

**Minutes of a Meeting of Little Chalfont Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 10 October 2012 at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall, Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont**

Present: Cllr B Drew (Chairman); Cllr J Hinkly; Cllr L Hunt; Cllr S Keighley; Cllr D Rafferty; Cllr M Parker and Cllr V Patel.

In Attendance: Mrs J Mason (Clerk).

Members of the Public: Mr S Khan.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **To accept a resolution that standing orders be suspended to allow any members of the public to speak (10 mins):** There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.
3. **To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2012:** These were approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.
4. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
5. **Approval by Chairman of items for any other business:** The following were approved (i) attendance at the GE Healthcare Community Liaison meeting on 18 October; (ii) concerns about possible developer activity on the land behind Chessfield Park; (iii) shop opening event 13 October 2012.
6. **Chairman's Report:** None.
7. **Clerk's Report:** It was noted in particular that a letter had been sent to E-Act regarding premises for the Youth Club and that dates would now be sought for a meeting with Graham Winwright of CDC about the DDPD.
8. **To receive reports, as appropriate, from members of outside bodies and working parties:** (i) *Youth Club* – Cllr Rafferty reported that 12 students from Dr Challoner's had volunteered to help at the Youth Club, on a rota basis. Youth Club members and volunteers would shortly be helping to deliver the Parish Council newsletter to homes at Chiltern Heights; (ii) *Village Hall Management Committee* - The AGM had been held on 3 October and the committee had been updated about the response to the community centre presentations in September; (iii) *LAF* – The next meeting will be on 17 October at the Village Hall. Cllr Drew was optimistic that the recent review of the operation of LAFs would lead to improved outcomes; (iv) *Little Chalfont Nature Park Action Group* – The Clerk reported that the group had met on 3 October and would be working on site on 21 October; (v) *LCCA* – Cllr Parker reported that the drive to increase business membership continued.
9. **Entrance sign Westwood Park:** *To decide whether or not to allow installation of the sign proposed by Westwood Park Football Club*- It was agreed that the revised proposal was acceptable subject to the Assistant Clerk/WWPFC receiving confirmation from Manor Signs that the corners could be rounded and assurances that the proposed position did not create the risk of park users and others, particularly small children, injuring themselves.
10. **Standards briefing 28 September 2012:** Cllr Keighley had attended and reported that the main thrust of the presentation had been somewhat disparaging of the new arrangements and had flagged up the possibility of serious problems in the future. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for the speaker's slides to be circulated to the council.
11. **Financial matters:** (i) *List of payments and cheques to be signed* – A schedule of payments totally £10,880.51 was discussed, approved and signed by the Chairman; (ii) *Income and Expenditure Report* - this was discussed, in particular the reasons for the underspend on capital projects whilst awaiting the results of the community centre consultation. It was also noted that once the outcome was known the opportunity should be taken to carry out a further review of reserves categories with a view to expanding and improving definitions in the light of council priorities and the draft 5 year plan; (iii) *Budget Preparation 2013/14* – it was agreed that Cllrs Drew, Hinkly and Parker would meet with the Clerk to discuss next year's budget with a view to finalising the proposals at the 12 December meeting of the Parish Council. In undertaking this work, the group would be mindful of the comments regarding reserves in minute 11(ii) above.
12. **Buckinghamshire County Council budget consultation 2013/14:** It was agreed that the council would not submit a corporate response and councillors were encouraged to complete a response as individuals.

- 13. London Underground Beel Close embankment replanting consultation 5/6 October:** Cllr Drew reported that the replanting proposals were reasonably acceptable to those closest to the site. Work would be starting shortly and London Underground would listen to any comments from residents as the planting progressed. On a separate matter, it was reported that the reinstatement of the road surface was the subject of ongoing and unsatisfactory discussions between London Underground and the County Council.
- 14. Grants and Donations – to consider applications from the following organisations (papers already circulated):**
- i. *Little Chalfont Good Companions Club:* It was agreed to award a grant of £150.
 - ii. *Little Chalfont Community Library:* The application was discussed in detail. All councillors felt that the library should receive support although the amount was not agreed unanimously. The view was put forward that because library reserves are significantly higher than the target set out in the reserves policy, a lesser amount than in previous years should be awarded. It was initially proposed that £3,000 would be appropriate. This proposal was defeated by 2 votes to 5. Following a further vote it was agreed by a majority of 4 to 2 (one abstention) that the Parish Council would make an award of £6,000. It was agreed that the covering letter sent with the cheque would contain a caveat that a clearer justification of the amount requested was required in the context of the stated reserves policy.
 - iii. *Christmas Party for the Elderly:* It was agreed to award £100.
- 15. Parking Survey - To discuss the next steps, in particular setting in train discussions with other parties and authorities:** Following a discussion it was agreed that (i) The opportunity would be taken at the LAF on 17 October to raise with the Transport Localities Team Leader actions impacting on the County Council; (ii) The LCCA will be asked to initiate discussions with the businesses and organisations who are perceived to exacerbate parking problems; (iii) The Clerk will write to CDC for an update on the cost of implementing a period of free parking at Snells Wood car park; (iii) Cllr Parker will draft an e-mail to London Underground raising issues at Station Approach and Bedford Avenue, particularly enforcement and improvements to parking lay out; (iv) The future of the site designated for parking adjacent to Chenies Parade will be raised at the forthcoming meeting with Graham Winwright
- 16. Community Centre Presentations 28/29 September 2012:** Cllr Drew thanked Cllr Hinkly for his hard work in delivering all nine of the presentations over the two days. The events had gone extremely well and around 180 residents had attended. Many people had voted after the presentations although forms were now being distributed to all households with the October newsletter. The closing date for responses is 31 October 2012.
- 17. To comment on an e-mail received from a member of the public asking for advice and support in lobbying for a reduction of the speed limit in Cokes Lane (towards A413):** The council agreed to advise the resident that although it is not against giving support to such initiatives, it would first prefer to see the results of the monitoring exercise about to be undertaken by the Seer Green CPSO. The Clerk will advise the resident and ask for the results of the monitoring exercise to be forwarded to the Council when they are available, to enable a decision to be made at the next appropriate meeting.
- 18. Reports and Notifications:**
- i. Temporary Diversion of Community Gangs – BCC 17 September letter (e-mailed 24 September)
 - ii. Chiltern Society Newsletter (e-mailed 28 September)
 - iii. October Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter (e-mailed 2 October)
 - iv. October Community Safety Information Newsletter (e-mailed 2 October)
 - v. Chiltern Society 2 October e-mail re recruitment of a new Chairman (e-mailed 3 October)
 - vi. BCC 17 September e-mail advising of night time patrols to report faults in their street lights.
- 19. Any Other Business:** (i) *attendance at the GE Healthcare Community Liaison meeting on 18 October* – Cllr Patel is unable to attend and it was agreed that if anyone else could do so in his place, then they should advise the Clerk; (ii) *concerns about possible developer activity on the land behind Chessfield Park* – a resident had reported sightings of surveyors at the site and the situation will be kept under review and referred to the Planning Committee as appropriate; (iii) *shop opening event 13 October 2012* – councillors and members of the public are invited at 12 noon on Saturday 13 October to the opening of SMB Windows, Doors and Conservatories located in the retail unit adjacent to The Sugar Loaf.
- 20. To consider a resolution that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting**

and be instructed to withdraw: The resolution was agreed unanimously and member(s) of the public present withdrew from the meeting.

21. Buildings Working Party: Minuted in confidential minute 21 of this 10 October 2012 meeting.

22. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 14 November 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....