

Chairman's Report 10/10/2016

I would like to welcome Rob Heath to the Council as per his election at our last meeting. In welcoming him I would also like to thank him for the considerable effort he went to in assisting with the Village Fete. Rob is joining the Village Community working group.

Outstanding Actions from Previous Meeting

- (1) I have written to Kim Robertson inviting her to be involved if she feels able with Council Working Groups where she can add value.
- (2) I have reviewed the BCC Consultation on Flood Risk Management Strategy and am happy that there is nothing further to be done with regard to our parish.
- (3) The CDC Hackney Carriage & Private Hire consultation has been reviewed and I do not feel that there is anything further to be added.

St Leonards

From communication with a number of people it appears that St Leonards are considering some form of development that may also include the Vicarage. I have communicated with the Church Administrator and am hoping to meet with Laurie Clow the Vicar to consider the Parish Council's accommodation position and also to consider whether there are other development possibilities that may interest this council.

Remembrance Day Parade

Sam and I met with the Remembrance Day Parade Commander, members of the British Legion and St Leonards to consider this year's parade. It appears that the Police no longer attend parades and we are now responsible for all road closures. I have suggested that we may be able to assist with road closures etc, but that we will need the support of St Leonards due to the number of roads and area to be covered. Where possible – can you please keep this day available as John Bailey's team will need as many of us as possible to make this work!

28 Bois Lane

Over the past two weeks there has been a lot of discussion about an application for a retail operation at 28 Bois Lane. This has generated considerable interest and we need to consider the benefits and risks with regard to this application. All of the information has been circulated amongst Councillors and we now need to make a recommendation on this matter based on the best interests of all of our Parishioners.

Ray Hartley

Chairman

Chesham Bois Parish Council

Council Meeting 10th October 2016

Clerk's Report & Correspondence

Meeting & Event Dates for 2017

I have circulated a copy of the draft meeting and event dates for 2017 for approval

Boards on Common

During August Hadland Estates were granted a licence to erect a sales board on Common Land near Manor Drive

New Councillor Induction Training

Cllr Harbottle and Cllr Heath has been booked onto a training day on 21st September.

Memorials

During August and September there were two memorial applications.

Correspondence

- FCC Environment have invited Councillors to a visit of Greatmoor Energy for Waste facility. Councillors interested in visiting the site should contact the Clerk. I forwarded this invitation to the local brownie, girl guide and scout groups.

CHESHAM BOIS PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT 2017 Meeting & Event Dates

Date	Meeting	Time	Venue
Mon 9 Jan	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 23 Jan	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 13 Feb	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 27 Feb	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Sat 4 Mar	The Great British Spring Clean	10.00am	War Memorial
Mon 13 Mar	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 27 Mar	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 10 April	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 24 April	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 8 May	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 15 May	Annual Parish Meeting	8.00pm	Parish Centre
Sun 21 May	Beating the Bounds	2.00pm	Parish Centre
Mon 22 May	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 12 June	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 26 June	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 10 July	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 24 July	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 14 Aug	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 11 Sept	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 25 Sept	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 9 Oct	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Sat 14 Oct	Autumn Clear Up	10.00am	War Memorial
Mon 23 Oct	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Sun 12 Nov	Remembrance Service	11.45am	War Memorial
Mon 13 Nov	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 27 Nov	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Fri 8 th Dec	Christmas Lights & Carols	4pm	War Memorial
Mon 11 Dec	Planning Committee Council Meeting	7.30pm 8.00pm	Council Office

10th October 2016 Council Meeting: Payments & Receipts					
PAYMENTS	Ref	Payment	NET	VAT	Amount
BMKALC	CAB 5		£95.55		£95.55
Buckland Landscapes	28553	FP	£1,040.48	£208.10	£1,248.58
Chiltern District Council	179868	FP	£602.03	£109.46	£711.49
Chiltern Society	3938	FP	£187.50	£0.00	£187.50
Clarity Copiers Ltd	351871	FP	£67.14	£13.43	£80.57
DCK Beavers	P0298	FP	£25.00	£5.00	£30.00
Staff Salaries		FP			£1,346.81
Bucks County Council		FP			£358.41
Southern Electric		DD	£228.96	£42.45	£271.41
Utility Warehouse	6203683	DD	£30.79	£6.15	£36.94
					£4,367.26
RECEIPTS					
Berkhamsted Schools Group	16/11a	FP			£2,600.00
Mr & Mrs Williams		#129			£600.00
Unity Trust Bank		FP			£2.60
Mr Rose	16/11	FP			£150.00
Unity Trust Bank		FP			£7.58
NS&I Savings		FP			£90.88
					£3,451.06

1. Update on current work:

Two trees identified in the Tree Survey along the main Chesham road are still waiting to be felled.

The mess by the felled beech in Tenterden Spinney was not caused by the contractor but by a large branch falling from a red oak tree nearby after the work on the beech. We will tidy it up when we next have contractors working there.

2. Management Plan for the Common and Woodlands

The first meeting with John Morris, Director of the Chiltern Woodlands Project, took place on Tues 27th Sept and he has started a review of the current state of all our woodland, including the Common, Tenterden Spinney and Bois Wood. Some likely ash dieback (a disease gradually invading the Chilterns) was identified at the Old Vicarage end of the Common, where there are a greater number of ash trees, and if this spreads it could cause the loss of a significant number of trees in that place.

3. Footpaths

The Chiltern Society has helped to review all our footpaths and action has been taken in areas where there were concerns. This has included writing a letter to two particular residents adjacent to one of the rights-of-way in Blackwell Stubbs to ask them to trim their hedges. We are obtaining quotes to replace two broken gates, one on the path from Long Park to the church and one at the entrance to the footpath in Great Bois Wood.

Cllr Clive Thomas

1. Update on current work

- i. Planting of the privet hedge in the Old Burial Ground to fill the gap will take place shortly.
- ii. Removal of bushes and small trees from graves in the Old Burial Ground has already been approved by the Council and will also start shortly.
- iii. Grass cutting of the field adjacent to the Woodland Burial Ground will take place this week.

2. Items for approval

To approve the expenditure of £540 for the pruning of young trees in the Woodland Burial Ground and the installation of replacement tree guards and shelters on the avenue of elms and limes in the field adjacent to the burial ground. These guards protect the main stems of young trees from deer and rabbit damage.

3. Burial Ground Working Group update

The Working Group and our sexton met on 7th October to look in detail at maintenance and other items likely to require attention over the next 6 months. Key priorities will be:

Chapel – repair of rotten soffit boards and replacement of a few missing tiles on the roof, then subsequently painting of all the exterior white surfaces.

Hedges – cutting the hedge between the Old and New Burial Grounds to a height of approx 12ft (this is mostly hawthorn but some hazel, rowan etc will be left untrimmed). Clearance of the hedge between the New and Woodland Burial Grounds which is being overwhelmed with brambles. In addition clearance of brambles and nettles in the Woodland Burial Ground and by the entrance tracks will need to be continued.

Trees in the Woodland Burial Ground – these are reference points for graves and need to be re-marked and checked against the plans. Any self seeded trees will need to be removed as their roots will hamper grave digging in the future. In addition we plan to install new reference points along the track and perimeter hedges to make location of grave sites easier and cross reference them to the digital mapping. The database of graves is currently being checked with our plans and once we are sure that our records are 100% accurate and up-to-date, we hope to move from the hand drawn plans to digital (but keeping a manual back-up).

With revenues down against budget last month, we have started a review of our prices and pricing structure in comparison to other sites in the area. We hope to present a proposal for revision in due course to the Council and at the same time will both review our rules and also look to take new pictures (after all the work of improvement) and review our marketing.

Transport Working Group Report for 10 October 2016 Council Meeting

Portable Speed Sign (MVAS)

The MVAS was relocated to Bois Lane near the zebra crossing on Wednesday 6 July and remains in this location.

MVAS data for September is not available at present as we have been unable to download the data. This will be recovered and submitted to the next meeting.

I have attached a summary of the MVAS data prepared by local resident Steve Cyster for the period Jan to August 2016. It can be noted that whilst Bois Lane is the busier road speeding is more of a problem in North Road. This data has been sent to the local police for their information.

Following my meeting with our local community police officer, PCSO Hannah White, I met with Liz Johnson, PC 2914 (TP), Road Safety Constable for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes. I discussed the Council's and local residents concerns about speeding on some local roads namely North Road, Bois Lane and Amersham Road. She requested that I send her the data from our MVAS on a regular basis (Jan to Aug sent) and that she would discuss with her team a programme of enforcement in our area during the coming months.

We also discussed a community speed watch programme and I have been put in contact with Tony Shinner, Parish Councillor in Little Chalfont, to understand better how the scheme works. It will involve us in purchasing our own speed gun at an approximate cost of £2500.

Just as a reminder, the scheme works by councillors & residents having use of a speed gun and recording the registration number of speeding vehicles. This information is passed on to the police who then send a letter to the motorist stating that they have been observed speeding and warned that should it happen again they will be prosecuted. We will need a contact at the local police station to input the data as access to the system is restricted to authorised personnel.

Given that speeding is such a serious matter and that we have clear evidence of speed limits not being complied with, I would ask The Council to consider the benefits of investing in 2 new MVAS signs at a cost of c£2500 each and one speed gun at a cost of c£2500. The intention would be to have 3 signs permanently sited in North Road, Bois Lane and Amersham Road. If The Council is minded to support this investment I will put a formal request to the next meeting.

TfB have completed repairs to the road in Long Park and the junction of North Road.

LAF Funding.

No progress to report on the footpath project. This is now a priority action in order to avoid losing the funding. We have the signed petition confirming local support for the path with 74 signatures 70 for and 4 against. For discussion at the council meeting.

LAF Meeting 28 September 2016

I attended the recent LAF meeting and will circulate the minutes when received. The main points were:

Crime figures are for Thames Valley area and are for a rolling 12 months
Burglaries are up 7% but down 32% in the Amersham and Little Chalfont area
Violence against the person (including names online) – 194 incidents reported +56%
Assault with injury 69 incidents reported with Chesham High Street being the local hotspot
Reports of Domestic Violence increased from 37 to 75 (better reporting driving the rise)
Issues with young people driving irresponsibly (Donuts etc.) focused locally in King George V Car Park and Hervines Park

Older people are susceptible to cyber/telephone crime and the police are actively working with local banks to identify vulnerable older people. If we are able to provide a list of vulnerable older people, the police will take a positive approach to protecting them
The key message was that we live in a safe area.

BCC continue to focus additional spending on car for children and vulnerable adults. Spending on child care has increased from £39m to £60m in 4 years.

It was stated that BCC will effectively be paying £11m pa 'tax' to central government within a couple of years as the changes to County Council funding bite even more.

Paul Hodson – BCC Area Manager sent me the links for the BCC traffic Calming kit. Any expenditure would have to be a PC level. Details are with Sam.

Rosie Taylor – rotaylor@buckscc.gov.uk is the manager of the LATs and a useful contact for us

Kerb by Cricket Ground Gate

No progress to report. We need to apply for a dropped kerb licence.

Street Lighting

Sparkx have completed the planned upgrade to street lighting in good time for the autumn/winter period. We are just waiting for UKPN to transfer the power from the old concrete lamp post at the end of Stubbs Wood to the new column

Our contract with Sparkx for street light maintenance has now expired and must now run a tender process for a new contract.

We also need to agree a new electricity supply contract as costs have increased c £40 per month

Devolution

A meeting with SEA was held on Monday 25 July at 13.00 to address all activities including grass cutting, siding out, street sign cleaning and weed killing. Updated maps were agreed and specifications for work clarified resulting in an improvement during August. We have 1 more cut scheduled for 2016 but depending upon the weather we may increase this to 2. Sign cleaning and weed killing will be carried out by the end of October. We have also requested siding out of some footpaths.

We still need to update our local maps which will be done once the software has been loaded on to Sam's new PC

Power Supply to the War Memorial & Common - for discussion

My recommendation to The Council is that we rescind the previous resolution and debate again the requirement for power to the War Memorial along with other project priorities.

Cllr David King
10 October 2016

Communications Working Group Report: Oct 16

WEBSITE

I, again, met with Robert Gibson of Dovedale Design. We have agreed the website will be go live mid to late October, subject to the submission of essential content. There are some areas that need updating and we hope to have this done over the next week. Robert will improve the formatting, as well. There are lots of new features and the feel is more modern and it's easy to navigate. You can view the current version of the new website here:

<http://www.dovedaledesign.co.uk/cheshambois/>

Please let me have any suggestions to improve the site and please supply any content (text and photos) you wish to add.

Content

Contributions from councillors has been scant, so we have used material from the old site and papers submitted at meetings to put together the services and event pages. Despite repeated requests, we still require portrait photos of several councillors. I will bring a camera at the next meeting and take appropriate mugshots.

MEDIA

Our Your Amersham council report reappeared in the October edition. If you have anything you would like me to mention in the November edition, please let me know before the deadline of 18th October.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook now has 45 likes. The post on the controversial shop application 'reached' 844 people. Our Twitter account has 48 followers.

Reference the outstanding Action list:

Digital Mapping: Pear Technology were consulted and training was provided to all those who attended. The creation of digital maps for planning, burial grounds, street lighting and Council assets will be a considerable undertaking. Unless, any councillors wish to devote their time to manage this task, I suggest this is outsourced to Pear Technology at an agreed price.

Contacting Residents By Email: we agreed to collate email addresses at the Summer Fete. I don't believe this was a success. I will ask Robert Gibson if he can incorporate a section saying "if you wish to be contacted by CBPC on news/events...."

Footpaths: the new website has a 'contact us' page. I will ask if it is possible to have a provision to log problems with footpaths

Bois Own: whilst initially agreeing to help with reviving the newsletter, the ex-editor never responded to further calls/emails. I believe Cllr Bailey may have found a volunteer to produce Bois Own.

History: the new website will have a local history section, which references the Amersham Museum's Chesham Bois history collection and this will be added to when time and material is available.

Woodside Ave Tree: I have asked Sam to speak to her contact at BCC to confirm they will plant the replacement tree. I believe this was held up by a change in personnel at BCC. Once they agree to plant a sapling, it will be purchased.

Cllr Danny Buckingham