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**REPORT FOR ADDERBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MONTH NOVEMBER 2021**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

I attended a meeting of the Thames Valley Police Performance and Accountability Meeting (previously known as the Level One meeting) in my role as a member of The Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel. The purpose of attending was to get an insight into the thinking of The Thames Valley Police Budget before it is brought to the panel for ratification. I was there solely as an observer and was not able to ask questions or to make comments. The meeting was between Matt Barber including the officers of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable and his senior management team. There were some interesting “nuggets” that came out of the meeting.

Knife Crime - Thames Valley Police have a target for a 5% reduction in serious violence including knife crime but excluding possession offences. In the period first of April 2021 - 14 of November 2021 it achieved 15% reduction. This gave it a rating for this measure of first out of 43 other police forces/services. In the words of the Chief Constable, Thames Valley is best place in the country for reducing knife crime.

Antisocial Behaviour - antisocial behaviour appears to be decreasing in the run-up to Christmas. This was cautiously welcomed. (It appeared to me there is a difference in what is considered antisocial behaviour by the police and what is considered antisocial behaviour by local authorities.)

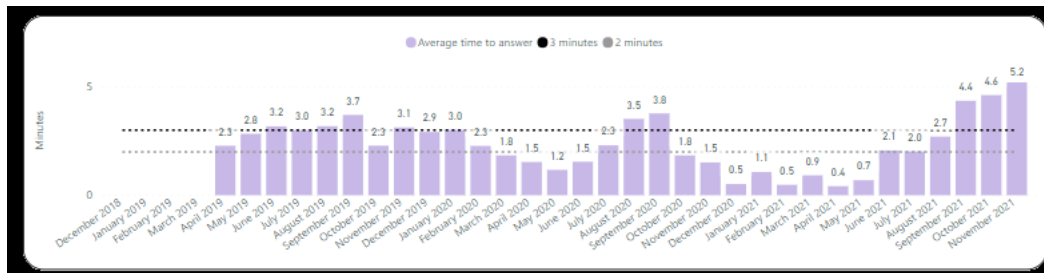
Open Space Drug Dealing - this is a force priority. It was not made clear whether this priority relates only to Class A or to other classes of controlled drugs.

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) - there was significant discussion around this topic particularly focusing on precursor events such as flashing and other “antisocial behaviour”. It was stated that the police have to deal with ‘high harm’ incidents. The discussion centred around whether precursor events should be taken more seriously. It was noted that TVP attended 49% of domestic abuse incidents within four hours against a target of 65%. It was also noted there had been a 21% decrease in the volume of domestic abuse crimes that lead to formal action being taken against a target of a 10% increase.

Murder - there are currently no undetected (unsolved) homicides in Thames Valley.

Call Handling 101 - The time taken to answer 101 calls continues to be no longer than an average of 3 minutes, aspiring to a target of 2 minutes in 2022/23. The average time for calls to be answered was given as 2 minutes 31 seconds. This does not reflect the calls I have received from other

councillors and from other members of the public. The chart that accompanied this statement appears to give a picture of increasing time to answer calls



Organised Crime Gangs (OCGs)- There are currently 64 Active OCGs in the Thames Valley with 70% recorded as having a primary criminality of drugs. There have been an increasing the number of disruptions and successful prosecutions for serious organised crime (SOC). The focus is on SOC groups involved with acquisitive crime and exploitation.

DRINK SPIKING - TVP and Community Wardens will be working over Christmas period to raise awareness. Reported cases have increased, including reports of needle spiking. This is taking up a significant amount of investigative time. As of this moment I am not aware of any of the reports of needle spiking having been confirmed. CDC looking to source testing kits to give out to women. Efficiency of kits varies substantially and an effective one is yet to be found.

YOUNG PEOPLE, OLDER PEOPLE

Age Friendly Banbury partnership meeting – 18 Nov focusing on how partners are addressing the theme of “keeping warm this winter”. Royal Voluntary Service are supporting the Winter Warmer initiative by supplying and delivering soup to the elderly – including one vulnerable person in Hook Norton. Funding for this has been secured through to February 2022.

Once a month there will be an older peoples’ supper club held at The Hill – with options being explored to hold this weekly.

Holiday Hubs - October went ahead at NOA and Cooper with 25 a day – 290 in total. Funding application gone in for Christmas 20 – 24 Dec for £22k at four sites in Banbury x 2 , Bicester x 1 and Kidlington x 1. This will again include food and physical activity. Additional activities will also be funded through HAF at Frank Wise school. £7.5k for top up swimming.

Top up Swimming - £14,000 obtained from COMF funding to deliver Top Up Swimming.

7 secondary schools have had 6 weeks for year 7 students. Another batch start after the half term. This will open up to primary schools in the New Year.

FAST - 6922 individuals and 2708 families now on the programme. Offers and activities still really well attended. (Contained Outbreak Management Funding) COMF bid to be submitted for 12 month extension across Oxfordshire in conjunction with Active Oxfordshire, Children Services and Public Health. Looking at Free School Meal children as eligibility criteria. Potential funding from Public Health inequalities fund to compliment COMF £10,000 obtained from COMF for BAME Family sessions which started in October in partnership with the Mosque.

Move Together -Referrals coming in for programme with 105 on the programme in Cherwell. 25 from Primary Care over last few weeks. Health on the Move pop up health check events happened in Banbury (Mosque) Bicester (Hanover Gardens) and Kidlington (linked to Food bank) where people had a health check, goody bag and signed up to Move Together. 155 health checks completed.

New activities such as 1-2-1 walking groups/ buddies seated exercise, 50% Move Together discount card agreed with Legacy Leisure and more.

Cycling - Partnership with British Cycling going well. FAST Bike Scheme – 26 handed out. Four Breeze (ladies) rides started across Cherwell. 8 schools have signed up for School Programme from September.

Women's Tour activities went really well with 60 women and girls organised as part of ride out and come and try activities with BMX pump track with British Cycling in Banbury. Bike Libraries at Longfields and Kings Meadow are in place. Orchard Fields, Mosque and The Hill will go in before Christmas.

Dr Bike sessions have finished in Bicester and Banbury from our COMF funding. 70 bikes were repaired in total in Bicester. 64 in Banbury. There are sessions still due to take place in Kidlington.

Healthy Bicester and K5 Better Together Programme - Kidlington wayfinding was successfully launched in October half term. Plans are now starting to form on how we continue engagement with residents and get some community stewardship of the routes. Evaluation is also going to start up in the next few months to evaluate how much of an impact they have which will form part of the report to Sport England.

Park Run has found a home, West Kidlington Primary School have confirmed we can host it at their school. Volunteers will now be trained up for a new year start.

Youth Activators

Fully booked 36 schools in Term 2 Oct – Dec. Extended Mental Health programme to secondary schools

This Girl Can Netball and Football activities started W/C 11 Oct with grant awarded £4,000

Recruited new Activator started 19 October with another starting 13 December

Girls Football established through FA Wild Cats programme at Heyford, Kidlington and Banbury.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Banbury Health routes have been partially installed; the ground markings are done but the posts will take a few weeks due to a lack of supplies. The ground markings to make it usable currently and residents and community groups have been using them.

Working well from home' courses being delivered throughout winter in partnership with Oxfordshire Mind.

Bicester Healthy Groups (online group video consultations) launched with dates set for specific sessions.

Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training – scheduling virtual training sessions for Autumn – Winter.

First K5 newsletter drafted. With designers for emailed distribution by the end of the month. Includes added commitment to bring climate change considerations to all elements of the programme.

Wild Bicester – continued excellent work including meetings with community associations and schools to advise on wilding projects. We are looking to extend the programme for a further two years through COMF (inc. adding Wild Kidlington and adding two years to Wild Banbury).

Supporting You Can Dance initiative in Bicester West (an area Healthy Bicester has identified as a priority). Working with the sport and leisure team to promote free creative movement classes for those with long term health conditions.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION

Finmere Quarry - ongoing situation. Ability of Cherwell District Council to act is restricted by the Environment Agency being the lead in this investigation.

Covid Support Work - Working with the Oxfordshire Covid Secure Team to support a business who are dealing with an outbreak at their Banbury premises. Ventilation assessment and advice and guidance is being provided to improve the working practices from a covid perspective. We have received 8 notifications under Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences (RIDDOR) linked to the outbreak. Generally, businesses taking up offer of advice on ventilation. Outbreaks are reducing within businesses overall.

Training – Project with Small and Micro Businesses - the countywide bid for funding (via OCC COMF funding) to provide H&S and risk assessment training for responsible persons within small and micro businesses was submitted for approval/sign-off. We are awaiting to hear if the request has been successful.

SAFEGUARDING - Monthly Briefing provided for CDC staff on several topics in Safeguarding since April 21, 104 staff have attended. iHasco training for safeguarding has supported increase in completion of Prevent, Safeguarding Level 1 and Level 2. I would urge you to complete the training if you can. It is not mandatory but is recommended for councillors by the LGA

<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/must-know-lead-members-an-c38.pdf>

91% of CDC staff have completed Prevent training. 58% have completed level 1 and level 2 safeguarding training.

Domestic Abuse needs assessment work on this is still in progress. Domestic Abuse posters in several languages provided to Leisure centres supporting action from commissioned safeguarding audits.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Business in Banbury- Interview under caution (IUC) confirmed for 16 Dec at Bodicote House with the owner of the Banbury food business. A decision on whether to prosecute will be made shortly after the interview. The issue is around mouse infestation. Neighbouring premises were not infested and were limited to this business. Food handling, food storage and cleanliness were the main causes.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Andrew McHugh
Adderbury, Bloxham & Bodicote

