



LITTLE CHALFONT PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2013

Coming soon -

One hour free parking in Snells Wood Car Park

Full details on page 3



Little Miss Muffet comes to Westwood Park

Celebration of additional play equipment
and other facilities in the Park.

Pictures and more details on page 5



Donkey Field - new planning application

The Parish Council is objecting to the latest application - See why on page 2

Also, on other pages:

New cycle racks on Chenies Parade - page 3

New bollards in Burtons Lane - page 3

New seats in Westwood Park and Chalfont Avenue - page 4

Christmas is coming!

Look forward to:

Free parking in Snells Wood car park on Saturdays in December

Christmas Craft Fairs - 9 November & 14 December

Carols on the Village Green - 14 December 11.00 a.m.

New lights on the tree by the Village Green

If you wish to see larger sizes of the images in this publication, a PDF version can be downloaded from the Parish Council website. You can then enlarge each page.

Parish Council Planning Committee

The Planning Committee meets every third Tuesday at 7.30 p.m, usually in the Village Hall. Planning applications for this area are decided by Chiltern District Council but every Parish Council has a right and a duty to comment on local applications. The Committee discusses all full applications that have been submitted in the two Little Chalfont wards (and any that are in neighbouring wards but would have an impact on Little Chalfont) and either objects, with reasons, or offers no objection. Each Councillor is responsible for a number of roads in the village so he or she can examine each application in depth and report to the committee. At the beginning of the meeting there is an opportunity for members of the public to speak about any planning application that is being discussed or any other relevant subject.

The agenda for each meeting is published on the Council's notice boards at least three working days prior to the meeting.

Next Planning Committee in the Village Hall - Tuesday 22 October 7.30 p.m.

Donkey Field

The Parish Council has opposed the latest planning application for this development. Our response states - *We accept that Countryside Properties PLC has made considerable effort to work within, and comply with, the housing target set for the site in the Adopted Core Strategy and the policies set out in the Chiltern District Local Plan. However, the application does not reflect para 9.9 of the Core Strategy for Chiltern District which site offers the potential for a well designed, high quality housing development that will respect the character of the surrounding area....". Furthermore, the PC has grave concerns about the traffic and pedestrian safety aspects of the proposed site access.*

The full text of our objection can be viewed on the CDC (planning) website and in the minutes of the Planning Committee (11 September) available on the Parish Council's website.

Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Consultation

This consultation is being carried out by Chiltern District Council and runs until 14 Oct.

The Parish Council's response is available on our web site but, in summary, we oppose the suggestion for three potential sites in, or close to, the village. All three locations are in green belt; one is currently used by several businesses and would therefore threaten employment land. They are all in private ownership.

The Little Chalfont Community Association's responses on this (and on the Donkey Field) can be viewed on the Association's website - www.littlechalfont.org.uk

Nature Park

A special edition of the Community Association's newsletter will be delivered with this one, giving details of an exhibition in the Village Hall. This will be an opportunity to see the proposals for the park. We hope as many people as possible will attend.

Free Parking in Snells Wood Car Park

Negotiations have now been completed between the Parish and District Councils to allow limited free parking in Little Chalfont.

From November 1st, it will be possible to park in Snells Wood car park for a maximum of 1 hour, without charge. It will still be necessary to obtain a ticket from the machine.

The Parish Council has agreed to fund this initiative, following feedback from the 2012 Parking Survey.

It is hoped that local residents and businesses will benefit from this scheme which will be in place for a minimum of 18 months.



Little Chalfont Parking Feasibility Study

Following last year's parking survey, a feasibility study has been commissioned, part funded by the Local Area Forum. This will be undertaken by Bucks CC but, due to high demand and limited resources, the Parish Council has been advised that it is unlikely the study will commence until early in 2014.

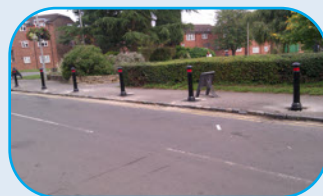
Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign

A grant from the Local Area Forum will enable the Parish Council to purchase one MVAS. This will be similar to the one in Elizabeth Avenue but with the advantage that the Council can move it to different sites within the Village. Advice from the County Council on suitable locations is expected soon and we hope this will help our effort in reducing the number of vehicles speeding on our roads.



Bollards in Burtons Way

New, more robust, bollards have now been fitted. Bucks CC has paid for replacement of the broken ones. The Parish Council has paid for the others, including four additional bollards to extend the protection of the pavement.



New Cycle Racks

Another Local Area Forum grant has allowed us to fit cycle racks in the centre of the village. These will soon be installed on the grass area between Chenies Parade service road and the main road,

There has been criticism of the present cycle racks, at the eastern end of Chenies Parade, as being too close where cars park. It is hoped the new ones, as well as being more attractive, will be more suited to the task.



Proposed Community Centre

More progress has been made. A number of architects were interviewed in September and three of these have been shortlisted. Further discussions will now be held with each of these, with a view to making a final selection early in 2014.

The appointed architect will then be asked to produce some concept drawings which should be available for public consultation in the spring.

The present thinking is for the library to remain where it is but possibly extended or linked to the new community building.

New Seats

Two new seats have been installed in the village; one in the Westwood Park play area and the other (pictured) at the bottom of Chalfont Avenue. The latter was a result of local residents attending a Parish Council meeting and requesting a seat in this locality.

Both seats have been donated by our County Councillor, Martin Tett, from his community fund budget.

An additional seat is being installed just outside the Methodist Church car park on Chalfont Avenue. The Church is donating the bench and is able to do so because of the generosity of a local parishioner.



Street lights

Now that the evenings are becoming darker, street lights are important.

If you spot a light that is not working, please contact the Parish Council office giving the number of the lamp and the road it is in. Lights on the A404 and a few close to Nightingales Corner are the responsibility of Bucks CC but the Parish Council is responsible for all others in Little Chalfont. We aim to get lights repaired very quickly but rely on residents to report problems.

Saturday 7 December.

Shops in Little Chalfont will be participating in the first ever UK Small Business Saturday which encourages people to shop locally.

Watch out for promotions and more details soon.

Farmers' Market & Craft Fair

2nd Saturday of each month at the Village Hall

9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Next dates: 9 November and 14 December

The Craft Fair on both these dates will have a Christmas theme.

Westwood Park Celebration

A number of organisations and individuals have helped to improve the facilities in Westwood Park. A celebration was held on 30 August, as a way of saying thanks. The usual activities were available on the celebration day, along with additional attractions e.g. face-painting.



The latest addition to the play equipment was 'Little Miss Muffet' designed for very young children. The Council is very grateful to Mr. Gary Grant (The Entertainer), Citygate (Volkswagen dealership), Chiltern District Council and the Little Chalfont Community Association.



Thanks to the contributions made by these organisations, the cost of the equipment was covered, with the Parish Council paying the installation costs.

GE Healthcare, with worldwide headquarters in Little Chalfont, generously donated the wooden train engine, again designed for the very young.



The multi use games area has recently been improved by the addition of a second goal area and a soft surface, replacing the previous tennis court quality surface. Grants from Bucks County Council's Local Area Forum covered much of the cost of this work.

The three tennis courts have been resurfaced. During the summer school holidays, under 16s were allowed to play for free at certain times.



Public contributions have helped in the planting of the flower beds in the play area.

A white line has been painted around the playing fields in the Park. One circuit is one kilometre. So, 42 circuits almost equals a marathon!

The 'Titan' roundabout is so popular, the surface below had to be renewed after 2 years of use.



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Your Parish Councillors:

Brian Drew (Chairman) John Hinkly (Vice Chairman)
Michael Parker (Chairman - Planning Committee)
David Rafferty (Vice-Chairman - Planning Committee),
Lesley Hunt , Vinny Patel, Janet Walford OBE, James Wyper

Your District Councillors are Don Phillips and Peter Martin

Your County Councillors are Martin Tett (Little Chalfont & Amersham Common ward)
and Noel Brown (Chess Valley ward)

Parish Council meetings, held in the Village Hall, commence at 7.30 p.m. and are open to the public although occasionally confidential items are discussed in private.

Full Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (not August)

Planning Committee meetings are held every three weeks, usually Tuesday evenings

Minutes of meetings are published on the Council's website. Minutes and agenda are displayed on the notice boards outside the Village Hall.

Dates of future meetings are on the Council's website.

New Parish Councillor

We are pleased to welcome a new Councillor, Mr. James Wyper, who was co-opted to the Council on 11th September 2013

This fills the previously vacant position in the Little Chalfont South Ward, following the death of Sheila Keighley.

Your views are important.

Please let us know what you would like the Council to do (or at least try to do) by sending comments to the Parish Clerk, Janet Mason, by letter or e-mail.

Additionally, you are entitled to address the Council in the short public session at each Parish Council meeting - contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

Parish Council Office:

This is located at the back of the Village Hall in Cokes Lane.

Please call if you have any queries. The telephone number is 01494 766655.

If unattended, please leave a message on the answerphone and a response will be made as soon as possible.

You can also send an e-mail to: clerk@littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk.

The office is usually open from 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

The Council's website is: www.littlechalfont-pc.gov.uk

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