

# CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting to be held on Thursday 27 September 2012 commencing at 7.30pm  
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS

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**Present:**

Cllr L Willis - Chairman	Cllr S Herron
Cllr C Jordan - Vice Chairman	Cllr J Herschel
Cllr S Digby	Cllr D Onslow
Cllr I Forbes	Cllr B Sadler
Cllr J Gurney	

**Also present:** Mr Pam Mannering, Mrs April Summers and representatives from the Flackwell Heath Allotment Association

**1. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence, however Cllr Bailey had advised that he would be late

**2. Declarations of members' interests in Items on the agenda**

There were none

**3. Straight Bit Recreation Ground**

**3.1 Exercise Equipment**

The committee received a report from Mrs Mannering regarding the possible siting of the four pieces of exercise equipment. The Flackwell Heath Residents Association have been successful in gaining a lottery grant which has a time limit of a year. In light of the leisure facilities consultation process starting Mrs Mannering advised that she would be asking for an extension on the grant so that the equipment could be considered at the same time. Mrs Mannering advised that she would liaise with the clerk, passing contacts she had gathered at the meeting in Aylesbury regarding funding.

**3.2 Use of the Straight Bit for Football at the weekend**

Members were asked to note that the Flackwell Heath Sports Club, who have a lease at Green Dragon have been using the Straight Bit Recreation Ground for football training on Saturday. It appears that no permit has been requested or paid for the last couple of years.

The committee agreed that the Clerk should take forward to Finance and General Purposes Committee the proposal of a seasonal permit for activities on the site.

**4. Derehams Park Recreation Ground**

**4.1 Pavilion**

Members were asked to note that the long-outstanding issue about a water leak on site has still not been fully resolved despite several attempts in order to reconcile all outstanding invoices. The pipe has been re-laid and the invoices now come to the parish council, however we believe there is still approximately £2,000 outstanding of the original account with the Football Club. The council had offered to purchase the goals posts, nets etc from the club for £1,000 in order to help with the costs of the water leak. This offer had been turned down by the chairman of the club.

It was also noted that the pavilion had been refurbished and tenants are now using the facility.

#### **4.2 Bowls Club**

Members agreed to allow the Bowls Club to seek quotes for levelling the ground adjacent to their pavilion.

Members were advised that the track leading down to the club was going to be levelled during the autumn/winter. This would be a 50% cost to the club as part of their lease agreement.

#### **4.3 Pitch Maintenance**

Members were asked to note that the maintenance of the pitches at Derehams Park had been taken in-house where possible and that it was the intention to winter fertilise the ground to stimulate grass root growth for a healthier surface.

#### **5. Community Orchards**

Members received a report from the first meeting of the working party by Cllr White. It was suggested that eventually each ward should have an orchard and that the first should be Loudwater as it was the only one without allotments. It was hoped that it would become a community project involving everyone.

The working party will be visiting a community orchard in Farnham Common on 13 October to see how it works and look at its design. Further feedback from the working party on costs involved and location will follow.

#### **6. Allotments**

##### **6.1 Chapel Road**

Members were asked to note that the Flackwell Heath Allotment Association was now up and running and working well. The barbecue which was supported by the council was a great success and it is hoped that by working jointly the facility will only improve. The reported problem with the shed door was due to be repaired by the grounds team.

Members received a short presentation from April Summers the Chairperson of the FHAA who advised that the association had been set up on 12 July 2012 and at present they had 48 members. They were hoping that they would be able to apply for grants to help with the cost of improved fencing as there had been on- going problems with deer and rabbits. It was reiterated that the barbecue had been a great success and there was an improved community spirit, which has also been helped by each committee member looking after a quarter of the allotments.

The FHAA have applied for National Allotment Association membership.

##### **6.2 Ashley Drive**

Members were asked to note that the Community Payback teams had been working at the allotments cutting down the perimeter hedges and clearing uncultivated plots. The grounds team have started to clear the centre and build up the bank by the shed for more parking spaces.

##### **6.3 Allotment Association**

The committee agreed that the council should become a member of the National Allotment Association and this will be passed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**7. Recreation Grounds and Parks**

The committee received a short report from Cllr Willis on the recent Play and Leisure Facilities Workshop which was held on 20 September. It had been a good bridge building exercise and the content of the evening had been extremely good.

The next steps would be for members in each ward to take the lead and work with the interested parties to look at funding and design. This would be part of the continued public consultation.

A Youth Workshop will be held during the October half term to engage with the users of the parks. Matthew Woolley the Detached Youth Worker for Bucks County Council will be involved in this event.

**8. Questions from council members and the public**

A member of the public advised the committee that she had spoken to the farmer at Pigeon House Farm who had expressed concern about the vandalised kissing gate at the top of the path near the allotments in Flackwell Heath.

Cllr Herschel was able to advise that the repair request had been lodged with Bucks County Council Rights of Way team who in turn had raised an order for the Chiltern Conservation Team to attend.

**9. Accounts for payment**

The lists of accounts for payment were circulated to members and were approved. The list to be attached to the minutes of the meeting so that they will be available for scrutiny by the public.

The chairman thanked members for their attendance at the meeting which ended at 9.00pm

**Date of the next meeting: Thursday 6 December 2012**

**Signed .....**      **Dated .....**

