

# CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Thursday 11 September 2014 commencing at 7.30pm  
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS

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**Present:** Cllr D Johncock - Chairman  
Cllr I Forbes - Vice Chairman  
Cllr B Sadler  
Cllr C Jordan  
Cllr S Digby

**Also present:** Cllr J Herschel

**The meeting commenced at 7.40pm.**

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr White (holiday), Cllr Bailey (business), Cllr Herron (family) and Cllr Willis (family), Cllr Wood (business)

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

Cllr Digby declared a personal interest in Item 12 – expenses payment.

**3. Widmer Pond**

Members were asked to consider a further request from a resident for a ban on fishing at the pond. It was noted that the regulations would be changing in accordance with the proposed new byelaws and that perhaps a designated fishing area be marked out.

*It was RESOLVED that;*

*The debate on byelaws be deferred to the next Finance & General Purposed Committee in October at which point fishing in the pond would be further considered.*

**4. Railway Land**

**4.1 Definitive Footpath**

Members were asked to note that the path running from Bridge Bank Close to School Way was in the last phase before becoming definitive. The Clerk was at the time of the meeting awaiting the Agreement from the Bucks County Council Legal Team.

**4.2 Annual Railway Land Working Party Report**

Members were also asked to note that a written update from the Warden on the progress with the report from the Railway Land Working Party would be available at the next meeting in November.

**5. Tylers Green Common**

Members were asked to note that quotes were being sought for the 'all weather' path from New Road up to the Back Common. A contribution from the Local Community Partnership of £5,000 has been offered, this will be matched by the parish council to complete the works.

Members were also asked to note request from a resident of Rays Lane for 'No Parking Access for Residents Only' signs to be placed along the tracks on the Common.

*It was RESOVLED that;*

*This item be deferred for further consideration by the Signage Working Group*

**6. King's Wood**

**6.1 Harvesting**

Members were asked to note that the harvesting eventually started on 21 August and the payment for the first 500 tonnes of wood had been received and banked. The forwarder,

used for extracting the cut timber, would be in the wood for two weeks and a new start date for this part of the work had been given as 22 September.

## **6.2 Anti-social behaviour**

Members were asked to note that the office had not received any reports of dirt bikes being used in the wood over the summer period.

## **6.3 Tree Safety Check**

Following the last Amenity Land Committee meeting, members were asked to note that the Warden's inspection had identified 39 trees requiring attention. The majority of the trees were on paths/bridleways or near properties.

Members were asked to consider the quotes that had been received for the works are as follows;

Quote A	£6,480.00
Quote B	£5,710.00
Quote C	£3,950.00

***It was RESOLVED that;***

***Contractor C be approved to under the work in King's Wood.***

## **7. Signage**

Members were asked to receive an update from Cllr Wood and Cllr Forbes on the signage requirements for Tylers Green Common and King's Wood.

Cllr Wood had not been able to attend the meeting, but progress was well underway with the requirements for Tylers Green Common.

Cllr Forbes advised that signboards at each main entrance would be required, to include a map showing colour coded paths and flora and fauna of the area. It was thought that fingerposts should be used sparingly if at all with the idea of coloured dots on trees indicating path routes.

***It was RESOLVED that;***

***Cllr Forbes circulate the proposals for King's Wood signage.***

## **8. Magpie Wood, Loudwater**

Members were asked to note that the draft contract was on the way from the vendor's solicitor.

Members were asked to consider the woods future use following the purchase.

***It was RESOLVED that;***

***Cllr Johncock walk the woods with the Warden to assess any immediate tree work requirements.***

***Cllr Jordan would also be involved and take the lead on the project.***

## **9. Committee Site Visit**

### **9.1 Kingswood – Forest Way, Micklefield**

Following the site visit in July, members were asked to consider the recommendation to replace the parts of the fence on the boundary which had already fallen down or rolled over, also where there was insufficient bramble and natural hedging material to dissuade ingress to King's Wood.

***It was RESOLVED that;***

***Quotes for chainlink fencing be obtained. Depending on quotes an approach to be made to the Local Community Partnership for a grant to assist.***

## **9.2 Tylers Green Common**

Members were asked to consider the recommendation from the site visit to install bollards at the car park area down Old Nursery Lane. The area had been cleared of brambles and the bollards would help demarcate the area.

*It was RESOLVED that;  
The clerk obtained quotes for the bollards.*

## **9.3 Trees on land opposite the Village Hall, Tylers Green**

Members noted that permission had now been received to undertake the crown lifting of the two copper beeches and that the work would be undertaken this Autumn when the leaves had fallen.

## **9.4 Railway Land**

Members were asked to receive a verbal update from the Clerk following the site visit.

Members were advised that the newly planted hedge was discussed however it was felt that the priority should be boundary encroachments on the site.

*It was RESOLVED that;  
The topic would be deferred until the next Amenity Land Committee meeting in November.*

## **10. Committee Finances**

Members noted the current committee expenditure and income.

## **11. Questions from council members and the public**

A letter had been received from the Flackwell Heath Resident's Association Gardening Team to advise that they would like to turf the back of the Jubilee Garden removing the flower bed which would make space for another bench. They had also received a request from a resident to erect a plaque on the garden honouring the Flackwell Heath Auxilliary Fire Service 1939 - 1945.

- The re-turfing of the back flower bed was agreed.
- A formal application with proposals for a bench would need to be received.

Following on from the Jubilee Garden there was a mention of the recycling area. It appeared to be mainly used by the British Legion. It was not clear who owned the site but it was thought to be Bucks County Council.

Cllr Sadler advised that a new cable was required for the Christmas tree in Tylers Green.

## **12. Accounts for Payment**

Accounts for payment were circulated at the meeting for consideration by councillors. The accounts circulated included items that had been paid during the summer which will be attached to be minutes.

*It was RESOLVED that;  
Cheque numbers 8338 to 8347 be approved and duly signed and that the direct debit payments to E-ON, Unicom, EE, Shell and SSE be approved for payment.*

The chairman thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.40pm

**Date of the next meeting: Thursday, 20 November 2014 at 7.30pm**