

North West Chilterns Community Board
Community Resilience Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 23rd November 2023

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 27th July 2023.

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 the objectives detailed below:

- To consider issues around health and wellbeing, including social isolation and loneliness.
- To improve quality of life and community cohesion between socially isolated/lonely and deprived young and older people
- To consider areas of crime and anti-social behaviour to create safer and connected communities.
- To consider any application regarding community resilience.

Action Group: Meetings are held every two to three months. A meeting was held on 9th August, the last one was held on 1st November and the next is planned for 17th January 2024.

The group continue to work on:

- Projects around disability: The Community Board approved the “Walk With Us Bucks” initiative with the National Trust – Hughenden, This is a walking project, which will involve young and older people, especially those who suffer with loneliness or vulnerability. The Community Board Manager is working with the Trust on all elements of this project, including the comms, transportation and the walking routes which will have varying difficulties.
- Community Garden: This has been named as the “Orchard View Farm Community Garden” and will be led by Valerie McPherson with a number of keen volunteers. The Community Board will though continue to be linked with the garden.

Lots of work has been carried out in removing the thistles and weeds, and when the weather permits, the land will be renovated. As detailed in previous reports, Briants have kindly agreed to donate the posts and chicken wire, so the garden will be ready for planting next spring.

- Horse Therapy: As mentioned in previous reports, the Horses Trusts in Speen would like to collaborate with the Community Board on a project which works with young and older people with disabilities, and/or in need of therapy with horses. The action group are still trying to source a facilitator, which was requested by the Trust, and it is hoped through a recent contact put forward, that this can be fulfilled.

Pre-applications – the following are being discussed with:

- Bucks Music on a singing and music initiation for primary school children and older adults (this is an action group initiative).
- Kherpra Org, an education and learn to cook project, targeted at families, particularly those on a limited budget.
- Bledlow Village Hall for new play equipment.
- Hell Fire Motor Vehicle Club (HFMVC), a club which supports the health and wellbeing of men, is looking at a number of proposals which include activities and events which members can attend, and the renovation of a workshop where individuals can work on their cars, (many of which are collectables/vintage) and enjoy great conversation and collaboration.
- The Repair Barn, Princes Risborough, who are thinking of converting one of their barns to hold motorbike and record memorabilia, for enthusiasts to meet to enjoy conversation, repair their bikes and mull over the collection of records – much like the HFMVC.

The Community Board Manager has linked the Repair Barn and HFMVC together as they may be able to help each other.

It is hoped that funding applications will be received from Bucks Music, Kherpra Org and Bledlow Village Hall by 31st December when the application system closes.

Chairman: Cllr Valerie McPherson BEM