

Minutes of a Meeting of Little Chalfont Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 11 September 2012 at 8.10pm
In the Village Hall, Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont

Present: Cllr B Drew (Chairman) ; Cllr J Hinkly; Cllr L Hunt; Cllr M Parker ; Cllr V Patel, Cllr D Rafferty and Cllr J Wyper (item 8 onwards).

In attendance: Mrs J Mason (Clerk).

Members of the public: Ms K Edmonds; Ms L Mowat (Buckinghamshire Examiner); Mr J Wyper (item 1-7).

1. **Apologies for absence:** These were received from Cllr J Walford, OBE.
2. **Suspension of standing orders to allow any members of the public to speak (10 mins):** No members of the public wished to speak.
3. **To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2013:** These were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
4. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
5. **Approval by Chairman of items for any other business:** The following items were approved (i) London Road (East) developments, and, (ii) 5 September 2013 letter from the Chairman of the Little Chalfont Charitable Trust.
6. **Chairman's Report:** This had been previously circulated and the Chairman referred in particular to his comments on the special event in Westwood Park on 30 August 2013 to celebrate park improvements and to thank those who had contributed. Although the event had been successful, it was a shame that some of the sponsors of the Little Miss Muffet play equipment had been unable to attend. It was agreed that thank you letters should be sent to them.
7. **Clerk's Report:** This had been previously circulated and updated Councillors on the actions from the last meeting and proceedings over the summer.
8. **Councillor vacancy in Little Chalfont South Ward:** Cllr Drew proposed and Cllr Hunt seconded that Mr J Wyper be co-opted as a member of Little Chalfont Parish Council. This was agreed unanimously. Cllr Wyper was welcomed to the Council and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office which the Clerk witnessed.
9. **To receive reports, as appropriate, from members of outside bodies and Parish Council working parties:** (i) *LCCA* - Cllr Parker reported that Dr Challoner's had received approval for their building work and would now address the issue of funding. CDC's public consultation on site options for gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople's accommodation had been raised by concerned LCCA members. [This will be discussed at the 1 October meeting of the Parish Council.]; (ii) *Library* – Cllr Hinkly reported that CDC had donated £1,200 which would be used for carpet tiles. Arrangements are in hand for FOLCL to become a charitable incorporated organisation. Two fund raising events are also scheduled. The first is a quiz night on 19 October, the second is a wine tasting on 23 November and both will be held in the Village Hall; (iii) *Community Buildings Working Party* – A useful meeting had been held with Buckinghamshire County Councillors Hardy and Phillips on 10 September to discuss the leases on the site with a view to moving closer to an agreement that would rationalise lease arrangements on a long term basis. A similar meeting with CDC representatives was scheduled for 30 September. In the meantime, the Clerk will be making arrangements for members of the working party to visit the three short listed architects, speak to their clients and visit relevant projects. It is hoped that a final selection will be made following presentations on 22 January 2013; (iv) *HS2 Chalfonts and Amersham Community Forum* – Cllr

Hinkly advised that the next meeting will be on 24 September. CDC has ear-marked £24,000 to go towards fighting the appeal. At the October Council meeting Cllr Hinkly would be proposing that the Parish Council make a financial contribution.

- 10. Update on Transport for Buckinghamshire and other matters discussed at the village walk about on 23 August:** This had been a useful meeting and a number of actions had been identified, some of which it will be more effective for the Parish Council to address on behalf of BCC. Gully clearing is still problematic and there are question marks over who owns which gullies on the far side of the railway bridge. There have been problems recently with litter picking and bin emptying in the village centre which have been referred to CDC. A further meeting has been scheduled for Friday 7 February 2014.
- 11. To receive a report(s) on Chiltern and South Bucks Community Partnership meetings (Cllr Drew and Cllr Patel):** Cllr Drew thanked Cllr Patel for representing the Council at the 25 July meeting. Cllr Patel reported on the housing issues that had been discussed, in particular recent disposals by Paradigm of some of their housing stock in Little Chalfont. Cllr Drew requested that if anyone had any further comments on the draft Joint Sustainable Community Strategy Aims and Challenges they should advise him as soon as possible.
- 12. Financial matters:** (i) *List of payments and cheques to be signed* – payments totalling £33,749.65 were approved and the Chairman signed the schedule which had been previously circulated; (ii) *Income and Expenditure Report* - this was discussed. The Clerk advised that at the 9 October meeting she would be presenting a number of budget adjustments and asked that Councillors give consideration to the 2014/15 budget round which would also be discussed in October; (iii) *Current bank account* – it was noted that Lloyds TSB is to become two separate banks - Lloyds Bank and TSB Bank. The Parish Council will transfer automatically to the new TSB Bank as one of its Business Banking customers; (iv) *Santander Bond*- This one year bond matures in October. Cllr Drew proposed and Cllr Parker seconded that the Clerk should make arrangements for the full maturity value to be reinvested in a further one year bond. This was agreed unanimously.
- 13. Parking issues:**
 - i. *Update on feasibility study*- Cllr Parker reported that staff at BCC had advised him that the study would not commence until the start of 2014 which was very disappointing. It was also noted that residents in Linfields were having problems with commuter parking in their slip road.
 - ii. *One hour free Parking at Snells Wood Car Park* - Oliver Asbury's 2 September 2013 e-mail was considered. Cllr Drew proposed and Cllr Hunt seconded that Mr Asbury should be asked to initiate a start date of 1 November 2013 for the scheme, subject of course to the Parish Council being able to agree his proposals for a Memorandum of Understanding at the 1 October Parish Council meeting. This was agreed unanimously together with a proposal to prepare a short leaflet, advertising the scheme. As discussed at previous meetings, the cost of introducing the scheme is considerable and it was agreed that for it to continue in the long term it would have to be monitored and justified. The scheme will be welcomed by residents, as evinced by the results of the parking survey. Traders should also benefit if more people are encouraged to use the shops in the Village. To this end, it was agreed to take up the LCCA's offer to assist in liaising with traders in an effort to create an atmosphere of reciprocity with the hope that this would lead to tidier and more attractive public areas around the various businesses.
- 14. Parish Newsletter - Timing and content of the next newsletter:** It was agreed that the same format should be used and that the newsletter would have to be completed by 1 October 2013. Councillors were asked to forward their contributions to the Clerk or Chairman as a matter of urgency. As usual, draft versions would be circulated to all for comment.
- 15. London Underground Metropolitan Line Timetable:** Deferred to the 9 October meeting.

16. Reports and Notifications:

- i. Cllr M Phillips' 15 August letter enclosing a copy of the new Traffic Calming in Buckinghamshire booklet (copies available in the office or on-line).
- ii. Chris Marchant's (Head of Environment at CDC) 16 August letter about the Parking Service Review Customer survey (circulated 28 August).
- iii. Thames Water 31 July letter about the proposed Thames Tideway Tunnel and the possible impact on wastewater bills.
- iv. 23 July letter from BCC's solicitor Nazneen Ahmad about the possibility of BCC promoting a private bill to gain legal powers to make it easier to make film productions on the highway.
- v. 28 August e-mail from BCC advising about of the temporary road closure of Burtons Lane on 27 October for the Ricky Road Run.
- vi. 2 September reminder from CDC Democratic Services about the Police and Crime Commissioner's "Have Your Say" event at CDC's offices on Monday 23 September 2013 at 7pm.
- vii. 5 August e-mail from Chiltern and South Bucks District Council's attaching details of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme with effect from 1 April 2014.

17. Any Other Business: (i) *London Road (East) developments* – It has been confirmed that Buckinghamshire County Council has been given permission by Chiltern District Council to carry out soil sampling at the site in London Road (East). Refused planning application CH/2011/60005/BCC (Waste transfer Station) refers; (ii) *5 September 2013 letter from the Chairman of Little Chalfont Charitable Trust* –It was noted that this grant application letter had been received and would be considered with other applications at the 9 October meeting of the Parish Council.

18. A resolution was agreed 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 following items are confidential for commercial, contractual and legal reasons.)

19. Little Chalfont Nature Park Proposal Document: To (i) decide whether to support the proposal document and agree a response to the Chairman of the Little Chalfont Charitable Trust and (ii) to receive updated estimates of maintenance cost from grounds contractors. Minuted in confidential minute 19 of this 11 September Parish Council meeting.

20. Buildings Working Party: To agree a response to correspondence circulated on 2 September 2013. Minuted in confidential minute 20 of this 11 September Parish Council meeting.

21. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 9 October 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....