

## CHALFONT ST. GILES PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee was held on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at the Gardens Association Hall, School Lane at 8pm.

Present: Cllr G Patrick (Chairman), Cllr D Bray, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr R Massey, Cllr C Santry and the Clerk.

### Public Forum

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr R Gill and Cllr M Phillips.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017 report 36/17:** Were agreed and signed.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **Clerks report:** Noted. Cllr Patrick asked for Head Groundsman Lee Butterworth and the clerk to be thanked for attending to an out of hours incident at the recreation ground.
5. **Correspondence:**
  - 5.1. **Request to place a geocache in Bowstridge Lane recreation grounds:** This request was approved.
6. **Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:**
  - 6.1. **Request from a resident to replace self-seeded wildflowers and saplings cut down after the last devolved services grass cut:** It was agreed that the self-seeded flowers and saplings would not be replaced.
7. **Current Matters:**
  - 7.1. **To update on devolved services:** There is one grass cut left which will take place at the end of October. A complaint had been received regarding the cut in The Lagger which had taken place in wet weather, consequently there was some grass dispersed on the pavement after the cut. As the contract is for grass cut only and not cut and collect this can happen in wet weather. It was agreed to hire a hedge flail which would be used for the devolved services work as well as hedge and scrub work at the recreation ground. It was agreed to hire a siding out machine for one week. Weed spraying was discussed along with the proliferation of weeds along our crumbling pathways – the groundsmen will need to attend further courses to allow them to spray onto the sides of the footways and gutters. The Clerk asked for future consideration to be given to the extension or conclusion of the Devolved Services contract at the end of 2018/19.
  - 7.2. **To discuss the developments in the heritage trail project:** To be carried forward to next meeting.
  - 7.3. **To update on the Market on the village green:** A handwritten sign for the village market had been placed on the green to comply with the Parish Council Rules about commercial advertising on the village green. However the original sign had been placed on the A413 and card signs had been added to sign posts. Neither of these signs had been given approval and Cllr Bray would liaise with Duck Pond Markets to have them removed.

- 7.4. To discuss pond maintenance/signage:** A response from the environmental officer at Bucks County Council had been promised in September. Cllr Tim Butcher has been asked to follow up the overdue response.
- 7.5. To discuss tree lighting by the village pond:** It was agreed to use white lighting in the willow tree and to see whether this could be tied in to the installation of the Christmas lights in the village. Costs to be taken from the Christmas lighting budget.
- 7.6. To update on the show bridge:** Cllr Bray updated that the works required for the bridge to become permanent had been agreed and would go ahead in the near future.
- 7.7. To agree the regular tree survey:** It was agreed to use the regular arboricultural specialist to carry out the tree survey in 2018.
- 7.8. To agree details of Christmas Lighting in the village:** Lighting to be the same as last year. A request had been received to tie in the Christmas tree lights switch on with the village light switch on. This would involve setting the timers twice – Clerk to find costs for this work.
- 8. Payment of Accounts:** Cheques were agreed and signed in the meeting.
- 9. Items for future agendas:** Cycle path.
- 10. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 15 November 2017

**Meeting closed 9.05pm**