



# **LITTLE CHALFONT PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014**

## **You are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall**

**on Wednesday 7th May at 7.45 p.m.**

**(a glass of wine or soft drink will be available from 7.30 p.m.)**

**Guest speakers:**

**Superintendent Steven Hockin**

*Area Commander, Chiltern and South Bucks Local Police*

**Cllr. Martin Tett**

*Leader, Bucks County Council*

**Geoff Hobbs**

*Scheduling Manager, TFL (Metropolitan Line)*

**Kate Lewis**

*Communications Specialist, GE Healthcare*

**There will be an opportunity to meet your Parish Councillors,  
hear their plans for the future and ask questions.**

### **War Memorial for Little Chalfont?**

The Parish Council is considering having a war memorial, possibly on the village green. It would not necessarily be a large structure but we feel there should be somewhere in the village that recognises the victims of the various conflicts in which this country has been involved.

We are also holding discussions with local youth uniformed groups, churches etc. to see if the parade that takes place on Remembrance Sunday can be extended to incorporate a short ceremony at the memorial.

## Parking survey

Last year we reported the progress made on the Parish Council's agreed actions to follow up the results of 2012 parking survey. Subsequently, most of these actions have been successfully implemented, as follows:

- the bollards in Burtons Lane have been extended and replaced in a more robust material.
- we have negotiated acceptable terms with CDC which allowed the introduction of a first hour free parking in the Snells Wood car park from November 2013.
- secured from BCC a hotline telephone number (0843 2085544) for NSL, the County's outsourced traffic warden agency, for action on serious parking offences and provided NSL with a list of priority locations to be monitored regularly.
- we have passed on comments, regarding parking concerns, to local shops/businesses cited by survey respondents.
- the local schools have agreed to issue regular reminders to parents about consideration for residents when parking, particularly at drop-off and pickup times.
- successfully lobbied CDC to designate, in its Delivery Development Plan Document ("DDPD"), the dilapidated site between Citygate and Chenies Parade as restricted use, only for parking, as a first stage in resolving the current impasse.

The Parish Council also made a formal request for action by Transport for London on four suggestions (including reduced car park charges and the management of Station Parade). These requests were all considered but rejected by TfL.

We can report that some progress has been made at Bucks County Council on the feasibility study on all of other PC recommendations for extending double yellow lines, extending the coverage of the 11.00-12.00 parking restriction etc. We now expect to receive the draft report this month.

## Parish Precept 2014/15

The Parish Council decided not to increase the precept for 2014/15 and this remains at £212,600. However, HM Government has decided that Town and Parish Councils now have to bear the cost of council tax support. As a result residents may have noticed a small increase in their council tax bill.

Little Chalfont Parish Council will receive about £1.28 per week from a band 'D' property and approximately £2.13 per week from each band 'G' property.

## HS2

The Parish Council's letter, objecting to HS2 and commenting on the Environmental Statement, was submitted in February. A copy is on the Parish Council web-site.

In brief, we are of the view that the business arguments and the claim that the North/South divide will be bridged are spurious. The damage to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is deplored. Little Chalfont and the wider area would be blighted for years by construction traffic.

## Proposed Community Centre

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that JBKS Architects have been appointed to take us to the next stage in the proposed new building. We were fortunate to have two excellent final contenders for the contract and the decision was not easy. However, we feel very comfortable with JBKS who are based in Aston Rowant and were the appointed architects for recent additions to Christ Church in Chorleywood.

We will now be asking JBKS to design a building which meets our criteria and is likely to receive planning permission. The proposals will then go to public consultation, probably towards the end of this year. A public exhibition will give you the opportunity to see and comment on the design before any further decisions are made.

Although the original idea was to try to incorporate an extended library into the design, this has proved to be impractical. The Community Library needs more space but any plans to extend its facilities will be carried out as a separate project.

## Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign

The locations where this sign can be located are being agreed with the County Council. We hope to install the anchor points soon in:

Amersham Road

Burtens Lane (near Donkey Field)

Bell Lane (near school)

Elizabeth Avenue (close to Chalfont Avenue)

Cokes Lane (near Linfields)

And possibly, White Lion Road (near Beel Close)



The sign will first be installed in Amersham Road, left there for two or three months and then moved to one of the other locations. It will therefore take about two years to cover all the sites.

The MVAS will be set to display the speed limit when approached by a vehicle travelling above a pre-determined speed (typically 33mph in a 30mph speed limit), acting as a reminder to drivers exceeding the speed limit. The aim is to encourage a safer driving speed and improve road safety.

An analysis of the speeds recorded by passing vehicles will enable the Council to assess the spots where speed is of most concern and pass this information to the police with a request for speed checks. We can also discuss with the County Council the possibility of other traffic calming measures.

## New Cycle Stands

Funded by a grant from the Local Area Forum, these have now been installed on the grass area between Chenies Parade service road and the main road, Additional stands are being installed close to the library and outside the Village Hall.



## News from the Community Association

### ***Donkey Field Development***

The Liaison Group, set up to work with 'Countryside' for this 45 dwelling development off Burton's Lane and to represent the community, is already in active discussions with the company. To read about how the Liaison Group will operate, learn of progress on various issues to date, and to use as a source of information for news during the development, visit the Association's web site [www.littlechalfont.org](http://www.littlechalfont.org) .uk and follow the links to the Donkey Field.

To report concerns or seek information about the development, send an email to [donkeyfield@littlechalfont.org.uk](mailto:donkeyfield@littlechalfont.org.uk).

### ***Nature Park***

The Little Chalfont Charitable Trust reports the initial response to the public appeal as being 'fair.' It thanks those who have donated so far but is looking for support from many more residents.

The Action Group is making good progress towards finalising its plans but will not be able to implement them until the money has been raised. If you have not yet donated, do contribute whatever you can afford to this exciting community project.

Should you have mislaid your appeal letter and Gift Aid form, copies are available in Robertson's Butchers and on the Association's website [www.littlechalfont.org.uk](http://www.littlechalfont.org.uk).

### ***Village Day***

Make a date to attend this year's Village Day on **Saturday 7 June 2014**

Fun Run 9.30 a.m. - Westwood Park - in aid of Neuroblastoma Society

Stalls, attractions & entertainment 12.0 noon - 4.00 p.m. all around the Village

Dog Show on the Village Green

Painting competition and Teas in the Village Hall

### ***Path Clearing***

We are grateful to members of the Chiltern Society who recently spent a day clearing the heavily overgrown footpath between Harewood Road and Burtons Lane.

Information on the work of the Society and how you can become a member can be found at [www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) Telephone 01494 771250.

### ***Farmers' Market & Craft Fair***

**2nd Saturday of each month at the Village Hall**

**9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.**

**Next dates: May 10 and June 14**

**Remember - free 1 hour parking in Snells Wood car park**

***(display your free ticket from the machine)***

## Community Awards (Chiltern District Council)

We are delighted to hear that two people were recently given an award for their work in Little Chalfont.

Amy Botwright won the Young Volunteer of the Year award. Amy is deputy head girl for Environment & Community at Dr Challoner's High School and has done a considerable amount of work for the local community. Working with the Community Association, she has led a team of fellow students to develop a community information directory and this is due to be launched shortly. She has also assisted with research into educational uses of the Nature Park and the demand for a revitalised Youth Club.



Brenda Fleming won the Older and Bolder award for her work, over many years, with Age Concern and the Good Companions group (12 years as Chairman) which meets in the Village Hall. She is also a valued member of the Village Hall management committee. Brenda is pictured receiving her award from Cllr Peter Hudson, Chiltern District Council's Cabinet Member for Community.

The Community Library volunteers were runners-up in the Group award.

## Halifax House 'crossing'

Following a petition to the Local Area Forum by residents of Halifax House, improvements are being made to the crossing point over the A404 near Chenies Parade. The residents requested a full light-controlled crossing, but insufficient funds were available. However, a compromise has been agreed. Special signage, dropped kerbs and a painted crossing point over the service road have been completed.



The final stage, to be completed shortly, will be to put a red surface on a short stretch of the A404. The cost of all this has been funded by a grant from the Local Area Forum, the Bucks CC Leader fund and a contribution from Paradigm Housing with the balance being paid for by the Parish Council.

## Waste Transfer Station

Under the terms of their contract with Buckinghamshire County Council, FCC Environmental has to manage the residual waste that remains after recycling.

Many residents are strongly opposed to the proposal to build a waste transfer station on the site of the current recycling centre in London Road (East), from where it will be transported along the A413 to an Energy from Waste plant in Calvert. The Parish Council has submitted an objection to the County Council.

A public exhibition held in February resulted in overwhelmingly negative feedback from residents who attended. FCC has booked a second consultation for 20 and 21 June, also at the Village Hall. Please watch the notice boards, press and website for details when the precise timings have been confirmed..

## Your Parish Councillors:

Brian Drew (Chairman)      John Hinkly (Vice Chairman)  
Michael Parker (Chairman - Planning Committee)  
David Rafferty (Vice Chairman - Planning Committee),  
Lesley Hunt , Vinny Patel, Janet Walford OBE, James Wyper

Your District Councillors are Don Phillips and Peter Martin

Your County Councillors are Martin Tett (Little Chalfont & Amersham Common ward)  
and Noel Brown (Chess Valley ward)

**Parish Council meetings**, held in the Village Hall, commence at 7.30 p.m. and are open to the public although occasionally confidential items are discussed in private. A number of people have recently taken advantage of the opportunity allowed at all meetings for public comments, to express their views and to ask the Council for support in relation to various matters.

Full Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (not August)

Planning Committee meetings are held every three weeks, usually Tuesday evenings

Minutes and agendas are displayed on the notice boards outside the Village Hall and published on the Council's website.

**Forthcoming Council meetings: May 14, June 11.**

**Planning Committee meetings: May 6 (in the library), May 27**

Dates of future meetings appear on the Council's website.

## Parish Council Office:

This is located at the back of the Village Hall in Cokes Lane.

If you have any queries the telephone number is 01494 766655 so please call.

If unattended, you can leave a message on the answerphone and a response will be made as soon as possible.

You can also send an e-mail to: [clerk@littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk).

The office is usually open from 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

**The Council's website is: [www.littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk](http://www.littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk)**

## Newsletter Distribution

The Parish Council is indebted to Adrian Lockyer, membership secretary of the Community Association, for organising the distribution of the newsletters and to the volunteers who deliver them, ensuring all homes in Little Chalfont receive a copy.

***Published by Little Chalfont Parish Council  
Council Office, Village Hall  
Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont HP8 4UD***

