

# CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Thursday 22 November 2012 commencing at 7.30pm  
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS

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**Present:**

Cllr K Wood - Chairman	Cllr C Jordan
Cllr J Johnson - Vice Chairman	Cllr M Patel
Cllr J White	Cllr I Forbes
Cllr D Johncock	

Also in attendance: Cllr J Bailey and Mrs E Johncock

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr B Sadler, Cllr J Herschel and Cllr L Willis.

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

There were none.

**3. Widmer Pond**

Members were asked to note that the suggested signs had been placed around the pond and it had been reported at the Joint Parish Meeting that they were working and there was decreased use by anglers of the path.

Members also noted that the Clerk had sent off the pond registration to Defra, and when confirmation has been received fish removal will take place by Thames Valley Aquatic Services.

**4. Orchard Green, Flackwell Heath**

Members were asked to note that the hedge at the front of the green had been inspected by two hedge layers and the suggestion was that due to the long term neglect and size of the hedge, laying was now out of the question. In order to create a healthy hedge for the future coppicing would be necessary and it had been suggested that chestnut paling would need to be erected while the hedge re-grew. It was agreed that a Focus On meeting would be required in the Spring and the hedge layer will be asked to attend as he had offered at the time of inspection.

It was accepted that the hedge had been neglected over time but a suggestion of costing a Chiltern hedge was made to match the other side of the green. Cllr White offered assistance with any hedge laying.

**5. Community Orchard**

Members received an update from the last meeting of the Community Orchard working group. Cllr White advised that the first orchard would be created in Loudwater and the land at Hedley Green was first choice for position. It would be kept as an open space for all to enjoy.

This item will be brought forward to the next Leisure Facilities Committee.

**6. Railway Land**

Committee members received a presentation from Cllr White on concerns and future management of the site.

Following a detailed report it was agreed that a management plan for the site was necessary for future care and a working party of Cllr Forbes, Cllr White and Cllr Jordan should take this

forward. It was agreed that the site should be walked every year and in particular establish rights of access onto the land dealing with encroachment issues.

Members were advised that the gate at the Bay Tree Close end of the site was open and there was no padlock on the gate. The clerk was asked to have the gate locked.

**7. Kingswood Car Park**

Members were asked to note that the extra test pits had been dug and Dan Sexton, Waste Management, had advised that he was waiting to receive a quote for the potential resurfacing works. This work will include concrete under the recycling bins however, there is the initial possibility of the tarmac in front of the bins being refilled and top dressed. When the quote for resurfacing has been received further negotiations will take place.

**8. Totteridge Common**

Members were asked to receive an update from the clerk on the on-going care of Totteridge Common, as previously advised one quote has been received and another is being sought from Quadron the Wycombe District Council contractor who will be cutting the other section of Totteridge Common which is still owned by Wycombe District Council.

**9. Jubilee Garden, Flackwell Heath**

Cllr Johncock gave an update to members on the proposed siting of the plaque from the old school. The Flackwell Heath Residents Association had not been happy with the site chosen and therefore the proposal was being withdrawn. The plaque will now be placed on the Community Centre site.

Members noted that provision for the fencing at the site had been made in the draft budget 2013/14.

**10. Draft Budget 2013/14**

Members were asked to consider the draft Amenity Land committee budget for 2013/14 for recommendation to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Two areas were highlighted as requiring an increase, the Railway Land following the earlier report and possibly the General Amenity area to make provision for a path if the parish board is re sited at Jubilee Gardens. Also, the cost of hire for a tractor was queried and this was felt better placed under Works Services and Planning equipment hire.

**11. Committee Finances**

Members were asked to note the current committee expenditure and income.

It was noted that, in particular, Kingswood and Tylers Green Common had little expenditure to date, however this is due to invoices for forestry fees coming in late and the work to Tylers Green Common just starting with over seeding and spiking.

**12. Kingswood Management Plan**

Members were asked to note that extensive works had been completed to bring the rides and glades in Kingswood up to date. The grant from the Forestry Commission will now be released. Also of note, Tilhil had completed the grant for the clearance of holly, this is hoped to be undertaken on our behalf by community payback teams. However, since speaking with Tilhil on this matter it is clear that unless we use trained operatives for the removal of the holly the grant will not be paid. A quote is awaited from Tilhil for the cost of this work.

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

There were none.

**14. Accounts for payment.**

Accounts for payment were circulated at the meeting and cheque numbers 7689 to 7707 and the direct debit payments to Southern Electricity, E-On, Shell, Orange, GE Stevens, Unicom and PWLB were agreed and the cheques signed.

**Oakwood Consultation**

Cllr Bailey gave an update on the forthcoming consultation at Oakwood and an informal discussion followed.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 9.25pm

**Date of the next meeting of the committee: Thursday 14 February 2013 at 7.30pm**

Signed ..... Dated .....