

Chesham Town Council



Bill Richards
Town Clerk

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23rd May 2014

Dear Councillor

I hereby give notice of a meeting of the **RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE** to be held in the Council Chamber, The Town Hall, Chesham, on

MONDAY 2nd JUNE 2014 AT APPROXIMATELY 8.00PM

(i.e. immediately following the close of the Development Control Committee meeting which is due to commence at 7.30pm)

A G E N D A

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the administrative year 2014/2015.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of Interest.
4. To receive and confirm the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 10th March 2014.
5. To receive and consider the Minutes of:
 - i) *Impress the Chess meeting of the 26th February.*
 - ii) *Friends of Chesham Moor Gym & Swim meetings of the 26th February, the 26th March and 30th April (to follow).*
 - iii) *Elgiva Board of Management meetings of the 10th March and 28th April.*
 - iv) *Allotment Group meeting of the 18th March.*
 - v) *Friends of Chesham Cemetery AGM and meeting of the 15th April.*
 - vi) *Chesham Environment Group AGM of and meeting of the 24th April.*
6. Chesham Moor Gym & Swim Update.
7. Stop the Drop Campaign Update.
8. Play Area Stage V Redevelopment and Use of Former Skatepark Area.
9. World War I Commemorations.
10. River Chess Pollution.
11. Exclusion of the Public and the Press.
12. Renovation of Moor Hardstanding and Lower Moor car-park.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Richards'.

Bill Richards
Town Clerk



continued . . .



Circulation

Councillor Circulation

Councillor	Ms. R.Bhatti	Councillor	Mrs. C. M. Michael
"	T. Franks	"	R. C McCulloch
"	T M. Fayyaz	"	Mrs A.M. Pirouet
"	P.J.Hudson	"	M. W. Shaw
"	D. J. Lacey	"	C. H. Spruytenburg
"	Mrs. C. Littley		

Joint Impress the Chess/River Chess Association Meeting

MINUTES of the meeting

held on Wednesday 26 February 2014 at 9.30 am at the Town Hall

PRESENT:	Paul Jennings	River Chess Association
	Roger Wotton	River Chess Association
	Kathryn Graves	Impress the Chess/River Chess Association
	Allen Beechey	Chilterns Chalk Streams Project Officer
	Miles Morgan	Environment Agency
	Katherine Naylor	Environment Agency
	Rob Rees	Environment Agency

Paul outlined the purpose of the meeting, which was to look at two reports: Restoring Sustainable Abstraction Investigation, Stage 2 Plan: River Chess January 2008 (hereafter referred to as the Jacobs report) and Thames River Basin District, Water Framework Directive Investigation, Hydrology Investigation Stage 2 (hereafter referred to as the WFD report). Paul explained that the River Chess Association (RCA) is challenging both reports on the basis that they do not accurately reflect the impact of abstraction on the upper reaches of the River Chess and Vale Brook.

Miles agreed that there was an issue with the upper reaches and that the Environment Agency (EA) would like to do more work on this.

Roger raised the RCA's concerns on the heavy reliance of the EA on a groundwater model in the WFD report. He referred to *Wheater, H.S., Peach, D.W. and Binley, A. (2007) Characterising Groundwater Dominated Lowland Catchments in the UK Lowland Catchment Research Programme (LOCAR), Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Vol 11 (1), 108-124*, which looked at the confidence of models for making decisions for catchments. It concluded that abstraction could not be managed using models without a significant risk of error. Roger said that there needs to be a warning message on reports that use models as a central component.

Paul said that the water companies will take the conclusions of these reports and use them to defend their position of not taking action on abstraction in the Chess catchment, and that this had already happened with Affinity Water's Water Resource Management Plan for 2015-40.

Paul highlighted the current flow conditions of the three tributaries at the head of the Chess. Both the Missenden Road and Pednor Vale tributaries are flowing at very high levels, but the Vale Brook has only just begun last week to have a small amount of flow. The RCA believes that Alma Road and Hawridge pumping stations (PS) are having a major impact on Vale Brook (it should be noted that Hawridge PS was not included in the original low flow investigations for the Chess). It is not clear from Thames Water's communications whether the Hawridge PS was abstracting during the 2001 flood in the Vale. Data to show what was happening with abstraction at that time could help understand the relationship between the Vale Brook and abstraction. Paul asked whether the EA holds data that would show whether this was the case. The RCA would like pump tests to be undertaken to assess the impact on the Vale Brook. Paul said that if a relationship is established between abstraction and Vale Brook flows, this also identifies an important tool for managing

flooding in Chesham during times of high groundwater (e.g. you could alter the balance of abstraction in the catchment to have greater abstraction in the upper catchment than in the lower catchment). Miles explained that the EA were currently talking to water companies about the possibility of increasing abstraction as a method of controlling groundwater flood risk. An added problem is that many of the pumping stations are themselves flooded with groundwater and are non-operational only compounding the issue.

Paul said that both reports suffer from a lack of data. Allen suggested that more monitoring would be helpful. Miles agreed that the monitoring network in this area is very poor. Paul said that the RCA would be happy to work with the EA to carry out monitoring, e.g. at observation boreholes. Paul highlighted the fact that there is an observation borehole at Hawridge, and asked why it does not appear to have been used to supply data for the reports when Hawridge is a large abstraction point that will have a significant impact on the Chess. Miles agreed that there is likely to be a significant impact at a regional scale within the catchment, but Katherine said that at the broader Water Framework Directive (WFD) scale, abstraction has not been found to have an impact on the river's ecological status at catchment level. It was agreed that Paul would email Miles to request the borehole logs for Hawridge.

Paul pointed out that the two reports show a very different picture on the water resource availability in the Chess Catchment, it was agreed by Katherine that the figure in the WFD report was misleading and the Jacobs report more accurately demonstrated the position. Paul agreed and felt that the Jacobs figure is what you would expect to see and that simple circles as displayed in the WFD report are inaccurate.

Miles said that all parties agree that more work needs doing to understand the Vale Brook. This will require engagement by the water companies. However, if an impact is identified, Miles queried whether the cost: benefit ratio would prohibit any action being taken. Paul responded that the Vale Brook is a main river that is clearly failing WFD standards and its impact on the Chess is very bad, only contributing heavily polluted runoff water to the Chess at Duck Alley. The Vale Brook could be an asset to the town that would have many socio-economic benefits. Rob said that there may be other mechanisms to help achieve this, such as Section 106 money and neighbourhood plans.

Paul disputed the suggestion in the reports that the Chess through Chesham has historically been ephemeral. While it was agreed that there is a lack of data, Allen pointed out that the historic mill infrastructure in town is a clear indicator that flows were more reliable in the past. Furthermore, Allen was aware of a healthy, self-sustaining trout population in Chesham in the 1980s. The Chilterns Chalk Streams Project (CCSP) and RCA are together looking at historic records to identify drying events to develop a more accurate picture. Allen raised his concern that problems on the Chess are being ignored because it is in a better condition than nearby rivers, which include some of the most over-abstracted rivers in the country. Katherine said however, that under WFD, good ecological status has to be maintained, but that at the catchment scale abstraction is not having a significant impact. Allen said that the river is currently categorised as "poor" under WFD and suggested that more flow would help to dilute phosphates. Katherine also explained that the aim of the WFD report is to look catchment wide, rather than at individual sections of the river. Whilst appreciating the restrictions of the WFD approach, Allen suggested that the methodology risks ignoring the problems of chalk rivers, as the imbalance of flows normally occurs in the upper stretches of these, rather than in the river as a whole.

Looking at the two reports, Paul said that the conclusions of the Jacobs report are quite vague whereas the WFD report specifies that “Hydrological impacts are a reason for failure of a biology element but are not linked to abstractions that are licensed and one of the following confidence levels (that hydrology is a reason for failure): confirmed”. Katherine explained that for WFD purposes the EA have to choose from a limited list of conclusions the one that best fits the river; there is no flexibility.

Paul queried why there are variations between the two reports in the maximum annual licence volumes for some of the pumping stations. Miles said that he would check the figures and let him know. Paul said that the abstraction data has not been updated throughout the WFD report. Katherine said that this was correct, that the model had been re-run with more up-to-date data, but that the report as a whole had not been updated with the more recent figures. Miles said he would clarify what data was used in the models and in the reports.

Paul said that there was large increase in abstraction at Hawridge in the recent past and he believes that this will be contributing to the drying of Vale Brook. He would like to see the borehole data for Hawridge and would welcome any historical information about when the local pumping stations were opened and when Hawridge was shut down for maintenance. Allen said he would like to explore the possibility of switching off the pumping stations to look at the impact on the upper Chess and its tributaries. He also asked whether there was any funding available to put in additional boreholes that could be monitored by volunteers. Miles said that the EA’s monitoring programme has been cut back and that they would not be allowed to expand the monitoring network. Roger queried whether additional boreholes could be created to assist with managing flooding. Miles supplied a map of boreholes in the catchment. It was agreed that it would be very helpful to find out which of these could be used.

The RCA would like to see the data at Townsend Road for the Vale Brook. Katherine explained that this is only a temporary site that is recording levels only, not flows.

In the WFD report, Paul highlighted Figure 53 (Percentage of time between 1970 and 2005 when flows are zero at different sites along the River Chess under different scenarios). For both Water Lane and Missenden Road, the figure indicates that the flows never go to zero when Alma and Chartridge PS are switched off. Paul suggested that if this is the case, this shows an important link between abstraction and flows. Katherine said that she believed this is not the case and that the “Alma Rd and Chartridge off” columns are missing from the graph. Kathryn raised her concern about the “historic” column for Water Lane, which indicates that Water Lane is dry for c. 75% of the time. The RCA/CCSP’s investigations into historic records so far indicate that Water Lane is dry for much less time than this (perhaps 30% of the time). Katherine explained that the “Historic” column in the graph is modelled data rather than actual data and she provided information on the limitations of the modelling technique. This does, however, raise concerns as to the reliability of the model if the “Historic” data does not closely resemble what actually happened. The CCSP and RCA will be happy to pass data about drying events on to the EA and Katherine said that she would welcome the data.

The RCA is concerned that the WFD report in section 1.4 concludes that habitat modification is the main limiting impact on biology in the upper stretches and that flow is not a limiting factor. The

biology and ecology of the upper Chess have deteriorated in recent decades whereas the morphological changes to the river, mainly mill structures, have been present for much longer. The RCA believes that abstraction and pollution are responsible for the recent decline. Miles agreed that abstraction and pollution will be having an impact in the upper reaches.

Paul said that the RCA is only willing to continue to work on improving habitat if the matter of abstraction is addressed, as there is little point in trying to improve habitat if flows are inadequate. He also informed the meeting that the Chess will be hosting the Wild Trout Trust annual meeting in June, which will be part sponsored by Thames Water. Paul said the presence of the EA would be very welcome.

Looking forward, Miles will liaise with Paolo Meotti (EA) re his modelling work as part of the Vale Brook culvert repair work. Miles will organise for a Restoring Sustainable Abstractions investigation on the upper Chess, but again flagged up his concern that the cost: benefit ratio would be unfavourable to implementing solutions.

Paul said that the RCA would like the current version of the WFD report to be withdrawn. The RCA believes that its conclusions are dangerous, as exemplified by Affinity Water's use of the report to justify not taking action on abstraction in the Chess catchment. Paul will forward the RCA's comments on the WFD report to Miles. Miles said he would look at the comments, but said that the conclusions are likely to remain the same. Rob asked whether it would be possible to add a commentary to the report to explain that the situation within Chesham is not currently understood, as this could impact on the ability to ensure 'no deterioration' of the ecological status in the future. RCA members emphasised the importance of putting the report in context. Paul said that the RCA would welcome a strong statement from the EA that it has concerns re the upper Chess, to provide something tangible that the RCA can approach the water companies with to get engagement.

RCA representatives are meeting with Thames Water in the near future. It was agreed that a meeting should be set up after this, with representatives from the EA, Affinity Water, Thames Water, the CCSP and the RCA to determine how investigations into the upper Chess are undertaken and how they will be funded. The established area of interest is down to Lord's Mill (Miles mentioned that the EA are looking into the discharge at Lord's Mill to identify its source). This will include looking at whether more boreholes can be funded.

Miles said that he placed a bid in December for funding for spot flow gauging equipment and should find out the result of this in March/April. The RCA may be able to borrow equipment from Misbourne River Action in the mean time, with training provided by the EA's hydrometry team. Appropriate sites for flow monitoring will need to be determined and Katherine said it would be very helpful if the gauging could be linked with sites where ecology is monitored. Paul said that the RCA wants to maintain a positive relationship with the EA and is willing to collect data that would help the EA in its investigations.

Allen asked whether it would be possible to receive the Wayside and Hawridge groundwater data on a regular basis. Miles suggested that Allen contact Geoff Angel for this.

Summary of Actions:

- Paul to email Miles to request borehole logs from Hawridge
- EA to investigate whether they have data that would reveal whether Hawridge PS was abstracting during the 2001 flood
- RCA/CCSP to supply data to Katherine on historic drying events when compiled
- Miles to check maximum licence figures used in the two reports
- Miles to clarify what data were used in the WFD report
- RCA/EA to work together on improving borehole monitoring in the catchment
- EA to supply Townsend Road levels data to Paul
- Figure 53 to be corrected in the WFD report
- Miles to organise Restoring Sustainable Abstractions investigation on the upper Chess
- Paul to forward RCA's comments on WFD report to Miles, who will review them and adjust report if appropriate/possible
- Meeting between EA/RCA/CCSP/Thames Water/Affinity Water to be organised
- RCA volunteers to be trained in spot flow gauging and sites to be agreed between RCA and EA

<p>machines. DE is talking to GPs and Physiotherapists to encourage referrals.</p> <p>DE thanked the Friends for their support, particularly in Finance and Marketing areas, the new advertising has helped boost the membership and use of the facility.</p>	
<p><u>5. Finance and Strategy Group Report</u></p> <p>Revenue has improved year on year. Deficit is steady at reduced level which is encouraging so early in the year and may improve in Summer months which are traditionally better. DE commented that momentum is good and with the new equipment and other improvements he hopes to increase monthly income.</p>	
<p><u>6. Marketing Group report</u></p> <p>A new questionnaire has been prepared to follow up from the market research in December which identified 5 classes clients would like. This questionnaire should establish preferred timings and the price people are prepared to pay. The main issue is that the email system at the centre cannot be used to send this questionnaire out – Mailchimp will be used instead but this is not ideal.</p> <p><u>IT provision at the centre is currently not fit for purpose and this is hindering both the operation of the centre and use as a marketing tool. One of the most cost effective ways of promotion is via email and the system does not work. The Friends all agreed that this is a major issue and alternative IT support packages should be investigated. As well as bringing this to the attention of the Council via these minutes DE will also pursue.</u></p> <p>DE explained that the current IT support is with the same company that provide support to the Council and the Elgiva and Steve Pearson is keen to keep all three organisations with the same supplier. All agreed, however, that if the support is not good an alternative supplier should be sought.</p> <p>PN has produced detailed spending plans for Marketing budget as well as a forward plan showing marketing activity month by month. Part of this planned activity is regular contributions from a freelancer to write copy for social media taking responsibility of this away from pool staff leaving them with more time for other duties and providing a more consistent output. DE is pleased with the structured planning and can already see positive results from the advertising.</p>	<p>DE</p>
<p><u>7. AOB</u></p> <p>AC raised ongoing concerns regarding the state of the car park. The planting outside the pool is beginning to come up and looks really good but the poor state of the car park detracts from this. DE reported that some resurfacing is planned but he was not sure if it was for the complete car park or just part of it.</p>	

Next meetings:

26 March 2014

30 April 2014

28 May 2014 – AGM

25 June 2014

30 July 2014

27 August 2014

24 September 2014

29 October 2014

<p>and a date of 10 September 2014 was suggested.</p>	
<p><u>4. Centre Manager's report</u> Footfall report showed the total gym use was down compared to the previous month but was an improvement year on year. There was some discussion about the usefulness of the information given in its current format. It was agreed that it would be very useful to invite Steve Pearson (SP) to the next meeting to explain the current figures and ask if a different format could be produced. DE reported that cost efficiencies had been made by switching cleaning suppliers. <u>Capital projects</u> – the boiler for the water in the ladies' changing room and heating needs replacing, DE to get a quote for relocating as well as replacing. One of the main boilers for the pool required a new part, this would be fixed before the Summer opening on 1 April. PN and RC both suggested investigating new technology boilers for any future replacements. The centre had purchased a new pirate-themed inflatable, DE will introduce a loyalty card for use of the inflatable to encourage repeat visits. New gym equipment currently being installed. Lighting has been replaced gradually to change to LEDs this will provide more effective lighting and reduce energy bills. Poolside paving still needs to be replaced, councillors to check if this project has been approved in the budget for this year. <u>Chiltern Natural Therapies</u> – SP would like Friend's input regarding renewal of this lease. A shorter lease of 1 year was suggested with a 6 month notice period. Ultimately the agreement is between the Council and CNT, the Friends can only advise.</p>	<p>DE/RC</p> <p>PH/TM</p>
<p><u>5. Finance and Strategy Group report</u> Figures were distributed TD commented that the figures were encouraging and an improvement on this time last year.</p>	
<p><u>6. Marketing Group report</u> <u>Classes survey</u> – the report showed that there was a demand for classes in Swimming improvement, Pilates, Yoga and Aquaerobics. DE was concerned that the lack of staff would hinder the introduction of any new classes as all staff are working to capacity at present. RC and the Friends group felt that the survey was a valuable tool and the results should be acted upon but within the staffing capabilities it was suggested that starting with just one area would be the best option, perhaps Swimming improvement classes. <u>Staffing levels</u> were discussed PH and TM suggested an apprentice, this should be put in the staffing review of the Council for active consideration. DE had not had backing from Council on a previous request for an apprentice but would welcome their support now as an extra staff member would be very useful. <u>PR of new gym equipment</u> PN to meet with DE and AJ to discuss</p>	<p>PH/TM/DE</p>

specific plans for official launch of the new equipment and also the inflatable. PN/AJ/DE

7. AOB

The meeting concluded with a visit to the gym where DE briefly described the excellent new equipment. All agreed that the redecorated area, new equipment and new LED lighting were a great improvement and congratulated DE and his staff on their efforts.

Next meetings:

Wednesday 30 April at 7pm

Wednesday 28 May – AGM

Wednesday 25 June

Wednesday 30 July

Wednesday 27 August

Wednesday 24 September

Wednesday 29 October

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ELGIVA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
AT 10.30AM ON MONDAY 10th MARCH 2014 AT THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Trevor Pilling (Chairman, presiding)
Patricia Cherrill
Mick Carling
Lee Bright
Stephen Cherry
Anthony Ogden
Linda English

Officers: Moira Little – Deputy Manager, Elgiva

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Bill Richards, Mark Barnes, Fiona Kear, Roy Abraham, Howard Elson and Yvonne Plester.

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2014 were agreed as a true and correct record.

The Board were unanimous in expressing their disappointment that the Council will not recognise the outstanding efforts of the Elgiva staff, which continue to be above and beyond the call of duty. Patricia declared an interest as a Town Councillor although she is on the Board under her own right. Trevor offered to raise the matter at the next Rec. & Arts meeting.

3. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Trevor circulated his report for the months of December 2013 and January 2014. He summarised the reports by saying that income is up although attendances have remained level with last year. This may be due to the higher ticket price for live streaming events. The draft figures for February 2104 suggest that income and attendances have increased. It is expected that the year-end figures will be below budget.

4. **DEPUTY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Moira reported on the following -

- The live screening events are proving to be very successful with good feedback. They seem to be attracting new audiences.
- Parking was discussed. Moira confirmed that customers who buy at the box office are informed that parking outside the theatre is limited. Mick reported that the trial to offer various lengths of parking time in Chesham is proving successful.
- The staff continue to be very busy.
- It is expected that the manager of Cafe Encore will want to renew her contract.
- The leaking roof problem has been resolved for now but it should be noted that the flat roof may need to be replaced at some time. Some internal repairs, necessary because of the leaks, are on hold.

- The Easter workshop is now being advertised.
- Moira has requested quotations for re-upholstering the seating and side panels.
- Some additional bar staff and technicians are being used.

5. **MARKETING STRATEGY REVIEW**

Moira listed the following items which contribute towards the marketing strategy:-

- What's ON and an extra mailing list for outside the catchment area
- There are 63 Elite members
- Stands in local shops and shops in Berkhamsted for What's On and flyers
- Separate film and live streaming flyers are emailed out
- Poster boards, banners and email mailshots
- ENTS24 Website and 'Your Chesham'
- Flyers distributed to local primary schools and dance schools, still trying to engage with local secondary schools
- More social media would be helpful – Lee offered to help with this.
- Displays in libraries

6. **MEETING WITH SEA CADETS OVER POSSIBLE USE OF HALL**

Mark and Trevor attended a meeting with the Sea Cadets. They considered that the rooms available for hire were not large enough to be useful to the theatre on a regular basis, but if a small room were required for a specific event, then it could be hired.

7. **AOB**

Trevor asked the Board for ideas on using the ring-fenced monies. The extension over the patio area is still considered the best use. Steve offered to meet with the planners to progress this idea further.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Management will be on **MONDAY 28th APRIL 2014** at **10.30am** at the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 11.40am.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ELGIVA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
AT 10.30AM ON MONDAY 28th APRIL 2014 AT THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Trevor Pilling (Chairman, presiding)
Roy Abraham
Yvonne Plester
Mick Carling
Lee Bright
Stephen Cherry
Anthony Ogden
Linda English

Officers: Mark Barnes – Manager, Elgiva
Moira Little – Deputy Manager, Elgiva

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Bill Richards, Patricia Cherrill, Fiona Kear, and Howard Elson.

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2014 were agreed as a true and correct record.

3. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Trevor circulated his report for the month of March 2014 together with some graphs to compare figures for the years ending March 2013 and March 2014. These are based on Trevor's figures as he is waiting for the Council to publish their end of year accounts.

Trevor made an appeal to the Council regarding recognition of the hard way put in by the staff over the winter period but they still refused permission. The Board, once again, expressed their disappointment at this decision.

Anthony asked whether the energy usage was reviewed. Mark replied saying a review took place approximately 5 years ago and the result was that the theatre was running efficiently. Reviews are triggered automatically and one may be due in the near future.

Trevor asked the Board if they would like to see any other breakdown of figures in his monthly reports. No changes were requested, but there was a suggestion to produce a comparison of income and costs for the last 5 years.

4. **MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Mark reported on the following -

- The live screening events are still very successful with many shows selling out and future bookings selling well.
- The cinema advertising is up and running.
- The programme is full until the end of 2014.

- The Chiltern Film Society has increased its membership and there is also an increased number of general public paying to attend the CFS films. The decision has been made to keep the CFS fees the same as last year.
- Cinema ticket prices have increased by 50p, this is the first increase for 8 years.
- The 3D films are attracting more children to attend.
- The leaking roof problem has been resolved and there have been no further leaks during the recent rainfall.
- The Easter workshop was successful.
- The casting is almost complete for the Pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk. Many tickets have already been sold. This year a specialist set will be hired.
- There has been an upgrade to the box office system and customers will now be able to book tickets from their iPads and iPhones.
- A new “OPEN” sign has been installed in the front entrance which can be seen from the road.
- Mark explained that he has to buy programmes for the live screening events and these are non-returnable. In order to be able to order more accurately, he will ask customers if they wish to pre-order a programme when they book their tickets.
- What’s On is currently distributed in Berkhamsted but Anthony asked if more marketing could be carried out in the town.

5. **UPDATE ON PATIO AND RING FENCED MONIES**

The Board were asked for suggestions to be considered for the use of the agreed ring-fenced monies. Improvements to the air-conditioning in the auditorium and a gradual changeover to LED stage lighting were suggested for consideration.

Steve reported that he has been attempting to arrange a meeting with the planning department to discuss the plans for the patio and he is hopeful that this meeting will take place in the near future.

6. **AOB**

Anthony reported that the Elgiva staff were helpful and polite during a recent production by CMTC and he suggested that an extractor fan should be installed in the small dressing room.

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Management will be on **MONDAY 16th JUNE 2014** at **10.30am** at the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 11.57am.

	HIRE DAYS		HIRE FEES	BAR PROFITS	ICE-CREAM	Total	Total
	2014	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013
SATELLITE							
COMMUNITY	15	17	8,865	652	343	9,860	10,423
PROFESSIONAL	4	4	2,291	512	207	3,010	3,574
FILM	8	5	6,184	400	6	6,590	3,139
	27	26	17,340	1564	556	19,460	17,136

	2014 B/F Total	2014 monthly Total	2014 C/F Total	2013 B/F Total	2013 monthly Total	2013 C/F Total
SATELLITE						
COMMUNITY	104,003	9,860	113,863	95,414	10,423	105,837
PROFESSIONAL	41,090	3,010	44,100	39,647	3,574	43,221
FILM	24,147	6,590	30,737	20,136	3,139	23,275
	169,240	19,460	188,700	155,197	17,136	172,333

	2014 ATTENDS	2013 ATTENDS	2014 CONCESSIONS	2013 CONCESSIONS	2014 TOTAL ATTENDS	2013 TOTAL ATTENDS
SATELLITE						
COMMUNITY	1,084	1,293	496	601	19,509	20,576
PROFESSIONAL	757	791	515	485	9,885	9,702
FILM	2114	1,218	1,321	844	10,344	8,043
	3,955	3,302	2,332	1,930	39,738	38,321

	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL
PROJECTED MONTHLY RUNNING COSTS	26,486	25,655

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME	17,155	15,666
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AVERAGE MONTHLY DEFICIT	9,331	9,989
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	HIRE DAYS		HIRE FEES	BAR PROFITS	ICE-CREAM	Total	Total
	2014	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013
SATELLITE							
COMMUNITY	9	14	4,931	595	97	5,623	8,753
PROFESSIONAL	7	6	4,119	1,530	95	5,744	4,765
FILM	10	5	5,892	606	42	6,540	5,021
	16	25	14,942	2731	234	17,907	18,539

	2014 B/F Total	2014 monthly Total	2014 C/F Total	2013 B/F Total	2013 monthly Total	2013 C/F Total
SATELLITE						
COMMUNITY	113,863	5,623	119,486	105,837	8,753	114,590
PROFESSIONAL	44,100	5,744	49,844	43,221	4,765	47,986
FILM	30,737	6,540	37,277	23,275	5,021	28,286
	188,700	17,907	206,607	172,333	18,539	190,862

	2014 ATTENDS	2013 ATTENDS	2014 CONCESSIONS	2013 CONCESSIONS	2014 TOTAL ATTENDS	2013 TOTAL ATTENDS
SATELLITE						
COMMUNITY	1,174	2,121	516	1105	20,683	22,697
PROFESSIONAL	1,238	1,267	621	728	11,123	10,969
FILM	1,823	1,706	1039	1119	12,167	9,749
	4,235	5,094	2,176	2,952	43,973	43,415

	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL
PROJECTED MONTHLY RUNNING COSTS	26,486	25,655

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME	17,217	15,906
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AVERAGE MONTHLY DEFICIT	9,269	9,749
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Chesham Allotments Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 18th March 2014, 19:30

Venue: Chesham Town Hall

Attendees

Allen Tilbury (Chair), Marshall Hall (Vice Chair), Ian MacEachern (Coffee Morning Coordinator), Colette Littley, (Council Representative)
Beverly Mackay (Editor, The Grower), Claire Malan (Cameron Road North Rep), Ray Williams (Treasurer), Jim Bole (Ashridge Road representative), Vince Crompton,

Apologies

Andrew Sinclair (Correspondence Secretary), Yvonne Webster (Minutes Secretary), Jim Abbott (Cameron Road South Rep), Vincent Lucas (Cameron Road North Rep),

Matters Arising

1. Minutes approved of the January 28th 2014 meeting

Chairman's Report - Allen Tilbury

1. The new laminator is in place and working. Beverly asked that we don't punch holes in the sheets laminated to go onto the fence. These holes allow water to penetrate and ruins the notice.
2. Ray reported on the new liability and contents Insurance and said that it was now in place. The total came to £185.50 representing a significant savings over the previous Shield Insurance premium.
3. The NSALG Membership for the CAG is now due for renewal for the 2014/15 year. Discussion took place on the benefits of membership, Allen put it to a vote and it passed.
4. The Discount / Reward card has been printed and we've been dispensing them during the CHS potato sale / coffee mornings. As agreed previously there is now a £1 charge. So far 56 of them have been issued and our costs have been covered.
5. The waiting lists for the allotments has been reduced to 10 at Cameron Road site and 11 at Ashridge Road. There are a couple of influencing factors:
 - a. The improved inspection regime and the increased speed of evictions
 - b. The splitting of the large double plots into the smaller half plots.
6. Allen reported on the Chesham Town partnership scheme and said that we had been accepted. He and Marshall had met and reviewed the information and responded to Kathryn Graves on a few minor clerical details.
7. The Chesham Council grant application will be due for submission soon. This is the same scheme for which we submitted a successful application in

October of last year. Responsibility for following through was given to Marshall.

Treasurers Report - Ray Williams

1. The treasurers accounts were distributed around the room and discussed.

Correspondence Secretary's Report – Andrew Sinclair

1. Andrew is absent but contactable by e-mail.

The Grower Report – Beverly Mackay

1. Congratulations were conveyed to Beverly on the excellent job she did on the March 14th *Grower*. The next issue will be on June 21st and Beverly requested assistance with writing articles.

Social Activities Report – Allen Tilbury

1. Allen reported that 148 badges have been sold and that we need to sell 74 more to break even. Ways of shifting them were discussed.
2. The next Fish and Chips event will be the 10th of May 2014. Allen solicited assistance on preparations for the night and with promotion of the event.

Coffee Morning Coordinator's Report - Ian MacEachern

1. A spring cleaning of the hut was completed by Ian and Allen. Marshall showed up and provided moral support.#
2. the group was reminded that the Coffee Mornings for the coming 2014 year begin again on the 5th of April and will run to the 18th of October, extended by a week on each end. The first week will be staffed by Marshall and Claire.
3. Ian reviewed the rota for the dates and requested again that he needed a response from people when he contacts them for cakes and help. The exact duties of the people manning the Hut were clarified.
4. Ian has asked for the e-mail list so that he can coordinate volunteers for these mornings. Marshall reminded the group that the e-mail list was lost to a computer virus and that he was assembling it again but it was taking time.

Focal Point Hut News

1. The "Porta-Potty" cleaning has become somewhat lax and Allen reminded the group of the need to ensure that you do your weekend and sign the sheet.
2. Allen reported that the Town Council budget, seen by himself and Marshall, contained an allowance of £1000 for replacement of rotting sleepers along the paths. Whether this remains in place is yet to be seen.
3. Marshall was very pleased to report that a print version of the original database had been found and that the database recovery is ongoing. He asked if Vince might share the e-mail list of the CHS with us.

4. Marshall Reported that “the bunker” roofing project has not seen any progress over the winter due to the horrendous weather. However, now that spring seems on the doorstep progress should start soon.

Chesham in Bloom – Vincent

Vince gave a report on the activities of the Chesham in Bloom group including potting plants for Mothers day on March 29th. He also reminded members that the Chesham in Bloom fish & chips night would be on the 12th of April in the Temperance hall at 8:00PM and asked for support.

The annual plant sale conducted by Chesham in Bloom will be on Saturday the 24th of May during the Chesham Town Market.

Other Business – All

1. Allen detailed the close relationship between the CHS and the CAG and explained a scheme to share the discount card with their members. Beverly pointed out that the retailers offering the discounts would need to be consulted and the group agreed.
2. Allen reminded the group that the next inspection would be in April.

The meeting concluded and was adjourned at 21:30.

Date of the next meeting will be Tuesday the 10th of June 2014 at 19:30

Friends of Chesham Cemetery

Minutes of Meeting held on

Tuesday 15th April 2014

7.30pm at Chesham Town Hall

AGM

Present: Cllr Roderick McCulloch - Chair
Sharon McEwan – Secretary
Phil Folly – Treasurer
Ken Austin
Michael Bannister
Mora Walker
Helen Spencer Spurling
PCSO Andy Mayhew – Thames Valley Police

Apologies: Jean Queripel, Maria Pontin and Kate Folly

1. **Approve the minutes of the AGM held on 16th April 2013**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2013 were approved as a true record and the minutes were signed.

2. **Chairperson Report**

No chairperson report was given

3. **Election of Officers**

The nominations for chair 2014– 2015

Councillor Roderick McCulloch

Mora Walker – Proposed

Michael Bannister - Seconded

The committee elected **Cllr Roderick McCulloch as Chair**

The nominations for Vice Chair 2014 - 2015

Mora Walker

Phil Folly – Proposed

Michael Bannister – Seconded

The committee elected **Mora Walker as Vice -Chair**

The nominations for Secretary 2014– 2015

Sharon McEwan

Mora Walker - Proposed

Roderick McCulloch – Seconded

The committee elected **Sharon McEwan as Secretary**

The nominations for Treasurer 2014 – 2015

Phil Folly

Michael Bannister– Proposed
Ken Austin – Seconded

The committee elected **Phil Folly as Treasurer**

4. Treasurers Report

The treasurer informed the meeting that there was £613.73 in the bank account. HSBC closed the bank account as no funds were put in for over a year. The bank also informed Phil that we could not re-open a new account for six months. The committee agreed that a new bank account should be open with another provider and Phil is will look into this matter.

5. Any Other Business

The committee were informed that **Judy Ottaway**, had moved away from the area and would no longer be a committee member. The committee wished Judy best wishes for the future

6. Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting 21st October 2014

Close of meeting 8pm

These minutes to be agreed and signed as a true record of the above meeting, held on April 2015

Signed.....
Chair for the Friends of Chesham Cemetery

Friends of Chesham Cemetery

Minutes of Meeting

On Tuesday 15th April 2014

At 8pm

Chesham Town Hall

Present: Roderick McCulloch – Chair
Mora Walker – Vice Chair
Sharon McEwan – Secretary
Phil Folly – Treasurer
Ken Austin
Michael Bannister
Helen Spencer Spurling
PCSO Andy Mayhew – Thames Valley Police

Apologies: Jean Queripel, Kate Folly and Maria Pontin

Approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 19th July 2013

Minutes held on 19th July 2013 were approved and signed as a true copy.

Report from Thames Valley Police

PCSO Andy Mayhew attended this meeting and introduced himself to the committee. PCSO Mayhew patrolling Chesham for a year and explained that there are eleven PCSO's from the neighbourhood watch team that covers both Chesham and Amersham.

Questions were raised about an incident that was in the local media that occurred within the cemetery. PCSO Mayhew explained that he could not discuss this in detail as it was a pending court case.

Some points that were raised by PCSO Mayhew were: keeping the cemetery gates open as offenders were using the cemetery as a rat run and the police are able to give chase. Person's drinking alcohol are moved on and if anyone is caught vandalising or doing any form of anti social behaviour they would be requested to leave the cemetery and if they come back within twenty four hours under section twenty seven they will be arrested.

There is a possibility that drug dealing is going on at the Alma Road entrance. Drug paraphernalia has been found by Thames Valley Police.

Stolen property has been recovered in the cemetery. (Where the garage is and the first piece of palisade fencing was erected). The officer felt that maybe funding could be found to have that palisade fencing raised higher.

The yew trees could be cut back giving a better view for officers to see offenders. The officer asked the public to telephone Thames Valley Police if they see anything which also helps gather intelligence to monitor the cemetery patrols

For obvious reasons the police officer could not discuss what a member of the public attending our meeting and raised the issue about the young girl that four men were found guilty of sexual activity with a 14-year-old schoolgirl in the cemetery has this is an ongoing case.

These are the details of the officer should you feel the need to speak to him.

C8714 Andy Mayhew

Email: andrew.mayhew@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Pea Shingle – The committee inquired whether pea shingle had been laid on Annie Brooksbank's grave. Sharon agreed to buy the pea shingle and put onto the memorial at the next wild flower project. **SM**

Dogs – It was agreed that it is becoming very difficult trying to enforce the dog ban within the cemetery, due to the lack of full time presence from the Town Council and Thames Valley Police.

1. Treasurers Report

The treasurer informed the meeting that there was £613.73 in the bank account. HSBC closed the bank account as no funds were put in for over a year. The bank also informed Phil that we could not re-open a new account for six months. The committee agreed that a new bank account should be open with another provider and Phil is will look into this matter.

2. Cemetery Update

PCSO Any Mayhew informed the committee that from Thames Valley Police perspective it was good that the gates were kept open twenty four hours a day. The committee were informed that even with the gates open it does not or has not prevented people climbing over the palisade fencing or the small wall (F. Section) opposite the Chapel.

3. Hearse House Funding

Funding still being sought, Phil, Ken and Cllr McCulloch are still looking into funding and arranged a meeting to fill in funding forms. Sharon agreed to put an appeal out for donations of World War One memorabilia and appeal for donations to help towards help in developing an exhibition space in the historic Hearse House. **P.F. K.A . R.M and S.M**

4. Heritage Weekend

Most of the memorial paperwork that were mislaid have been re-done and suggestions given to help raise funds were to ask the Town Clerk if a small charge can be paid by the public to pull the chapel bell.

Sharon, to contact Kathryn, at the Town hall, with regards to a risk assessment to be put into place for the Heritage weekend.

Once again the committee will open the cemetery chapel and arrange a display if funding is not forthcoming **S.M**

5. Dusk Walks

Sharon informed the committee that the dusk will take place on Sunday July 13th, times to be confirmed. Sharon to contact Fi Bingham at Chesham Museum to finalise details and look at advertising. **S.M**

6. Working Party Dates for Wildflower

The date for the next wild flower project is Saturday 3rd May at 9.30am **ALL**

7. Feed Back on Town Partnership

No feed back was given

8. Any other Business

Rubbish bins – Alma Road entrance are over flowing and general rubbish is being put down on the ground.

Memorial 34NN has a big hole surrounding the entire memorial and headstone is balancing on slab only. Sharon to inform Parks and Premises Manager.

The committee would like to thank Judy Ottoway for all her help and support over the years. Judy as moved away from Chesham.

New member- Helen Spenser Spurling joined the committee. Sharon, to contact Maria for a name badge for Helen.

9. Agenda Items for next meeting.

No agenda items were given, please email Sharon if they wish to add any items to the agenda.

Email address: sharonmcewan@btinternet.com

10. Dates of next meeting

Tuesday 21st October 2014 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Chesham Environmental Group AGM 24th April 2014

Present - Kate Folly, Michael Browne, Jean Queripel, Maria Sharif, Roger Main, Rosemary Main, Georgina Lomnitz, Hannah Webley, Ken Austin, Phil Folly, Colette Littley, Trevor Brawn, Andrew Clark, and Richard Berry.

1. Welcome. Phil Folly welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies. Louise Cook, Jenny Pearson, Sally Hill, Sian Harrison, Jean Staveley, Natalie Baker.

3. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record. Arising from the minutes the wall at The Pound was discussed; PF has passed the matter over to the insurance company and has heard nothing more. In future we should take before and after photos.

4. Treasurers Report. We have purchased High Viz Vests and some more litter pickers and have sponsored a tree in the Community Orchard (for which we have a certificate, it is a Roundways Magnum Bonum Apple) currently £1700 in the bank. GL asked if we could buy more tarpaulins and CL offered to buy them from Wicks.

5. Election of Officers. All agreed to keep on same roles

Phil Folly – Chair, Ken Austin – Treasurer, Colette Littley – Minutes, Georgina Lomnitz – Contacts, Andrew Clark – Website administrator.

6. Chairman's Report.

7. AOB PF told the group that Derek Lacey will have 6000 Daffodil Bulbs for The Environmental Group and Chesham in Bloom to plant around the town.

Meeting Closed at 7.45

Chesham Environmental Group

Income and Expenditure Account - Year Ending 31 March 2014

	2013/2014	2012/2013
Income		
CTC Grant	196.00	300.00
Grant from Mayor's Fund	1246.02	0.00
	<u>1442.02</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Expenditure		
Equipment	93.78	347.94
Insurance (see note)	196.76	196.76
Gift to Community Orchard	40.00	0.00
	<u>330.54</u>	<u>544.70</u>
Surplus (Shortfall)	1111.48	(244.70)
Balance brought forward	591.79	836.49
Closing balance at 31.03.14	1703.27	591.79

Notes:

1. The insurance figure for 2012/2013 was incorrect (£196.70) on the previous accounts.

I certify that the Income and Expenditure Account of the Chesham Environmental Group set out above has been examined and in my opinion is a true and proper reflection of the financial affairs of the organisation.

Signed:

Date:

Chesham Environmental Group Meeting 24th April 2014

Present - Kate Folly, Michael Browne, Jean Queripel, Maria Sharif, Roger Main, Rosemary Main, Georgina Lomnitz, Hannah Webley, Ken Austin, Phil Folly, Colette Littley, Trevor Brawn, Andrew Clark, Richard Berry.

1. Welcome and Apologies. Phil Folly welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Louise Cook, Jenny Pearson, Sally Hill, Sian Harrison, Jean Staveley, Natalie Baker.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising. PF has attended the flood action group who now have a Chairman. The EA has an event in Amersham. Jacobs's consultants have now done mapping. There is a network of 260 such groups around the country and they will bring the county councils and contractors to task about flooding in the town if reported incidents are not sorted out.

Town Partners Agreement: PF has had an email from Kathryn Graves saying that CEG are unique in that they don't have a Town Councillor representative so could ask to be allocated one in May. RB suggested that CL should volunteer for the role.

Orchard: We now have our certificate although the space for the tree number is not filled in, it is a crisp and has a pear like flavour and is disease resistant.

Chartridge Lane Litter, Jane Macbean had suggested we write to Chiltern Hills Academy about the litter which hasn't been done but Ashridge Vale and Lowndes Association have started a litter action group and this area is in their remit. PF reported that the caretaker has been told to make sure the lane is clear. Also one of our members Sian Harrison regularly litter picks the area.

5. Finance – as per AGM

6. Future Working Parties.

We now have permission to work on the Vale Brook in Townsend road but we will need to wait until the birds have finished nesting before we can do any cutting back of vegetation. Also need to be careful of any hazardous waste we may find there. Suggest we wait until the winter to tackle this area.

PF has noticed that although the War Memorial has been tidied up the short posts and chains around the grass are in a sorry state, this could be something we could tackle or ask the town council to look at.

MS suggested painting walls along the backs but the group not happy about painting walls that could belong to house owners.

There was hedge planting to be done in the cemetery which PF and CL have been liaising with Bob Ayres about and last we heard he had bought mixed native hedging plants as requested but we haven't been asked to plant them. CL is to request update.

Jacobs Ladder was last done in January but due to the large amount of amphibians we find sheltering there it may be better to wait until April/May to do this in future.

AC suggested that the group should look for an area that they could be responsible for and develop, nurture for wildlife. TB thinks we have established Berkhamsted Fields as an area that the group look after and manage for wild flowers and Butterflies although the problem of having the grass cuttings removed remains. PF reported that there are now new dog waste bins in the area supplied by CDC. There are plans for an interpretation board to be installed. TB: to take this up with the town council.

PF would like photos of the Berkhamsted field working parties at work raking grass to show to the RHS in Bloom Judges when they visit us for judging, as he didn't think they would have time to visit.

AC would like regular working parties in Meades Water Gardens. A sub group of AC, TB, MB, PF, CL is to meet and review the MWG action plan.

Anyone who can help with the tree watering in the community orchard should get in touch with the Orchard group.

Diary.

Wed 7th May - Jacobs Ladder

Sun 18th May – Amersham Road Allotments

Wed. 4th June – Moor

Sun 15th June – MWG

It was decided that we need to establish some new projects, don't want the group to just do litter picking.

PF will speak to Bob Ayres about the war memorial.

KA and CL are to speak to impress the Chess.

AC reported that fly monitoring at 3 sites continues. Quality at the Queens Head has been a worry but most recently they had good results and at the end of March a fish was spotted!

RB wants to be advised if the hedging plants we put in by the river near his house should be cut back?

PF and CL have been attending regular working parties in Captains Wood led by the Chiltern Society. They are cutting down Holly trees and winching out the roots, this will let more light in to the forest floor and encourage a diversity of native plants to thrive. Negotiations between BCC and the Chiltern Society over ownership continue.

Chesham Town Council has signed up to the Parish Paths scheme so the Chiltern Society will be maintaining footpaths.

10. Diary Dates –

15th May Annual Town Meeting

1st June - Civic Service

21st June – BURYFields Festival, PF and AC are organising Litter picking at the festival.

11. AOB(ird or Butterfly)

AC whilst walking today heard a Cuckoo

HW saw lots of Butterflies in Berkhamsted Field

Meeting closed at 9pm

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 2nd June 2014.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 6 - CHESHAM MOOR GYM AND SWIM CENTRE

Reporting Officers: Stephen Pearson (01494 583825).

Summary

1. To consider the financial report up to the 31st March 2014.

Background Information

2. At the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 17th December 2007, it was resolved that: *'the Officers, in consultation with the Friends of Chesham Moor Swim & Gym, produce a five year business plan and that there be regular monitoring reports to each Recreation and the Arts Committee Meetings.'* (Minute No.38).

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Equality Act Implications

4. Non applicable.

Strategic Objectives

5. Accords with the Council's strategic aim 1b – *'The Moor Gym & Swim, with its outdoor pool, ball courts and gym, is a unique facility which provides family friendly leisure and fitness opportunities in a rural setting. It will be maintained and enhanced wherever possible in an environmentally friendly way.'*

Detailed Consideration

6. The monthly gym income (**excluding** VAT) is detailed in the table below:

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
	£	£	£	£	£
April	5,859	6,111*	5,808**	5,238**	6,913**
May	6,678	7,058*	6,327**	6,126**	6,451**
June	6,590	6,453*	6,796**	4,802**	7,178**
July	8,084	7,569*	5,679**	5,474**	8,476**
August	6,182	6,653*	4,962**	4,554**	7,166**
September	5,688	5,960*	6,027**	4,406**	7,094**
October	5,464	6,987*	6,552**	4,297**	7,012**
November	4,818	6,675*	4,971**	5,452**	6,646**
December	4,747	6,137*	4,974**	4,245**	7,477**

January	6,443*	7,153**	6,504**	6,922**	9,888**
February	6,608*	5,625**	5,925**	5,204**	7,469**
March	7,618*	6,823**	6,140**	6,685**	8,272**
TOTAL	<u>74,779</u>	<u>79,204</u>	<u>70,665</u>	<u>63,405</u>	<u>90,042</u>

The above figures exclude VAT but the varying rates have an impact on the net income received:-

VAT @15%

VAT@17.5*

VAT @ 20%**

7. The above figures show an increase of over 42% when comparing the twelve months of the 2013/14 financial year against the same months of 2012/13, with January showing an impressive income of £9,888. The new charges came into operation in January 2013 and have now been operating for just over a full year.
8. The overall net subsidy requirement (excluding Renewals & Repairs) for the Moor Swim & Gym at the end of March showed a net subsidy requirement of £92,340 before making the £10,000 transfer into the Moor Gym & Swim ring fenced reserve which compares favourably against £103,556 for the previous year. Income was up by £60k (excluding the proceeds from the sale of the old gym equipment) with expenditure up by £53k.
9. The final net subsidy figure £102,340 (including the ring fenced reserve transfer and sale of gym equipment proceeds) compares favourably against both the 2013/14 original budget figure of £120,530 and a revised forecast of £108,530.

Recommendation

That the financial position is noted.

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 2nd June 2014.

AGENDA ITEM NO :7 - STOP THE DROP CAMPAIGN

Reporting Officer: Kathryn Graves (01494 583798).

Summary

1. To receive an update on the Stop The Drop campaign.

Background Information

2. At a discussion on litter at the Policy & Resources Committee meeting of the 17th February 2014, it was felt that the Council should lead on an anti-litter initiative and education campaign. It was agreed that, '*Councillors Fayyaz, Hudson, Mrs Juett and Spruytenburg be appointed upon an Anti-Litter Working Party to make recommendations upon a campaign on this topic*' (Min no. 62).

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Strategic Objectives

4. Preventing littering and dealing effectively with litter will meet with aspects of a number of objectives, including No. 1 (high quality social, recreational, and cultural facilities), No. 2 (promote a thriving town centre), No. 3 (enhance and protect the town's landscape features), and No. 5 (to help create a socially inclusive and caring community).

Equality Act Implications

5. None pertaining to this report.

Detailed Consideration

6. The anti-litter working party met on a number of occasions to develop a campaign that has been called 'Stop the Drop' and which officially launched on the 19th May 2014. The working party has received support and guidance from Chiltern District Council's Waste Management team. The party has established a positive relationship with the local schools through the Green Schools Co-ordinator, Michele Blackmore, Chesham Waitrose and has also reached out to community associations and local businesses. Stop The Drop organisers will continue to seek to make new links with other organisations as the campaign develops.
7. Local graphic design company, Studio Beam, has created educational posters, which are being placed around town, including areas identified as litter hotspots. A stall was held on the general market by Members and Chiltern District Council Waste Management on the 21st May to raise awareness with the public. The Town

Council web site now features Stop the Drop pages with information for the public.

8. The Stop The Drop launch and activities held on Green Day have achieved good press coverage. Stop The Drop will be promoting community litter picks organised by Chesham in Bloom and Chesham Environmental Group, as well as seeking to help other community groups to organise their own litter picks. We are also assessing the level of interest from the public in the development of a Street Warden scheme to be run by Serco.
9. The posters created for the initial phase of Stop The Drop are aimed at pedestrians. For a future phase of the campaign, the working group has suggested that larger signs could be erected on verges at the entrances to the town, and other key locations yet to be determined. These would be aimed at motorists, as litter from cars is felt to be a significant problem. The first set of posters was funded by £500 from Chiltern District Council. The working group has proposed that the Town Council could match this sum for the design and manufacture of the car litter signs.
10. The Stop the Drop working party would like the local PCSOs to be empowered to issue on-the-spot penalty charge notices for littering in order to achieve efficient enforcement. This system is already in operation in the Aylesbury Vale. In order for this to progress, a joint memorandum will need to be devised between Chiltern District Council and Thames Valley Police. The working party is recommending that the Town Council writes to both Chiltern District Council and Thames Valley Police to urge that this approach is pursued.

Recommendations

- (i) **That a budget of £500 is made available for the production of roadside signs aimed at deterring littering by motorists.**
- (ii) **That the Committee agrees to a letter being sent to Thames Valley Police and Chiltern District Council to urge that PCSOs are empowered to issue on-the-spot penalty charge notices for littering.**

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 2nd June 2014.

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 8 – PLAY-AREA STAGE V
REDEVELOPMENT AND USE OF OLD STAKEPARK
AREA**

Reporting Officer: Bill Richards (01494 583824)

Summary

1. To consider the on-going redevelopment of the Council's play-areas.

Background Information

2. At the Recreation and the Arts Committee of the 7th March 2011, it was resolved that *'the Play Area Working Party's recommendation to actively solicit expressions of interests from local community groups to decide on the next stage of the play area renovation programme be approved.'* (Minute No.74).
3. The Play-Area Working Party had previously recommended that the new skatepark be the focus of the 2013/14 financial year and that the monies allocated for 2014/15 should be utilised for repairs on our existing play-areas following a safety report from Wicksteeds Leisure. This has been subsequently agreed by Council.

Financial Implications

4. The Council has committed £20,000 in this financial year's budget to undertake further renovation of the play-areas.

Strategic Objectives

5. Accords with the Council's strategic aim 1 – *'To enable residents to enjoy high-quality social, recreational, and cultural facilities within the town and to seek the continuing improvement and development of these facilities in accordance with the desires expressed by the residents'*.

Equality Act Implications

6. All play-areas to be Disability Discrimination Act compliant where possible.

Detailed Consideration

7. The Parks and Premises Manager has obtained a report from Wicksteeds Leisure (**attached**) on the many repairs required for the existing play-areas yet to be refurbished in the last five years. The total costs for all the repairs comes to in excess of £30,000. The Parks and Premises Manager has understandably prioritised the repairs in terms of safety to get within the £20,000 budget and has obtained three quotations. Two have been received and a third is awaited. The

- three companies' quotations will be submitted as 'private and confidential' to Members before the meeting.
8. One of the sites that is in the greatest need of repair is Codmore Field Play Area. In the last twelve months, the rotted wooden fence has been removed as has several pieces of equipment. Originally the Parks and Premises Manager had proposed to invest some of the monies in Codmore for repairs and possibly a small piece of new equipment. However, in light of the Council's Play Area Strategy, which suggests that priority for renovating play-areas across town will be led by local community involvement. A provisional Botley Fields Community Association has been formed and had its inaugural AGM on the 22nd May (draft constitution **attached**). One of the main plans for play area redevelopment is to re-site the whole play area, probably towards the car-park which is agreeable to Council officers. It would not therefore seem a good use of public monies therefore to invest in new equipment in the present site if it is to be totally renovated in 2015/16.
 9. Obviously Botley Fields Community Association are not the only group trying to get their local play-area renovated. The Committee will be aware that there has been a 'Friends of Nashleigh Hill' set up in order to try and upgrade Nashleigh Hill Play Area. Unfortunately progress in this respect has stalled mainly because, as the group's founder has explained, its recent energies have understandably been directed in trying to save the Nash Arms. However, coming out of this campaign, residents are in the process of setting up The Chesham Vale Community Association and have gained agreement from the Friends of Nashleigh Hill Recreation Ground that they will become a sub-committee of this new Association. The founder goes on to explain that: *'We hope that by incorporating some general issues we will attract more members who may not be specifically interested in the Rec, and re-ignite the enthusiasm for general improvements of the area. We were up to the point of issuing questionnaires for the playground improvements, so will pick this up when the Association has become formalised.'*
 10. Members will be aware that the Co-op Field was the other site that the Play-Area Working Party has expressed the need to renovate since it has been closed for over two years now. Unfortunately a survey undertaken by the Council in partnership with the Asheridge Vale & Lowndes Community Association proved inconclusive in regard to where it should be sited and, indeed, whether a new play area was desired at all. The matter was left for the Community Association to progress but your officers are unaware of any significant progress.
 11. In respect to the Play Area Strategy and the rationalisation of sites, officers can confirm that Waterside Community Association has agreed in writing to finance any repairs required at Bois Moor Road play-area and Paradigm is taking back Hodds Wood Play-Area at the nominal cost of £1 as is their right from the original lease agreement. Paradigm is paying for all legal fees to arrange the transfer and the official Deed of Transfer will be put before the Council meeting of the 23rd June for official sealing.
 12. Clearly no decision is required as yet on which play-areas will be renovated in 2015/16 but the Committee will be kept abreast of developments throughout the next 12 months before a decision on which, if any, play-areas should be the next

to be totally upgraded.

13. In respect to the former skatepark area, Members will have noticed that the old equipment has been dismantled in-house by the Parks and Premises team. The last rescheduled Play Area Working Party meeting did not take place due to lack of numbers but Councillor Littley has enquired: *'if it would be possible to draw/spray a small "road"?' I thought maybe it could have a solid line for edges and a dashed line in the middle so small kids could go both ways around on bicycles and it could also incorporate a roundabout or two. I think this would be a fun way to use the area and would not stop it being used by the carnival etc.'* She has also proposed that other some games be painted on, such as hopscotch, so it becomes an area predominately for the seven and unders. The Parks and Premises Manager is fully supportive of the idea.
14. Alternatively the area could be returned to grass but this would require the existing concrete to be removed and disposed of and this would be an expensive operation though no actual estimate for this has been sought at the present time.
15. Some residents in Park Road have also requested that the bund around the old skatepark be removed as they believe it an eyesore and attracts anti-social behaviour. A quotation from local landscapers have been obtained to remove this. Initial figures have suggested that it would be around £9,000 to remove off-site and re-cultivate or around £4,500 to grade out the existing site and cultivate. Some members of the Play Area Working Party have suggested lower cost options could be sourced however. Conversely some members of the working party have already stated they see no reason to remove the bund at all.

Recommendation

- 1. That the company recommended by officers be approved as the contractor to instigate up to £20,000 worth of play-area repairs in 2014/15.**
- 2. That developments in respect to Codmore Field and Nashleigh Hill be noted.**
- 3. That developments in respect to Bois Moor Road and Hodds Wood play-areas be noted.**
- 4. That the Committee decide upon the future of the former skatepark area and associated bund.**

**Approximate Costs To Keep
Old Play Equipment Items/Areas Safe Until Funding Can Be Achieved To Renew**

Site	Item	Requirement(s)
Lowndes Park	Vivacity Multi-Play (2003)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Aerial Runway (2004)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface. Replace existing start ramp deck.
	Junior Swing (1969)!	Replace chains, shackles, bushes.
	Basketball Court (2000)	Replace boards on raised viewing decks.
Woodland View	Junior Swing (1998)	Replace chains, shackles, bushes. Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Pedestal Slide (1998)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Pedestrian Gate	New self-closing gate
Bois Hill	Junior Swing (2002)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Free Standing Slide	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
Marston Field	MUGA & Youth Shelter (2004)	Rub down and repaint white goal post and shelter framework.
	Youth Shelter (2004)	Supply & install concrete ramp to perimeter edge of base to eliminate trip hazard.
Windsor Road	Old Fence.	Fit one new top rail section to existing old fence.
	Old Manual Gates	Supply & install 2 x 1.2m wide self – closing gates
Nashleigh Hill	Junior Swing (1996)	Supply & install 2 x flat seats. Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
Nashleigh Hill Cont:	Roundabout (1996)	Supply & replace quarter deck sections & bearing.
	Rocking Horse (1996)	Supply & install 2 x new footboards & supply & lay topsoil to eliminate trip hazard.
	Cradle Swing (1969)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Zig Zag Tower & Slide (1990)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.

Site	Item	Requirement(s)
		Supply & install new bar to slide entry, and 2 x new slide legs.
Codmore Field	Rocking Horse (1990)	Supply & install 2 x new footboards & supply & lay topsoil to eliminate trip hazards. Note: Wicksteed's report recommends that the major body assembly is replaced
	Cradle Swing (1971)	Repairs to wet-pour safety surface. Supply & fit 3 pairs chains, shackles and bushes.
	Junior Swing	Supply & fit 2 pairs chains, shackles and bushes.
	Zig-zag Tower & Slide	Supply & install new metal bar to slide entry to comply to EN 1176. Supply & install 2 slide legs. Repairs to wet-pour safety surface.
	Log World Multi-play Log World Multi-play continued:	Supply & fit new log to prevent feet first entrapment. Cont: - Supply & fit metal bar to slide entry to comply with EN 1176. Repairs to wet-pour safety surface. Supply & fit overhead ladder and guardrail to access ramp.
Codmore Field continued: Codmore Field continued	Fence and Gates	All fencing and gates in a state of collapse. All fencing and gates require replacing as a matter of priority. <i>No quotation has been obtained. The cost stated is based on the removal of the old fencing in-house, and the supply & installation of the new fencing that was installed at both Marston and Moor Road in 2010</i>
Please note that Hodds Wood was not included due to the likelihood of its closure.		



DRAFT V1.2

BOTLEY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

THE CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The group shall be called **Botley Playing Fields Association** hereinafter referred to as BPFA.

2. AIMS

BPFA will:

- a) act as an ambassador to protect, develop and enhance the playing fields facilities
- b) ensure that as far as possible, projects undertaken are carried out in line with the wishes of the community.
- c) update the aims as it deems necessary.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of BPFA shall be open to any member of the community who wishes to join. The community includes residents living in Chesham, Botley and Ley Hill, as well as any other parties that may have interest in the playing fields.

Any interested parties will complete a membership form, which will be kept by the secretary in line with the Data Protection Act (1998).

A Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected from within BPFA.

A quorum shall be any 4 members of BPFA.

4. MANAGEMENT

The management of business shall be conducted on behalf of BPFA by the three officers, namely Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. These shall be appointed at the annual general meeting to be held each year.



DRAFT V1.2

5. METHOD

- a) Investigate and take into consideration the views, wishes, needs and assets of the whole community using a variety of methods.
- b) Liaise with relevant authorities to achieve the purpose and make the plan as effective as possible.
- c) Seek such funds as may be deemed necessary, in order to execute the plan and the projects identified.
- d) The Association recognises that Chesham Town Council, as owners of Codmore Field, will make the final decision on any changes or works proposed, but the Association will liaise with, and make representations to, the Council to improve the facilities for the betterment of all residents.
- e) Keeping the community informed of progress and possible actions.

6. FINANCE

BPFA shall open a bank account. The Treasurer shall present a report at each meeting of BPFA. Cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and one other officer of BPFA.

The Treasurer shall prepare annually for inspection, at the Annual General Meeting, the accounts for the previous twelve months, and these shall be inspected by a suitably qualified person, e.g. an accountant, actuary, bank manager.

7. MEETINGS

There will be a minimum of 2 meetings per year but will be held as considered necessary.

There shall be an Annual General Meeting, typically held during the third quarter of the year.

It may be necessary to arrange extraordinary meetings.

Members and the community will be kept informed of progress at these meetings. In addition, progress will be reported via the website, facebook group and leaflets.

8. DISSOLUTION

Such a decision would have to be agreed by a clear majority of members of BPFA. In such an event any outstanding funds shall be returned to the funders from whence they came. If the funders cannot be identified, the funds shall be used for the benefit of charitable work within the community.



DRAFT V1.2

Date of constitution made on this day

Signed..... Date.....

Role

Signed..... Date.....

Role

Signed..... Date.....

Role

Signed..... Date.....

Role

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 2nd June 2014.

AGENDA ITEM NO :9 - WORLD WAR 1 COMMEMORATIONS

Reporting Officer: Bill Richards (01494 583824).

Summary

1. To note the current plans to commemorate the centenary of the First World War in Chesham and consider any other event the Council may wish to facilitate.

Background Information

2. A series of events to commemorate the 1914-18 war will take place across the country starting on the 1st August 1914 which was the date of the outbreak of war.
3. At the Recreation and Arts Committee meeting of the 10th March 2014, it was resolved that *'the matter be discussed again following discussions with the British Legion and the Chesham Museum on the desirability and practicality of a partnership event marking the anniversary of the First World War'* (Min no. 50)

Financial Implications

3. The Council sets aside a £1,000 for community events per annum as agreed after the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of 2012.

Strategic Objectives

4. Accords with the Council's strategic aim 3b – *'Support the Chesham Museum and actively encourage the celebration of Chesham's unique heritage.'*

5. **Equality Act Implications**

Access for all sections of the community would be integral to any activity organised or supported by the Council.

Detailed Consideration

6. Members will be aware that there will be a great deal of commemorative World War I events taking place across the country, starting in August 2014.
7. As agreed, a meeting has taken place of all interested parties has taken place and notes are **attached**.

8. A further conversation has subsequently taken place between your Clerk and representatives of RAFA where it was agreed that it might be sensible for the Council to be the named organiser of the events scheduled in Lowndes Park for insurance purposes. The Chiltern District Council's Community Projects Officer has also said the Council could apply for a grant through its Community Grant Aid budget even though it should technically be for voluntary and community groups.
9. The Sunday events organised by the Museum should be self-funded. The total costs for the Saturday events (including marketing) is expected to be around £1,000. It is therefore suggested that the Council match-fund this with up to £500 to be committed from its community events budget.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the commemorative events planned to mark 100th anniversary of the First World War and agrees to commit £500 from its budgets as match funding.

WWI COMMEMORATION GROUP

Minutes of the meeting of the WWI Commemoration Group held on Monday 12th May 2014.

PRESENT:

Cllr Derek Lacey (DL) Chesham Town Council
Cllr Mohammad Fayyaz (MF) Chesham Town Council –Mayor Elect
Bill Richards (BR) Chesham Town Council
David Gardner (DG) Chiltern District Council
Ken Austin (KA) Friends of Chesham Cemetery
Rev Colin Cartwright (CC) Trinity Baptist Church
Stirling Maguire (SM) Chesham Museum
Andrea Sansom (SA) Chesham Library
Brian Shrieve (BS) British Legion Chesham
Bob Parrin (BP) British Legion Chesham
John Griffin (JG) RAFA Chesham
Brian Brown (BB) RNA Chesham
Mort Smith (MS) Bucks Examiner

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mark Shaw (MS) Chris Spruytenburg (CS) and Rev Simon Cansdale (SC), St Mary's Church

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

DL welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to try and coordinate all the proposed WWI events taking place across Chesham and to ascertain ways of funding the activities

3. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Legion/RAFA/RNA – 2.8.14

- Service in Broadway led by CC
- Parade in Lowndes Park
- Picnic in Lowndes Park
- Release of Homing Pigeons
- Balloons released with a name of the fallen on each balloon (just under 200)
- SC to read out names of the fallen
- RAF Halton Band
- Charity Stalls for the three services
- Planting of a tree*

Chesham Museum - 3.8.14

- Service 12 noon led by CC.
- First chime of re-installed town bell and reading of fatality list.
- Display in Museum.

- Mosque and RBL to be included

Friends of Chesham Cemetery

- Display over w/e of 2/3. 8. in refurbished Hearse House. If not refurbished, then in Chapel

Chesham Town Council

- Floral Display in Red Lion St
- Showing of film 'War Horse' at the Elgiva on the 2nd

Chesham Library

- Making a display case available for WWI themed displays
- WWI talk later in year (MS recommended contacting Bucks Military Museum Trust)

4. COSTING, FUNDING, MARKETING AND PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS

- DG reminded JG he would need to submit a road closure request to Buckinghamshire County Council
- DG advised both the Saturday and Sunday events should be reported to the Chiltern District Council Safety Advisory Group.
- In respect to funding, DG suggested that CDC's Community Grants programme was keen to support WWI events and agreed to speak further with JG and SM after the meeting to discuss amounts required and submitting an application form.
- BR advised that CTC had also set aside some monies to help with community events such as those planned.
- KA suggested that ChAP could also be a funding partner.
- MS coordinating all WWI events in District for Bucks Examiner. He is very happy to promote these plans through the paper. Also suggested a video be made for the day for posterity.
- MF suggested that all events be promoted through the CTC and CDC websites
- DL stated 'Your Chesham' magazine had indicated its wish to promote.
- DG said that costs of any leaflets/posters could legitimately be included as a funding application to CDC.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date confirmed as **9.6.14** at **2pm**

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 2nd June 2014.

**AGENDA ITEM NO : 10 - POLLUTION OF RIVER CHESH
BY THAMES WATER**

Reporting Officer: Kathryn Graves (01494 583798).

Summary

1. To consider a request from the River Chess Association to lobby Thames Water to cease its on-going pollution of the River Chess.

Background Information

2. The River Chess Association is a not-for-profit, volunteer organisation formed in 2009 in response to growing concerns about the environmental pressures faced by the River Chess.
3. The River Chess is a chalk stream, which are characteristic landscape features of the Chilterns. Chalk streams are globally rare habitats, supporting some of this country's most threatened wildlife, such as water voles.
4. Chesham's sewerage network and Sewage Treatment Works (STW) are operated by Thames Water.

Financial Implications

5. None pertaining to this report.

Strategic Objectives

6. Relates to Objectives 1, "*To enable residents to enjoy high quality social, recreational, and cultural facilities within the town and to seek the continuing improvement and development of these facilities in accordance with the desires expressed by the residents*" and 3, "*To preserve the unique identity of Chesham and promote its heritage and its environment*" and the Council's Environmental Policy.

Equality Act Implications

7. None pertaining to this report.

Detailed Consideration

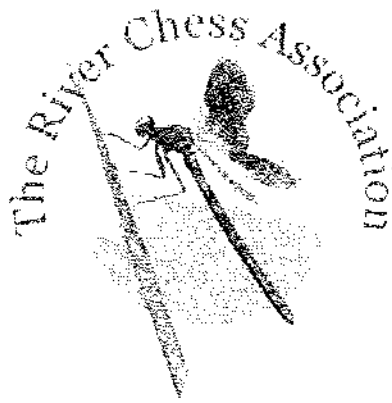
8. High groundwater levels caused by the wet winter weather of 2013-14 have resulted in freshwater infiltrating Chesham's sewerage network, including the Chesham STW. This has exceeded the capacity of the STW, resulting in approximately 20% of effluent entering the plant at any time being released directly into the River Chess with only partial screening. This continual release of

sewage into the River Chess downstream of Blackwell Hall Lane has taken place since early February 2014 and is currently on-going. This is an un-consented pollution event, which the Environment Agency is monitoring. Despite significant lobbying on the part of the River Chess Association, no action appears to have been taken as of yet by Thames Water to resolve the problem.

9. The sewage pollution has caused a number of concerns relating to the river downstream of the Chesham STW:
 - Health implications for people using the river either recreationally or for their livelihoods. Diseases that may be contracted through contact with sewage include gastroenteritis, skin, eye, ear and chest infections, Hepatitis and *E. coli*.
 - A number of educational visits to the river by local schools have had to be cancelled or highly modified to ensure children's health is not put at risk.
 - Trout In The Classroom fish releases have been cancelled because of the possible impact of sewage on the survival rates of the fish.
 - Conservation working parties have also been cancelled because of the potential health risks.
 - Monitoring by the Environment Agency and River Chess Association has revealed a negative impact on the invertebrate populations of the river in the stretch downstream of the release point. This may have knock-on effects for other river wildlife.
 - Members of the public have complained about the smell emanating from the river.
10. The River Chess Association has written to the Town Council requesting assistance in lobbying Thames Water to produce a plan with the necessary funding to end the current pollution (**attached**). The association has also raised its concerns as to how the STW will cope with the planned increase in housing for Chesham in the Local Development Framework.
11. An open meeting has been scheduled at Chesham Town Hall on the 30th May at 7pm where Thames Water will explain what has been causing the sewage discharges and what is planned for the STW in the future.

Recommendations

That the Committee agrees that letters be written to Thames Water and the Environment Agency urging a rapid solution be implemented to stop the on-going sewage pollution of the River Chess from Chesham Sewage Treatment Works.



22 May 2014

Addressees as per circulation list attached

Dear Sir or Madam

Pollution of the River Chess by Thames Water

This letter is to request your assistance in putting pressure on Thames Water who run the Sewage Treatment Works at Chesham to produce a robust plan backed by the necessary finance to put an end to the current and potentially disastrous ongoing pollution of the river by untreated sewage.

Let me explain. Due to the heavy rain at the beginning of the year ground water levels have risen to the point where the sewage network is suffering from water ingress. Since early February this year Thames Water have been receiving more effluent into their Chesham Works than they are able to treat and by their own figures about 20% of effluent arriving at the plant since that date has been diverted directly into the river without treatment.

Thames Water have Environment Agency consent to discharge storm water into the river after for example a flash flood event but they do not have consent for the kind of continuous discharge which has now been running for over 3 months and which seems set to continue until ground water levels fall.

The Environment Agency are fully aware of the situation but we are all agreed that the water has to go somewhere and so our internationally rare chalk stream is expected to suffer and has effectively become an extension of the sewerage system.

Thames Water will probably argue that they are dealing with exceptional circumstances however similar circumstances were experienced last year and they surely will occur again as our weather patterns change.

In our view it is not acceptable in this modern age to have a sewage treatment plant which is working in normal circumstances so close to capacity that it is incapable of handling the effluent entering its site. Indeed neither could it cope with the planned increase in housing stock within its catchment area.

relatively minor improvements are currently in progress at the plant however these only serve to begin to reverse the underinvestment this plant has received over the past several years. We believe that a much more radical approach will be needed substantially to increase the capacity of the plant.

We would ask that you write to Thames Water and to The Environment Agency requesting to see their plan for an appropriate redevelopment of the sewage works together with a timescale for funding and implementation.

You may have your own contacts within Thames Water and the Environment Agency however we would suggest including:

Richard Aylard


External Affairs and Sustainability Director
Thames Water
Clearwater Court, Vastern Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8DB

Mathew Reed MSc. BSc (Hons). FdSc.

Environment Officer - Land & Water
Environment Agency South East
Apollo Court, 2 Bishop Square Business Park, St Albans Road West, Hatfield, AL10 9EX

We will be most grateful for your support and action in this matter

Yours faithfully



David Le Neve Foster
Public Relations
The River Chess Association

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David Gauke, MP

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Sarratt
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