

## CHALFONT ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 4 October 2017 at Gardens Association Hall, Chalfont St Giles at 8.00p.m.

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

### Public Forum:

The Chairman of Chalfont St Giles and Jordans Revitalisation Committee Kathleen Martin attended to thank the council for the grant towards the Christmas Lighting event and also in her role as a member of the Literary Festival Committee to inform the Council that a grant would be sought to support the 2018 Literary Festival.

Nick Phillips, Chief Group Executive from Community Impact Bucks (CIB) attended to discuss rural exception schemes and affordable housing.

Community Impact Bucks is a charity run to help to improve the lives of Bucks businesses and community groups. Also as part of the Rural Community Council for Bucks – they aim to find opportunities to keep villages alive by helping to find affordable housing. Rural Exception Schemes (RES) are used to build on green belt land. This is only possible if there is a proven need within the local community, it is supported by the local community and the land owner agrees to sell the land required for affordable housing. The first stage of the process is a housing needs survey which must be carried out by an independent company. Residents should be on the local housing register to help to prove their need. A sanitised report will then be produced that will identify needs for elderly housing, affordable housing and disabled access housing. CIB can assist with the negotiations between the land owners, the housing association and the planners.

Affordable housing is defined as 80% of market rent or 25% part ownership.

A Community Land Trust is a partnership between the Parish Council and the housing association. A covenant can be placed on the land to give the Parish Council a say in the way the housing is allocated in the future.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr P Lea-Wilson, Cllr R Massey and Cllr J Ryman.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of the meetings held on 6 September 2017 report 35/17:** Were agreed and signed in meeting.
4. **Clerks notes:** Noted.
5. **Correspondence:**
  - 5.1. **Request from Jordans School to place a sign on the junction of Jordans Lane and Seer Green Lane:** The Parish Council decided not to grant permission for this sign – also approval should have also been sought from Jordans Village Limited.
  - 5.2. **Letter of thanks from Chalfont St Giles Twinning Association:** The Parish Council are pleased to support the Twinning Association.
  - 5.3. **Letter reporting Anti-Social Behaviour in Blizzards Yard Car Park:** Letter to be forwarded to Chiltern District Council as the anti-social behaviour is taking place on their land. Letter has already been copied to the Neighbourhood Policing Team.
  - 5.4. **Request for a new street light to be installed at Bowstridge Lane:** As this land is looked after by Paradigm housing the email will be forward to them for their considerations.

- 5.5. B&MK ALC Annual General Meeting invitation. (Circulated by email.):** Cllr Bray and Cllr Gill to attend.
- 5.6. Request to add a photograph of the Over 60's Fitness and Social Club to Parish Council notice boards:** This is not a notice within the agreed policy for notice boards. This request is declined.
- 6. Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:**
- 6.1. Letter from CDC Planning asking for a progress report on the Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Chamberlain to complete the report on behalf of the Working Party.
- 6.2. Complaint from a parishioner regarding Devolved Services Grass Cutting:** Clerk to respond with a letter including the contractor apology for the unscheduled cut.
- 6.3. Free event regarding Economic Growth in Bucks:** Noted.
- 6.4. Chiltern Brownfield Register Consultation (Circulated by email):** Request to forward to Jordans Village Limited.
- 7. Reports from committees**
- 7.1. Planning Committee meeting 6 September 2017 34/17:** Proposed by Cllr Bray and seconded by Cllr Chamberlain, all agreed.
- 7.2. Open Spaces and Amenities Committee meeting 20 September 2017 36/17:** Proposed by Cllr Patrick and seconded by Cllr Phillips, all agreed.
- 7.3. Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting 25 September 2017 37/17:** Proposed by Cllr Gill and seconded by Cllr Long, all agreed.
- 7.4. Planning Committee meeting 27 September 2017 38/17:** Proposed by Cllr Bray and seconded by Cllr Long, all agreed.
- 8. Current Matters:**
- 8.1. To update the Neighbourhood Plan:** Chiltern District Council are currently involved in producing their Local Plan therefore their time to comment on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is limited. It was agreed that any small amendments to the NP would be agreed by the working party and any larger amendments would be brought to an EGM.
- 8.2. To adopt a policy for handling complaints:** The Policy Document circulated at the last meeting was agreed and was adopted.
- 8.3. To discuss the Miltons Head fire report and subsequent actions:** A freedom of information request to see the owners structural report has been submitted on behalf of the Parish Council by CDC planning enforcement. The wording of a petition to ask CDC to 'refuse any planning application for a change of use of the site from licensed premises /restaurant to any alternative use', was agreed. This will be circulated on the village newsletter and website. Hard copies of the petition to be circulated. A letter had been sent to the land owner asking for the fencing around the site to be made safe and to be moved to within the property boundaries.
- 8.4. To discuss ideas for commemorating the end of WW1:** Cllr Chamberlain presented to the council a number of ideas to commemorate the end of WW1. The budget required was referred to the next F&GP committee for consideration. Cllrs Chamberlain, Long, Bray, Phillips and Patrick to set up a working party to look at the ideas and then make recommendations to council.
- 8.5. To discuss the Best Kept Village Results:** The results for Chalfont St Giles and Jordans were discussed. Points were lost because of the erratic grass cutting in the area around the church war memorial. This year Chalfont St Giles was in the Tindall Cup (Cup winners cup). Next year the village will once again be in the Pushman Cup.
- 8.6. To update on the 'show bridge':** Following agreement from the environment agency, the bridge footings would be improved between now and Christmas. The bridge in the field behind Blizzards Yard is scheduled to be removed.
- 8.7. To discuss a policy for the protection of historical buildings (not listed buildings) in the parish:** Cllr Bray to find out what constitutes a conservation area.
- 8.8. To discuss the development of a pet cemetery:** Refer to Open Spaces to explore further.

- 8.9. To discuss the options for a village flag pole:** Refer to next meeting.
- 8.10. To discuss affordable housing within the Parish:** Cllr Bray to find out how to run a housing needs survey, to then be added to a future meeting.
- 9. Accounts for August 2017:** Cheques were agreed and signed in meeting.
- 10. Items for future agenda:** None.
- 11. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 1 November 2017**

