

**Minutes of a meeting of Little Chalfont Parish Council held on
Wednesday 12 January 2011 in the Village Hall
Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr M Dale; Cllr B Drew (item 9 onwards); Cllr L Hunt; Cllr C Ingham; Cllr V Patel and Cllr G Smith (Chairman).

In attendance: Mrs J Mason, Clerk.

Members of the Public: Ms S Bugden (item 1-5).

1. **Apologies for absence:** These were received from Cllr M Dear. Cllr B Drew would be joining the meeting later.
2. **Approval of the minutes of meeting held on 8 December 2010:** These were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
3. **Proposal to suspend standing orders enabling members of the public to speak:** This was agreed and the Chairman suspended standing orders. Mrs Bugden spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Bell Lane School by Buckinghamshire County Council. She urged the Council to oppose such a move and stated that staff, parents and pupils were dismayed by the proposal. The Chairman thanked Mrs Bugden and reinstated standing orders.
4. **Declarations of interest:** None
5. **Items for Any Other Business:** The following were agreed (i) Closure of Bell Lane School. It was agreed to discuss this item now whilst the member of the public was still present – see 5(1) below.(ii)Scottish Widows options on Maturity of fixed term account (iii) BCC Transport Plan Consultation (iv) Triangle Planting by WI (v) Current Planning Developments and (vi) Date of next newsletter.
5(1) Closure of Bell Lane School: A letter dated 6 January from Sue Imbriano, BCC’s Strategic Director Children and Young People, had been received and circulated to all Councillors. This letter set out the reasons for the proposed closure of the school in August 2011 together with the consultation documentation and timetable. A public meeting had been arranged at the school for Wednesday 19 January at 7pm. The Chairman said that although the Council had not yet had an opportunity to discuss the issue in detail they were extremely concerned about the adverse impact on the community and individuals if the proposals went ahead. He and Cllr Patel had agreed to attend the 19 January meeting following which they would prepare a report for the Council to consider at the next meeting.
6. **Chairman’s Report:** This had been previously circulated and had commented on the shock to the community of the news about Bell Lane School and the impact on children and parents. On a happier note, the LCCA Christmas Market held at the Village Hall on 11 December had been a success.
7. **Clerk’s Report:** Also previously circulated, the report updated the Council on a number of actions arising from the last meeting. In particular, following the bad weather and e-mails exchanged before Christmas, a site had been identified in Burtons Lane for a grit bin. It was agreed that the bin to serve roads off Elizabeth Avenue would be placed near Pavilion Way. Persimmon had accepted most of the road names suggested by the Parish Council but not the name Stubwick. However, they may reconsider following representations made by the Clerk. BCC had said they would repaint the disabled parking bay lines at Chenies Parade and CDC had recently paid the Playbuilder grant to the Council. The wording suggested as the Council’s objectives for the Chilterns Height Group was agreed and would be reported at the next meeting of the group on 11 February. The allotment map and plans had been received and were displayed on the wall. A number of discussions had still to take place and the Clerk would progress matters short of any decision and report back more fully. Cllr Ingham suggested that the workload was such that it might be sensible to

contract out some of this project. In conclusion, it was agreed that the Clerk should ask O'Sullivan's to undertake work quoted for ie replace the Village Hall kitchen taps and redecorate heavy traffic areas (entrance hall, lavatories and kitchen).

8. **Financial matters:** (i) Income and Expenditure Report – previously circulated and noted (ii) List of payments and cheques to be signed – the list of payments made between meetings and cheques to be signed at this meeting was approved and signed by the Chairman. Payments authorised totalled £13,346.16 (iii) to note integration of Alliance and Leicester business into Santander during 2011 – noted (iv) As stated in the Clerk's report, the 1 Year Fixed Term Business Deposit Account with Scottish Widows was about to mature. Cllr Smith and Cllr Drew recommended that the original sum and interest (£51,246.57) be transferred to a Scottish Widows 7 Day Notice Business Deposit Account. This was agreed and the Clerk would advise Scottish Widows and prepare the necessary paperwork.
9. **Governance and Accountability:** The schedule of actions for completion by the next meeting was agreed as follows: review of internal audit (Cllr G Smith); formal response to Internal Audit Report (Cllr B Drew); review of Financial Procedures (Clerk); review of Standing Orders (Clerk); review of External audit (Clerk).
10. **HS2 Proposals and Conflict of Interest** – The advice from CDC for Town and Parish Councils was distributed to Councillors.
11. **Reports (as appropriate) from outside bodies:** *NAG* – formal notification of the NAG's demise had still not been received from the police. *Library* – Cllr Hunt reported that a grant had been received from GE Healthcare. Film night trials had been successful and on 17 January the committee were hosting an open panel session for potential community library volunteers from other locations. *LCCA* – Cllr Martin confirmed that the Christmas Market had been a success and some of the profit would be put towards purchasing a bench for the newly paved area at the front of the library. The AGM was scheduled for 23 March and consideration was being given to what role the Association might play in local area contingency schemes. *LAF*- Cllr Drew reported that the next meeting was at the Village Hall on 19 January 2011.
12. **Community Gang visit week commencing 24 January** – The Clerk thanked Councillors for their responses to her 5 January e-mail. The resulting list of work would be forwarded to the local area technician.
13. **Notifications and Correspondence:**
 - I. Paradigm People Winter 2010 (by e-mail 10 December)
 - II. HS2 Newsletter 22 December 2010
 - III. Alan Goodrum, CDC'S Chief Executive 24 December 2010 letter re staff changes at CDC
 - IV. CDC 5 December 2010 letter re notification of road closures
 - V. Royal British Legion 4 December 2010 letter re 90th anniversary "Poppy Party" celebration weekend 10-12 June 2011.
 - VI. SERT Partnership 4 January 2011 Update
14. **Any Other Business.** (i) *Closure of Bell Lane School* - see 5(1) above. (ii) *Scottish Widows options* on Maturity of fixed term account – See 8(iv) above (iii) *BCC Transport Plan Consultation* – the documentation was handed out to Cllrs Hunt and Ingham who would report back to the next meeting in order to finalise the Council's response (iv) *Triangle Planting by WI* – The President of the Evening WI, Mrs G. Glover, had asked the Clerk if the Parish Council would like their group to plant up the Triangle borders with Summer plants later in the Spring. The Council gratefully accepted this kind offer. (v) *Current Planning Developments* – Cllr Ingham updated the Council on the Core Strategy and advised that he would be meeting with the new Interim Head of Planning at Chiltern District Council the following Monday. (vi) *Date of next newsletter* – it was agreed that the next issue would be sent out in March and would follow the same format as previously.
15. To consider a resolution that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting

and be instructed to withdraw – the resolution was agreed and the remainder of the meeting was held in confidential session.

- 16. **Westwood Park:** Minuted in confidential minute 16 of this 12 January meeting of the Parish Council.
- 17. **Land at Snells Lane:** Minuted in confidential minute 17 of this 12 January meeting of the Parish Council.
- 18. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 9 February 2011 at approximately 8.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be after a meeting of the Planning Committee which will start at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....