



Community Engagement Report – Chippenham – Summer 2021

Over the past few months as things have been reopening there has been an increase in community activity. From restarting to new ones forming.

Climate & Environment:

We have had an increase in the number of people volunteering to litter pick using our Area Board resources. Morrisons Community Champion organises monthly picks and the primary schools in our area are planning picks this autumn with our help. We have had meetings recently around a River Festival next year, and this includes a river clean-up. Most recently we have been having discussions with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to look at forming a community group to manage the Birds Marsh Woodland. Furthermore, there is a new woodland being planned on Studley Lane near Abbeyfield School. Refashion My Town have launched in Borough Parade, a charity shop with a difference, running workshops & help people mend or repurpose clothing.



Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour:

In recent weeks we have been looking at Saddlers Mead Car Park and leading on a task group of partners to proactively look at what we can do to reduce the number of issues that have been seen there since opening. We now sit on the bi-weekly Police tasking meetings to engage directly with the Police in supporting priority areas of anti-social behaviour. We are also active members of the Community Safety Forum hosted by the Town Council, whom meet quarterly.

Youth Engagement & Wellbeing:

Working alongside the Rise Trust, Chippenham Borough lands Charity and the Town Council we now have a purpose youth centre back in Chippenham located on Westmead playing fields. The venue has been renovated and is opening multiple evenings and after schools a week, including detached and LGBT sessions. The Local Youth Network continue to meet on a monthly basis, giving a forum for a range of youth partners. Recently they have funded a coercive relationship support film project, and online digital safety sessions for young people and their parents.

Economy & Night Time Economy:

We regularly attend Pubwatch, supporting the night time establishments by creating better links between the pubs, clubs, venues and restaurant. Furthermore, between Police and statutory services. Chippenham Town Team has now been set up and they host monthly meetings with business and premises owners in the town. During October we will be supporting a community survey running to capture what the community want from their high street.

Health & Wellbeing:

The health & wellbeing forum has been in contact as a mailing list over the pandemic, the chair, Pam Sharratt has chosen to step down after years of developing such a successful forum. We will now work with partners to find a way to bring the meetings back this Autumn. We are working with partners to start looking at support packages this winter, from food parcels to fuel poverty.

Oliver Phipps – Community Engagement Manger