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## **REPORT FOR ADDERBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONTH OCTOBER 2021**

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

I have been in contact with councillors from Stratford-upon-Avon District Council about the possibility of setting up a three Constabulary community safety Forum - incorporating Thames Valley Police, Warwickshire Constabulary and Northamptonshire Constabulary bringing in the respective police and crime commissioners and associated community safety leads. The impetus for this came from Stratford-upon-Avon District Council. I am, however, very keen to push this forward as I am aware that criminals use the geography of the coming together of these three Constabularies as a way of avoiding "hot pursuit".

I continue to work with Councillor Wing and Councillor Mallon to address the issue of social housing residents blatantly selling drugs from their social housing, with no apparent consequence.

Domestic Abuse assessment meetings planned reviewing and understanding the domestic abuse needs in Cherwell.

### **HEALTHY PLACE SHAPING**

**Dr Bike** sessions have finished in Bicester from our Containing Outbreak Management Funding (COMF) funding. 70 bikes were repaired in total in Bicester. There are sessions still due to take place in Banbury and Kidlington there have been some successful targeted sessions at the Hill sports and community centre and will be supporting the community team at Grimsbury Play Day over half term with a session.

**Kidlington & Banbury LCWIP.** Consultation on Kidlington LCWIP has reopened now the final draft has been completed by OCC, it is opening for 4 weeks. The Banbury LCWIP is still with OCC Cllrs for review. Officers will then do a briefing with CDC Cllrs to update them and let them have their say. This will be in November.

**Wayfinding Routes Consultation.** Consultation on 7 potential wayfinding routes in Kidlington completed – animal themes agreed for design of lines and signs. The way finding routes are lined and the installation phase of the markers is complete. Still to be installed is the accompanying

benches, boulders, tree/benches and bug hotels etc. There will also be evaluation carried out over the next few months to see if the routes have increased activity levels in residents.

**Health Routes.** Banbury Health routes should now have been installed. Health Route improvements in Bicester have proved popular with several Healthy Bicester partners co-promoting them on social media.

**Junior Park Run.** Planning is underway to start Junior Park Run in West Kidlington. We have a good number of volunteers but are still working on a venue.

**Wild Bicester.** Continued excellent work including meetings between Cherwell Communities Dept and community associations and schools to advise on wilding projects. Healthy Bicester will continue to support the link between green social prescribing and Wild Bicester.

**Women's Tour.** The Healthy Place Shaping/Sport and Leisure and Street Scenes team worked together to ensure the event ran smoothly with added value for communities in Bicester and Banbury.

**New Models of Care.** Piloting of Video Group Consultations for patients registered in Bicester. These are proving surprisingly successful as co-attendees can often say things to other co-attendees that doctors would be unable to say.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - YOUNG PEOPLE, OLDER PEOPLE**

**International Older Persons.** International Older Persons celebration events were a great success with over 300 information packs given out to residents across the district and positive engagement undertaken. Working together with the Fire and Rescue Service and Cherwell Volunteer Driver Service, a programme of inspection of electric blankets was conducted prior to the onset of winter. This ran extremely smoothly. As a result of the inspections 37% of the blankets inspected were condemned. Each of these condemnations was a particular fire/fatal event avoided.

**Grimsbury Play Day.** Grimsbury Play Day event – 27 October celebrating “Back to nature” at the Grimsbury Community Garden.

**Containing Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) and food security.** Successful COMF applications for Cherwell community groups working to support residents with food. These include Banbury CAG, Banbury Mosque, Cherwell Collective and Bicester Food Bank. I have also been working with Fiona Steel from Good Food Oxford Network with the view of writing and delivering an Oxfordshire food strategy. This is something I have been pushing for whilst I was chairman of the Oxfordshire Health Improvement Board.

**Age Friendly Banbury.** I made a radio broadcast on Puritans Radio with officers from the community's team and representatives from Age UK to talk about the great work that is being done to make Banbury “age friendly”. We use this opportunity to relaunch business pledges.

**Cherwell Community Lottery.** Cherwell Community Lottery Grant – applications deadline date 26 November 2021, budget of £10,000. Cherwell Community Lottery – 90 live causes signed up, annualised income £32k

## **ARMED FORCES CHAMPION**

I attended a meeting of the Heyford and Bicester Veterans where I picked up a considerable amount of casework regarding access to housing and services for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). I also learned That Heyford and Bicester Veterans is facing a funding crisis that makes its future anything but certain. The level of funding we are looking at to ensure that it can continue is around £2500 per annum. I am working with Heyford and Bicester Veterans to see how we can achieve this.

I continue to act as Honorary Treasurer of the Royal Air Force Association, Banbury. I attended a fundraising seminar arranged by 11 Infantry Brigade. This was particularly disappointing as it appeared that grants from major donors were being capped at £10,000.

**Remembrance Day Commemoration.** Remembrance for CDC staff on 11 November. Propose to use same video as last year and broadcast as a Teams event for staff and councillors to join if they so wish.

## **HEALTH & WELLBEING**

### **Sport and Physical Activity**

**Holiday Hubs.** October holiday hubs going ahead at NOA and Cooper. Funding application gone in for Christmas 20th – 24th 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.

**General Practice Estates.** I have been approached by two GP surgeries concerning the latest NHS properties strategy. It is now, I think, well known that the NHS/Department of Health wishes to see primary care business units (GP surgeries to you and me) serving a population of between 30 to 50,000 patients. As part of that strategy document it appears the NHS will no longer support surgeries that do not serve a population of at least 10,000.

*OCCG will work with practices so that they remain or can become resilient and sustainable; the CCG will not support the establishment of single-handed GP practices and would only wish to fund new practices that can cater for at least 10,000 population (5-6 FTE GPs). **As a general rule the development of new branch surgeries are no longer clinically or financially viable, so will only be considered where there are exceptional circumstances.***

Some are concerned that an unintended consequence of this will be to apply pressure to parish councils to accept development in order to bolster the practice population in order to ensure that surgery continues to receive financial support from the NHS. (The most obvious case would be Sibford Surgery – practice population 2951). I will be seeking clarification on this matter from the CCG.

**Move Together.** Move together is a program designed to encourage the vulnerable including those who have been clinically shielding during the lockdown to get back into regular exercise, be it ere so gentle. Referrals coming in for programme with 65 on the programme in Cherwell. Health on the move pop events happened last week at in Banbury (Mosque) Bicester (Hannover Gardens) and Kidlington (linked to Food bank) where people had a health check, goody bag and signe dup to Move

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

**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 HT. This will open up to Primaries in new year.

**Families Active Sporting Together – FAST.** 6922 individuals and 2708 families now on the programme offers and activities still really well attended. 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. £10,000 obtained from COMF for BAME Family sessions in swimming which started in October

**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 in at Longfields and Kings Meadow will be in Half Term. Orchard Fields, Mosque and The Hill will go in before Xmas

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION**

**Finmere Quarry.** Enforcement Notice served on the Operator on 1 October. This includes a number of measures with deadlines in October, November, and December. As a result of the action being taken by the Environment Agency (EA) legal advice is that there would be nothing to be gained by writing to the Secretary of State for consent to enforce against the abatement notice

## **FOOD HYGIENE**

Food Inspection Programme. Inspections have recommenced and we are prioritising the high-risk businesses for inspection in-line with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) recovery plan.

**Training – project with small and micro businesses** A countywide bid for funding (via OCC COMF funding) to provide health and safety and risk assessment training for responsible persons within small and micro businesses has been drafted. The intention is to be able to offer free online training to enable people within specific businesses to adequately risk assess covid going forward.

## **LICENSING**

Hackney Carriage Project. We have initiated The Hackney Carriage project to ensure there is representation from the drivers regarding issues applicable to them.

In the wake of Operation Bullfinch I continue to press for a Thames Valley wide Joint Operating Framework (JOF) for taxi licensing. There appears to be a willingness for this. The stumbling block appears to be that anybody taking on the coordination and leadership Of the Thames Valley Wide Joint Operating Framework needs to be “police vetted”. This can take between 6 to 10 months

during which time the selected candidate is unable to perform his role and previous successful candidates have moved on to pastures new by the time police vetting came through.

**Ventilation Project – Covid.** County Covid Secure Team are continuing with this work in premises across the county. Focus has moved from high volume office locations onto fitness and leisure premises – feedback from business operators has been positive.

#### **ARTS**

**Better Lives Through Culture.** The project at the mosque working with a group of boys has had great success with 8 young people achieving arts awards.

#### **SAFEGUARDING**

Safeguarding Awareness week 11-10-21 completed, included Hate Crime Briefings and awareness posts daily. Self-Assessment questionnaire sent to front line services.

Two Significant Incident Reporting (SIR) briefings held in September 20 staff attended, this has raised awareness on the confidence to report concerns. This is evidenced with higher numbers of Significant Incidents Requiring Investigation (SIRI) reports from other service areas in CDC.

#### **PARISH LIAISON**

**COMF Good Neighbours** – Community First Oxfordshire (CFO - I am a trustee) are now working on the research phase of the Good Neighbours Project to identify groups / parishes potentially receptive to assistance setting up Good Neighbour Schemes (GNS).

**Parish Liaison.** Next meeting is on 10 November, it will be a MS Teams meeting. Items on the Agenda are Community Planning / Good Neighbour Scheme and Community Infrastructure/S106

Yours sincerely



Councillor Andrew McHugh  
Adderbury, Bloxham & Bodicote

#### **Attachments**