

Agenda item: SC 20/23



### **Woughton Community Council**

Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre,  
Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes MK6 5EG  
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### Environment & Communities Evaluation Form

Name	
Position in group	Secretary
Phone number	

Name of Organisation	Eaglestone Residents Association
Amount awarded	£500.00
Purpose of Grant	Summer picnic in the park event

How has this grant made a difference to your group and the local people who benefitted from this project?

This grant enabled us to hold a picnic in the park in the summer. Initially planned for mid-August, we took the decision to delay it due to the intense heatwave that happened over the planned weekend.

The purpose of the event was to encourage community cohesion and provide a day with family friendly inclusive activities for all groups on the Estate. We provided a day that could be enjoyed at minimal cost to residents: entertainment was provided, children's activities including the bouncy castle was free, and we provided subsidised catering.

An additional component this year was to support local artisans and entrepreneurs by giving them the opportunity to set up stalls at the event to

sell their products. We did not charge pitch fees for these stalls as our goal was to give the stall holders the opportunity to promote themselves, and to get whatever return they may receive on the day. We had 9 stalls in the end, which reached the capacity of the area allocated for them: Henna, face painting, sweets, toys, resins, bathbombs & wax melts, cakes, knitted & handmade gifts, and slush & candy floss.

What lessons did you learn in the process of delivering this project?

With the expansion of our events from the first picnic last summer, we have recognised the need for some earlier planning to ensure adequate provision of first aid on the day. We have made do with having a first aid kit with the committee, and have not had any incidents, but recognise that as these events grow, having the likes of St Johns present will be more appropriate.

We have also realised the need to have a plan B in place for unexpected events, that require reorganisation at short notice, such as extreme weather events or pandemic-related situations.

Please provide at least one quote or testimonial from a participant/service user describing their experience of this project

Numerous individuals approached us on the day to express their appreciation for the event and encourage use to continue.

We have also received the following testimonial from one of the stall holders:

After attending the Picnic in the Park on Sunday 18th Sep, which was a later date than planned due to the weather. The ERA handled things really well, considering all the changes, especially as a stall holder made things better for us. I know my stall (sweet tooth & merch-larder) were really happy with the day.

For us it's a way of being out in the community, meeting new people & maybe new friends in the process, & more importantly be affordable for the community, so they feel they've had a great day out with not much cost . It encourages people to come outside & I'd like to see more events like this, & would definitely attend & take part in this event again.

- Tasha Perry, sweet seller .

Will this activity/project continue after the end of this grant? If so, please tell us where the funding will come from

This was a one-off event, but we will hold the event again next year, and will seek funding support from WCC and/or MKC for the event. We are looking at reclaiming some costs through our BBQ sales and small raffles, but the primary purpose will always be to have an event that is affordable to all residents.

How/where has the Woughton Community Council logo been used in conjunction with this grant

We were thankful for the use of the WCC gazebo with the logo on it, and we had WCC flyers with the ERA stand. We welcome additional ideas as to how we can promote the WCC through our events.

How many people benefitted from the grant?

Please specify numbers

Total number of participants:

Young People up to the age of 18: ~ 120

Adults: ~ 120

Older People over 60: ~ 40

Area attending from, please specify numbers

We estimate that about 75% were Eaglestone residents, with the rest from other local estates, including families and friends of residents. (too difficult to assign where they came from)

Tinkers Bridge:

Netherfield:

Beanhill:

Coffee Hall:

Leadenhall:

Eaglestone:

Peartree Bridge:

We do understand that it is difficult sometimes to gauge numbers, please estimate to the best of your ability.

Please attach any relevant receipts to this form and detail them below

Item	Details	Cost
Bouncy castle	Children activity	£350.00
Elvis impersonator	Entertainment	£50.00
Blues brothers and audio equipment	Entertainment	£50.00
Hay bales	Seating	£95.00
Food and drinks	Catering	£432.92
BBQ cooks	Catering	£150.00
Recouped monies - unsold food		-£55.00
BBQ income		-£257.25

We would love to see any photographs that you are able to share with us, or please provide copies of any evaluation/feedback forms that you have. Should you require any assistance to complete this form or assistance with copying receipts etc, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please complete and return to Woughton Community Council within six weeks (42 days) of your award, failure to do so may result in a 12 month ban of applying to Woughton Community Council Grant Aid.



## Become a White Ribbon UK Supporter Organisation

If you are an organisation with less than 250 staff, you can show your commitment to ending men's violence against women by becoming a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation.

White Ribbon is the leading charity in the UK engaging with men and boys to prevent violence against women and girls. You can join a community of organisations who are actively working towards this goal. Our Supporter Organisations raise awareness about men's violence against women, positive masculinity and gender inequality, encourage culture change, and make sure people know where to find help.

You will be able to post your Supporter badge on your website and receive a 10% discount to use in our shop to purchase awareness raising materials. You will also receive a pack of our awareness raising resources to get you started.

To become a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation there are 7 actions that you need to commit to and a one-off registration fee of £150.

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### White Ribbon Supporter Organisation 7 Actions

1. Encourage all staff to make the White Ribbon Promise to never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women.
2. At least one male employee is required to sign up as a White Ribbon Ambassador (or woman Champion if there are no staff who are men who can undertake this role). If you are an organisation with strategic responsibility, we ask that your Ambassador be a Senior Leader.
3. Wear a White Ribbon and display it where appropriate – especially around White Ribbon Day, 25th November.
4. Post the 'White Ribbon Supporter' badge on your website.
5. Hold at least one awareness and fundraising event, or activity, a year. Many organisations will do this around White Ribbon Day, on 25th November.
6. Ensure you have policies or protocols in place if your staff or customers disclose that they have experienced violence and abuse.
7. Make sure women know where to get help – this could be through posters or find help cards – we can offer suggestions suitable to your organisation.



**Here are some ways White Ribbon Supporter Organisations promote awareness internally and in their communities:**

A football club has recruited a White Ribbon Ambassador, who makes sure all their Board members wear a White Ribbon at all matches, has encouraged all players and fans to make the White Ribbon Promise, and displayed posters throughout the club, including in the changing rooms and a banner around the pitch.

A small primary school became a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation as they felt that White Ribbon complemented their school values. Part of their activities have been to use the White Ribbon Schools packs, have a White Ribbon stand, which had white chocolate cookies, goody bags tied with White Ribbons and other white items for sale as well as 'find help cards'. The school website includes the White Ribbon Supporter badge and information about where to get help and support.

On White Ribbon Day and the following 16 days to end violence against women, all staff at a White Ribbon Supporter pub and small venue, wear White Ribbon lanyards. A specific fundraising event is held, most recently a quiz night. Visiting bands are asked to support White Ribbon by wearing ribbons on stage and delivering a message to the audience. Year round information about where to find help is displayed in the washrooms. All new staff are briefed about the meaning of White Ribbon and are encouraged to make the White Ribbon Promise.

A law firm are a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation. This is indicated on their website and, where appropriate, company literature. White Ribbon posters are on display in the offices. Senior partners occasionally write blogs for the company intranet about White Ribbon and relate these to current issues. Staff have held White Ribbon 'Fundraising Friday' collections and the company's annual summer party chose White Ribbon UK as its charity partner.

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**Ready to become a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation?**

If you have read through this pack and have decided that you would like to become a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation, follow this link to our online shop: [www.whiteribbon.org.uk/shop/white-ribbon-supporter-organisation](http://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/shop/white-ribbon-supporter-organisation) If you have any questions email Jayne Blacker, operations support officer at: [info@whiteribbon.org.uk](mailto:info@whiteribbon.org.uk)  
Website: [www.whiteribbon.org.uk](http://www.whiteribbon.org.uk)

**Agenda item: SC 23/23**

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Communities Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To provide a general update of our Youth Service, Reflect on the recent 'Deep Dive' and ensure the Services committee are informed of the plans for the delivery of youth services across the parish for the Summer of 2023.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. That the committee notes the report.**
- 2. That the committee is informed that we have been awarded a £7K HAF grant for this summer and notes the benefits and challenges of including the Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) managed Department of Education (DofE) Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) funding to enhance our offer.**
- 3. Request that Committee considers if the additional £480 income for venues from HAF funding could be utilised to offset the overspend on youth staffing rather than sit in additional income.**
- 4. That members have an opportunity to raise questions and gain greater insight into our proposed offer from the Youth Manager if desired.**

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

Youth Service Deep Dive

The Youth Service has recently undergone a 'Deep Dive' process, whereby the tasked group of councillors over two consultations posed questions, asked for specific data (attached in back papers) and subsequently reflected, discussed, and noted some key points.

These were:

- The Youth Service deliver a lot and it was agreed to a high standard.
- That we do in fact get a "lot of bang for our buck".
- The Youth Service works with a wider than traditional Youth remit. Specifically, and regularly including children as young as 8yrs old. It was questioned whether we are a Youth, Children & Youth or Children & Families Service.
- Some of our project names were felt to be less clear than they could be and a desire to "say what it does on the tin" is needed.
- That the Councillors / Committees were not fully informed or aware of the breadth of what is within our ongoing offer.
- We are under or poorly publicised and simply not "out there enough". Our residents do not know what we are offering, and we are therefore unknown, misunderstood or underused.

In response to the 'Deep Dive' process and the discussions this report looks to inform the committee of the steps taken to address these points and suggest future opportunities to ensure council have a full and complete understanding of what their Youth Services team are doing and why they do it.

Therefore, in response:

- We do offer a lot. We consistently adapt based on the needs of our residents and we strive to ensure we do not give a 'one size fits all' offer. Rather, that we are inclusive, and our programme is accessible and of use to the widest number of residents possible. This basically means we have to do a lot of different things, differently.
- As part of the process, the Youth Manager reflected on the 5-year plan, submitted in September 2020, and the overview of our offer. This was a positive experience, and it should be noted that we are working well within and towards our 5-year goals. Our standard of delivery is also second to none anywhere in the city.
- We do work with children from the age of 8yrs on a weekly basis, some even younger and with families in the school holidays and at events. However, it is clear that we only work with families (adults) when appropriate to holistically support the young person we are already engaged with. We are not traditional in that we don't limit our work to 13-19yr olds, but this is because the backbone of our service is early intervention and relationships take time. We have more effective engagement with our teens because we get to know them when they are children and earn their trust.
- Younger youth LOVE the being termed 'Youth' and therefore want the term Youth Club. Older youths less so. Following discussions, the poorly named senior projects have been addressed. In simple terms we now have Junior 'Youth Clubs' for ages 8-12yr olds and mixed groups. Our senior groups are now publicised as 'Youth Cafés'. What they offer hasn't actually changed but the simpler terminology more clearly suggests a safe space, to meet friends, access services and get some refreshments. Which is what young people say they want.
- The Youth Manager has reached out to our local schools and has an agreed plan in place to better share through a presence in school lunch halls, improved dissemination to school staff and hopefully subsequent signposting. Visual publicity around school buildings and some agreed mailshots out to parents. The autumn will be telling.
- The Youth manager has challenged Children Social Care to better signpost local young people to local services and has secured other forums to raise awareness of our services.
- Publicity has been updated, as has the website and the website diary to be clearer, up to date and more informative \*There is still some work to be done with the website, mainly in terms of signposting and a directory of support, but we are improving. We are also exploring more efficient options for social media publications.



- An 'Annual Report' that is readable to both council and the public is also in development.
- There is a Service overview document as well as an Operational Plan which are available to all councillors with the intention of greater insight into what we do and the desired outcomes. And, if useful, the Youth Manager would be happy to present an overview of the youth service and have open discussions relating to these documents to enable wider council to fully understand the 'What, How and Why's of your youth service.

### General Update

Our senior Youth Worker/Youth Development Officer continues to work 35hrs per week and we currently have 7 Youth Support Workers, working a total of 27.5 hrs per week term time. An MKCC

Youth Support Worker for 6 hrs per week and a Masters' student completing approximately 10 hrs p/wk of placements hours.

The Youth Service has the strongest and fullest compliment of staff than we have for over 4 years. Which enables us to function well. We are still not back to full capacity (previously 32hrs) but due to recent pay increases pushing our budget, the plan is to maintain these staffing levels and the delivery we can, within them. It is necessary for the Youth Manager to continue to be an active team member in a good many of our weekly projects. This is not a major issue and can be argued a necessary step in delivering the variety and quality we have committed to. It is simply noted that on a good week, everything runs smoothly but it doesn't take much disruption: sickness or annual leave to make delivery challenging. It should be noted that there will always be a challenge in a service that is based on sessional employees. However, on reflection difficulty is not common so the risk / benefit suggests we have the balance right.

We have made some improvements to No95, without cost to council, through partnerships and creativity and grant funding. The space continues to serve the service well and the business model in place is expected to ensure another year of keeping No95 cost neutral (income for hire covering all building costs Approx £6-£7K p/a). We only have 4yrs left on our lease, but the Council Manager has begun enquiries to extend the lease long-term.

We have successfully been awarded the MKCC Safe Practice Mark for our Youth Service. We were one of the first with only six organisations in MK currently meeting the standards. A second benefit of the mark is that we can now access free safeguarding training for our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy DSLs and staff.

### Safeguarding

A time analysis of the Youth Managers' time (as part of the 'Deep Dive' suggests that Safeguarding continues to take up approximately 20-25% of their working week. There are obviously exceptions. The systems in place appear to be working well and the wider team and councillors have a fair understanding their responsibilities to be

vigilant, aware and to signpost appropriately. There have been no serious case reviews this year and every case WCC has been involved in, has reported that we have discharged our duties without fault or failing.

There is a piece of work for the DSL to better disseminate our organisational and the Safeguarding team's responsibility vs. limitations, that is currently in progress and training planned for September.

### Summer

We know that 'one size does not fit all' and it is a concern for the Youth Manager that the realistic reach to young residents is restricted if a delivery pattern is too similar. As such, a varied programme has been the priority in recent years. We know variety incurs increased costs and to manage this we have again applied for HAF funding from MKCC. The challenge with the HAF funding is that it forces us to be restrictive and exclusive based on the financial status of our families. This does not sit well with the Youth Manager, Council Manager, or the council as a whole. In order to ensure we could be more inclusive and prevent the segregation of residents from participating in our programme, the following steps were taken:

- Reducing the number of places we tried to fund through HAF alone.
- Applying for separate funding streams that can be used for non-free school meal families.
- Working with our own internal Youth Service budget to match fund some activities.
- Ensuring that we have a balanced number of open access, free to all, no sign up activities throughout the summer.
- A contingency plan was developed, in case the grant applications were unsuccessful.
- Due to the HAF funding the bulk of the holiday provision is delivered through the four full weeks in the school holidays, from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August. \*HAF only funds Mon-Thurs for 4 weeks\* We have however, programmed activities to span across the 6 wks. The programme consists of a weekly combination of summer camp-based sessions, water sports sessions, one family day out, one trip with transport training. One senior targeted open access session, five Play Ranger sessions: one of which will have specific adaptations and ratios to enable greater SEND suitability, Young Parent's weekly picnics and one Forest School session. Our usual Dance and LGBTQ+ support sessions and through partnership with the Community team, a roadshow of Music Skills workshops touring the parish.

The week at glance programme is available in the supporting papers. It is essential that although grants will enable more, we must use our budget and those grants wisely. The team are prioritising diversity and ensuring alongside pre-bookable sign-up options, we continue to prioritise our open access and drop-in services in good balance. As much as MKCC funding criteria make being fully inclusive a challenge, no session will be purely criteria / evidence allocated. Every effort has been made to create a diverse programme that is open to every resident family, regardless of benefit status or which estate they live on. We continue to plan activities across

estates to reduce territoriality and ensure best use of officer time. We do not have the workforce and cannot responsibly use staff to facilitate sessions that we know are undervalued and under used. As such planning has incorporated ensuring we deliver the right sessions in the right settings to maximise participation, impact and appropriate use of officer's time.

### **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

- We must again honour our officer's right to book reasonable leave during the holidays (to be with their own families). We can however by increasing existing staff hours and utilising volunteers and bank staff still deliver an excellent level of service. The Youth Manager will continue, as in previous years to adapt staff hours to best meet the needs of the Summer programme, whilst mindful of the budget, using external funding to supplement where possible and appropriate.
- We will on the success of last year, implement our Junior Ranger programme, enabling young residents of Woughton ages 15-19yrs an opportunity for work-based learning, personal and professional development. \*This gives the team another offer, so diversifying our reach: A 17yr old may not want to come to a PR session but they can learn and enjoy being part of a supported team, which in itself provides opportunity for them to engage with our professionals.
- A volunteer drive has been implemented in recent days, primarily for the summer but with a view for ongoing support in the autumn.

### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

None

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- Committee should be aware that we always utilise bank staff and increase regular staff's hours during the school holiday. There is therefore an increase in the summer month's salary expenditure. However, this expenditure is planned and necessary. The Youth Manager will utilise external funding and adaptive scheduling to minimise any additional negative deficit to the youth service delivery budget for the year as a whole.
- The Youth Service budget is currently underspent in terms of resources and materials, this is usual as the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter incurs greater expenditure. Budget remains on track.
- We do not have the additional income from Ashland & Simpson PC this summer. However, neither do we have the expense to cover the additional delivery.
- The HAF grant submitted for £7,005.00 was successful and a further grant application for £1,598.35 has been submitted to the ASDA foundation. I have been informed it was successful but am awaiting written confirmation. These funds will mean the additional proportion of our summer offer will be cost neutral to the council / youth service budget.
- A small amount of additional income for venue hire for delivery of HAF projects is expected at £480 to utilise our own buildings.

- Staffing budget is projected at an overspend, the Youth Manager is working on solutions.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

- Data presentation from Youth Deep Dive
- Sept 20 5-year Plan
- Youth Service overview
- Summer programme week at a glance

**AUTHOR**

Tash Darling – Youth Services Manager & DSL

Agenda item: SC 24/23 a)

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Communities Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To consider changes to the funding criteria for the Communities and Environment Grants scheme.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and recommendations.
2. That the committee considers whether further changes are necessary to the grants scheme, specifically:
  - a. Whether any or all of the funding should be ringfenced to specific estates
  - b. Whether any restrictions should be places within the guidance around what will / won't be funded for coach trips
3. That these decisions are noted and included in any publicity and guidance notes for the grants scheme and become part of the agreed 'scoring' process for ALL applications.

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

**Consideration of 'estate based' funding.**

At the last Services Committee meeting (June 2023), a request was made to re-examine the previously used methodology of awarding a percentage of the grants pot geographically. This was previously based upon an unknown equation that included population, deprivation and potentially other considerations. However, this paper focuses purely on numbers – a sum of money allocated for each resident of the parish, based upon the estate on which they live.

The population figures used for this are:

Beanhill	2310
Coffee Hall	2640
Eaglestone	2645
Leadenhall	935
Netherfield	3740
Peartree Bridge	1100
Tinkers Bridge	1210
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14580</b>

The total allocation for funding in 2023/24 is £12,000. Previously, two thirds of this was allocated for the estate-based funding, with any 'unspent' at the end of December, becoming open to all.

Again, based upon previous figures, this means £8,000 allocated to estate-based funding – based on the figures above, this equates to just under 55 pence per resident. In terms of estates, this therefore means:

Beanhill	£1,270
Coffee Hall	£1,452
Eaglestone	£1,454
Leadenhall	£514
Netherfield	£2,057
Peartree Bridge	£605
Tinkers Bridge	£665
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£8,017*</b>

\*figures rounded.

This approach brings both pros and cons – it is based upon population as a whole, making no adjustment for age, being an elector, being a taxpayer or otherwise. It enables a clear and transparent approach to funding based upon simple numbers. However, the level of funding for the smaller estates would likely prevent them from being able to offer, for example, a coach trip as the costs would be prohibitive unless supported by the ‘general fund’.

### **Consideration of a ‘rules based’ approach to coach trip funding.**

At the meeting of this committee in June 2023, there was a discussion around payment of entry fees for coach trips. This led to an agreement that a paper would be produced around whether the rules should be adjusted to mean that entrance fees would not be payable under the grants scheme.

The Council Manager has concerns about the further restrictions that this approach would place on the grants scheme and believes that restricting applications further, following additional rules implemented around income levels, reserves and similar being put in place last year, will further reduce the potential for groups to make use of this funding and restrict further applications. Whilst having expectations on groups to not rely on this scheme to fully cover all costs appears to be an expectation of the committee, a ‘one size fits all’ approach may not be the best way to manage.

Despite these reservations, the options are many and varied for further alterations to the application process and rules included within. This may be that for any ‘trip’, there is:

- an expectation that a percentage of the full cost will be met through other means (e.g. ticket sales, other funding sources, fund raising, etc.), with that percentage to be agreed by the committee
- an expectation that the fund will either fund travel OR entry fees OR lunches, but not all three
- that this committee agrees to a certain level of funding towards coach trips, either per estate, per person or across the parish

The committee examines the applications and can, as it does, make recommendations and decisions around funding. Any additional restrictions / rules reduce further the powers within the committee to make decisions based purely on merit, but forces applicants to comply with an increasingly restrictive set off rules and compliance to access any financial support.

**STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

None.

**AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager

**Agenda item: SC 24/23 b)**

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Communities Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

Report on the Communities and Environment Fund at Woughton Community Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. That the committee notes this report, alongside previous and current papers relating to the use of these funds.**
- 2. That the committee considers whether the current approach is suitable:**
  - a. If suitable, continue with the current routine**
  - b. If not, that further work is undertaken to develop new processes**
- 3. That if a different process is considered, that this is developed with a smaller 'working group', presenting their proposals to this committee towards the end of 2023.**

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

**What is the Communities and Environment Fund and what is it for?**

According to our guidance notes:

The Communities and Environment fund is a local Grant Scheme managed by Woughton Community Council, with the aim of improving the quality of life of the people who live in the Woughton Community Council area.

It can be used to fund a wide range of projects:

- Training for Volunteers
- Supporting a Residents Association and Local Action Group
- Set up costs for a sports club
- A creative arts project for young people
- Computer access for older people

In order to qualify, each application must meet at least one of the four focus strands to meet Woughton Community Council's poverty priority:

- Youth
- Food
- Advice
- Building communities

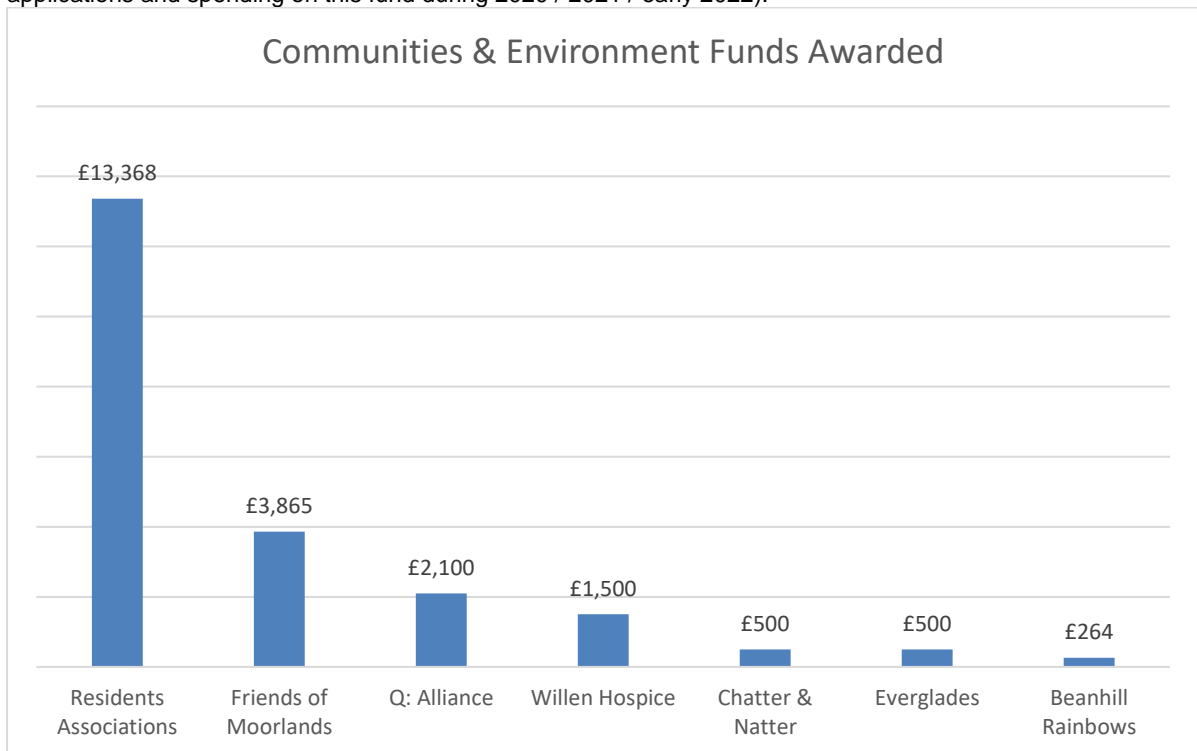


This report looks at funding across the parish between March 2019 and March 2023 to see how and where the money has been spent.

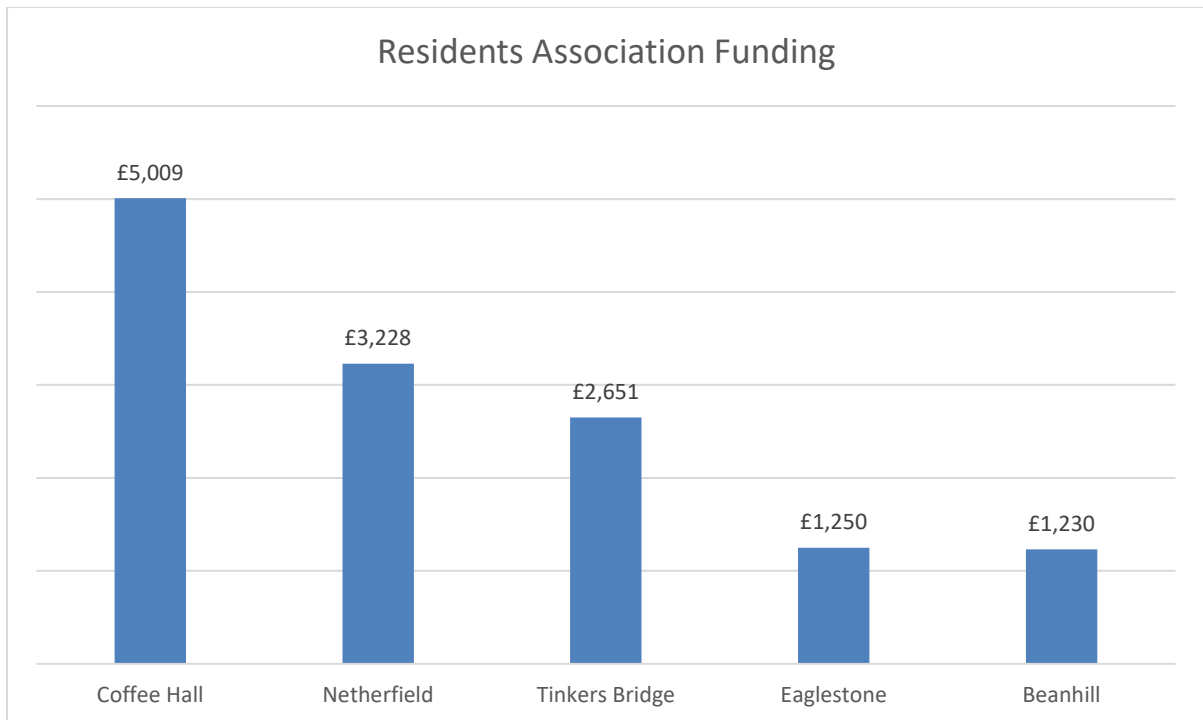
### Analysis of funds awarded

A total of £22,097 has been awarded in grants, out of a total budget of £54,000<sup>1</sup>. Of this, around 60% went to Residents Associations in Woughton with the remainder going to other local groups.

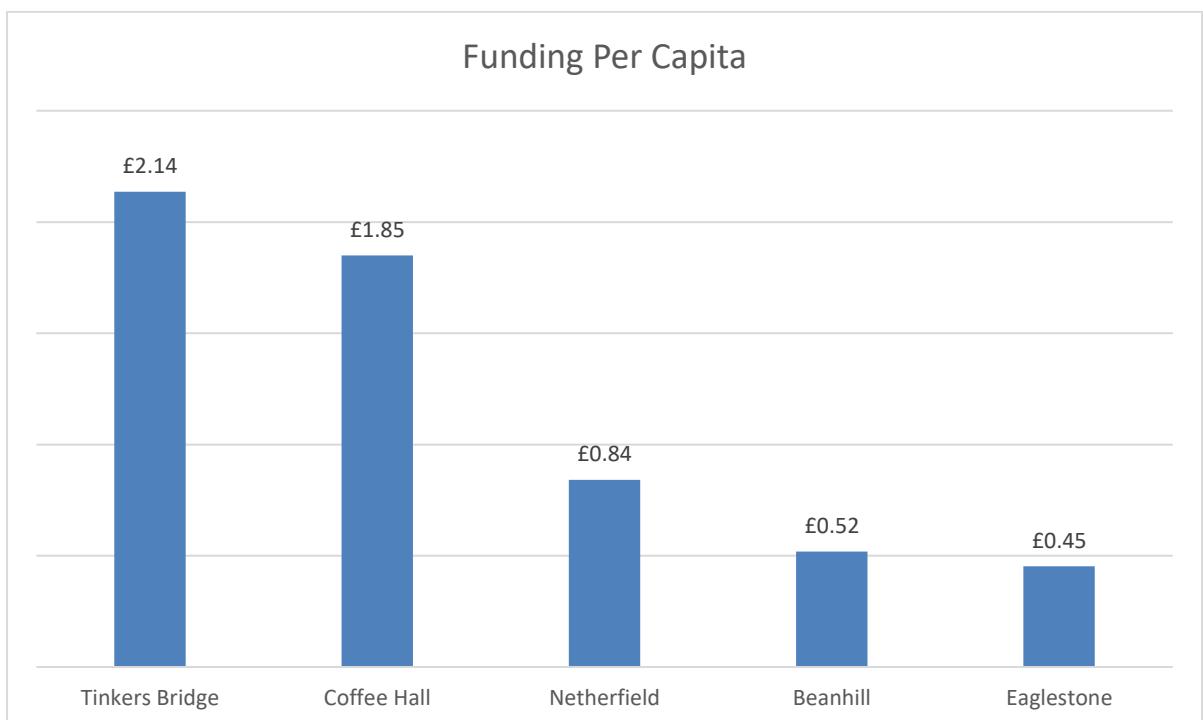
(1. It should be noted that this included both years of the Covid restrictions, which significantly reduced applications and spending on this fund during 2020 / 2021 / early 2022).



Funding is split between Residents Associations (RAs) as follows:

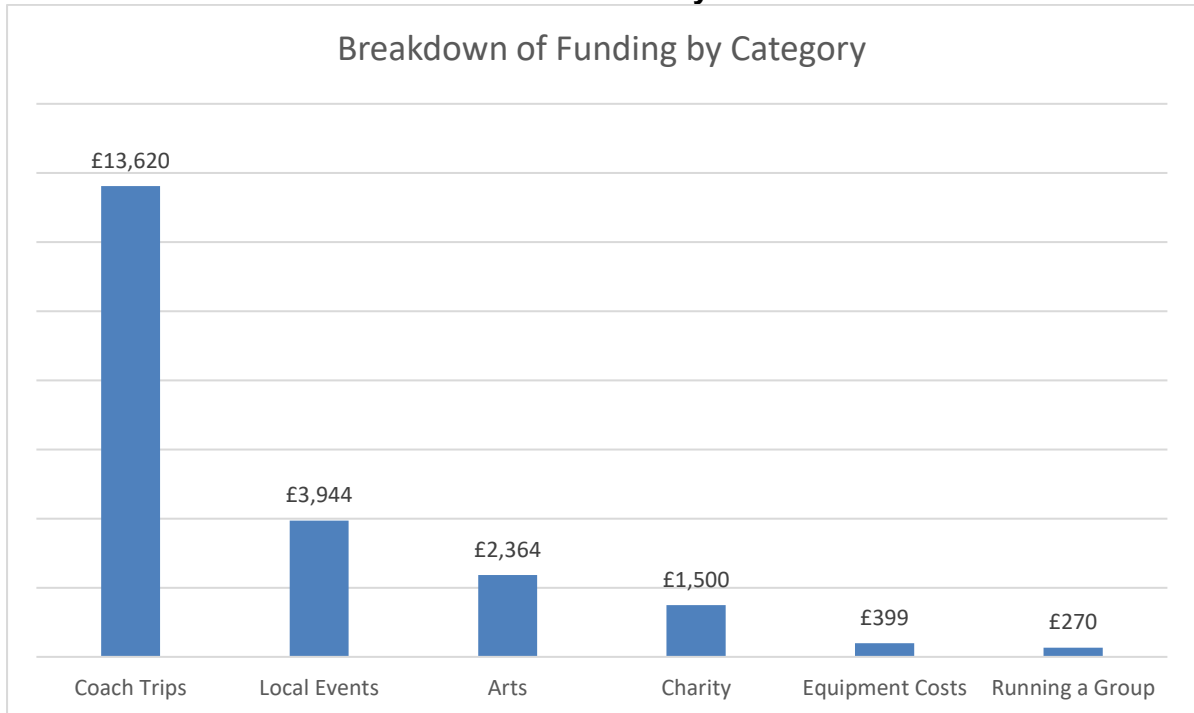


While there are large differences in the funding between different RAs, it doesn't take account of the differences in estate size. The following graph shows the funding per capita, using population data extrapolated from the 2011 census.



Average funding per capita (among Residents Associations) between 2019-2023 was **£1.16**, equivalent to **£0.29** per person, per year.

## How was the money used?

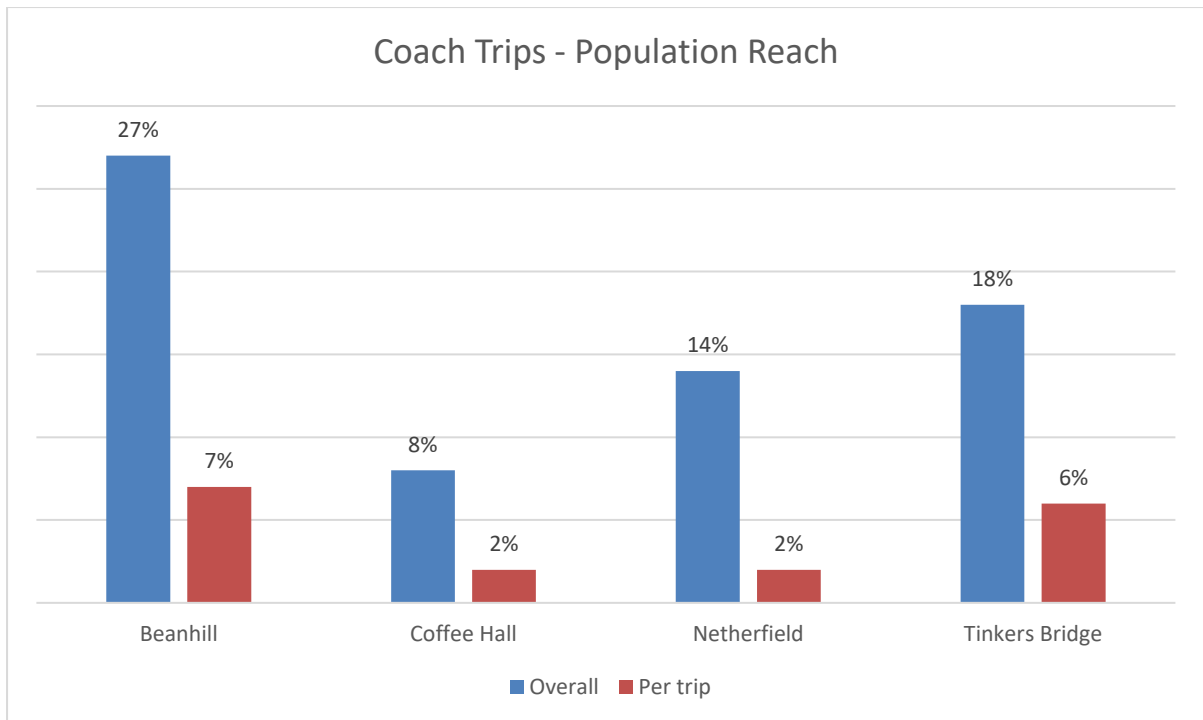


### Note:

- 60% of total funding between 2019-2023 went to Residents Associations
- 62% of all funding to Residents Associations was spent on coach trips
- 59% of total funding was spent on coach trips
- 17% of total funding was spent on local events – Halloween, Christmas, Easter etc.
- Netherfield RA spent 100% of their funding on coach trips
- Eaglestone RA spent 100% of their funding on local events
- Peartree Bridge and Leadenhall are not included in this data as they received no money from the Communities and Environment Fund during this period

## Population Reach

In theory, a locally-held event can reach everyone on an estate. While it is not always possible to determine the number of residents reached for an open event, coach trips have a finite number of seats. So we can establish the population reach for this type of funding.



The overall figure looks at the total number of people who went on WCC-funded coach trips over the period 2019-2023, compared to the total population for each estate. The per trip figure breaks this down further to find the reach for each coach trip.

For example – Coffee Hall's coach trips reached 8% of the Coffee Hall population over a 4-year period. Taken individually, each coach trip reached a maximum 2% of the estate's population. An alternative way of looking at this is that each coach trip excluded 98% of the estate. This figure is replicated to a greater or lesser degree across all the estates that provided regular coach trips.

#### Conclusions/Notes:

- The majority of funding between 2019-2023 was spent on coach trips. These are undoubtedly popular but are also very limited in the number of people who can participate.
- Local events, such as Eaglestone's Picnic in the Park or Tinkers Bridge's Easter and Halloween events are able to reach a wider population, but generally take a lot more organisation.
- Although the fund is open to voluntary groups, community organisations, schools & health bodies operating within the Woughton boundary, the majority of money is granted to Residents Associations.
- There is currently no limit on the amount of funding that any individual group can apply for.
- Funding is provided on a first come, first served basis.

#### For discussion:

- Is the current method of funding fair in terms of reach?

- Should we be using the fund for more long-term sustainable projects?
- Should there be a limit on the amount of money that a group can apply for?

### **Recommendations**

That the committee set up a working group to review the existing Communities and Environment Fund process to suggest changes and improvements.

### **AUTHOR**

Sean Perry – Community Services Manager  
Steve McNay – Council Manager

**Agenda item: SC 25/23**

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Communities Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To update the committee on the CCTV considerations, as discussed at Operations.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. That this committee considers the information included in this report and the presentation from Crimewave at Operations Committee.**
- 2. That this committee makes a recommendation for Full Council with regard to this approach and whether this is considered a priority for this committee.**
- 3. That the financial impact of any agreement is considered and, if the recommendation is that this approach is taken, that Full Council considers where funding may come from.**

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

At the Operations Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> July, a presentation was made by Luke from Crimewave, a security and evidence gathering company that works extensively across the city, with MKCC, Parks Trust and other statutory agencies, utilising CCTV resources.

The presentation explained the approach they take, the positives and the limitations. As a result of the presentation, the following was received by the Council Manager:

*Good to meet you all yesterday evening, just a round up below.*

*We already work with local parishes to help support their residents as we have discussed, we specialise in the collection and identification of evidence and information for various public bodies. We work with the Police, Council and Parish Councils. We provide specialist re-deployable CCTV cameras for a range of issues our clients may have. These are specialist cameras that are extremely expensive to buy out right. We install the cameras on street lamps and we review the footage in search of evidence or information as required. We then liaise with Police (or other relevant authority) as required to ensure action is taken depending on the reason for the camera at that particular time. We make the reports and package all the evidence and provide statements. We provide an all-inclusive service, so our clients don't have to do anything or have any further spend. We offer a service and do not sell any CCTV or other products.*

*The benefits of using us (a unique company) is:*

- No capital outlay for equipment*
- We cover repairs*
- We cover damage and maintenance*
- We cover data charges for remote viewing*

- *We review footage – However much there is!*
- *We install and move cameras as required*
- *Cameras can be moved to areas of hotspot issues*

*Our service can cover many issues that affect the parish such as but not limited to:*

- *Anti-social behaviour*
- *Fly tipping and littering*
- *Dog fouling*
- *Illegal parking*
- *Dangerous driving*
- *Protection of school crossing patrols and pedestrians, school parking issues*
- *Knife crime evidence and support*
- *Crime hotspots*
- *Prosecution of offences identified with support from authorities*

*We do not sell CCTV and we are not a CCTV company!*

*We offer a 12 month service. The CCTV can be moved as many times as needed, and we do everything with no additional fees from us. The only other cost is the council engineers to put up and take down the camera which is charged on at cost price. We also survey, arrange and attend all of the camera moves.*

*The cost is £7,800 per year per resource / deployment. As I mentioned, we have been reviewing how we can help all Parish Councils with the cost, and we have been considering offering the same service for £5800 per year with a three-year agreement. This is something that we now offer to Parish Councils only.*

*We keep your team regularly updated with camera locations, activity, and outcomes. We also deal with and provide the necessary regulatory CCTV signage for each deployment.*

*The feedback I have been getting form Councillors is that this service is something tangible that the parishes can offer to improve things for the residents.*

As can be seen, the costs associated with this approach are considerable and, as things stand, unbudgeted. The Council Manager suspects that two (2) or three (3) 'resources' will be needed, which would mean a minimum of £15,500 per annum (with additional costs for any movement of cameras, which is undefined above, other than 'cost price' – currently around £100 per move. Assuming 3 monthly moves for each resource, this is a further £800 per annum). The Council Manager would suggest that £18,000 would be a reasonable budget to allocate for this project, should it be agreed.

This issue has been discussed previously and passed from committee to committee and to Full Council for agreement, with no ratified decision made.

This is an area which is supported by the residents of the parish, based upon the (limited) feedback from the annual consultations.

Whilst there is currently no budget identified or planned for CCTV, this committee may feel that this service is one that should be prioritised and therefore use money from alternative budget headings. This will impact the end of year figures.

**STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

None – this would be an external service that would be bought in. However, there will be a need for some liaison and agreement about placement, etc.

The Environment Team are supportive of having these resources and feel that they can bring clear benefits. This view is shared by TVP.

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

There will be significant demand for any resources across the parish, with parking, ASB, fly tipping, littering, etc. all issues that are concerns for residents. There will need to be a method in place to decide where and how any resources are deployed, with cost considerations included within this (e.g. the cost of moving the cameras). Ideally, this should be a quick and effective with the potential for decision making immediately when requested by TVP / MKCC / etc.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

None.

**AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager



**Agenda item: SC 26/23**

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Communities Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To update the committee on the Landscape contract discussions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. That the committee notes this report.**
- 2. That the final decision is taken at Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> July.**

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

As discussed at the Full Council meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>, the landscape contract is due for renewal and discussions have been ongoing around the cost / benefit analysis, budgets, and preference of councillors / residents with regard to the delivery of the contract. Some issues were identified during these discussions and this paper may help clarify some of these.

- The amount of funding allocated for the service is around £20 - £25k per year below the cost to WCC. As a result, additional funding will need to continue to be allocated (as it has since the contract was first agreed).
- That this financial support has, to this point, been 'mitigated' by the Local Council Tax Revenue Support grant (LCTRS) – the additional amount of money that is given by MKCC to WCC to reflect the specific challenges of the parish demographics. This amount in 2022/23 is just under £170K.
- That the five year budget has anticipated this money reducing next year and disappearing fully over the next two years. This is now unlikely to happen, with next years funding likely to be at a similar level to this year - £70k more than budgeted.
- That the suggestion from MKCC is that there will continue to be similar support, potentially at a lower level, in future and that this will be focused on supporting areas of deprivation. This suggests that there will continue to be a level of additional funding for WCC, but likely at a lower level. The Council Manager has updated the 5 year budget to suggest around half the current amount over coming years (years 2-5 of the 5 year budget – four years which is equivalent to around £340k additional funding).
- MKCC have also suggested that an additional amount can be offered to help the move to the new contract - £25k in total, with this being paid either in one hit or over two years.

These financial updates mean that the overall outlook is considerably more positive than previously anticipated. Whilst, as with many aspects of budget planning, guarantees are hard to find, some of the issues above are clear and, over the next

two years, around £95k of additional funding has been agreed. This equates to 4 years of 'top up' for the landscape service.

The other issue that was raised was that of a 'break clause' – a way for WCC to hand back the service in the event that it becomes financially untenable. There is a six month break clause included in the contract – essentially at any point, WCC can give six months notice and the contract would return to MKCC.

**STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

One other query was around WCC officers and what would happen in the event that WCC handed back the contract. It has been agreed that TUPE would apply and as such, officers would be transferred over to the new provider, with some protection around salary, conditions, etc.

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

None.

**AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager

Agenda item: SC 27/23

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Services & Community Committee**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To inform the committee of the 'MK CAN' project and to see if the council would like to be involved.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and, if possible, checks the information at the Food Bank website.
2. That the committee considers whether or not WCC wants to sign up for this project, with the understanding of the commitments this brings.
3. That if WCC does sign up, that the committee agrees to the Council Manager working with officers, volunteers, and councillors to get a 'rota' for involvement and to create a 'drop off' point for donations towards any Woughton involvement.

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

This project was initially discussed at this committee (SC14/23) where this committee agreed to attend the launch event and to investigate what the project entailed.

The Council Manager attended the launch event and has undertaken further work to evaluate the project, what WCC may wish to do and the implications on the council.

The website explains the proposal:

**'MK Can' – A World Record attempt, lining up 10km of cans for MK Food Bank.**

World Food Day, Monday 16th October 2023

09:00 – 17:00

Campbell Park, Central Milton Keynes

MK Food Bank presents **'MK CAN'** – a major whole Milton Keynes effort to smash the current world record for the longest line of cans of food. Businesses, community groups, schools, churches and Parish councils can adopt a section of the 10km line, helping the Food Bank support thousands of households in crisis, and putting our city on the world map.

The official world record for the longest continuous line of cans of food was set in Canada in 2014 with a line of 45,000 cans (3.8km). MK Food Bank, along with 400 business and community supporters, want to smash this record and have an ambitious target of 132,000 cans – that's 10km long!

**The line** – which will wend its way round Milton Keynes' Campbell Park, starting at The World Food Day Pillar at the iconic MK Rose – will provide over half of the canned food we need for an entire year.

As a whole Milton Keynes effort, we'll also attract wide-reaching, positive publicity for Milton Keynes, and put our new city on the international map. Businesses, community groups, schools and churches will adopt one of 400 sections of the line, providing the cans and the volunteers to staff their section.

A major public celebration event will follow, with the public invited to “walk the line” and enjoy a range of entertainments on the way.

As can be seen, this project is aiming to engage with a range of groups to ‘sponsor’ a stretch of the line – businesses with a financial contribution, and community groups by providing the cans and volunteers to ‘staff’ the stretch that they sponsor. The launch event suggested approximately 400 tins and between 5 – 10 volunteers for each stretch.

The project was launched as an opportunity to raise the profile of your business, get recognised both locally and nationally (the press is already involved) and support the Food Bank by helping to deliver ‘half the tinned food needed in a year’.

The event is planned for the 16<sup>th</sup> October – this is the day of the October Services Committee, but other than the Netherfield Café, there are no other event commitments that day.

#### **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

Whilst officers may wish to be involved, the level of commitment will depend on the number of volunteers / councillors / others that are also happy to be part of this. It is recommended that the Council Manager creates a rota to ensure suitable cover, if the involvement is agreed.

#### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Whilst there is clearly a benefit to the Food Bank of this project, there may be some who see the ‘commercial’ aspects of this project as a little tasteless – the idea of businesses getting publicity because people are hungry could be viewed as normalising (and even benefiting from) poverty. Given this, the committee should be clear about what approach they feel is suitable.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

<https://mkfoodbank.org.uk/mk-can/>

#### **AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager