

North West Chilterns Community Board
Community Resilience Action Group
Briefing Report for Community Board Meeting on 22nd February 2024

Purpose: This report provides a brief overview of the work undertaken by the Action Group since the Community Board Meeting on 23rd November 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. The last one was held on 17th January and the next is planned for 13th March 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.

Walks will begin in March/April 2024 during the week and there will be six different graded walks to suit every ability. The walks will start at 10.30am.

There are 14 Walking volunteers (2 per walk) who have been trained in first aid awareness.

- **Community Garden:** This has been named as the “Orchard View Farm Community Garden” and will be led by Valerie McPherson with several keen volunteers. The Community Board will though continue to be linked with the garden.

We have received interest from other disabled groups as we already have a group ready to start when the garden opens.

We are waiting for a week of dry weather to rotavate the ground., then the eight small plots can be marked out. The delivery of posts and wire that is being donated by Briants and Penns Nursery are donating seeds and plants once all the groundwork has been completed. Hoping to open the garden in Spring.

- **Horse Therapy:** As mentioned in previous reports, the Horses Trusts in Speen would like to partner with the Community Board on a project which works with young and older people with slight disabilities, and/or in need of therapy with horses but it is difficult to find a Facilitator for this project.
- **Singing/ Music Initiative -Bucks Music:** Application received but this project will be for 2024/25.

The project is called “Harmony across the Generations: Bridging the Gap through Music.” The aim of the project is to create a vibrant and inclusive community music project bringing together primary children, isolated individuals, and the older generation, to sing or play simple instruments and enjoy working in harmony whilst having fun.

The project will comprise of a series of six interactive music workshops in the local area led by Bucks Music, a group of teachers and musicians.

Project Ideas:

- **Building with Lego:** The aim would be to hire several venues to build a famous or historic place with Lego bricks where anyone can join in by purchasing a brick for £1. Further information to follow.

Health and Wellbeing event: Different organisations related to this theme to join in an event along with interested departments of Buckinghamshire Council. Looking at a framework from another Community Board.

Travelling Culture Cafes: The Culture Team at Bucks Council approached the Community Board Manager to initiate this across North West Chilterns where residents and families could meet to participate in a variety of activities. Further details to follow.

Chairman: Cllr Valerie McPherson BEM