

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Members of the council are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on **Thursday 29 May 2025** at **7.30pm** at the Council Office, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe Bucks HP10 8DS

Committee membership:	Cllr L Webb (Chairman)	Cllr I Forbes
	Cllr L Willis (Vice-chairman)	Cllr S Guy
	Cllr J Gurney	Cllr L Townsend
	Cllr L Johncock	Cllr H Darch
	Cllr S Herron	Cllr K Griffiths
	Cllr D Johncock (ex officio)	Cllr K Wood (ex officio)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires members who cannot attend a meeting to tender apologies to the Clerk.

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

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest and confirmation of any relevant dispensations.

- i) Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the Member's Register of Interests or if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer (Clerk) of it.
- ii) Should any Member have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in an item on the agenda, the Member may not participate in consideration of that item unless a Dispensation has first been requested (in writing) and granted by the Council.

3. Delegated Action

4. Allotments

- 4.1 Fence Ashley Drive
- 4.2 Allotment Competition

5. Derehams Lane Recreation Ground

6. Tylers Green Common

- 6.1 Tracks
- 6.2 Footpath

7. Tree Work

8. Biodiversity Project

9. Railway Land, Loudwater Bank Survey

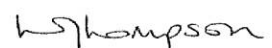
10. Committee Site Visits

11. Committee Finances

- 11.1 Income and Expenditure Month 1 (April)

12. Questions from council members and the public

13. Accounts for Payment



Wendy Thompson
Clerk to the Council
21 May 2025

Delegated Action

Members are asked to NOTE that since the last meeting in October the following delegated actions have been taken:

Ordered - King's Wood – fell Beech with large wound on property boundary	£950.00
Replacement of height barrier Cock Lane car park	£450.00
Ordered – Annual Play Inspection RoSPA	£500.00

AGENDA ITEM 4

Allotments

Members are asked to NOTE that there are currently 14 people on the waiting list for Ashley Drive and 7 on the waiting list for Chapel Road. There are no current vacancies.

4.1 Fence Ashley Drive Allotments

Members are asked to CONSIDER a claim made against the grounds team.

A resident who backs onto Ashley Drive allotments advised that ivy was growing over her fence and encroaching on the shed at the bottom of her garden. The grounds team attended and removed the ivy from the fence and the roof of the shed. The resident is claiming that damage has been caused to her fence and shed by the grounds team.

Following up the resident's claims with the team - the ivy was, in fact, encroaching from her neighbour's garden and possibly helping to hold the fence up. The fence posts were found to be rotten, and the fence was generally in a poor state of repair. The shed roof was left intact following the ivy removal.

Members are asked to APPROVE the next course of action.

4.2 Allotment Competition

Members are asked to CONSIDER a date for the allotment competition and two members of the committee to undertake the judging.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Derehams Lane Recreation Ground

Members are asked to NOTE that the surveys have been completed, and we are now waiting for the completed Ecology Survey. A bat survey revealed that no bats are present on the site. The hold-up has been the survey on the great crested newts, however, water samples were taken from a neighbouring pond on 8 May so results should be available shortly.

Members are asked to RECEIVE a short verbal update from Cllr Webb.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Tylers Green Common

6.1 Tracks

Members are asked to CONSIDER a request from residents of Track 6 (pink on attached map **APPENDIX A**) . A more permanent solution is being requested however, our solicitor who is an expert on Village Greens has advised the following .. ***'it is a criminal offence to drive on a village green, park on a village green and encroach upon or damage a village green by, for example, digging it up or covering it with tarmac or similar surfacing material.'***

Some of the residents along the track are willing to contribute and would appreciate a meeting on site with councillors to discuss the current situation and possible improvements.

The Track Policy has been attached as a refresher and an introduction to the tracks for new councillors (**APPENDIX B**)

6.2 Footpath

Members are asked to CONSIDER and, if so minded, APPROVE a request made via the Penn & Tylers Green Football Club to extend the path from the pond along the School Road side of the Common (red on the attached map) **APPENDIX C**. The above quote from our solicitor must be kept in mind when making any decision about covering the grass.

Tree Work

Derehams Lane Recreation Ground:

Conifer removal to the boundary of properties on Derehams Avenue. Conifers to be clear felled and wood to be stacked in habitat piles.

Quote A	£2,400.00
Quote B	£2,600.00

AGENDA ITEM 8

Biodiversity Strategy- Key Areas of Focus

Following the last committee meeting in January when members considered and approved the document produced by Cllr Webb, members are now asked to CONSIDER and, if so minded, APPROVE the next steps aligned to the key area of focus. John Shaw from the Chiltern Rangers has sent through his ideas for consideration **APPENDIX D**

AGENDA ITEM 9

Railway Land Bank Survey

Members are asked to CONSIDER the survey undertaken upon request looking at the bank stability. **APPENDIX E**

Options discussed in the survey to assist with the bank stability;

Terracing
Vegetation – shrub planting
Mulching – adding soil to the surface of the bank
Erosion control blankets
Pollarding/removal of unstable trees along bank
Interceptor drain on the upslope to minimise surface erosion

Members are asked to APPROVE the next course of action.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Committee Site Visits

Members are asked to CONSIDER and APPROVE a date for the site visit.

Sites on the list so far are:

- Tylers Green Common – tracks
- Railway Land
- Site relating to the Biodiversity Strategy

Members are asked to make further suggestions.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Committee Finances

11.1 Income & Expenditure

Members are asked to NOTE the income and expenditure for month 1 (April) **APPENDIX F**

AGENDA ITEM 12

Questions from committee members and the public

A maximum of fifteen minutes will be given to members of the public, who may make representations, ask and answer questions and/or give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak at the beginning of the meeting should inform the Clerk of this request as soon as possible.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Accounts for payment

Accounts for payment will be circulated at the meeting for consideration by councillors.

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 9 September 2025 @ 7.30pm