

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Full Council 11/11/2021

Connecting Communities in Berkshire Membership

Agenda item 21/092 6. To RESOLVE to renew SMPC's annual membership at a cost of £40.00 and APPROVE the expenditure under s.137.

BACKGROUND

CCB is a community development charity that supports communities in Berkshire, with a focus on rural areas. They help to build people's skills and confidence, enabling them to play a bigger part in community life and help to ensure rural communities are strong, successful, and well represented.

CCB used funds raised to:

- Help protect and enhance village halls, community buildings and other vital facilities.
- Research and improve work to reduce rural isolation and loneliness.
- Support families with advice and guidance on avoiding fuel poverty and training front-line workers on how to support their clients with energy advice.
- Deliver a range of adult community learning training for those living and working in Berkshire on a range of topics that brought benefits communities like yours. Topics included data protection, social media, emergency lifesaving skills, community organising, energy advice and trusteeship.
- Continue to write and produce our monthly e-bulletin packed full of funding opportunities and other news articles of interest to Berkshire communities.
- Act as a credible voice to represent the needs and priorities of rural communities to policy makers including local authorities and national government.

They have written to the Council to invite continued support for the charity by the Council renewing their membership. The cost of annual membership for 2021 is £40, which is a rise of £5 from 2020. Membership runs for a year from payment is received.

Benefits of membership include:

- Free or discounted training opportunities at CCB's wide range of courses that ultimately focus on strengthening communities.
- The opportunity to become a CCB Trustee and to nominate and elect members to our Board.
- An invitation to attend CCB's training conference and Annual General Meeting (1 vote per membership)

- Monthly e-bulletins which include a variety of funding opportunities, local Berkshire based news and events and training workshops that may be of benefit to the Council and community.
- The opportunity to market the Council's community events, news or local facilities via CCB's e-bulletin and website.
- Prompt access to the CCB team who will be available to discuss issues affecting the community.

CCB's Annual Review 2021 may be found at: [//ccb2017.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/ccb-annual-report-2021-14.pdf](https://ccb2017.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/ccb-annual-report-2021-14.pdf)