



## Community Engagement Report – Pewsey Sep 23

The Pewsey Area Board in May 2023 agreed local priority themes for the year, each of which has one or more specific local actions associated with it. Some of the recent progress made includes:

### 1. To improve opportunities for young people

- The Open Blue Bus has continued to operate in Burbage and Upavon with £900 additional area board funding awarded to Burbage to keep it going for a further 6 months
- Preparations are well under way to open a youth café operating in the Pewsey Vale Leisure Centre from the end of Sep 23. It will be run on Friday evenings operating at first as a drop-in group.
- Community First Youth Project Officers funded by the area board have continued to support the youth work in the area and run one off events. They have established good relationships with many of the young people but current funding ends in Sep 23. An area board initiative will be considered to extend their work for another year.



### 2. To address environmental issues

- Building on the work of Great Green Bedwyn and Pewsey Green a whole of Pewsey Community Area environment survey will be launched in the Autumn to discover what the people of Pewsey Community Area wish to focus on
- Plans for community use thermal imaging cameras which can show heat loss are being formulated. These cameras can help people decide what action they would like to and can take. Pewsey green have designed a decision tree to help with this.

### 3. To Improve public transport and encourage cycling and walking

- The launch of the new Demand Responsive Bus services in the Pewsey Vale took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> August and there has so far been a very good take-up. More information about it and how to book can be found at [www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk](http://www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk) or tel: 01225712900
- The walkers are welcome group met in July and considerable progress has been made in making our footpaths more accessible to all



### 4. Valuing and supporting our vulnerable and older people

- The health and wellbeing group met in late July and interventions such as the Memory Café, walking group, arts groups, and others are still operating strongly. The Thursday Club at Great Bedwyn is also proving very popular.
- The group discussed where additional support is most needed and we will look at a possible mens shed, support with the cost of living and exploring some initiatives to help with loneliness. Anyone interested in helping with a shed is invited to contact [Richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk)



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