

**Chesham Action Partnership  
Management Committee Meeting  
Tuesday 19th July 2011 at Chesham Town Hall**

**M-7.11-1**

In attendance:

Cllr Noel Brown (Chairman)	Chesham Town Council (CTC), Chiltern District Council (CDC), Bucks County Council (BCC)
Cllr Fred Wilson (Vice Chairman)	Chesham Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Mr David Carter (Treasurer)	Chesham Society
Ms Kathryn Graves (Secretary)	CTC
Ms Deborah Taylor	NHS Buckinghamshire
Mr Malcolm Godwin	Bucks Business First
Mrs Merrin Molesworth	Chiltern Voice
Mr David Gardner	CDC
Mr Phil Folly	Chesham Environmental Group (CEG) & COPAG
Mr Martin Parkes	Better Chesham
Mr Mick Carling	Better Chesham
Mr Saul Huxley	Nexus Community
Mr Andrew Edwards	Chiltern Racial Equality Council (CREC)
Ms Jan Longhurst	Church2Community
Ms Maggie McKerron	CDC
Mr Ken Austin	CEG
Mrs Justine Fulford	CEG
Cllr Colette Littley	CTC
Dr Siobhan Bygate	Chesham Grammar School
Mr Stuart Ottley	Caracol
Mrs Irene Perrin	Shed@ThePark

Apologies:

Management Committee:

Ms Barbara Richardson (COPAG)

Dr Tom Gorsuch – Chesham Society, Mr Bill Richards – CTC, Mr Masud Ahmed - Chesham Asian Welfare Society, Mr Ed Fraser – CompUHealth, Cllr Peter Hudson – CTC, Cllr Roy Abraham – CREC, Cllr Mark Shaw – Pond Park Community Association, Ms Lyndsey Wood – BCC

**1. Minutes of the Meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

The minutes of the meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

*Mrs Irene Perrin arrived at 2.36 pm.*

## **2. Funding Applications**

### **(i) Chesham School Network and Caracol**

The committee agreed to fund £250 towards an art project based in Chesham and Belize.

### **(ii) Christmas in Chesham**

Cllr Wilson (FW) declared an interest in this project as the Vice-Chairman of Chesham Chamber of Trade and Commerce. The committee considered the two requests for funds to help with the revitalisation and rebranding of this community event. The committee agreed to provide £250 for new event signage and agreed in principle to provide £250 to facilitate the new music and arts pitches, subject to receiving satisfactory further details on how the funds will be used. Mrs Justine Fulford (JF) offered to provide contact details for someone with a sound system.

*Dr Siobhan Bygate left at 3pm.*

### **(iii) Chiltern Racial Equality Council**

Mr Andrew Edwards (AE) provided the background to the request for funds to support CREC's At The Edge project. Mr Ken Austin (KA) declared an interest in this project as a member of CREC. Mr Malcolm Godwin (MG) advised CREC to also apply for funding from sports-based organisations. Mr Mick Carling (MC) suggested that business sponsorship could be another source of funds. Cllr Noel Brown (NB) indicated that it would be possible for CREC to apply for a grant from CTC to cover the costs of hire of Marston Playing Field. The committee agreed to fund £325 towards the costs of joining a football league.

## **3. Update on Better Chesham**

MC and Mr Martin Parkes (MP) outlined recent successes in the Better Chesham campaign, including: a launch event attended by more than 60 people; a successful funding application to the LAF to fund a Discover Chesham brochure; the development of a smartphone based loyalty card; 170 responses to the online survey about how people use the town; a petition with more than 500 signatures calling for a European-style restaurant in town; the publication of the first edition of the Better Chesham newsletter; the launch of the Chesham Retail and Hospitality Awards that will be presented on the 14<sup>th</sup> September at the George and Dragon; lobbying on the culvert barriers; tackling concerns over the Broadway taxi rank; and collecting information on town centre policing issues.

MC and MP detailed future projects, including holding events on the High Street on Saturdays and Sundays and holding a charity fashion show at the Elgiva in the New Year.

NB suggested that Better Chesham may wish to look into the proposed rail timetable that will see the off-peak slow trains linking Chesham to a number of destinations, including Pinner offering tourist opportunities.

Cllr Colette Littley (CL) informed the committee that Chesham in Bloom have been weeding the High Street and asked whether Better Chesham could encourage High Street business owners to continue to maintain the High Street now that it has had a major clear up. MC said that he has spoken to a number of High Street retailers on the issue and will continue to encourage them to maintain their frontages.

*Mrs Justine Fulford left at 3.30 pm.*

#### **4. Health Update**

Ms Deborah Taylor (DT) said that the NHS Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Cluster had lobbied on the fact that no listening exercises had taken place at all in Buckinghamshire.

Clinical Commissioning Groups will now have input from both GPs and hospital clinicians. The Primary Care Trusts will still be ending in 2012, but the Strategic Health Authorities will remain until 2013.

DT will be working with Bucks Healthcare in the next few months on the issue of service provision and will be able to feedback on this to ChAP.

The Health Zone will be opening in December 2011 and meetings will be held in the autumn to determine what facilities will be present. NB expressed the view that it will be necessary to lobby to ensure that additional facilities are present at the Health Zone.

DT said that the District Nurses for Bucks used to work out of the doctors' surgeries, but they are now based at Amersham Hospital. There are concerns that there may be a loss of continuity of care and relationships for patients. The Cluster has had no control over the decision to move the District Nurses, but has raised its concerns regarding the lack of information communicated about the decision.

A brief discussion was held on public health funding and whether funding decisions may be based partially on age profiles in future.

DT offered to provide a briefing from Mr Stewart George regarding NHS reforms.

**Action: Ms Deborah Taylor**

*Mr Phil Folly left at 3.47 pm.*

#### **5. Reviewing the Youth and Community Action Plans**

Mr David Gardner (DG) distributed copies of a paper outlining the status of projects that were identified in the original 2003 CCV paper. DG said that he wished to focus on the projects where there had been no advances to date:

(a) Access and Mobility Survey

MC said that Better Chesham would investigate a survey into accessibility of High Street shops and asked for signposting towards groups that may be able to assist, such as the Chiltern Disability Forum. NB suggested that it would be helpful to look more broadly at accessibility, including access to medical facilities.

(b) Community Wide Youth Forum

DG has had informal discussions with youth groups with regards to improving networking between groups. DG is keen to establish a new youth action group to assess the needs of youth groups and young people. Ms Jan Longhurst (JL) said that there is a successful model for this project in London. The committee agreed to the set up of a sub-group, facilitated by DG, that would report back to the ChAP committee.

*Mrs Irene Perrin left at 3.57 pm and Mr Fred Wilson left at 4.13 pm.*

(c) Issues of Older People

Ms Maggie McKerron (MM) explained that the Building Community Capacity project had been successfully completed, but its active steering group wishes to become a sub-group of ChAP to continue to look at the issues facing older people. The committee agreed that this would provide a useful two-way feed of information.

*Ms Jan Longhurst left at 4.15 pm.*

**6. Core Strategy**

Mr David Carter (DC) submitted a consultation response to the Core Strategy on behalf of ChAP. The Core Strategy was found unsound by the Inspector at a public hearing earlier in the year and the revised document is now again open to consultation. DC expressed the view that it is a great shame for Chesham if the Amersham & Wycombe College campus closes as it will leave the town without any institution for technical education, which the Committee supported. NB explained that Amersham & Wycombe College have declared the site surplus to requirements and that the land is available for development, which is why it was included in the Core Strategy. DC will speak to Phil King at Chiltern District Council before looking to make a further submission.

**Action: Mr David Carter**

**7. Any Other Business**

DT reported that there will be a health fair on the 27<sup>th</sup> July from 10 am to 1 pm at Dr Challoners in Little Chalfont.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be circulated with the minutes.

*The meeting closed at 4.30 pm.*