

CHALFONT ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 1 March 2017 at The Guide Hall, Chalfont St Giles at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr G Patrick (Chairman), Cllr D Bray, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr R Gill, Cllr J Lomas, Cllr S Long, Cllr R Massey, Cllr M Phillips, Cllr J Ryman, Cllr C Santry, Cllr C Sweales and the Clerk H Griffiths.

Public Forum:

A resident from Bottom House Farm Lane attended to ask for a traffic island to be added to the A413 near to the bus stop and the Ivy House public house to assist her children and walkers to cross the road safely. The traffic volumes will only increase with the building of HS2. TfB have rejected the request as they must respond to requests from areas of high accidents and this part of the A413 does not fall within that criteria. The resident asks whether there could be some HS2 mitigation funding to provide a safe crossing.

A user of the Gardens Association Hall in School Lane attended to complain about parking in School Lane at school drop off time. As she runs a business from the hall she needs access for her equipment etc and as parents are arriving increasingly early to secure a parking space there is less parking available for her and her clients.

A parent of a child at Chalfont St Giles Infant School attended to complain about the Memorial Hall being closed off to parents in the morning when it is dangerous in the afternoon too. Also closing the Memorial Hall is pushing the parking problems to other areas.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr P Lea-Wilson
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of the meetings held on 1 February 2016 report 05/17:** were agreed and signed in meeting.
4. **Clerks notes:** Were noted.
5. **Correspondence**
 - 5.1. **Email from a resident at Charles Key House to inform the council that she is to set up a gardening group to improve the look of the area. (Circulated by email):** Noted.
 - 5.2. **Letter from a resident of Jack Hearne House complaining about rat infestation and drug problems in the area:** Noted. Clerk had written a letter to the resident explaining the actions being taken by Paradigm Housing, Chiltern Environmental Health and the Police.
 - 5.3. **Email from a resident asking for help to have a traffic island installed on the A413 by the Ivy House Public House. (circulated by email):** See Public Forum. Clerk to ask TfB what, if any, roadworks are planned for the junction of Bottom House Farm Lane to prepare for HS2. Also whether HS2 could fund a feasibility study to see whether it is possible to add a traffic island at that point.
 - 5.4. **Request for the use of Bowstridge Lane recreation ground for a fundraiser. (Circulated by email):** Clerk to ask for more information and refer to Open Spaces Committee.
 - 5.5. **Request for a bench by the bus stop opposite the village green. (Circulated by email):** Clerk to assess the space available and then refer to Open Spaces for discussion.
 - 5.6. **Request for a representative to attend a parish liaison meeting. Circulated by email):** Cllr Phillips will check her diary to see if she is available to attend.
 - 5.7. **Letter offering an opportunity to hear more about the district proposal for two new unitary councils. (Circulated by Cllr Bray by email):** The Parish Council decline the offer at this period in time. The Clerk explained that the emails from Chiltern District Council (CDC) had not been directed to the Parish Council office but in error had been

directed to Cllr Bray, this has now been rectified. However, a survey circulated to parishes regarding unitary council had not been received by the clerk. Cllr Bray had responded to that survey as an individual councillor but it appears that his response has been accepted as the view of the Parish Council and not an individual councillor. It was agreed that we should write to CDC explaining that the views expressed in the survey were not the views of the Parish Council. And asking CDC how this mistake was made.

- 5.8. Request from a parishioner to commemorate the life of Hilary Warner:** Clerk to find possible free spaces for a commemoration to take place. Refer to Open Spaces.

6. Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:

- 6.1. A request from Chalfont St Giles Playgroup to use the Dell for Forest School:** Clerk to check insurance for this and to ask for further information to be presented at next open spaces meeting.
- 6.2. VOPAG – Chalfont St Peter –an invitation to join their green bus initiative:** Further information required. Ask for representative to attend next Finance meeting.
- 6.3. Surface dressing programme:** Notice has been received that the following roads will receive surface dressing during the coming months; Narcot Road, Narcot Way and The Lager.
- 6.4. HS2 Community Information workshops:** Cllr Phillips and the clerk will attend this workshop.
- 6.5. Lobby Day is to be held on 28 March 2017:** Noted.
- 6.6. Chalfont St Giles Bowling Club are planning to make some changes to the clubhouse to increase access for players with disability:** Noted, further information to be provided when available.

7. Reports from committees

- 7.1. Planning Committee meeting 8 February 2017 06/17,** proposed by Cllr Chamberlain and seconded by Cllr Massey, all agreed.
- 7.2. Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting 20 February 2017 08/17,** proposed by Cllr Phillips and seconded by Cllr Long, all agreed.

8. Current Matters:

- 8.1. Declaration of acceptance of office for new co-opted member:** Carly Sweales was co-opted onto the council and duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office before the council and the clerk.
- 8.2. To update the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan:** An updated schedule of events had been circulated by Cllr Bray. A new contract, taking into account the new name for the planning consultant and the revised costs of the neighbourhood plan was agreed and signed in the meeting by the Chairman Gordon Patrick and Chair of Finance Rob Gill.
- 8.3. To update on the Local Area Forum (LAF):** Cllr Chamberlain had attended the LAF meeting. Awards were made to the Chalfont St Giles Visitor Centre and the Chalfont St Giles Community Hub. Cllr Chamberlain had not supported a project for Narcot Road Parking as it required match funding which had not been agreed at council. A county council officer had expressed an interest in a grant on behalf of Chalfont St Giles Parish Council for a concessionary taxi scheme, it was agreed not to pursue the project at this time as the Parish Council require more information regarding logistics and costings before deciding to apply for a LAF grant.
- 8.4. To update on the freight strategy meeting:** Cllr Long had attended this meeting. Increases in freight traffic were having a serious effect on small villages. Parish councils were being encouraged to report any issues they were facing. HS2 freight is a future concern and consultants are working with the Freight Hauliers Association.
- 8.5. To agree the signatories for the Parish Council accounts:** It was proposed that Gordon Patrick, Sarah Long, Rob Gill and Des Bray should remain as signatories for the Parish Council bank accounts. This was agreed by all.
- 8.6. To update on the bench by the A413 bus stop:** The clerk had produced a report on the feasibility of adding a seat to the bus stop on the A413. The conclusion was that

although a seat could not be added to the bus stop, there was a space in the vicinity where a bench could be added. I was agreed that a letter should be sent with the report to the resident requesting the seat.

9. Accounts for January 2017 were agreed and signed.

10. Items for future agenda.

10.1. A request to have the support of the Parish Council with a volunteers database.

10.2. 5 Year Business Plan

10.3. A briefing on LAF funding

11. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5 April 2017

Meeting ended 10.06pm

