

CHALFONT ST. GILES PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee was held on Wednesday 16 January 2019 at the Gardens Association Hall, School Lane at 8pm.

Present: Cllr Patrick (Chairman), Cllr D Bray, Cllr R Gill, Cllr R Massey Cllr M Phillips, Cllr C Santry and the Clerk.

Public Forum: None.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr J Chamberlain
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2018 report 48/18:** Were agreed and signed in meeting.
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** None.
- 4. Clerks notes:** None.
- 5. Correspondence:**
 - 5.1. Email from Chalfont St Giles village school asking for the Parish Council views on removing a TPO tree from the infant school playground:** The committee left the meeting room and examined the trees in the village school playground nearby. The committee did not feel that the lean on the T2 horse chestnut was severe and the damage to the playground appeared insignificant. The tree inspection report from December 2017 was also checked and the report suggests that at the time no work was required. In these circumstances the committee cannot support the removal of this tree which is subject of a Tree Preservation order within the Chalfont St Giles Conservation Area.
 - 5.2. Letter from resident concerning varied issues in the Parish:** The Clerk was asked to respond to the issues detailed in the correspondence.
- 6. Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:**
 - 6.1. Email received from Chiltern Open Air Museum asking for support for the Jackson Studios Project:** This will be added to the next Council meeting agenda.
 - 6.2. Email from a resident regarding compulsory purchase of land by HS2:** Noted -this land is within the safeguarding area of Chalfont St Giles.
- 7. Current Matters:**
 - 7.1. To update on the Bucks County Council devolved services:** The changes to the current devolved services contract relating to conflict resolution were discussed. The contract will be forwarded to the finance committee for authorisation.
 - 7.2. To discuss installing dog harnessing points in the village centre:** This was moved to a future agenda.
 - 7.3. To discuss the risk assessment for the open spaces committee responsibilities:** A risk assessment document created by the Clerk was passed to Cllr Phillips to check and amend. Cllr Bray also agreed to assist with the checks.
 - 7.4. To discuss allotment issues:** No information had been received from BLAA at the time of the meeting.

- 7.5. To discuss the Christmas window competition 2018 results:** Twenty seven shops and businesses took part in the competition this year. The children's competition prizes were sponsored by the Buckinghamshire Building Society. There were less entries but this was believed to be because the competition ran for only two weeks. Learning for future events is to run for three weeks and explore other ways to publicise the event. Yaldens DIY and Garden won the competition with the most votes and Russell James Hair Salon came second.
- 7.6. To discuss the benefits of CCTV in the village:** Cllr Phillips raised concerns about the number of incidents in the village relating to theft and burglary, this trend was also seen in the increase in residential burglary. The issue of CCTV was raised in a recent meeting at Chiltern District Council (CDC) where mobile CCTV units would be purchased. Clerk to investigate how the mobile units could be located within the village. Cllr Bray agreed to find out more about CDC's plans for CCTV.
- 7.7. To discuss the inclusion of wild flower areas within the parish:** Following the success of the wild flower area on the A413 in 2018, several areas were discussed with a view to planting wildflower seeds to grow during the 2019 season. It was agreed that the A413 would be planted with a colourful mix along with an area of Riverside Walk. There were also three areas of The Dell which would benefit from being sown with a shady seed mix to help to increase biodiversity. Forest School could also assist with the planting to help to stimulate interest in the area. The banked area which had suffered from the fire at the back of the Bowling Club would also be seeded to improve that location. The committee agreed to these works.
- 7.8. To agree Neighbourhood Plan actions (From Council meeting 2/19):** Advice from our planning consultant suggested that it was not necessary for councillors to respond to the neighbourhood plan, however if they wish to do so they should identify themselves as councillors. Members of the Neighbourhood Plan working party should be encouraged to respond to the plan, identifying themselves as part of the working party.
- 8. Payment of Accounts:** None.
- 9. Items for future agendas:**
- 9.1. To discuss the village pond.**
- 9.2. TO discuss litter in the village.**
- 9.3. To discuss the creation of a footpath in the recreation ground from Lager Close to the cricket club.**
- 9.4. To discuss adding QR codes to the names of roads no longer in existence but with historical significance.**
- 9.5. To discuss the creation of a public footway on the A413 between Chalfont St Giles and Amersham.**
- 10. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 20 February 2019

Meeting closed 9.44pm