

CHALFONT ST. GILES PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee was held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 at Gardens Association Hall, School Lane at 8.00pm.

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

Public Forum: None.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr D Vilcans-Moody.
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2019 53/19:** Were agreed.
- 3. Clerks notes:** None.
- 4. Correspondence received after the agenda was circulated:**
 - 4.1. A request from Chalfont St Giles Infant School re issues with tree roots in the playground:** Cllr Patrick and Cllr Gill agreed to visit the school and bring their findings back to the next meeting.
 - 4.2. Emails from a resident of Dibden Hill re the safety of trees in the recreation ground bordering her property:** The trees have been assessed in line with our risk assessments. All works detailed in the 2018 tree survey have been carried out. Our groundsmen continue to monitor trees on land belonging to the Parish Council. A tree fell after high winds. The tree looked healthy but upon examination of the tree roots they appeared to be rotten. This was not identified in the 2018 survey. The fallen tree did not cause damage to the residents property and the Parish Council groundsmen attended to remove the fallen tree and associated debris. A tree stump remains which will need to be removed at a future date.
 - 4.3. A request to use the village green or recreation ground for The Parish Church Mission 2020:** The village green is available for this date however if a large turnout is expected then Stone Meadow would be a better alternative.
- 5. Current Matters:**
 - 5.1. To discuss devolved services contract:** Siding out and hedge flailing both need to be carried out but due to the wet weather neither activity can be completed. When the ground dries out we can hire in the equipment to carry out the required activities.
 - 5.2. To update the plan to plant disease resistant elm trees on Townfield Lane:** As permissions had not yet been received this item to be deferred to the next agenda.
 - 5.3. To discuss maintenance issues with the tennis court and possible solutions:** The tennis courts had been closed due to a member of the public reporting the dangerous court surface. Advice was sought on how to improve the court and a heavy duty jet wash was recommended. Three quotes were sought for the work to be carried out. A budget would be created to account for this ongoing expense in the future. As the quotes received were similar it was agreed to accept the quote from the contractor nearest to the Parish.
 - 5.4. To discuss the wild flower areas for the Parish:** The areas for wild flowers were discussed and it was agreed to continue the areas which were very successful in 2019 namely: The A413 towards Amersham, Riverside Walk, The war memorial on the High Street,

The Dell woods, The Dell meadow. New areas for 2020 in the vacant area of the cemetery, the corner of Townfield Lane and Bowstridge Lane, Three Households by the notice board, back lane by the finger post and around the bottom of the village signs.

- 5.5. To discuss plot C378 at Bowstridge Lane Cemetery:** It was agreed that this memorial was not acceptable and was not installed within the rules of the cemetery. The spurs on the side of the memorial need to be removed asap and the memorial itself needs to be removed within 6 months. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the owner of the exclusive rights to burial.
 - 5.6. To discuss areas for tree/hedge planting in Chalfont St Giles:** Clerk to discuss potential areas with the groundsman and apply for free hedging.
 - 5.7. To discuss the options for a community bus service:** Information not available for this meeting, defer to next meeting.
- 6. Items for future agendas:**
- 6.1. To discuss National Walk to School Week (18-22 May 2020)**
 - 6.2. To update the plan to plant disease resistant elm trees on Townfield Lane.**
 - 6.3. To discuss the options for a community bus service**
- 7. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 19 February 2020

Meeting closed at 9.02pm