

LITTLE CHALFONT PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter – Autumn 2018



Our proposed new community centre CDC throws out application

We regret to report that, on 1 November 2018, the Chiltern District Council's planning committee rejected the application by the parish council to build a much-needed new community centre to replace the present village hall.

The speakers

Before the committee members discuss an application, members of the public are granted just a few short minutes to speak on behalf of an application to be considered by the district council.

The parish council was represented by our architect, Jeremy Bell, who explained to the committee the details of the application. He stressed that the current design was the result of the many changes demanded by the district council over the years, and other planning points of relevance.

Gill Glover, a resident of Little Chalfont since 1980, also spoke in favour of the new centre. As a past president of the Evening Woman's Institute, a group that has booked the village hall on a regular basis for many years, she has first hand knowledge of the many shortcomings of the present building.

The planning committee

Before the committee discussed our application, the case officer for the application gave her report, which recommended refusal.

During the discussion that followed, CDC planning committee member Jane MacBean spoke passionately in favour of the application and made a number of complimentary remarks about the village and the work of the parish council.

Other members of the planning committee were of a different opinion and one member, chairman of the planning committee, councillor Don Phillips – the elected representative of the residents of Little Chalfont – spoke at great length against the application.

When the vote was finally taken at about 10.15pm, two members voted in favour of the application, two abstained but nine voted against.

The reasons for the refusal were that the building would be a loss of green belt – even though the current village hall already stands on green belt land; loss of a small area of 'ancient woodland'; inadequate parking facilities and the size of the proposed new centre.

Our reaction

Members of the parish council are obviously upset at the decision as they felt that enough had been done to answer these points. Furthermore, as the relevant restrictions permit, mitigation work had been offered to offset the loss of a small area designated as 'ancient woodland'.

Planning for a new village hall has been ongoing for over five years now, and it is disappointing that seemingly helpful advice, given by a senior planning officer employed by CDC, but who has since left, was not taken in to account.

Members of the parish council working party, along with the architect had several meetings and telephone calls with this officer, trying to reach a design that might be acceptable. He made it clear that the final decision would be that of the planning committee but steered us



The proposed new community centre (top), which CDC rejected. The current village hall, (below) built in the 1950s



towards something he felt he could recommend for approval.

Additionally, the overwhelming support from local residents apparently counted for nothing. The consultations previously carried out by the parish council prove that a building of the type proposed is what is wanted in the village.

What next?

We must now decide the way forward. A redesign is unlikely to achieve any greater success unless the building is reduced in size by a considerable amount. But this would fall short of meeting the objectives of providing a bigger meeting place to satisfy current and future demands of a growing population.

Further professional advice is being taken but we have an option of appealing against the decision. However, it is possible that we might consider using the community right to build. We will keep residents advised of our decision. ■



From the chairman

I must start by saying how

disappointed we all are that the district council turned down our planning application for a new community centre.

I attended the meeting on Thursday 1 November and would like to thank all those local supporters of the scheme who turned out on the night and waited patiently for three long hours before our case was debated.

The parish councillors thought we had a strong community case, but felt that insufficient consideration was given to this. Little Chalfont Parish Council was created as a stand-alone entity only in 2007 and a modern community centre in a central position next to the library would create a focus for our village.

The present village hall was built in the early 1950s, since when the village population has trebled. The building is now far too small and, as a result, we have to turn away requests for hire regularly from residents and groups.

The parish council is confident that we have the support of the majority of residents and can assure you that we have not given up the fight.

We have options to consider in the near future and will, of course, keep residents advised on progress.

On a happier note, 20 cherry trees are shortly to be planted on Amersham Road between Lodge Lane and Church Grove. They will be on both sides of the road and, when in blossom, should re-establish Little Chalfont's previously stunning avenue of colour when entering and leaving the village.

Ian Griffiths

Parking in the village Latest proposals

This summer the parish council conducted an informal consultation to assess the extent of local agreement for proposed changes to waiting restrictions in various locations close to the village centre.

This survey was the first stage of the process of establishing new restrictions to which a largely commuter-parking problem had been, or was expected to be, displaced following the introduction of wide-ranging changes to waiting restrictions in the village last year.

Report submitted

On 21 August, we submitted our survey results to Transport for Bucks (TfB) together with our comments on them, summarised as follows:

- There was strong support for the proposals at **Chalfont Avenue** – 16 responses; **Linfields** – 28 responses; **Cokes Lane** – five responses; and **Chessfield Park** – 39 responses.
 - Support for the principle, but mixed views on the timing of the restriction proposed, for **Yarrowside** – six responses; and **Harewood Road** – 15 responses.
 - In **Snells Wood Court** a clear majority of respondents favoured the option of simply extending the double yellow lines at the entry to the Court.
- On 24 September, TfB confirmed that it intended to adopt the changes supported in the parish council's informal consultation, subject to:
- Later clarification of the extent to which the double yellow lines at the entrance to **Snells Wood Court** would be extended; and
 - Asking the parish council to take the lead on whether or not the residents-only parking restriction in



Commuter parking in Chessfield Park on a blind bend causing problems for drivers

Chalfont Avenue should apply on Sundays as well as Saturdays, as requested by several respondents. After further consultation, the parish council decided to not to include Sundays in the arrangement because of the lack of enforcement on Sundays and also to reflect the wishes of the local Methodist Church.

Statutory consultation

The next stage is a formal 'statutory' consultation, which is mandatory for any Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) prior to its implementation – a TRO is necessary to ensure that a waiting prohibition/restriction is lawfully enforceable.

The statutory consultation is scheduled for completion later this year, and all comments received will be taken into consideration and an analysis of the responses made before final recommendations are presented to the BCC cabinet member for transportation.

The final recommendations will be based on majority support from residents on the measures promoted and comments from the parking team.

The agreed changes are expected to be in force before the end of February 2019. ■

Save Little Chalfont What happens next?

Feeling in the village remains strongly against the proposal by Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils to allow the building of 700+ new dwellings in the green belt between Lodge Lane and Burtons Lane.

The parish council and community association coordination group monitors the situation and studies new council evidence documents as they appear. In March 2018 we wrote to the two councils with a detailed

challenge to the weak case that they have made so far for the proposal. That letter and the acknowledgement are on the website at <http://savelittlechalfont.org.uk/key-documents>.

Early next year the councils are likely to publish a draft local plan for their two districts, for public consultation.

If the plan still includes the Lodge Lane/Burtons Lane proposal, we will submit renewed objections and encourage the community to join in a vigorous campaign.

When the draft local plan appears, the councils will claim that they have taken into account all objections made to the proposals set out in earlier documents, even if those objections led to no change.

Therefore, residents will need to repeat their objections during the coming consultation, otherwise they will never come to the attention of the government inspector who makes the final decision. We will alert residents when it is time to act. Follow progress and developments on the website – see above – or on the Facebook page, 'Save Little Chalfont'. ■

Special Remembrance Day

100 years ago remembered

As most people will be aware, this year 11 November 2018 marked exactly 100 years since the end of World War I, so it was especially poignant.

Little Chalfont Parish Council held its annual Remembrance Day service on Sunday 11 November, led by Rev Anne Ellis to remember all those who had died in the name of peace in all wars.

We were lucky to once again have lovely sunny weather and there was a bumper turnout of attendees (see picture), for the service held, as usual, on the village green.

To mark this special occasion, two 'silent soldiers' were erected in the village, one at the entrance to the village at the junction of the Amersham Road with Lodge Lane, and one on the village green.



On the day itself, members of the uniformed organisations gathered at the Methodist Church before marching to the war memorial on the village green where the Remembrance Day service was held.

A number of people laid wreaths, including Ian Griffiths on behalf of the parish council and people of Little Chalfont; Martin Tett on behalf of the county council; and Don Phillips on behalf of the district council.

Members of the Chalfont Wind Band played the hymns and introductory music, and a soloist played the 'The Last Post'. ■

Carols on the green

The annual carols on the green event, organised by Churches Together, will take place on the village green at 11am, Saturday 15 December. All are welcome and carol sheets will be provided.

Overgrown hedges

Overgrown hedges and grass verges that encroach on to footways can mean that parents with children and pushchairs or the elderly have to walk in the road, which is extremely dangerous.

Please keep your boundaries tidy, and if you spot any restricted footways, contact the parish council.

FREE parking days for Christmas

The parish council is pleased to announce that free parking days will once again be available at Snells Wood car park in the approach to Christmas. These free days are: 1, 8, 15 and 22 December 2018.

Don't forget that the GE car park is available for residents free of charge for a two hour stay every Saturday and Sunday. See page 7 for full details.

Single unitary council chosen for Bucks

Secretary of State James Brokenshire announced at the beginning of November that he is supporting a single unitary district council to cover the whole of Buckinghamshire, excluding Milton Keynes, which is already a unitary council.

The date for the introduction of the unitary council is April 2020, subject to parliamentary approval. We will be advising residents of any impact this might have as soon as we have details.

Speeding in village

Data show shocking speeds

Last year, the parish council received matched funding from Buckinghamshire County Council Local Area Forum for a second mobile vehicle activated sign (MVAS), enabling us to monitor more of our roads for speeding drivers.

The MVASs light up when vehicles approach at more than 30mph (see picture), to warn drivers to slow down. Although the MVAS figures quoted here are for one week only, analysis shows that this is fairly typical for each of the weeks of the measurement periods.

The biggest problem areas of the latest data gathering exercise were shown to be in **Cokes Lane** and **Nightingales Lane**.

In October 2018 an MVAS was sited on Cokes Lane near the junction with Linfields, recording vehicles heading away from the village. Although the limit is 30mph along that part of Cokes Lane, the speeds recorded by the MVAS allow a little leeway.

A total of 31,120 vehicles were recorded in just one week. Of those, 86% were travelling at up to 35mph. However, 14% (ie about 4,300 vehicles) were travelling at over 40mph; 40 vehicles at over 45mph;

The MVAS lights up when a driver approaches at over 30mph



19 vehicles at over 60mph; four at over 65mph and one driver travelling at over 70mph!

An MVAS was also sited, at the same time, along the stretch of Nightingales Lane between the Cokes Lane and Harewood Road junctions.

During one week in October, a total of 19,010 vehicles were recorded travelling on that stretch of the road away from the village, with only 60% observing the speed limit.

There were an appalling number of vehicles not only breaking the speed limit, but driving at ridiculous speeds.

For example, 145 vehicles were recorded travelling over 55mph; 38 at over 60mph; 12 at over 65mph; two at over 70mph; and three at over 75mph.

All of these speeds were recorded in the early hours of the morning,

Little Chalfont Nature Park

Autumn arrives in splendour

As the autumn mists close in, visitors will see many changes in the nature park's appearance.

The long meadow grasses of the summer have been cut and woodland leaves, which were subjected to the extreme heat of this summer, are now mellowed and turning gold by the changing seasons and the welcome return of rain.

Anybody walking through the nature park cannot but be amazed by the skills of the craftspeople who have created the various wooden carvings.

We were blessed with something of an Indian Summer this year, the result of which has produced some surprises – for example purple clover was seen flowering in late October, as our picture below shows.

Also along with the autumn

sunshine several types of toadstool have appeared. Our picture shows a shaggy parasol toadstool. Why not wander round the park and see what other types *you* can find? But don't eat them – toadstools are poisonous so are only to be admired.

During the spring months a new oak wildwood den play area was installed next to the picnic tables. This has become very popular with our younger visitors – and some of the older ones too!

The park does suffer from some vandalism, sadly. If you notice any damage in the park please report it to Little Chalfont Parish Council on 01494 766655, or if you witness damage taking place please report it to the police on 101.

The nature park aims to be open to the public 365 days from dawn till dusk.

However, we suggest that you visit the park's website at: <http://naturepark.littlechalfont.org.uk> to check that the park is open on the day of your visit, as the park is closed occasionally for maintenance and safety reasons. ■



Purple clover (left) and shaggy parasol toadstools (right) in the nature park this autumn



Park ranger needed!

Little Chalfont Nature Park would like to recruit a park ranger to help local schools to provide educational visits to the park, linked to the national curriculum.

The park ranger will visit schools and help teachers develop lesson plans and support teachers in the classroom and in educational visits to the park.

This role would suit someone with teaching experience or parent with an interest in teaching and learning about the natural world. A DBS check will be required.

The role is voluntary but there is a modest budget available that can be used for learning materials and for expenses incurred when working in schools or the park.

Interested? Please contact Dr Mark Pegg for an initial conversation on 07734 997298 or email mark.pegg1@btinternet.com ■

Little Chalfont farmers' market

For autumn/winter 2018/2019, the farmers' market and craft fair will be held in the village hall from 9am-1pm:

Saturday 8 December 2018

Saturday 12 January 2019

Saturday 9 February 2019

Saturday 9 March 2019

If you are interested in taking a stall either at the farmers' market or at the craft fair, please contact the organiser, Carolyn Towner at info@tvfm.org.uk

The following is the sixth in an occasional series of articles about groups that regularly use the village hall

The National Childbirth Trust

The National Childbirth Trust (NCT) is the UK's largest parent charity.

Since 1956 it has supported millions of parents through birth and early parenthood, while also securing major advances in professional practice and public policy.

NCT Bumps & Babies is held weekly on Thursdays at 10 - 11.30am at the village hall. It's a lovely informal atmosphere for parents, carers, mums-to-be and babies to meet others.

Playmats and toys are laid out for babies & infants and refreshments are available for the grown-ups. Most weeks during term time there is a



short informal talk or baby class demo from local experts. Every third Thursday in the month we host the 'sling library', an opportunity to get great advice on different slings/ carriers and hire before you buy.

NCT and non-NCT members are welcome. There is a £2 suggested donation to cover hall hire and refreshments. For further info please contact: bumpsandbabies.nctchiltern@gmail.com

The village hall also hosts regular NCT signature antenatal courses,

NCT bumps and babies meeting at the village hall

which run over weekends and week day evenings throughout the year.

NCT courses bring local parents-to-be together whose babies are due around the same time. The courses are led by specially trained and experienced practitioners who understand what matters to new mums and dads.

On a signature antenatal course, parents to be can get practical and emotional support in all areas of pregnancy, birth and early parenthood including help with feeding.

We also run other antenatal and postnatal courses in the surrounding areas. For more information about our signature courses and other types of courses please visit: <http://www.nct.org.uk/courses> or contact Jo Mace on bookings5n@nct.org.uk ■

Little Chalfont as a community

“Strong communities are created by those who live in them”

Little Chalfont has undoubtedly grown in strength over the years and you only have to consider some of its key achievements from which the community benefits, such as:

- Our award winning community library (The library charity);
- Village Day, Christmas lights and hanging baskets (The revitalisation group);
- A much improved Westwood Park (The parish council).
- The nature park (The community association and the charitable trust).

All these and more were initiatives of residents as volunteers including, of course, the parish councillors who are also volunteers.

To retain much-loved amenities, each organisation needs the continued involvement of the community and this means new volunteers on a regular basis.

This is particularly noticeable at the present time, as the details below reveal, and so this is an appeal for you, the reader, to come forward and discover how you can help, initially without any commitment.

We have all the skills needed within the village and if each organisation could operate with a full complement, the call on an individual's time would not be onerous. Contact details are also provided below, so please do pick up the phone or email.

Little Chalfont Community Association

All for very good reasons, the team running the Association has recently been reduced to a level that makes

delivery of its objectives very difficult. The role of Secretary is vacant and the Treasurer will be stepping down at the AGM next March, so filling these roles is a priority. Other vacancies include team roles for:

- Planning (where there are wide implications for the village);
- PR and Communication (including the LCCA newsletter);
- Community Action Plan (overseeing specific projects implemented by others);
- Businesses (involving regular liaison with our shops and businesses)

Contact the chairman: Email: chairman@littlechalfont.org.uk
Tel 01494 762260

Little Chalfont Charitable Trust

The Trust was created to undertake projects that would benefit Little Chalfont and is run by a small board of trustees.

To date, its only focus has been the creation of the Nature Park and there are still parts of the project to complete but the thoughts of the present trustees are also on the future and the need to refresh the board.

An immediate requirement is to find a new trustee to act as Treasurer, as the present trustee will be stepping down at the end of the year but there could be new projects to consider, requiring fresh minds and different skills. Other trustees are also considering how much longer they wish to continue, having served together for several years.

The commitment is not onerous, as



there are only two or three meetings a year, with any decisions required in the interim being handled via email.

If interested in helping to make a difference in the village, please contact the Secretary, John Small: Tel 01494 762000. Email: small.j@btopenworld.com

Village Day (a community association event)

Paul Nicholls has stepped down as organiser after 4 successful years but a replacement has not been found. If not a Village Day 'supremo', what may be needed is a small team of residents to take on specific parts of the organisation and, in anticipation, the project has now been broken down into the different building blocks, each minimising the time involvement.

It would be a great shame not to have this annual event in 2019 but the proposed team would need to be in place by January.

Will you be a member of this team?

Contact the association chairman: Tel 01494 762260. Email: chairman@littlechalfont.org.uk ■

Please help to keep Little Chalfont strong and get stronger

Petty vandalism in the village

We are sad to report that Little Chalfont village has suffered several incidents of petty vandalism during the past year.

Of particular note has been the deliberate damage of the wooden picnic tables in the nature park and theft of some of the wood carvings. Some of the bird boxes have been torn from their mountings.

The parish council is investigating the installation of security cameras to try to deter and catch perpetrators.

Despite prominent signs saying that the nature park is non-smoking, visitors continue to ignore this. Smoking is anti-social, is a fire hazard and causes a great deal of litter with cigarette ends having to be removed constantly. Please remember that this is a place to enjoy nature!

We have also received reports of car tyres being slashed in Bell Lane. In

Westwood Park there has been damage to the pavilion, and a few anti-social individuals have used the car park as a racetrack.

This sort of damage costs money to repair that has to come out of public funds, of course. And it also means that items that are damaged cannot be enjoyed by everyone else.

If you see anyone vandalising property, you should immediately report it to the police on 101. If you witness acts of criminal damage members of the public should call 999. ■

Online and phone scams on increase

Fraudsters are after your money

Online and telephone scams are on the increase. Across the UK, criminals are targeting households to try to defraud people of their money.

Fraudsters often use the phone to cold call their way into your home. They trick you by pretending to be from a trusted source – your bank, the police, a utility provider or a computer company.

Their tricks are very persuasive, and often relentless. Do not fall for their tricks – once you have transferred money to the fraudster's account it will be virtually impossible to retrieve your payment.

Take a deep breath and think what a total stranger is actually asking of you.

Bank account access scams

The aim of the fraudsters is to get hold of your personal or financial information that they can use in criminal ways.

In order for them to access your bank details – account numbers, sort codes, PIN numbers and passwords – they cleverly con you into giving away this information.

If they can get access to your bank cards, or persuade you to transfer money into bank accounts that they control, most of their work is done.

One of the most common scams is for a fraudster to phone you and pose as your bank or the police. They claim your bank account has been fraudulently accessed and that to protect your account you must act quickly.

They say the solution is for you to transfer your money to a so-called 'safe account', but actually the fraudster controls this account. When you move the money, they steal it.

In a complex twist on this scam, the fraudster asks you to assist in a police investigation.

The story is that staff in a bank, or foreign money exchange, are acting corruptly by issuing fake currency. You are then asked by the fraudster to visit the branch and withdraw a large amount of cash, and to take it home and wait for it to be picked up later. A fraudster then knocks on the door, posing as a policeman or courier.

Fraudsters often use a tactic called 'number spoofing', in order to make their call appear genuine, the number you see on your phone display matches that of your bank, but in fact

the fraudster has manipulated this number by disabling the actual number they are calling from.

If you should query who they are and if they are genuine, they ask you to check your handset display in an attempt to convince you it is a real call. Never trust the contact information on the screen – use another separate phone to contact your bank on their main number for advice.

Contact the police on 101.

Computer problem scams

The fraudster, often claiming to come from some well-known computer company such as Microsoft, will try to convince you that your computer has a virus, or that your internet connection is running slow.

To 'fix' the problem the fraudster will ask you to allow them to take control of your computer in order to work on it. Once on your computer, they install software that steals your personal data.

Also, if the fraudster asks you to access your online bank account for payment, they can see you enter all your login details.

Another computer-related scam is where the fraudster claims that you are due a refund or compensation for poor service, such as for your internet connection.

They ask for your bank details to make the refund. However, they then claim they have accidentally sent you thousands of pounds, rather than hundreds, and that this error will cost them their job.

They then request you to refund the difference via a wire transfer.

Postal prize draws, sweepstakes and foreign lottery scams

You are told that you've won a prize in a competition that you have not entered.

To claim the prize you have to pay an administration fee. You pay the fee and either get back nothing or get something worth less than the fee you've paid.

Never reply or send money; your name and address will be sold on to other scammers and you will be swamped with mail telling you about having won a fabulous prize/lottery/distant foreign relative inheritance etc.



*Not all burglars are so easy to spot!
Online fraud is increasing so
watch out for the warning signs*

Fraudulent emails

Posing as a high-street name, usually having poor quality spelling, grammar and probably will not address you by your full title, they may use odd 'spe11lings' or 'cApiTals' in the email subject to fool your spam filter.

When a fraudulent email such as this asks you to follow a link, the website or email address usually doesn't look right.

If you are even slightly suspicious about the email, do not click on any links within the email, just delete it. Authentic website addresses are usually short and do not use irrelevant words or phrases.

Pension scams

Bogus firms will claim they can help you, or a relative, to unlock a pension before the age of 55, sometimes known as pension liberation or pension loans.

Only in very rare cases, such as very poor health, is this possible, but fraudsters will say they know of tax loopholes or promise extra tax savings or offer high rates of return on your investment, but will falsely claim it is low risk.

Taking money out of your pension savings early can result in tax charges of more than half the value of the money you take out. This is on top of charges of typically 20% to 30% for entering into one of these arrangements. Your remaining pension savings will also be placed into high-risk investments. ★

**Please...
Check....Think....Verify!**

Westwood Park news

Grass has regrown

The grass at Westwood Park that was so burnt over a wide area during this summer's heatwave has now reverted to its usual lush green thanks to the change in the weather in just a few weeks (see picture).

The parish council is frequently contacted with requests for improvements in Westwood Park facilities and we always try to address the issues most raised.

Flooding at Chessfield Park entrance

Approximately six years ago an underground drainage pipe was laid from the Chessfield Park entrance down to Westwood Woods.

This drained the affected area well for the first few years but silting up of the drainage pipe has led to the system becoming inefficient.

The parish council is consulting

with contractors on the cost to put in place small inspection chambers to access and maintain the existing pipe.

This will enable the drainage pipe to be maintained on a regular basis, and keep the Chessfield Park end of the park from flooding in the winter and spring months.

Provision of defibrillator

A defibrillator will be installed on an external wall of the pavilion in the next few weeks. Instructions of how to use the device are always included with the defibrillator.

Children's play area toilet.

The parish council is frequently asked for the provision of toilets for the children and parents using the children's' play area.

A permanent toilet would not



Westwood Park is back to being green again after the scorching summer

be practical but we hope to provide temporary portable toilet cubicles during late spring and summer months of 2019.

We are consulting with relevant companies for costings and to see what type would be best suited at the park.

Tennis courts

The tennis courts are available to hire for £3 per hour, payable at the pay points located at the pavilion. All money collected goes towards the maintenance of facilities in Westwood Park. ■

Little Chalfont Community Association updates

LCCA website: www.littlechalfont.org.uk

Resident parking at GE Healthcare

Following discussions with the parish council and the community association, GE Healthcare has very generously made its front car park available (see picture right), free of charge, for use of residents every Saturday and Sunday, effective from 3 November.

Details of the arrangements are as follows:

- Free parking on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year.
- Available from 8am to 6pm.
- Parking limited to two hours, with no return for two hours.
- The car park will be monitored by CCTV.

On both days, the barriers will be raised at 8am and remain open until 6pm, when the barriers will be closed. After 6pm it will not be possible to exit without calling on special help.

Parking overnight is not part of the agreement and, if this occurs, it will put continuation of the arrangements at risk.

The provision by GE Healthcare of this facility is greatly appreciated and will ease our parking problem at the weekends. It will be of enormous benefit to our residents, and to the shops and businesses

in the village centre.

Please respect these arrangements at all times, as we do not wish to risk losing this valuable benefit.

The Sugar Loaf

The freehold owner, Charles Hands, has still not attracted a tenant to share the planned refurbishment but the search goes on. The community association will continue to keep in touch with the owner and report on any developments.

Christmas lights

These lights always brighten up the village on a winter's night, and the appeal for residents to contribute to this community-led project is ongoing.

You will find collection boxes in these outlets:

- Brian Suttie
- Costa Coffee
- Hair at No 5.
- Haranies
- KoHo
- Paul and Draga
- Robertson's
- The Flower Boutique
- The White Lion

The lights will be switched on on



GE Amersham Place car park, now available for 2 hours' free parking, for residents' use on weekends

Sunday 2 December. The third and final stage, due to be implemented in 2019, will see garland lights on a few more of the trees in the village centre.

Our thanks to all residents who have donated so far.

Chenies Mews

By the end of November, this development should be fully occupied. The new owners of the building have advised us that charging points for electric cars will be installed in the two parking spots at the side of the development, in the service road.

Small Business Saturday

This national event takes place on 1 December but it has not been possible to organise a celebration of our shops and businesses this year. But please don't let this deter you from supporting all of our shops and businesses at any time! ■

Local Area Forum

Road safety proposals

The parish council has made two requests for Local Area Forum (LAF) funding to ensure that two of our roads are made safer. This follows representation from local residents.

The first is for **Elizabeth Avenue** and is a proposal for an additional short length of double yellow lines.

This is to ensure that motorists have

sufficient sight of oncoming vehicles due to the bend in the road and the brow of the hill at **Kiln Avenue** and **Charsley Close**.

The bend is dangerous as parked cars mean there is little space to pull over for oncoming vehicles.

The second concerns the junction of **Burtons Lane** and **Lodge Lane**. When turning right into Burton's Lane from Lodge Lane there is a minimal view of

oncoming traffic due to a sharp bend.

That section of Burton's Lane is a 60mph national speed limit, so the proposal is for a feasibility study to assess the nature and severity of the problems and to make recommendations to ensure safety.

Should the two proposals be approved for the next financial year, LAF and the parish council would meet the costs jointly. ■

About Little Chalfont Parish Council

Parish councillors



Ian Griffiths
Chairman



Mike Crowe
Vice chairman



Michael Parker
Planning committee
chairman



David Rafferty
Planning committee
vice chairman



David Alexander



Brian Drew



Chris Ingham CMG



Vinny Patel



Janet Walford OBE
Newsletter editor

Parish council meetings

Parish council general meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, except for August.

The meetings are held at Little Chalfont Village Hall in Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont, commencing at 7.30 pm. The meetings are always open to the public, so why not come along to a meeting and see your parish council in action? Local residents frequently take advantage of the opportunity allowed at all meetings for public comments, to express their views and to ask the council for support in relation to various matters.

The next meetings of the parish council will be held on Wednesday 12 December and 9 January 2019.

Planning committee meetings are usually held every fourth Tuesday. At these meetings you can hear discussions of planning applications submitted for Little Chalfont, have the opportunity to comment on specific applications of interest to you and hear whether or not the parish council agrees that a planning application should go ahead. The next meeting of the planning committee will be on held at 7pm on 12 December 2018.

Parish council office

The parish council office is located at the rear of the village hall in Cokes Lane. Contact details for enquiries:

TELEPHONE: 01494 766655. If unattended, you may leave a message on the answerphone and we will respond as soon as possible.

EMAIL: clerk@littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk

OFFICE OPENING HOURS:

Mon, 9am-3pm. Tue-Fri, 9am-1pm.

COUNCIL WEBSITE: www.littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk



Natasha Meldrum
Parish clerk



Sallie Matthews
Assistant
parish clerk

Newsletter distribution

The parish council is indebted to Adrian Lockyer, membership secretary of the community association, for organising the distribution of the newsletters and to the volunteers who deliver them, ensuring that all homes and businesses in Little Chalfont receive a copy.

Any comments or suggestions?

If you have any comments or suggestions to make about this newsletter or its contents, please contact the parish clerk on clerk@littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk. We welcome all feedback!