

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE

Report of meeting held on Thursday 19 November 2015 commencing at 7.30pm
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS.

Present:

Cllr I Forbes - Chairman	Cllr L Willis
Cllr C Jordan – Vice Chairman	Cllr H Darch
Cllr L Johncock	Cllr S Digby
Cllr J White	Cllr L Pinner

Also present: Mr & Mrs Furness, Mr & Mrs Wistdale, Mr R Read, Mr C Smith, Mr G Christie

AL/15/27 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Wood (another meeting) and Cllr Sadler (holiday).

AL/15/28 Declarations of members' interests in items on the agenda

Cllr Jordan declared expenses pertaining to Magpie Wood.

AL/15/29 Delegated Actions

Members were asked to note that the Clerk had to take emergency action to remove a dead Beech tree on the boundary of the Dolphin Public House. Limbs had been falling off the tree and it was a potential hazard to the public using the car park and the building. The cost of the works undertaken was £500.00.

Cllr Forbes asked for Standing Orders to be suspended and asked members to approve items 7.3 and 7.2 be brought forward in that order and it was approved.

AL/15/30 Tylers Green Common

7.3 Memorial Trees on the Common

Mr Russell Read of Penn & Tylers Green Residents Society provided details of their request to support them in seeking Tree Protection Orders for the 30 Memorial Trees on Tylers Green Common and in particular;

- Alastair Cunningham (WDC Tree Officer) had been reluctant for a TPO application to be received on every notable tree in Tylers Green since it would be very time consuming;
- however Mr Cunningham would look favourably on a TPO application for all 30 memorial trees as a group even though they are in a Conservation area;
- all the trees are on CWPC land.

It was RESOLVED that;

The Committee agreed to support the P&TGRS request for a group TPO to be sought and that P&TGRS would forward the relevant application to WDC.

AL/15/31 Tylers Green Common

7.2 Tracks

Members were asked to note that the regrading and installation of a drainage channel to the track opposite the Village Hall had been completed, and that it appears to be working.

Members were asked to note that the residents along the track had written to the Council regarding the irregular surface left after the works. Mr and Mrs Wistdale and Mr and Mrs Furness discussed the contents of the letter with the Members.

It was RESOLVED that;
the Council would review and do what it can under Delegated Action from the residents offer;

and that the residents offer would need to be investigated by the Clerk and the Warden, together with a meeting with Mr Wistdale, and then presented to Full Council for consideration.

Mr and Mrs Wistdale and Mr and Mrs Furness left the meeting at 7:55pm.

AL/15/32 Parish Council Tree Policy

Members were asked to consider the draft Tree Policy before taking it to Full Council. Members raised a number of points about neighbours pruning CWPC trees;

Cllr White left the meeting at 8:00pm.

- Priority 3 (Neighbouring Properties): neighbours should advise the Council prior to undertaking any work? Should CWPC make inspections prior to neighbours undertaking any work? Neighbours to use appropriate contractors? The Chairman agreed to revisit this section before taking it any further.

Cllr White returned to the meeting at 8:02pm.

- Cllr White noted that some owners near the Railway Land had bought property before there were any trees within Council land bordering said properties.
- the Chairman confirmed that the Policy contained guidelines only and that priorities can be changed on a case by case basis.

It was RESOLVED that;
After consideration by Members, the Tree Policy would be referred to Full Council for further consideration.

AL/15/33 Widmer Pond

Members were asked to note that the remedial work to the pond path had been ordered and we are awaiting a start date.

AL/15/34 Railway Land
6.1 Tree Safety Inspection

Members were asked to consider and, if so minded, approve one of the quotes received for the tree works required following the Tree Safety Survey by the Warden. Members were asked to NOTE that eight trees were highlighted as issues.

Cllr White asked whether previously agreed works to trees overhanging the property of Mr and Mrs Dix of School Way Loudwater were included in the quotes.

It was RESOLVED that;
Quote A for £890 be approved for necessary safety works as per the Tree Safety Survey. That a quote should be sought from the contractor for the work to trees overhanging the property of Mr and Mrs Dix and that the Clerk to proceed with the works dependant on the increased cost.

AL/15/35 Railway Land
6.2 Actions Arising from Railway Land Management Plan

Members were asked to consider a proposal from Cllr White to call a public meeting for residents of Bay Tree Close backing on to the Railway Land to discuss works already undertaken on the boundary bank (removal of large trees, clearance of the bank, and the planting of a

hedge). The purpose of the meeting would be to gauge views on the work and whether further work is required along the length of the bank, within budgetary constraints.

Cllr White confirmed that the work already done has been well received by the resident concerned.

It was RESOLVED that;

The public meeting would form part of the next Annual Parish Meeting (Wednesday 6th April 2016) and would include a presentation by CWPC. Cllr White will ensure that Bay Tree Close residents are informed.

Mr Read left the meeting at 8:26pm.

Members were also asked to reconsider the work required for the clearance of the 2 metre strip along the boundary length to the north side of the west section.

It was RESOLVED that;

The issue will be RECONSIDERED by Members at the next Amenity Site Visit (Thursday 7th July 2016).

AL/15/36 **Railway Land**

6.3 Boundary Re-instatement

Members were asked to consider re-instatement of the Council boundary with the installation of fencing, comprising of posts with two single wires, along the length of the northern boundary.

It was noted that some Bay Tree Close residents had extended into the Railway Land and installed gates.

It was RESOLVED that;

Quotes are to be obtained in time for the next Amenity Land Committee meeting and that expenditure to come from the Earmarked Reserve for the Railway Land.

AL/15/37 **Railway Land**

6.4 Burst Water Main

Members were asked to note that all has been repaired successfully with the exception that the path from Bridge Bank Close to the M40 Tunnel is extremely muddy. Cllr White informed the Members that Bucks County Council and Thames Water hope to have made the path good before the next meeting, including the removal of all temporary signs.

Cllr White asked the Members to note that the boundary between Fennels Wood and Cobbles Farm appears to have changed and that there was a fallen tree within the wood.

It was RESOLVED that;

The Clerk to contact the owner of Fennels Wood with regard to the boundary issue and to contact Rob Hawker with regard to the fallen tree.

AL/15/38 **Tylers Green Common**

7.1 Boulders on Back Common

Members were asked to note that the boulders to protect the edge of the Common are still on order, and will be installed as practicably possible on receipt. Due to the length of time the order is taking, an alternative supplier is being sought.

AL/15/39 **King's Wood**

Following the last committee meeting it was apparent that parts of the Forestry Commission Grant would be at risk if further work was not undertaken in order to fulfil the biodiversity aims laid down in the Management Grant criteria. Members were asked to NOTE that it was proposed to action the 2 zone scrub clearance as part of the Winter Work Schedule, one quote had been obtained to date for these works at £3,780.00.

Members were also asked to note that tree removal works along the ride leading from the Dolphin Pub was also required, one quote had also been obtained for these works at £2,820.00. A site visit to further discuss the tree removal is took place on Tuesday, 17 November.

It was RESOLVED that;

Both works would proceed once 3 quotes for each had been received.

AL/15/40 **Jubilee Gardens – Granite Setts**

Members were asked to consider a request from Flackwell Heath Residents Association to install granite setts at the base of the memorial bench. To date two quotes had been received in the sums of £980.00 and £850.00 for the works.

It was noted that the Residents Association may be able to contribute but that the amount was unknown.

It was RESOLVED that;

The request would be held over until the next Amenity Land Committee meeting when the contribution would be known.

AL/15/41 **Magpie Wood, Loudwater**

Members received a short report from Cllr Jordan on progress in Magpie Wood. The report was noted by the Members.

Members were asked to note the suggestions made by Mr Brian Turnock at the last Committee meeting. These suggestions would form part of the Management Plan for Magpie Wood and Members were asked to make comment and bring further suggestions to the meeting for addition.

It was RESOLVED that;

The draft Management Plan to be firstly CONSIDERED by the Working Party and then the draft to be sent to the Members for their CONSIDERATION. The draft to be APPROVED at the next Amenity Land Committee meeting.

AL/15/42 **Tree and Fence Behind 2 Wheeler Close**

Following the last committee meeting members were asked to note that the recommendation from the committee site visit to submit a planning permission request to remove the overhanging stem of the crab apple tree leaning on the fence of a property in Wheelers Close had been received and the stem has now been removed.

Members were asked to consider the quote to repair the damaged fence. Following the visit to site it was clear that the fence panels were in good condition and had not been compromised by the leaning tree, however there are three posts that need replacing. The quote received for these works is £240.00.

It was noted that the owner of the property wanted the whole fence replaced, as recommended by her contractor. The owner was due to attend the meeting but had not attended.

It was RESOLVED that;

The Clerk to review the situation with the owner and the contractors and if owner satisfied, the Clerk to APPROVE the quotation of £240.00 and proceed with the works. If the owner was not satisfied then this issue to be RECONSIDERED at the next Amenity Land Committee meeting.

AL/15/43 Draft Committee Budget 2016/2017

Members were asked to note the draft Amenity Land committee budget for 2016/17 and to consider projects for inclusion. Following any insertions, the budget to be revised and taken to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee for recommendation to Full Council in January.

AL/15/44 Committee Finances

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

Members were also asked to note the current position of the Committee EMRs.

EMR	Actual to Date	Annual Budget	Variance
Railway Land	0	4,000	4,000
Magpie Wood	0	4,000	4,000
King's Wood	0	13,978	13,978
TG Common Management	4,800	12,550	7,750

AL/15/45 Questions from council members and the public

There were none.

AL/15/46 Accounts for Payment

Accounts for payment were circulated at the meeting for consideration by councillors.

It was RESOLVED that;

Cheque numbers 8720 to 8731 be approved and duly signed and that the direct debit payments to Unicom, EON, N Power, and Shell be approved for payment.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9:10pm.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday, 9 February 2016 at 7:30pm

Signed: *Kelvin SA Wood* **Dated: 26 January 2016**

19-Nov-15

Chq	Invoice No	Supplier	Detail	Net	VAT	Amount
8720	6094119	Alto Digital	Final invoice - copy charges	18.47	3.69	22.16
8721	6870	Clear up Skip	Widmer Pond clearance	220.00	44.00	264.00
8722	220526	Country Supplies	MOT Type 1 Sunken Drain Channel	24.50	4.90	29.40
8723	SO 161435	Fleet Line Marker	Parts for line marker	23.10	4.62	27.72
8724	15580	G D T Fire Extinguishers	Alarm Service	70.00	14.00	84.00
8725		C Jordan	Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
8726		HMRC	Tax & NI	2,203.91	0.00	2,203.91
	4570	Peacock Tree Ecology	Dismantle tree/Dolphin Pub	520.00	104.00	
	4575	Peacock Tree Ecology	Work/Magpie Wood	430.00	86.00	
	Jul-12	Peacock Tree Ecology	Rushbrook Close/RaysLane	480.00	96.00	
	4577	Peacock Tree Ecology	Wheelers Close	290.00	58.00	
8727	4580	Peacock Tree Ecology	Boundary Road	910.00	182.00	3,156.00
	SI 95829	J Parker	Flower Bulbs	205.00	41.00	
8728	SI 095829	J Parker	Flower Bulbs	12.00	2.40	260.40
8729		SSE	Derehams Pavilion	1,065.29	213.05	1,278.34
0		Thompsons Garden Centre	Totteridge Common Cuts x 2	130.00	0.00	130.00
8731	530	Quick step	Brass Plaque/Bench	26.30	5.26	31.56
D.D		E.ON	Gas- Office- 30th October	127.43	6.37	133.80
D.D		Unicom	Landline	84.25	16.85	101.10
D.D		N Power	Office/Cock Lane	428.66	22.93	481.59
D.D		Shell	Vehicle fuel	307.52	61.51	369.03
			TOTAL	7,596.43	966.58	8,593.01

Income received since last committee meeting:

CR		Arnold Funeral Services	Burial Charges	1,308.00	0.00	1,308.00
CR		Surman & Horwood	Burial Charges	572.00	0.00	572.00
CR		Arnold Funeral Services	Burial Charges x 3	2,224.00	0.00	2,224.00
TOTAL				4,104.00	0.00	4,104.00

Signed Sam Kish Signed Mr. Wells

Date 19/11/2015 Date 19/11/15

The RFO confirms that all goods and services have been received and that the invoices are accurate. We have compared the invoice details against the cheques, direct debit and payflow payments as above, which agree, and have therefore signed the cheques.