

CHALFONT ST. GILES PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee was held on Wednesday 17 May 2017 at the Gardens Association Hall, School Lane at 8pm.

Present: Cllr G Patrick (Chairman), Cllr D Bray, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr R Gill, Cllr R Massey Cllr M Phillips, and the Clerk.

Public Forum

1. To elect a chairman and vice chairman for this committee.

To elect Gordon Patrick as chairman was proposed by Cllr Chamberlain and seconded by Cllr Massey, all agreed.

To elect Des Bray as vice chairman was proposed by Cllr Patrick and seconded by Cllr Massey, all agreed.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr C Santry

3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2017 report 16/17:** Were agreed and signed in meeting.

4. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

5. **Clerks report:** Noted.

6. Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:

6.1. Request from Chalfont Saints Activity Group to book the junior pitch for the season from September 2017 to March 2018. It was agreed that we should ask for the status of the group, if it is 'not-for-profit' then we should grant this permit free of charge. Otherwise the council costs should be reclaimed.

7. Current Matters:

7.1. **To update and agree committee responsibilities:** The committee responsibilities were agreed and will remain the same as last year.

7.2. **To update on devolved services:** The verge at the Silver Hill area of Bottrells Lane had been cut on the visual splays only. This had caused concern to one resident who had sent a link to the Good Verge Guide (circulated). The committee agreed to follow the guidance in the guide in future years with one cut per year but with the proviso that if visual splays were compromised those areas would be cut.

7.3. **To discuss the developments in the heritage trail project:** Cllr Gill explained that the technical side of the project was now ready but he was awaiting data. Once this was completed a trial could take place.

7.4. **To update on the Market on the village green:** Cllr Gill in his role as a representative of BAT4CSG would take any comments or concerns to Duck Pond Markets. The current concerns were licence to sell livestock, licence to sell alcohol, parking issues, quality and range of stalls. The committee also requested to see the contract between Duck Pond Markets and BAT4CSG and asked for the length of notice to be given to be clarified. Councillors to email Cllr Gill with further issues.

- 7.5. To discuss pond maintenance/signage:** Tfb have agreed to clean the petrol interceptor tank and have raised a requisition for this. Ongoing this will need to be added to the Tfb contract with Bucks County Council (BCC). The Environment Officer from BCC will visit the pond to agree a way of improving the water quality and increasing wildlife. A sign was proposed to highlight the problems associated with feeding bread to ducks. Cllr Gill agreed to amend the sign before production.
- 7.6. To discuss tree lighting by the village pond:** This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- 7.7. To discuss the best kept village competition:** The Cub groups had spent several evenings tidying The Dell and the play areas and had done a wonderful job despite the heavy rain. Letter of thanks to be sent to the cubs. The Village tidy up day was to be on Saturday 27 May at 10am. Cllr Bray to bring high vis jackets and Clerk to provide the litter pickers and sacks. Information to be added to the village newsletter. The Village of the Year competition entry had been submitted.
- 7.8. To discuss wildflower areas:** Sponsorship could not be secured for the wildflower area. It was agreed to proceed with the project. This would begin with weed spraying the area concerned followed by seed planting.
- 7.9. To agree to new policy regarding cremated remains and update cemetery fees:** It was agreed to remove the fees for interment of a child subject to approval of the Finance Committee and full council. All other fees to remain the same. New wording regarding the spreading of ashes in the cemetery were approved. A survey to be made of the cemetery with a view to installing seasonal memorial trees and memorial benches.
- 7.10. To agree the costs for the reproduction of the Parish Paths document:** The reproduction and update of the Parish Paths document would cost approx. £150 for 100 copies. This was agreed
- 7.11. To agree to the annual playground inspections:** It was agreed to use Wicksteed to carry out the annual playground inspections along with a Disability Discrimination Act Audit.
- 8. Payment of Accounts:** Cheques were agreed and signed in meeting.
- 9. Items for future agendas:**
- 9.1.** Pet cemetery
- 9.2.** Tree lights

10. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21 June 2017

Meeting closed 9.24pm