

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE

AGENDA

THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2008

The meeting will commence at 7.30 pm at the Council Office, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP10 8DS

Members:

Ms K Wood (Chairman)
R Smith (Vice Chairman)
Ms E Belcher
J Chalmers
Mrs S Digby
I Forbes
Ms J Johnson
C Jordan
L Willis
M Smith (ex-officio)
D Johncock (ex-officio)

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1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** At the time of the agenda distribution, apologies for absence have been received from R Smith (Vice Chairman), L Willis and D Johncock (ex-officio).
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** To receive any declarations of interest by Members pertaining to Agenda Items.
3. **TYLERS GREEN COMMON (agenda page 2)**
4. **KINGSWOOD (agenda page 3)**
5. **COMMITTEE BUDGETS (agenda pages 4- 5)**
6. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (agenda page 6)**
7. **DELEGATED ACTION (agenda page 7)**



H R O Jones
Clerk of the Council
11 September 2008

**CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
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TYLERS GREEN COMMON

The Council owns this land, which is registered as Village Green and lies within a Conservation Area.

Commemorative Trees Update – CONSIDERATION

Since the Committee Site Visit on 1 July 2008, working in conjunction with local interested parties, the Council has undertaken to progress the planting of Commemorative Trees on Tylers Green Common.

Mr Read has indicated his intention to attend the Committee meeting in order to notify Members of the various developments that have taken place, especially in relation to:

- The proposed Interpretive Board, draft copy attached (**APPENDIX A**);
- The staking of the individual markers by each tree (work to be undertaken by Council Staff); and
- Tree ordering of six pot-grown Lime Trees and stakes with 6 foot galvanised wire guards for the two most vulnerable trees (work to be undertaken by Council Staff).

Members are asked to receive a verbal update from Mr Read and to consider what future action to take in relation to the Commemorative Trees on Tylers Green Common.

Joint Tylers Green and Penn Working Group – CONSIDERATION

On 8 September 2008 a Joint Tylers Green and Penn Working Group took place at the Council Offices. The Council was represented by Ms J Johnson and J Herschel.

Topics discussed included Widmer Pond, Pistles Pond and Village Appraisals.

In lieu of Minutes of the meeting being prepared, Members are asked to consider a verbal update report following the Joint Tylers Green and Penn Working Group that took place on 8 September 2008.

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KINGSWOOD

The Council owns this woodland. The land is maintained in conjunction with the Council's Forestry Consultants, Tilhill.

Trees Bordering properties in Kingswood - CONSIDERATION

Members are referred to the attached correspondence between the Clerk and Mr May of 55 Southcote Way which it is believed is self explanatory (**APPENDIX B**).

In essence, the Council has traditionally provided permission for the owners of properties bordering Kingswood to arrange for limited tree reduction by professional tree surgeons where these have grown to such an extent as to prevent natural light entering into the gardens of these dwellings. The cost of undertaking such work has been accepted as being the responsibility of the property owner.

Members are asked to consider the request for the Council to bear the cost of undertaking tree reduction work in Kingswood to allow natural light to 55 Southcote Way, based on the exceptional circumstances described in Mr May's correspondence, and to further consider any amendments, if necessary, to its existing policy in this area.

Friends of Kingswood - INFORMATION

On Saturday 19 July 2008, Roger Wilding (Wycombe Wildlife Group) led a successful 'Summer Flower Walk' in Kingswood and the Gomm Wood area. The next scheduled event is the 'Fungi Finding Walk' on Saturday 25 October 2008 at 10.00 am, Cock Lane Cemetery Centre Car Park.

A copy of the meeting notes of the Friends of Kingswood group following the meeting on 18 June 2008 are attached (**APPENDIX C**).

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COMMITTEE BUDGETS

Attached are:

- The Budget summary report (**APPENDIX D**)
- The Budget detailed report (**APPENDIX E**)
- Projected variances from budget 2008/09 (**APPENDIX F**)

2008/09 Budget - INFORMATION

The projected net expenditure for 2008/09 is £1,889 over budget. The variances are set on the variance spreadsheet.

2009/10 Budget – CONSIDERATION

The Budget figures for 2009/10 in the reports are initial proposals and the Committee's recommendations will be reported to the Finance and General Purposes Committee (FGP), together with the other Committee budgets on 14 October 2008.

FGP will look at the overall Council position and consider the possible level of the precept and may therefore make recommendations about the Committee's amended budget.

The procedure for setting the Committee's budget is as follows:

The Committee will be asked to re-examine the proposed budget at its meeting on 18 November 2008, taking into account any matters arising and FGP recommendations. The Committee will then make a final budget recommendation to FGP in January 2009. FGP will then consider the overall position and recommend a precept to the January 2009 Council meeting.

The Budget Reports show:

- The budget, actual income and expenditure for 2007/08 and 2008/09;
- The 2008/09 actual income and expenditure figures are correct to August 2008. The annual projected is an estimate of income and expenditure for 2008/09 to 31 March 2009; and
- The initial proposal for the 2009/10 budget.

As set out in the report, the initial proposed expenditure for 2009/10 is £46,226, i.e. a notional decrease of £818 from the 2008/09 budget. The initial proposed income is £2,167, i.e. a decrease of £9,769. The difference is due to exceptional income in 2008/09.

- £3,111 third party contribution towards resurfacing Cock Lane recycling centre car park
- £1,000 third party contribution towards resurfacing Church Road
- £500 grant received for Tylers Green Common

2008/09 was the final year for the £5,000 Forestry commission grant.

This proposed figure includes:

- £2,000 for Amenity Land benches and signs.
- £1,500 for tree surgery on Railway Land Loudwater.
- £800 for litter bins on Tylers Green Common.
- £3,000 for Tylers Green Common management plan.
- £1,500 for Tracks on Tylers Green Common.
- £3,000 for Widmer pond area improvements

The non-fixed regular items have been inflated by 5%. The figures for Kingswood are estimated as the Tilhill report is not due until November.

Against this background, the Committee is asked to review the draft budget for 2009/10 and refer any recommendations or comments to FGP for the 14 October 2008 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6

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ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Approval of Accounts for Payment - CONSIDERATION

The Accounts for Payment are to be circulated at the meeting for the approval of Members.

Members are reminded to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interests in any items submitted for payment.

Members of the Press and Public are asked to be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of any Confidential Payments, such as payments to members of the Council Staff.

AGENDA ITEM 7

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE 18 SEPTEMBER 2008

DELEGATED ACTION

Delegated Action - INFORMATION

Since the last meeting of Amenity Land Committee the Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk has authorised and processed the following permit:

- For Tylers Green Brownies to hold a Sports Event on Tylers Green Common on 2 July 2008 (16/07/08).

Since the last meeting of Amenity Land Committee the Clerk has authorised and processed the following permits:

- For Tylers Green Scouts to hold the Annual Scout Fair on Tylers Green Common on 24 and 25 August 2008 (05/06/08);
- For Tylers Green First School Annual Country Dancing and Sports Day on 26 June 2008 and 7 July 2008 (05/06/08);
- Tylers Green Village Show Committee to erect signage on Tylers Green Common for Annual Village Show on 13 September 2008 (23/06/08);
- Thames Valley Orienteering Club to use Kingswood for Orienteering on 26 October 2008 (08/07/08); and
- Ayres Fair to hold Annual Fair on Tylers Green Common from 11 September to 15 September 2008 (19/08/08).