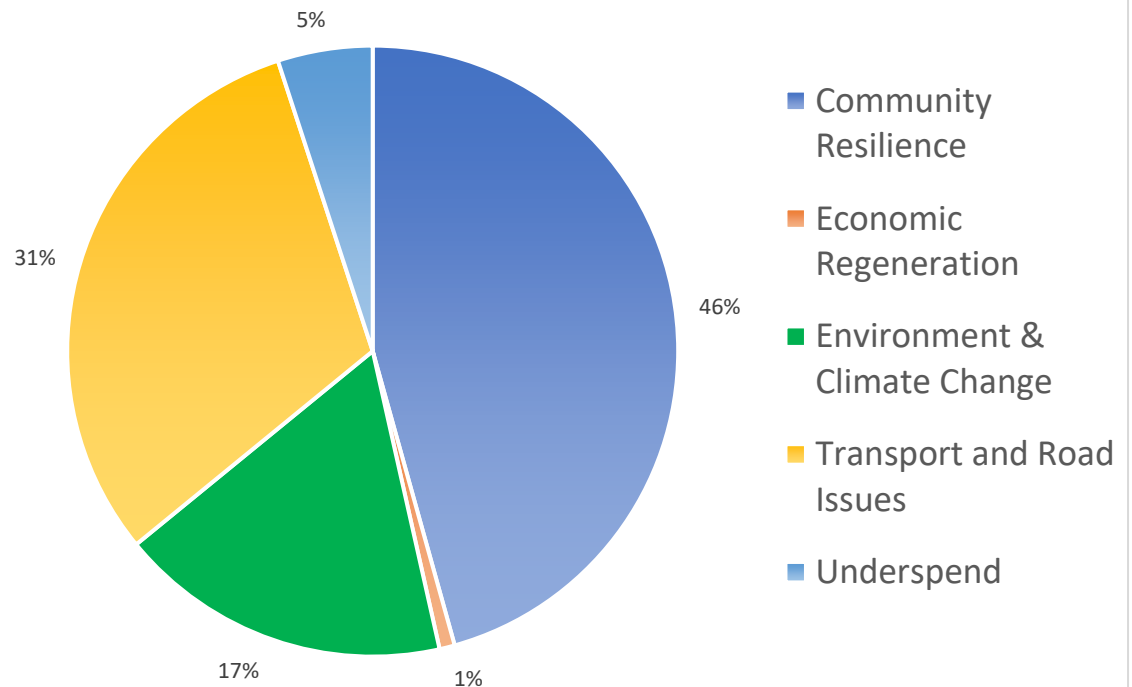
- To work on local issues and initiatives to improve road safety, cycling and walking. To address specific parking, speeding and highways issues, and to consider broader initiatives to reduce car dependency and emissions from transport.

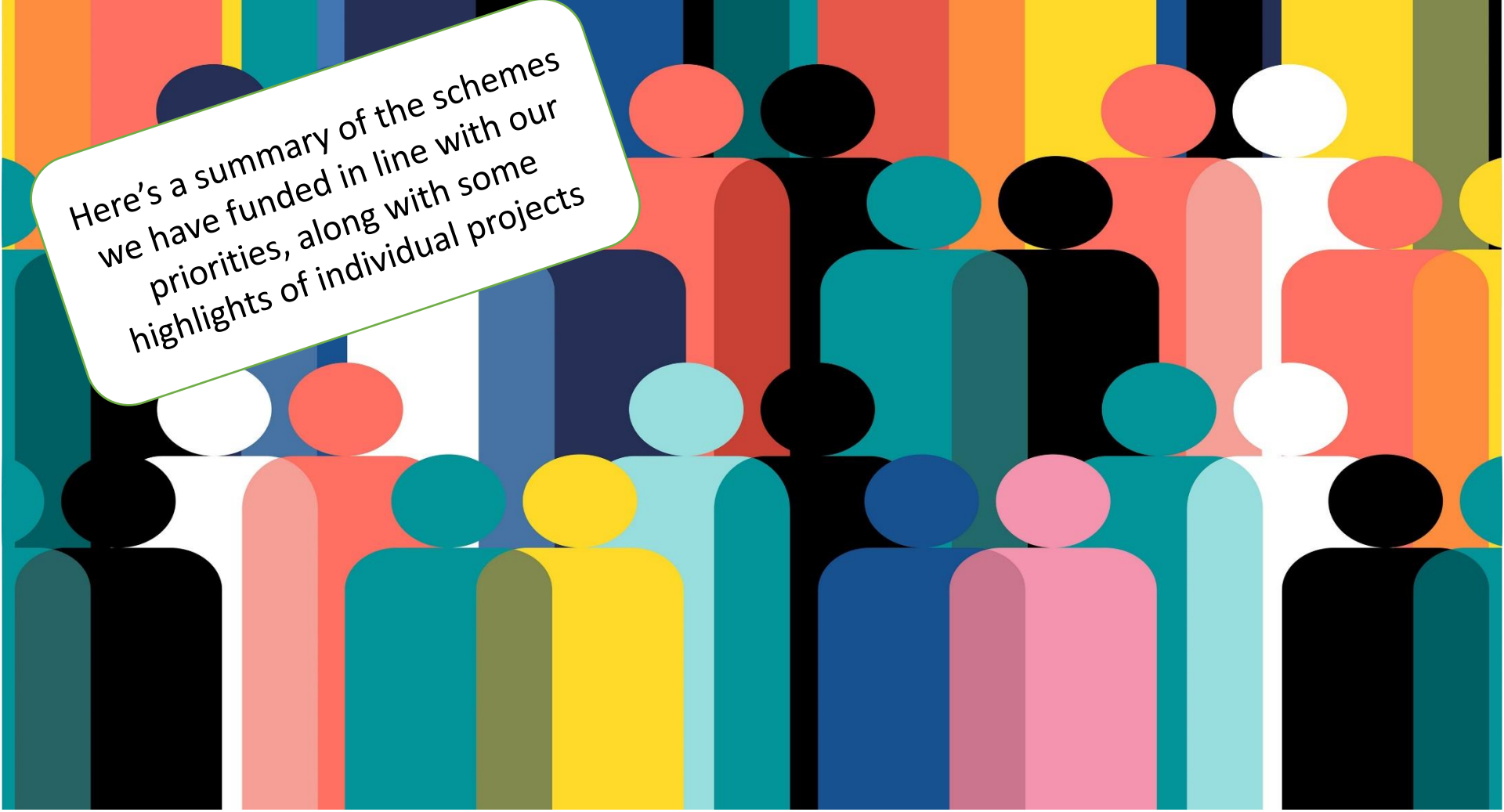
Funding committed by Priority

2022/23 Budget - £125,177

Spend as at 31st March 2023

(subject to change due to final spend for Highways Schemes)





Here's a summary of the schemes we have funded in line with our priorities, along with some highlights of individual projects

Community Resilience

Community Resilience - Projects

| Organisation | Project Detail | Total project cost | Funded |
|--|---|---|--------|
| Wycombe Refugee Partnership (multi board project) | Food Vouchers, Hardship and Access Fund | £7,000 | £7,000 |
| Training2Care | Dementia Bus Tour (multi board) | £964 | £880 |
| Bledlow Village Cricket Club | Club refurbishment (BC Purchase Order 2) | £9,950 Carried forward from 2021/22 | £9,055 |
| Wycombe Mind | Free Space project (multi board) | £17,900 | £2,000 |
| Hughenden Street Association | Comms Tools | £635 | £635 |
| Stokenchurch Youth Crew | The support of 24 t-shirts for volunteers | £214 | £214 |
| UK Astronomy | Bringing the skies to you | £39,000 | £1,015 |
| Princes Risborough & District Scouting & Guiding | Asbestos removal | £10,788 | £5,300 |
| Lighthouse Princes Risborough | Children's Holiday Club | £39,935 | £1,500 |

Cont'd.....

Community Resilience - Projects

| Organisation | Project Detail | Total project cost | Funded |
|--|---|--------------------|--------|
| Wycombe District Dementia Action | Comms Tools (multi board) | £2,000 | £775 |
| Community Centre at Studley Green | New entrance doors and alarm system | £6,660 | £2,500 |
| Stokenchurch Parish Council | Halloween Scavenger Hunt | £599 | £599 |
| Princes Risborough Charity | Christmas Hampers | £3,100 | £2,000 |
| Hughenden Valley Residents Association | Christmas Goodie Bags | £445 | £445 |
| Risborough Youth Club | Youth Club Activities 2023 | £1,402 | £962 |
| Stokenchurch Parish Council | New bus shelter | £7,306 | £5,306 |
| NWC CB - Community Resilience Action Group | Bench project | £3,334 | £3,334 |
| Active in the Community | Forever Cycling | £12,669 | £7,946 |
| Bledlow Ridge Village Hall | Replacement of the Village Hall Roof and Insulation | £7,250 | £3,625 |
| Stokenchurch Parish Council (on behalf of the Parish Magazine) | Village Matters Magazine | £1,407 | £938 |
| Wycombe Youth Action | Follyfoot Healing with Horses | £8,430 | £1,146 |

Total NWC CB Contribution - £57,175

Project showcase: Community Resilience Active in the Community (AITC)



This project will address social isolation and develop healthier lifestyles to improve mental wellbeing and strengthen a sense of community among participants, particularly among older residents, which is a significant demographic in the North West Chilterns area.

AITC sought funding to run their “Forever Cycling” sessions in six venues across the North West Chilterns, a programme which aims to get older adults physically, mentally and socially active by combining a cycling element, using floor pedals, with a virtual route projected onto a screen.



Forever Cycling

**LOW-MOBILITY
CYCLING CLASSES**

Travel the world from the
comfort of your local
community centre!

£4
Per
session



Community Board
North West
Chilterns

Project showcase: Community Resilience

The Princes Risborough Charity



The board were proud to support the Princes Risborough Charity who provided 91 Christmas Hampers, which included both basic and luxury food items, to individuals, couples and families that had been identified as being in need in the town of Princes Risborough and surrounding area, including Monks Risborough, Askett and Whiteleaf.

This project brought together many local organisations to provide additional support to those at need and contribute to the overall resiliency of the local community. There has been a sharp increase in need within the local community due to cost of living pressures, which this project helped to address: both through the contents of the hamper and through signposting additional resources to people most at need.



Project showcase: Community Resilience

Community Bench



To celebrate and reflect on the hard work and determination of our National Health Trust (NHS) staff and Care Workers during the Covid19 pandemic, the North West Chilterns Community Board asked all Town and Parish Councils if they would like a new bench in memory of this.

This project idea came about at a Community Resilience Action Group meeting, where it was suggested that it would be fitting to have places to think about those that helped during Covid, to allow people to remember our nearest and dearest, and/or a place to simply chat and rest along walking routes.

Project showcase: Community Resilience

Virtual Dementia Tour Bus

The North West Chilterns Community Board collaborated with the Beeches, South West Chilterns and Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye Community Boards to deliver the Virtual Dementia Tour experience.



Designed to provide an immersive experience of what the challenges of dementia can feel like, it gave dozens of residents and representatives of local organisations an opportunity to not only take part in the session but also to meet others impacted by dementia or working to improve the lives of those living with it.



Economic Regeneration

- Risborough Area Community Bus – Social Media Campaign
Total project cost, £1,350

Total NWC CB Contribution - £1,013

Project showcase: Economic Regeneration

Social Media Campaign

The Risborough Area Community Bus (RACB) has provided much needed transport to the elderly, particularly those without their own transport and brought footfall and income to the town centre.

Post covid restrictions saw passenger numbers drop affecting the viability of the bus and also the town centre. North West Chilterns Community Board supported a social media campaign to increase awareness, attract younger passengers and encourage people to leave their car at home.

As a result, RACB has seen an increase in usage and new passengers and decided to extend the campaign for a further three months after project completion.



Project showcase: Economic Regeneration Marketing and Promoting Local Tourism Project



A 6-month project with Visit Buckinghamshire (VB) was agreed in 2021/22 but delivered during 2022/23.

This project, a first for a Community Board kicked off at the beginning of May 2022. The purpose of the project was to ensure businesses in this locality got a larger slice of the £901 million spent by visitors in Buckinghamshire, in addition to accessing support to help them recover from the pandemic.



As part of this project a network event was organised which was a great success. This format for bringing people together worked well, great conversations were had, networks were expanded and collaborations discussed. We are now looking to run another event in Autumn 2023.

The NWC CB was well represented during this project, and with the help of VB, were able to provide businesses with the necessary tools and information to help them recover post covid.



Environment & Climate Change

- Buckinghamshire Community Energy – Public Awareness Efficiency Campaign
Total project cost £1,350 / Funded £1,350
- Monks Risborough Parochial Charity – Lily Bottom Lane Allotment
Total project cost £19,008 / Funded £15,000
- Chiltern Conservation Board – Hedgerow project
Total project cost £72,036 / Funded £5,000
- Princes Risborough Town Council – Bee Squared Project
Total project cost £600 / Funded £600

Total NWC CB Contribution - £22,044

Project showcase: Environment & Climate Change

Chiltern Conservation Board (CCB)



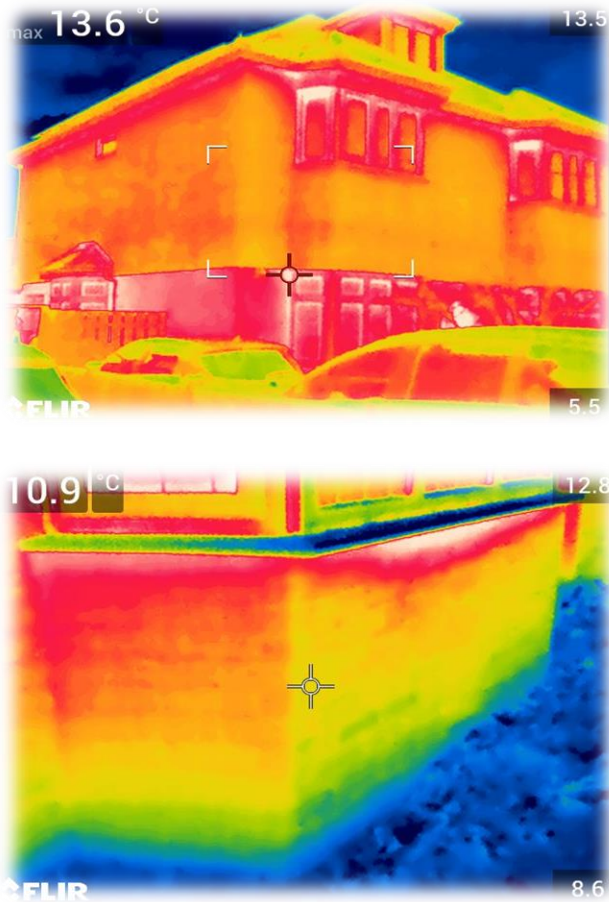
The CCB applied for funding to deliver specific hedgerow projects across three farms: Little Horsenden Farm, Old Callowdown Farm, and Beechdean Farm. The project will deliver many environmental objectives, which include, a greater area of wildlife rich habitat, increase in biodiversity and more carbon will be stored and/or sequestered.



The project will also support farmers to encourage sustainable economic growth, and to maximise opportunities, through helping them to access additional resources for longer-term funding such as Countryside Stewardship schemes and upskilling farmers in practical land management.

Project showcase: Environment & Climate Change

Buckinghamshire Community Energy



This application was to fund the planning, marketing and delivery of the Leaky Homes Roadshow to more homeowners in the NWC CB and through these events to advise local people on how to reduce their energy usage and carbon emissions in their daily life and work, to engage with the community to stimulate discussion, thinking and action around local, community and individual solutions to the climate crisis and to deliver 18 thermal imaging and energy advice reports.



Project showcase: Environment & Climate Change Bee Squared project

This application sought funding to encourage residents of Princes Risborough and the surrounding areas to plant wildflowers and help bees, by planting a “Bee Square.”

This project was in response to the climate and biodiversity crisis, with an aim to increase biodiversity and awareness for residents by engaging with private householders in planting up a small patch of wildflowers (a “Bee Square”), creating more re-fuelling pit stops for pollinators.

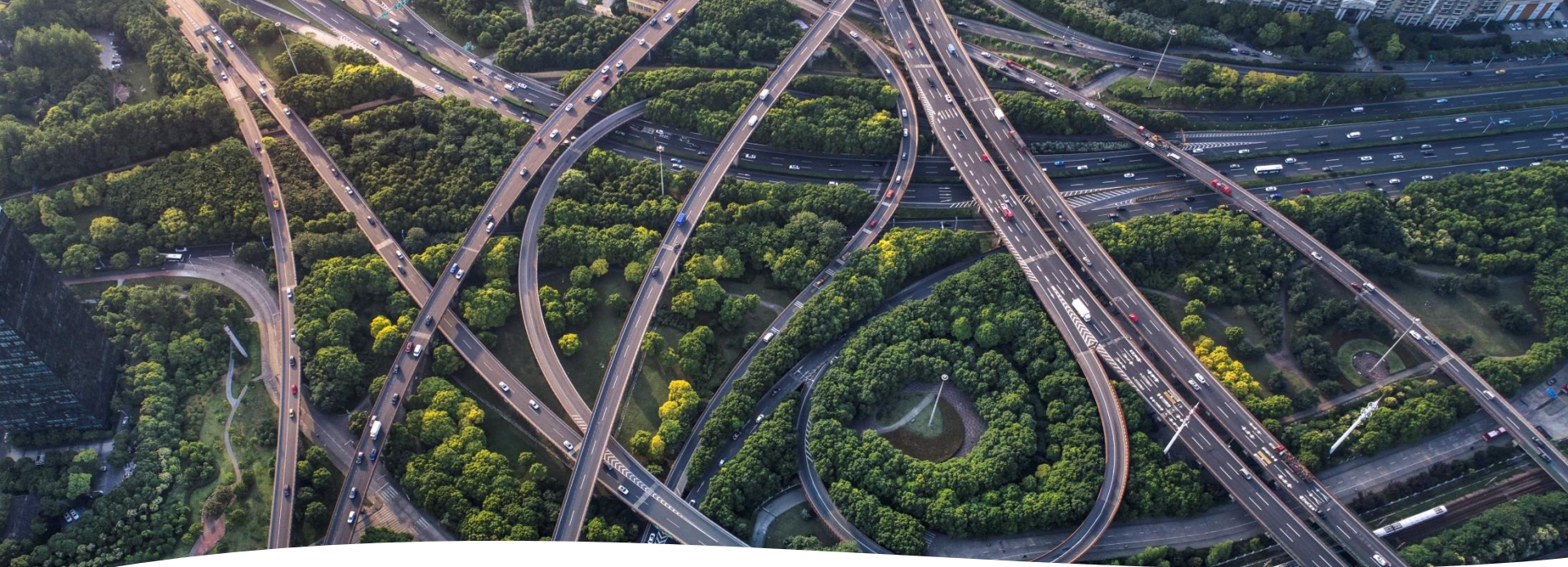
Project showcase: Environment & Climate Change

A project from 2020/21 – update....



Pictures of our first chicks from our Bird Conservation project with the Askett Society.

The project's main objectives are to increase bird population, particularly owls within the local area, while engaging and educating the community, with wildlife. Askett has large open spaces within the village which the Society are aware is a hunting ground for owls, and they would like to use this advantageous position to increase the owl population within the local environment.



Transport and Road Issues

- Seven highway schemes carried forward to 2023/24
Total project cost £73,006 / Funded £30,922
- Longwick cum Ilmer Parish Council – Toll Bar
Additional project costs: Road Closure £1,875 / Road Friction Road Surface £3,363
- Ellesborough Parish Council - Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign
Total project cost £4,500 / Funded £2,500

Total NWC CB Contribution - £38,659

Project showcase: Transport and Road Issues

Longwick cum Imer Parish Council – Toll Bar Corner



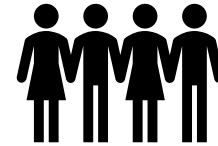
A dangerous crossroad in Longwick was highlighted by the Parish Council. The action group decided to look at possible solutions and discussed these with Transport for Bucks. The solutions taken forward were red high friction surfacing and install an 'Advanced Give Way' sign on its approach to the A4129 Thame Road. Funded by North West Chilterns Community Board this provides a visible cue to motorists of the approaching junction and an improved surface to break on.

In addition, before approaching this junction, the existing 30mph signs were replaced with yellow backed signs and dragons teeth road markings were also installed at the 30mph limit location.

The North West Chilterns Community Board is much more than just a source of funding....

We play a critical role in promoting community engagement and work closely with local organisations, charities, and communities to build a stronger and more connected community.

The action groups are truly local and have many residents, local groups and Town/Parish Councillors participating. The board and it's action groups are very committed in understanding the needs and priorities of the community, and to developing programmes and initiatives that respond to those needs, be it by supporting local charities, or providing resources, schemes and support where help is necessary.

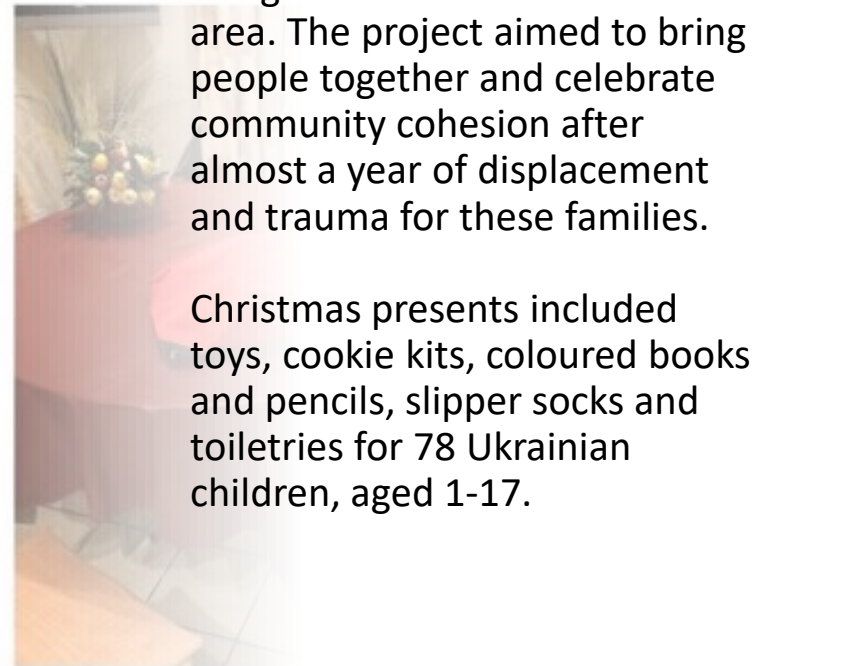


The following pages showcase some examples of what our Action Groups do.



Ukraine to Chilterns Christmas support for Ukrainian families

Linked up Ukraine to Chilterns with the Council's Ukraine support team who funded Christmas gifts to Ukrainian refugee children in the Chilterns area. The project aimed to bring people together and celebrate community cohesion after almost a year of displacement and trauma for these families.



Christmas presents included toys, cookie kits, coloured books and pencils, slipper socks and toiletries for 78 Ukrainian children, aged 1-17.



The Princes Risborough Charity

Hot Food Voucher Scheme

North West Chilterns Community Board linked together Helping Hands and the Princes Risborough Charity and they delivered a project which provided hot meal vouchers for those struggling during the cost of living crisis.

Broadband



Worked with local Broadband providers over 2022-23 to help improve urban and rural connectivity.

Supporting our Local Economy

The Economic Regeneration Action group discuss issues and concerns raised by local businesses to support their development and growth.





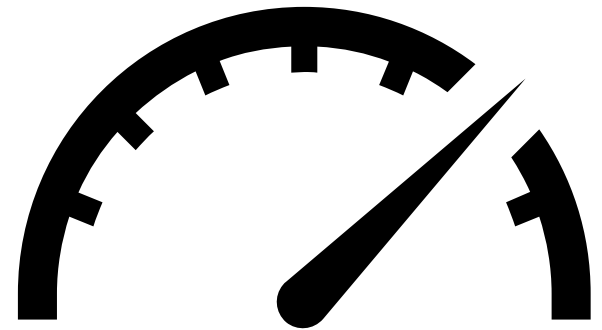
Air Quality

The Transport and Road Issues Action Group identified the need to collect air quality data in Princes Risborough. The Council's Environment team subsequently were contacted and then worked jointly with the Action Group on a plan to monitor air quality in Princes Risborough. Monitoring will commence in 2023.

The data collected will enable air quality comparisons before, during and after the construction work on the housing expansion of the town and the construction of the new relief road.

Traffic Speeds and Speed Limits

A regular discussion at Action Group meetings is about local community concerns with speeding traffic and speed limits. Local community groups are often invited to Action Group meetings to discuss their concerns direct. The Action Group helps to find ways forward with possible solutions, such as setting up local Community Speedwatch initiatives.





Cycling and Walking

One of the transport and Road Issues Action Group's top priorities is to find ways to encourage more cycling and walking in the NWC's area.

This is to help accessibility and tourism within the NWC's area, and also help reduce car dependency and emissions.

The group has used local input from residents, Resident Associations, community groups, Buckinghamshire Councillor's and Parish and Town Council's to produce an aspirational plan that it hopes will help Buckinghamshire Council with it's own Active Travel aspirations and projects.

**NORTH WEST CHILTERN'S
ACTIVE TRAVEL
ASPIRATIONS**





Engagement Events in 2022-23

The North West Chilterns Community Board attended a number of events to promote the board and those organisation's it supported and funded.

Proud of Bucks Awards 2022

On 24th June 2023, the North West Chilterns Community Board hosted an awards ceremony at their 2023 event in Wades Park, Princes Risborough.

Winners of the awards and all those that were nominated were celebrated.





Looking ahead...

Priorities for 2023/24

- Community Resilience
- Economic Regeneration & Development
- Environment & Climate Change
- Transport and Road Issues

For more information, go to our webpage

[North West Chilterns Community Board | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

If you would like to get involved, or have a project which supports any of our local priorities and would like to discuss further, then please get in touch with Jackie Binning, Community Board Manager.

07816 118011

Jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

