

Chesham Town Council

Bill Richards
Town Clerk



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1st June 2012

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 11th JUNE 2012 AT APPROXIMATELY 8.15 PM

(or immediately following the close of the meeting of the Development Control Committee which commences at approximately 7.45pm)

when the business set out below is proposed to be transacted:

AGENDA

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the administrative year 2012/2013.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of Interest.
4. To receive and confirm the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 19th March 2012.
5. To receive and consider the Minutes of:
 - i) *Impress the Chess meeting of the 20th March 2012.*
 - ii) *Allotments Group meeting of the 3rd April 2012.*
 - iii) *Elgiva Board of management meeting of the 16th April 2012.*
 - iv) *Friends of Chesham Moor Gym & Swim meeting of the 17th April 2012.*
 - v) *Friends of Chesham Cemetery of the 17th April and AGM of the 17th April 2012.*
 - vi) *Chesham Environment Group AGM and Chairs Report of the 19th April 2012.*
6. Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre Update.
7. Proposal to Change Chemical Dosing Procedure at Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre.
8. Elgiva Projects and Financial Update.
9. Policy on Outdoor Private Fitness Classes.

Yours sincerely,

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

Bill Richards
Town Clerk



continued . . .



Circulation

Councillor Ms J.E. Bramwell
" **Mrs .P.R Cherrill**
" **T. Franks**
" **P.J. Hudson**
" **Mrs R. Juett**
" **D. J. Lacey**

Councillor Mrs C. Littley
" **R.C McCulloch**
" **Mrs A.M. Pirouet**
" **M. W. Shaw**
" **C.H. Spruytenburg**

CHESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the 'Impress the Chess' Steering Group

held on Tuesday 20 March 2012 at 1.30 pm at the Town Hall

PRESENT:	Ken Austin (KA)	Chesham Environmental Group
	Allen Beechey (AB)	Chilterns Chalk Streams Project
	Cllr Jane Bramwell (JB)	Chesham Town Council
	Michael Browne (MB)	Meades Lane Resident
	Justine Fulford	Chesham Environmental Group
	Kathryn Graves (KG)	Chesham Town Council
	David Stowe (DS)	Chiltern District Council

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Colette Littley (Chesham Town Council) and apologies for lateness from Allen Beechey (Chilterns Chalk Streams Project).

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (20th September 2011) AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

(i) Meades Water Gardens Gazebo

The order has been placed, so works should be starting on the gazebo in the near future.

(ii) Surface Water Management Plan Consultation

It was confirmed that a consultation response had been submitted. David explained that there is no specific planning policy for soakaways, but the sustainability section of the Core Strategy encourages issues to be considered by developers. Also, Building Control regulations require the permission of the relevant water authority if developers want to divert rainwater into the drainage system, but permission is not usually granted.

Justine arrived at 1.35pm.

(iii) River Chess Association

KA now represents Impress the Chess on the RCA Committee.

3. **DUCK ALLEY FOOTPATH**

KG described the works that will be taking place this month to widen the narrowest point of Duck Alley, as well as creating steps up into the Water Meadow Surgery car park and reducing trip hazards along the rest of the length of the alley. The work is being funded by the Chilterns Chalk Streams Project and Chesham Town Council.

Allen arrived at 1.42 pm.

4. **COLNE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

AB introduced the concept of a catchment-based approach that is being rolled out by DEFRA to create catchment plans for river management. The Colne Catchment approach is being hosted by Thames Valley Groundwork and the Chilterns Chalk Streams Project. The CCSP will be leading on the Colne chalk rivers, including the Chess.

This bottom-up initiative is intended to use consultation to develop river restoration plans that set out a vision for each of the rivers. A river action plan will need to be developed for the Chess that can be fed into this process. AB proposed that the CCSP, Impress the Chess and the River Chess Association lead on a workshop for the Chess, possibly in June, to consult with stakeholders on what projects they would like to see on the Chess.

5. **SUMMER WALK 2012**

It was decided to hold a walk that includes Duck Alley and Meades Water Gardens (as work will have been completed on Duck Alley and the Gazebo) ending up at The Pheasant in Waterside. A social event will be held at the pub where people can talk about how to conserve water during the drought. It was agreed to invite representatives from Veolia Water Central and Thames Water to participate. It was also suggested that this would be a good opportunity to seek the public's views on actions it would like to be fed into the plan for the River Chess and therefore the event should be held in mid to late June. JF agreed to speak to the landlady at The Pheasant to see if the gazebo could be used for this event.

Action: Justine

6. **LORD'S MILL**

DS explained that temporary works have been carried out to shore up damaged parts of the weir. Consultants have provided two recommendations: (i) demolish the weir (ii) repair the weir and incorporate a fish pass. Both cost in the region of £100,000. A complicating issue is that not all of the weir is in the ownership of CDC. The adjacent steelworks owner owns some of the weir and it is thought that BCC have responsibilities due to the proximity of the highway.

AB said that he had been successful in obtaining funding for the installation of a fish pass, but had to turn down the money because it had a deadline of August 2012 for the works, which was unrealistic for CDC. He has, however, put in an expression of interest for £150,000 to DEFRA's Catchment Restoration Fund, but it will be necessary to also obtain funding from the other owners. DS was of the opinion that further works will not be viable as BCC have not engaged in the process. The other owner has not yet been approached. JF suggested that as there is a flooding risk, there may be statutory obligations upon the various landowners and that it may even be possible for the Environment Agency to have the work done and then reclaim the costs from the owners.

AB said that work will need to be done as the gabions will not provide a permanent solution to prevent collapse when water has returned to the channel. The Catchment Restoration Fund could be used to completely fund the fish pass, but this funding stream will only be available for three years. If this was accessed, it would only be necessary to find funding to repair the abutments. The EA's fish pass technician said that the weir could be replaced with

a rock ramp fish pass. This would mean that the weir could be taken out and works could be carried out to ensure that the remaining structure is sound.

JF was of the view that a scheme would need to proceed on the grounds of public safety, but that it would be important to consult with the public as the structure is regarded as an important part of the town's heritage. JB pointed out that the structure will collapse without further intervention, so something must be done.

It was agreed to consult with the public using the summer open forum, and to ask for views through the YourChesham magazine. AB can provide visual examples of rock ramps, DS can provide information from the report and MB offered to produce some visuals.

Action: Allen, David & Michael

AB will meet with DS and Oliver Asbury from the Engineering Department at CDC to start to work up a project that could be delivered if the funding becomes available. Jane asked for information to be fed back to Impress the Chess.

Action: Allen and David

7. **DROUGHT**

KG outlined the implications of the water use restrictions on the Town Council, particularly the Parks and Premises department. An underwater rainwater harvesting tank has been installed as part of the new Depot building, to provide a source of non-mains water for watering the Council's horticultural displays.

AB said that Veolia Water Central has said that this is the worst drought in the last 100 years and that groundwater levels are lower than they were at this point in 1976. The Chess is expected to dry up further than it has dried before, which may make the trout population between Canon and Weirhouse Mill vulnerable.

The group agreed that information on the drought should be publicised by the Town Council. KG said that Veolia have supplied her with an article on saving water to be included in the Town Guide. Veolia do offer deals on water butts, so DS will talk to Waste Management to see if they can promote these offerings to encourage people to save water. JF said that it would be useful to provide information on what harvested rainwater and grey water can be used for, e.g. what can people wash their hands with or water their food crops with? It was noted that people can be referred to the River Chess Association Facebook page for tips on water saving.

Action: Kathryn and David

JF said that the new owners of the Pow Wow site have been in contact with the Environment Agency regarding the transfer of the abstraction licence.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(i) Water Main Replacement

KG explained that Veolia's contractors, Enterprise, carried out works in Meades Water Gardens as part of their mains replacement without obtaining permission from the Town Council. Damage was caused to the lawns, path and bulbs planted by COPAG in memory of

Joy Pearce. Most of this damage has now been rectified, but it is likely that further bulbs will need to be planted to replace those crushed by the equipment.

(ii) Water Lane

MB said that the surface of Water Lane is becoming dangerous due to tree roots . KG will contact BCC to find out ownership of the lane.

Action: Kathryn

(iii) Culvert

Nobody was aware of the progress on plans for the culvert. KG will ask Bill Richards for an update.

Action: Kathryn

(iv) Restoration Projects

AB reported that £40,000 funding has been obtained for weir removal at Sarratt and £23,000 for watermeadow restoration at Sarratt Bottom.

(v) Trout in the Classroom

The trout successfully reared by schools in Rickmansworth and Little Chalfont will be released next week.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held in May to organise the June event.

The meeting closed at 2.40 pm.

Chesham Allotments Group Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 3rd April 2012

Venue: Chesham Town Hall

Attendees: Allen Tilbury (Chair), Vince Crompton (Vice Chair), Chris Challis (Coffee Morning Co-ordinator), Mick Goodman (rep Ashridge Road), Marshall Hall (Correspondence Secretary), Simon Jones (Treasurer), Colette Littley (Councillor), Sara Saunders (Acting Minutes Secretary)

Action

1. **Apologies**
Jim Abbott, Robin Plumridge, Andrew Sinclair and Yvonne Webster (Minutes Secretary).
Wayne Hambridge has left the area and resigned from the Group.
2. **Matters Arising**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes from 13th December 2012 Meeting**
Minutes approved by Chris C and seconded by Simon J. David P not received copy, AT to send. AT
 - b. **Approval of Minutes from 21st February 2012 Meeting**
Minutes approved by David P and seconded by Sara S.
3. **Chairman's Report**
 - a. **Discount Card**
Allen T circulated the cards designed by Marshall W/Simon J. Same format as Chesham in Bloom discount card, but with signature. Valid 1 year. 10% discount negotiated by Allen T from South Heath GC, Chipperfield GC (members of Garden Club), JPS Stationers, and *Endeavour Centre (*Vince C check still to include). Distribute from Focal Point Coffee mornings, to be signed and allotment holders only, Allen T has list of members. All agreed proceed asap. VC/
AT/
MW
 - b. **Hosepipe Ban – notices and information**
Town Council notices on gates hosepipe ban comes in to force on 5th April. Plot holders who apply for an Exemption Certificate must contact Veolia directly, not Town Council. Must be registered disabled, ie a serious physical disability, hold mobility badge or doctor's certificate. Allotment Group Members must report allotment holders using hose pipes providing name and plot number, whilst being sensitive to the exemption status of some individuals. Vince C asked to include information in the Grower. DP
 - c. **Mobility Impaired Plot 49A – Report**
Allen T reported that a site visit was made. The Town Council has declined the proposal, there being no budget or capacity to carry out necessary health and safety works. Allen T thanked Simon J for his comprehensive and well documented proposal. Allen T to send copy of site visit report to Simon J. Vince C mentioned there is a plot identified on Ashridge Road site. Sara S suggested when an appropriate plot becomes vacant on Cameron Road this could be offered to a mobility impaired allotment holder with a choice to move if they wish. Allen T to lodge this request with Bob Ayres during allotment inspections. AT
 - d. **Wild Flower Week 9th – 17th June**
In support of Wild Flower Week and Chesham in Bloom criteria, Larry and Lorraine Faulker have made a wild flower border by the gate adjacent to the Recycling bin entrance at Cameron Road, and will plant the tiered garden behind the Focal Point with the seeds purchased with Chesham Allotments Group funds. Individual allotment holders are encouraged to plant wild flowers on their plots should they wish to do so. AT
4. **Treasurer's Report**
Simon J reported that he currently has £410.52 in hand and £1,370.50 in the bank.
Allen T asked Simon to provide a 6-month Statement of Account. Simon J asked members to please think of any ways in which some of these funds could be used for the benefit of the Allotment holders on both sites. SJ
5. **Review March 2012 edition**
Group members have received positive feedback regarding the layout and content of this Edition. David P thanked contributors. And asked for clarification re The Endeavour Centre for which he has written an article. Vince C will report back. VC

- b. **Review June 2012 edition**
Simon J will write an article on tackling the water shortage and an article on The Edible Garden Show trip. Marshall H will provide photographs. Sara S has a meeting with Albert Braithwaite. David P suggested an A-Z of Gardening Terms and History of the Allotments for later editions. **SJ/ MH DP**
6. **Correspondence Secretary**
The Allotment Holder Discount/Reward Card, see 3a.
Marshall and Simon to report back to the Group ways to encourage more allotment holders to support the Allotments Group. **MH/ SJ**
7. **Social Activities Report**
- a. **Edible Garden Show – 18th March 2012 – Review**
Allen T thanked Simon J for organising, transporting (and Wayne H)for what was a very enjoyable and informative trip. In all 9 attended the Event.
- b. **McMinn Fish and Chip Evening – 24th March 2012**
Vince C said special thanks were due to the allotment holders who supported this worthy event either helping to set up the hall, providing puddings, collecting the fish and chips etc as well as the many allotment holders who supported the event by attending. A total of 116 tickets were sold and £748.00 cleared for the Mayor's Appeal. David P to include in the next Grower. **VC/ DP**
- c. **Fish and Chip Evening – 21st April 2012**
Sara S (Cameron Road)and Mick G (Ashridge Road) will get the notices up as soon as possible. Sara C has put blank order forms in a red folder in Focal Point for Coffee Mornings. Robin P, Social Activities Coordinator, will be in touch with everyone shortly. **RP**
8. **Coffee Mornings**
- a. **Rota from 14th April 2012**
Chris C reported that the first 5 weeks have been filled with volunteers, thank you. Please encourage allotment holders to help as proving difficult to fill the gaps and to get cakes baked. Sara S will make a notice asking for helpers to be put up at the Focal Point. **ALL SS CC/ SS**
Loo Cleaning Rota works out each Group member spending 15 minutes every 1:3 months. It was agreed the mat in the loo needs replacing, and the door mat outside. Chris C agreed to purchase the latter. Sara S and Chris C to investigate plastic sheeting replacement for inside.
- b. **Ashridge Road 19th May 2012**
Asked to provide a 3rd date for Ashridge Road, but so far no AR volunteers to help on any of the dates, including 19th May. Allen T agreed to put his name down and Mick G agreed to make enquiries of allotment holders at Ashridge Road for this date. **AT/ MG**
9. a. **Focal Point/New Hut**
- Revised plan step and guard rail**
Marshall H reported that the guard rail is now in situ after rebuilding the raised section, with two tasks left to complete,protecting the exposed handrail, and moving slabs. Dave P will investigate a plastic molding for the handrail. Marshall H said he did not want reimbursement for the cost of the balustrade and all other materials he purchased. Vince C thanked Marshall H for his stirring work in building the guard rail and for his most generous donation of all materials. **DP/ MH**
- b. **Review remedial work – Neil Page**
Allen T extended thanks to Neil Page and his employees who attended on 3 days to move soil and to concrete the area etc. Although payment had been offered, Neil Page declined this. Vince C suggested a £50 garden voucher to be given to Neil Page in recognition for his help which was unanimously agreed. SS to purchase the garden voucher. **SS**
- c. **Adjoining communal path – levelling**
Allen T asked Marshall H if he Would get a work party together to put up the gravel boards along the communal path and level. **MH**
- d. **Focal Point – tidy and repaint**
Allen T reported the Saturday morning spent tidying and repainting the Focal Point went well. Thanks to Simon J, Chris C, Sara S, and Andrew S for painting the outside of the Focal Point.

10. **Website**
- a. **Google Analytics**
Yvonne W to report at next meeting. YW
- b. **Allotments Group – Profile and Photos**
Sara S said it was an excellent idea, to raise awareness of allotment group members amongst allotment holders, however, she felt this information should only be available via a members only page, not via the general web site to protect personal security, or members can abstain if they wish. Marshall H confirmed we do not currently have a members only page facility. Vince C suggested names and photos could be printed in The Grower as previously and a group photograph to be placed on the noticeboard at the Focal Point. For further discussion at the next meeting when all group members are in attendance. ALL
11. **Any Other Business**
- a. **NSALG – Renewal Membership**
Allen T asked if the group wanted to renew membership at £20.00 plus £2.00 each for up to 10 group members. It was agreed that membership should continue and that all members of the group to receive a copy of the magazine in future. (Colette L declined). AT
- b. **Schools visits to allotment sites**
Allen T reported that Elmtree have 61 children (suggest attend in smaller groups) who wish to visit the Ashridge Road site, and Brushwood School and Waterside school wish to visit Cameron Road. Allen T will facilitate Risk Assessments and please let Allen T know if able to assist on the days.
Dave P to ask for volunteers in The Grower. It was suggested dates should be as late in the school year as possible to maximise the vegetables growing on site. DP
- c. **Police Aware Notices** SS/
MG
Sara S has replaced these at Cameron Road and Mick G agreed to replace at Ashridge Road.
- d. **Ashridge Road Representative**
With the departure of Wayne H, Mick G will ask Arthur Sharp if he is willing to be the second Ashridge Road Representative. MG
- e. **First Aiders**
Vince C reported there are two qualified First Aiders at Cameron Road who are happy for their details to be provided in the next Grower. They are Delia and Tony Chidell. Simon J and Marshall H are also trained first aiders. David P to include details in the next Grower. DP
- f. **First Aid Kit**
There are now 2 first aid kits available in the Focal Point when it is open on Saturdays.
- g. **Fire Blanket**
A fire blanket is now in the Focal Point.
- h. **Microphone**
David P asked the group to consider purchasing a microphone for Phil Folly to use for the Quiz on Fish and Chip evening. Agreed by all. Marshall H and Simon J to investigate and purchase. MH/
SJ
- i. **Focal Point Info**
Sara S reported that allotment group members will now find a folder in the Focal Point which contains notices for coffee mornings, fish and chips forms etc to keep them all together and will be updating the noticeboard contents before the Coffee mornings recommence. SS
- j. **Gardening Reference Books at Focal Point**
Sara S suggested that it might be helpful to allotment holders to have a small library of reference books to be kept at the Focal Point for Saturday mornings and asked for suggestions. Allen T suggested Sara S refer to Andrew Sinclair's Allotments Induction Welcome Pack and asked Sara S to make up a laminated copy of the Induction Welcome Pack for the Focal Point. SS
- k. **Cheese and Wine Evening 21st July 2012 and Open Day Saturday, 11th August 2012.**
AT asked the meeting to check their social/diary commitments for these forthcoming events.
12. **Date of next Meeting : Tuesday, 19th June 2012**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ELGIVA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
AT 10.30AM ON MONDAY 16th APRIL 2012 AT THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Trevor Pilling (Chairman, presiding)
Roy Abraham
Stephen Cherry
Yvonne Plester
Brian McCollum
Mick Carling
Fiona Kear
Linda English (Minutes Secretary)

Officers: Bill Richards – Town Clerk
Mark Barnes – Manager, Elgiva
Moira Little – Deputy Manager, Elgiva

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. Apologies were received from Patricia Cherrill.

2. **WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Trevor welcomed new Board member Fiona Kear to the meeting and asked her to give a little background information on her professional career and involvement with the arts. Lee Bright has also agreed to join the Board but was unable to attend this meeting.

3. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2012 were agreed as a true and correct record with the clarification that the Pantomime season 2012 will be moved forward by one week rather than extended by one week.

4. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Trevor circulated his reports for the months of January, February and March 2012. He pointed out that bar profits are estimated figures and actual figures will be given at the next meeting. Trevor considered that the difference between the estimated and actual figures will be no more than £300. Overall, the figures are very good, mostly due to community and film sales being higher than last year. Mark reported a 7% increase in attendance figures compared with last year.

5. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mark reported on the following:

- Karen has returned to work.
- A major refurbishment of the foyer is being planned for the summer which will involve closing the theatre for one week. Moira is collating estimates for re-decoration, new

carpets and sofas, new lighting and window blinds. Mick asked for sufficient space to be reserved for external advertising on the curved wall.

- The website will be redesigned to match the new colour scheme at the same time as the foyer refurbishment.
- The pantomime is cast, a poster is designed and the sets are designed. Mark has met an animator who can supply an animated genie. Schools are beginning to book for the pantomime.
- Bar prices will be increased in the near future.
- Mark carries out random checks on web sales and he reported that the recent check showed 36% of sales were booked online. This is showing a rising trend over the past two years.

6. COUNCIL'S MARKETING REVIEW UPDATE

Loyalty Scheme

- Mick presented his proposal for a Loyalty Scheme and showed the Board sample emails and posters to invite theatre customers to join. The proposed name of the scheme is 'Elgiva Elite', proposed membership of £20 for single membership and £35 for family membership, payable ideally by Direct Debit or Standing Order. Life membership and the possibility of offering a one year membership as a reward or prize were also discussed.
- The benefits of the scheme would include
 - No admin fee when paying by debit card on telephone or personal bookings
 - Up to 10% reduction on tickets for selected shows
 - Film reduction of 50p per ticket
 - Priority delivery of 'What's On'
 - Discount at Cafe Encore and local participating restaurants.
 - A monthly newsletter via email
- Mick will email the proposed information to the Board members for their feedback **within one week of receiving the email please.**
- If approved by the Board, Mick offered to send the initial email to the 8000 email addresses that Mark has currently, followed by the monthly newsletter. If the scheme is approved, it will also be announced in the next 'What's On', due to be issued in early June 2012.
- Mark commented that a membership scheme is available as part of the IRIS marketing package.
- Mick was thanked for the work he had done to date researching the loyalty scheme. He is willing to continue to lead this project and will ask other Board members for help and support if needed.

Mark has arranged theatre tours to school groups and is willing to build on this for additional income.

The new banner has been ordered depicting the Elgiva as a theatre, cinema and cafe. This new banner should preferably be lit.

The use of banners in Market Square is still being investigated.

There was a suggestion of selling local advertising time before film showings.

7. **PROGRESSION OF ELECTRONIC ADVERTISING SCREEN**

Mark has spoken to the manager of the theatre in Radlett who paid £8500 +VAT for a screen on the front of the building, which he is confident has increased sales. The screen is expected to last for 10 years before needing replacement.

A supplier of electronic screens has been invited to a meeting with the Town Council.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Management was provisionally suggested as 10:30am on Monday 11th June 2012 at the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 11.55am.

ELGIVA THEATRE MONTHLY FIGURES JANUARY 2012

	HIRE DAYS		HIRE FEES	BAR PROFITS	ICE-CREAM	Total	Total
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2012	2012	2011
COMMUNITY	14	7	3829	780	673	5,282	6,489
PROFESSIONAL	2	1	842	293	6	1,141	1,567
FILM	6	10	5636	934	18	6,588	2,616
	22	18	10,307	2,007	697	13,011	10,672

	2012 B/F Total	2012 monthly Total	2012 C/F Total	2011 B/F Total	2011 monthly Total	2011 C/F Total
COMMUNITY	81,353	5282	86635	71,190	6489	77679
PROFESSIONAL	35,380	1141	36,521	37430	1567	38997
FILM	7186	6588	13,774	7644	2616	10260
	123,919	13,011	136,930	116,264	10,672	126,936

	2012 ATTENDS	2011 ATTENDS	2012 CONCESSIONS	2011 CONCESSIONS
COMMUNITY	1156	1165	535	730
PROFESSIONAL	126	375	28	139
FILM	2022	959	1082	495
	3,304	2,499	1,645	1,364

	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR PROJECTED
PROJECTED MONTHLY RUNNING COSTS	25,421	25,395	27,076

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME	13,693	12,693	12,693
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AVERAGE MONTHLY DEFICIT	11,728	12,702	14,383
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ELGIVA THEATRE MONTHLY FIGURES FEBRUARY 2012

	HIRE DAYS		HIRE FEES	BAR PROFITS	ICE-CREAM	Total	Total
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2012	2012	2011
COMMUNITY	15	15	8399	655	404	9,458	8,225
PROFESSIONAL	5	3	2454	493	146	3,093	1,950
FILM	4	6	2517	210	7	2,734	539
	24	24	13,370	1,358	557	15,285	10,714

	2012 B/F Total	2012 monthly Total	2012 C/F Total	2011 B/F Total	2011 monthly Total	2011 C/F Total
COMMUNITY	86,635	9458	96,093	77,679	8225	85,904
PROFESSIONAL	36,521	3093	39,614	38,997	1950	40,947
FILM	13,774	2734	16,508	10,260	539	10,799
	136,930	15,285	152,215	126,936	10,714	137,650

	2012 ATTENDS	2011 ATTENDS	2012 CONCESSIONS	2011 CONCESSIONS
COMMUNITY	2027	1649	952	443
PROFESSIONAL	982	500	551	140
FILM	1083	205	638	87
	4,092	2,354	2,141	670

	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR PROJECTED
PROJECTED MONTHLY RUNNING COSTS	25,421	25,395	27,076

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME	13,838	12,514	12,514
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AVERAGE MONTHLY DEFICIT	11,583	12,881	14,565
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ELGIVA THEATRE MONTHLY FIGURES MARCH 2012

	HIRE DAYS		HIRE FEES	BAR PROFITS	ICE-CREAM	Total	Total
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2012	2012	2011
COMMUNITY	13	16	8005	1,577	380	9,962	7,530
PROFESSIONAL	7	8	3893	702	221	4,816	4,408
FILM	8	4	3219	253	14	3,486	5,690
	28	28	15,117	2,532	615	18,264	17,628

	2012 B/F Total	2012 monthly Total	2012 C/F Total	2011 B/F Total	2011 monthly Total	2011 C/F Total
COMMUNITY	96,093	9962	106,055	85,904	7530	93,434
PROFESSIONAL	39,614	4816	44,430	40,947	4408	45,355
FILM	16,508	3486	19,994	10,799	5690	16,489
	152,215	18,264	170,479	137650	17,628	155,278

	2012 ATTENDS	2011 ATTENDS	2012 CONCESSIONS	2011 CONCESSIONS
COMMUNITY	2636	1884	181	1191
PROFESSIONAL	1222	907	648	390
FILM	1243	1985	784	1146
	5,101	4,776	1,613	2,727

	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL	PRIOR YEAR PROJECTED
PROJECTED MONTHLY RUNNING COSTS	25,421	25,395	27,076

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME	14,206	12,940	12,940
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AVERAGE MONTHLY DEFICIT	11,215	12,455	14,136
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Minutes of the “Friends of Chesham Moor Gym and Swim”

17 April 2012

Present: RC (Roger Comer - chair), TC (Tricia Croot - minutes), DE (Danny Essex), SH (Sue Hutcheson)

Apologies: NK (Nazma Khan), PH (Peter Hudson), TD (Trevor Davies)

<u>2. Accuracy of last minutes:</u>	ACTIONS
All agreed. Updates on minuted items discussed later in meeting.	
<p><u>3. Managers Report:</u></p> <p><u>Gym</u> Gym income steady – no massive drops. 10 session cards still doing well. DE would like this to continue as it has been very successful. DE needs to check when council can review in order to retain the facility. Have also had requests for junior book of 10 – this also needs to be considered.</p> <p><u>Swim</u> Aqua aerobics started today 17 April. Pool plant fine however only one boiler working at the moment.</p> <p><u>Repairs</u> Poolside slabs have now been pointed and water tests completed. The external decorating will start when warmer weather arrives. DE has obtained 2 quotes for resurfacing and improving the footpath linking the Moor hardstanding to the centre. This is considered important for the safety of customers walking from the car park. Town Clerk to make decision on this.</p> <p><u>Other</u> Wi-fi is being installed and 4 new benches have been ordered for poolside. There is just sufficient money remaining from the donation from CVS to pay for the poolside plants this year. TC to investigate fundraising to pay for next year’s plants. The hose pipe ban will mean that the plants cannot be watered using the irrigation system. DE to ask plant suppliers for more drought tolerant plants if possible.</p>	<p>DE</p> <p>TC</p> <p>DE</p>
<p><u>4. Reports on other activities and progress</u></p> <p><u>Financial Performance and numbers</u> No figures available from council.</p> <p><u>Solar Power</u> The panels are producing power and when RC presented the figures to Steve Pearson he was impressed. A new information gathering link has been installed which can then be connected to a computer monitor so that customers can see exactly how much power is being generated. DE will connect to computer already at centre but will eventually source a larger screen to mount on wall.</p> <p><u>Green Team</u> RC is investigating ionisation to reduce chlorine in the pool water. Only a rough verbal quote has been received so far and this would be for approximately £5,000 – this is a one off fee. The annual chlorine bill is approximately £4,000. The ionisation system would</p>	

<p>mean that the chlorine could be reduced by 80% so the new system would pay for itself within two years and then produce consistent savings. This is a green solution as well as a cost saving one and has been successfully introduced in the United States with some European pools also using the system.</p> <p><u>Marketing</u> The new website has now been launched. It is a clearer and more simplified site and now has a more unified appearance. DE suggested that it would be a very useful marketing tool to employ Millipedia on a retainer to carry out website updates in order to maintain the professional appearance of the site and gain the most marketing benefits as possible by updating key words to ensure a prominent internet search position. DE to obtain quote for this. Luke updates twitter and facebook regularly on DE's behalf and this is a very good marketing tool with younger customers.</p> <p><u>Database</u> The database is being constantly updated and several email updates regarding the April pool opening had been successfully completed.</p> <p><u>Press and publicity</u> The article about the pool centenary published in the March edition of Chiltern News will also be in Chesham Town Talk as well as an ad for the centre. There will be an ad and poster in Your Chesham and there will be an ad and editorial in My Chorleywood. TC to speak to Bucks Examiner to confirm photographer for Centenary celebrations – also tell them about the success of the solar panels.</p> <p><u>Centenary planning</u> SH has organised stalls as per attached sheet. A further meeting will be held to discuss further detailed planning. Many thanks to the sub-committee for all their work in preparing for the Centenary fun day.</p> <p>Please note donations still needed for tombola prizes, cakes and plants. We also need as many volunteers as possible for the day – please ask friends, neighbours and relatives if they can help.</p>	<p>DE</p> <p>TC</p> <p>All friends</p>
<p><u>5. Action Outcomes</u> Covered in previous sections.</p>	<p>.</p>
<p><u>6. Deciding and evaluating offers</u> Discussion postponed.</p>	
<p><u>7. AOB</u> DE, RC, Alex Jones and Elizabeth Comer visited Hampton Pool on 10 April and a detailed report of the visit is attached to these minutes. All agreed it was a very interesting and informative visit and it would be useful to discuss further some of the initiatives introduced at Hampton Pool.</p>	
<p>Next meeting – Tuesday 29 May - 7.30pm at the Centre. Future meetings – Tuesday 10 July</p>	

Friends of Chesham Cemetery

**Minutes of Meeting
On Tuesday 19th April 2011 at 7pm
Chesham Town Hall**

Present: Mora Walker – Acting Chair
Sharon McEwan – Secretary
Phil Folly – Treasurer
Ken Austin – Committee Member
Jean Queripel – Committee Member
Kate Folly – Committee Member
Judy Ottoway – Committee Member
Maria Pontin – Committee Member

Apologies: Roderick McCulloh

1. Approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 7th February 2012

Minutes held on 7th February 2012 were approved and signed as a true copy.

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no breaches on the planning application for Karhouse Car lot and the fencing is now erected. **Please see separate conditions** for fencing.

One issue raised was what happens if the wall behind the erected fencing crumbles, who and how would it be repaired? This matter is to be raised with the Town Clerk and Parks & Premises Manager. **S.M**

3. Memorial Project

Painting railings around the older memorials in Section A Consecrated is complete and work is now commencing on Section B Unconsecrated starting with Philip Plato's mausoleum.

With the released leaflet Walking with Buckinghamshire Suffragettes. Two of the local Suffragettes Annie Brooksbank, Grave G Uncon 100 and Louisa Matilda Page, section E Uncon, grave E98 have been tidied up by Phil and Sharon following a request from Kathryn Graves at Chesham Town Council. Sharon has made a request with the Parks & Premises Manager Bob Ayres for some pea shingle to be put onto Annie Brooksbank grave.

Phil agreed to contact the Reverend Aylward grandson with photos of Reverend Aylwards updated memorial and it was agreed that Phil would contact local stonemasons to get costings to repair the memorial and what funding would be need.

SM & P.F

4. Report on Chapel/Hearse House Working Party

Funding still being sought, Phil and Ken to arrange a meeting with the Town Clerk Bill Richards with regards to applying and filling in funding forms, the Clerk felt that the Heritage Lottery is not the right way to go. His discussions with them over the Mausoleum repairs (now completed) at St Mary's Church suggested that there would need to be a big educational 'payback' e.g. open to public for tours etc. The Lottery Awards for All (apparently under-subscribed) and grants up to £10k may be a better bet.

Incidentally The Town Clerk received £2.5k grant from the Bucks Historic Buildings Trust to repair the Mausoleum so that may be another funding avenue. Phil to organise this meeting

P.F & K.A

Kate left the meeting at 7.40pm

5. Heritage Weekend

It was agreed that the Heritage weekend would only be on Sunday 9th September 2012 from 10am – 4pm due to other commitments by the Friends group. The Chapel will be open and a leaflet would be designed that would look at guided walk around the cemetery which will include local dignities and Commonwealth War Memorials. Sharon to write to the Environmental Group Chairman, to see if the Friends can borrow some display boards for the Chapel for this event.

S.M

6. Working Party Dates

Painting of memorials 21st April at 9.30 – 11.30am

Wildflower Project 6th October at 9.30 – 11.30am

ALL

Ken left the meeting at 7.50pm

7. Any other Business

- Phil confirmed that the Regional judges for Chesham in Bloom will be visiting the cemetery as they have done in previous years.
- Extending the wildflower project: Phil, and Sharon to visit the cemetery to look at suitable areas for new wildflower project and to report back to Town Council. **P.H & S.M**
- It was agreed to take the Friends meetings back to twice a year as the same agenda items are repeated at each meeting. If needed an extraordinary meeting would be called, this will come into effect after July 2012.
- On Saturday 14th April there was an incident in the cemetery with regards to local youth using skate boards, riding bicycles and have a radio blasting loud music. The lady who was visiting the cemetery was afraid to report it as she was afraid of the youth and any reprisals as she is a regular visitor to the cemetery. This incident was only raised at this meeting.
- Thanks were given to the Town Clerk and Parks & Premises manager for the wooden and palisade fencing in K section. The only thing that spoils this area is the unkempt notice board at the top of Alma Road entrance, the committee inquired if a new notice board was going to be erected. Sharon to make inquiries. **S.M**
- It was raised that the last time the grass was cut in the cemetery the grass was left on memorials and this as raised some concerns. Phil informed committee that the lawn mowers etc are now stored in the hearse house. Sharon to contact Parks & Premises Manager **S.M**
- Local youths and dog walkers are continuing to jump the lower wall in F. Section. This wall joins a public foot path down from Chalk Hill Housing

estate. Sharon to contact Parks & Premises Manager to see what can be done to prevent this. **S.M**

- Phil informed the committee that during the drought he would collect water and water the flowers/plants in the Garden of Remembrance

8. Agenda Items for next meeting.

Treasurers report, Cemetery gates update, Working party dates for wild flower and memorial project Hearse House funding Grass Cutting, Heritage Weekend. It was also agreed the committee would email Sharon if they wish to add any other items to the agenda.

Email address: sharonmcewan@btinternet.com

9. Dates of next meetings

Thursday 19th July 2012 7pm

Thursday 18th October 2012 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Friends of Chesham Cemetery

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 17th April 2012 Chesham Town Hall

AGM

Present: Sharon McEwan – Secretary
Phil Folly – Treasurer
Kate Folly
Jean Queripel
Judy Ottoway
Maria Pontin
Mora Walker
Ken Austin

Apologies: Councillor Roderick McCulloch

1. Approve the minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday 19th April 2011

The minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday 19th April 2011 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 2012 – 2013

Councillor Roderick McCulloch

Ken Austin – Proposed

Phil Folly - Seconded

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

The nominations for Vice Chair 2012 - 2013

Mora Walker

Ken Austin – Proposed

Phil Folly – Seconded

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

The nominations for Secretary 2012 – 2013

Sharon McEwan

Mora Walker – Proposed

Jean Queripel – Seconded

The committee elected **Sharon McEwan as Secretary**

The nominations for Treasurer 2012 – 2013

Phil Folly

Sharon McEwan – Proposed

Kate Folly – Seconded

The committee elected **Phil Folly as Treasurer**

The committee members were proposed on block as:

Michael Bannister, Jean Queripel, Maria Pontin, Kate Folly and Judy Ottoway.

Mora Walker – Proposed

Judy Ottoway - Seconded

4. Treasurers Report

The treasurer informed the meeting that there were two bank accounts

1. Savings account holds £272.38

2. Current account holds £279.00

It was agreed at the meeting that £551.38 from the current account would be transferred to the savings account as this had a higher interest rate.

5. Any Other Business

The committee would like to thank Diane Brackley for all the hard work that she has done over the years and a thank you card would be left in reception at the Town Hall for all committee members to sign. Sharon will pick the card up on Friday 27th April to post to Diane

6. Date of next meeting

19th July 2012 7pm at Chesham Town Hall

Close of meeting 7.20pm

These minutes to be agreed and signed as a true record of the above meeting, held in April 2013

Signed.....

Chair for the Friends of Chesham Cemetery

Chesham Environment Group AGM

Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm

Present

Trevor Brawn
Roger Main
Rosemary Main
Georgina Lomnitz
Jennie Pearson
Jean Queripel
Kate Folly
Hannah Webley
Ken Austin
Michael Browne
Colette Littley

1. Apologies were received from Justine Fulford , Sian Harrison,
2. Minutes of the last meeting were approved by all and signed by Phil.
3. Treasurer's Annual report – Ken presented his report with a closing balance of £836.49 to be audited by ??? soon
4. Election of officers Phil Folly – Chairman - proposed : Ken Austin; Seconded: Colette Littley
Georgina Lomnitz – Communications
Ken Austin – Treasurer – Proposed: Phil Folly; Seconded: Jean Queripel
Secretary – Vacant

Note: Colette offered to take the minutes and if she isn't present then the others offered to stand in.

Chairman's Report. Phil read from the 1997 Bucks Examiner, a report on the state of the River Chess, it had dried up and fish were being rescued – Phil pointed out that we were in exactly the same situation now, however 4 Years later in 2001 another report told how the chess was flooding. We now have a hosepipe ban in place; let's hope it all gets back to normal soon.

The Himalayan balsam seems to be under control due to the regular working parties, please could we all keep an eye out for any so that we don't get another infestation.

Flow deflectors have been successfully fitted at Cannons Mill, thanks Roger and Trevor for their lead on this project. Thanks also to Andrew for keeping the website up to date, Georgina for her regular emails and to Ken for doing the accounts. Also thanks to the town council staff for their help and to Chiltern DC's Waste Management team.

Last year the Environment Group was invited to the Pride of Bucks Award evening and was nominated for a CDC Community group award and was invited to Chiltern District Councils volunteering award ceremony. Phil will present a report of the group's activities at this year's Mayoral awards ceremony.

Phil closed the AGM at 7:45

Chesham Environment Group – Ordinary meeting

Thursday 19th April at 7.45pm

Present

Trevor Brawn
Roger Main
Rosemary Main
Georgina Lomnitz
Jennie Pearson
Jean Queripel
Kate Folly
Hannah Webley
Ken Austin
Michael Browne
Colette Littley
Andrew Clark

Apologies as per AGM

Phil gave everyone time to read the minutes from the last meeting which were duly approved.

Future working parties.

Prior to the working party in Captains wood last weekend 200 local houses were leafleted, no local residents turned up to help so after some discussion it was decided that in future we wont do leafleting as it costs time and money and has little effect. Local community associations will be informed of our working parties in the hope that this will generate some volunteers on the day. However, it was noted that at the Nashleigh hill working party a lot of local residents turned up to help out.

Andrew Clarke joined the meeting at 7.55

Future Working parties

May

The next working party will be in Meades Water Garden and Duck Alley.

Some of the vegetation above and along the dry river needs cutting back but Trevor cautioned being too tidy and cutting it all back. He will advise on the day how much we should cut and which bits to leave.

A question was raised about the pruning of some trees in Meades Water Garden – Colette to find out

Post meeting note – There are 5 willows which have been pollarded which although it looks drastic is the normal way to treat them. Another tree has been cut back to improve its shape.

It was agreed that a midweek working party in MWG was needed – Georgina to find a suitable date on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

Also a midweek working party should be organised to clear Jacobs Ladder - Georgina to find a suitable date on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

Shelley gardens were discussed with all deciding that it wasn't something we could tackle at the moment due to its poor state and difficulties with access.

June - will be on the Moor, litter picking and working on the river

July – If the meadow at Cannons Mill has been cut it will need to be raked to take away the arisings. We can also carry on clearing the path which was started last year.

August – Another 2 deflectors need to be fitted in Cannons Mill race

September – Meades Water Garden

October – Captains Wood (to include litter picking in Marston Field)

November – To be decided

December – ?

Jan – Nashleigh Field, trimming of the top hedge, Trevor to advise.

Note: The details of the working parties will be on the website.

Trevor gave an update on Nash field. A really nice area of chalk grassland which has looked great for the last 2 summers. Phil Irving from The Greensand Trust came to look at it last summer and gave a detailed report; as a result it was awarded local wildlife site status. Last year the grass was cut for hay but too early so we lost a lot of flowers and seed heads. Each year it must be cut once and the arisings taken away. As this area is too large for volunteers to tackle so another idea is to have grazing but fencing would be a problem with this solution. Trevor is still hopeful that we can find someone to graze it in the future who would be able to provide fencing.

The working party in January this year did a lot of work on the hedges at the top of the field, reshaping it to provide pockets for butterflies to use. More of this sort of shaping work would be beneficial. Trevor will monitor the area to see what species are there and is making a record of them. There is also a list of all the wild flowers on the site. It would be nice to have a bench up there as it is a lovely spot to sit and take in the view.

AOB

Ken raised the issue of Display boards which will be purchased to use at exhibitions and can be stored in the hut.

Andrew reported that Bucks CC staff were working on the grille in Holloway Lane.

Phil reported that Jed Elverson from Your Chesham had been at the Chesham in Bloom meeting as there has been much discussion on the Your Chesham Face book page about the poor state of St. Marys Way. It seems the feeling is that both sides lack colour, the In Bloom team have agreed to work towards getting another lane closure in order for volunteers to be able to do some planting. This has been done before but Jed felt he could maybe raise some money and some extra volunteers but has no gardening expertise and so has asked for In Bloom to take a lead.

Close of meeting 8.35

Date of next meeting 21st June 7.30 pm

Chair's Report 2012

The drying up of the upper reaches of the Chess has decimated the minnows, sticklebacks and miller's thumbs which have been struggling for life in rapidly shrinking pools of water. As they have gone, so too has that jewel of a bird the kingfisher, which often could be spotted up beyond Water Lane, Without a lot of rain, the long term prospects for the Chess seem less than optimistic. If we place any value on our rivers, we really will have to put greater value on the water we perhaps take for granted every time we turn on a tap..... I have just read out a piece of an article by Bob Glenister of the Chesham and District Natural History Society, it was published by the Bucks Examiner on Friday February 7th 1997, it could have been written yesterday. The article also mentions that the lack of rain and the reduced flow of the Chess brought TV cameras to the town, much the same as when Australian TV cameras turned up in Chesham in March of this year to report the same thing to our friends thousands of miles away. Also, in the 1997 article, fish were seen struggling in shrinking pools of water. During the last months of 2011 the same was happening in the Chess to the distress of children and adults alike. Several of us tried to save as many fish as possible. Most of the bigger fish Miller's Thumbs (Bullheads) had died but we moved as many minnows as possible to where the Chess was flowing.

Four years after this publication in the BE, parts of Chesham were flooded, and the river Misbourne overflowed its banks. Weather conditions caused the water table to rise, and the springs at the northern end of town to flood the fields, and houses along The Vale, and parts of the old town were also flooded.. The Town Council called a public meeting in March – attended by 200 people.

What am I trying to say? We are now into our second hosepipe ban, since the 1997 article, more houses are being built and the Green Belt is under threat. I'm trying to be optimistic, and hoping that our river will return to Chesham, along with the fish and the kingfishers, lets hope so.

On a brighter note our struggle to keep the invasive Himalayan Balsam from covering our riverbanks seems to be paying off. Last summer we found little of it, but we will still need to be watchful this summer. Where the river flows along Canon Mill Race we have fitted two flow deflectors, I say we, but I must thank Trevor Brawn & Rodger Main for the work they have done on this project. My thanks also go to the volunteers who come out in all kinds of weather, to litter pick, cut back shrubbery, undergrowth and generally tidy up.

Community Impact Bucks continue to supply me with names of people wishing to do environmental volunteer work, and our website has also been beneficial in this way. I thank Andrew Clark for keeping the website up to date and Georgina Lomnitz for keeping a record of our volunteers, informing them of our monthly, weekday working parties, and any other events we might be involved with. Thanks go to Ken Austin for keeping our finances current.

As always the Town Clerk, his team, and the town councillors have been fully supportive. Thanks go to the Chiltern District Council for their support, and to Waste Management, who has our black litterbags collected when asked.

Phil Folly

CEG Chair

Report of the Officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE
on Monday 11th June 2012.

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

Reporting Officer: Stephen Pearson (01494 583825)

Summary

1. To consider the financial report up to the 30th April 2012 and other matters pertaining to the Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre.

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 38 (1b)).

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Equality Act Implications

4. Non applicable.

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.'*

Detailed Consideration

6. The revised budgets for this financial year 2011/12 showed a forecast subsidy requirement of £88,943 compared to an original budget of £80,070. The final subsidy for the year came in at £87,186. Income for the year was down mainly due to the gym but some of this decrease was offset by lower salary costs.
7. The monthly gym takings (**excluding** VAT) are detailed in the table below:

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	£	£	£	£	£
April	5,771*	5,859	6,111*	5,808**	5,258**
May	4,753*	6,678	7,058*	6,327**	
June	3,805*	6,590	6,453*	6,796**	
July	5,239*	8,084	7,569*	5,679**	
August	5,185*	6,182	6,653*	4,962**	
September	4,965*	5,688	5,960*	6,027**	
October	5,090*	5,464	6,987*	6,552**	
November	5,587*	4,818	6,675*	4,971**	
December	4,384	4,747	6,137*	4,974**	
January	6,490	6,443*	7,153**	6,504**	
February	5,007	6,608*	5,625**	5,925**	
March	7,880	7,618*	6,823**	6,140**	
TOTAL	<u>64,156</u>	<u>74,779</u>	<u>79,204</u>	<u>70,665</u>	<u>5,258</u>

VAT @15%

* VAT @ 17.5%

** VAT @ 20%

The above figures show an annual fall of 10.8% when comparing the annual total for 2010/11 against 2011/12 (1.5% of which is due to the VAT change). April 2012 shows a fall of 9.5% comparing it against April 2011 which appears to indicate gym income is still declining. Looking at the above figures, it looks as though the gym income target of £73,000 is going to be a difficult challenge.

2012 Swimming

- Support for opening the swimming pool early i.e. the last two weeks failed to reach the break-even figure and the pool opened as normal on the 1st May to the general public.
- Season tickets for 2012 have been on sale since the beginning of March and are similar in numbers to those of last year for the same period. Sales up to the 28th May are detailed below compared to full season sales for prior years:

	2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012
	Tickets	£	Tickets	£	Tickets	£	Tickets	£
Adult	65	5,164	78	7,839	80	7,963	72	8,341
Concession	85	4,929	85	5,990	92	6,788	89	7,194
Junior	22	949	24	1,161	30	1,516	16	813
Family Adult	21	1,461	20	1,635	20	1,750	19	} 2,360
Family Junior	29	1,009	25	1,022	22	942	18	
Junior Concession	3	81	2	71	2	75	1	38
TOTALS	225	13,593	234	17,718	246	19,034	215	18,746

All figures exclude VAT

10. **Other Income**

Ice creams have been introduced as a new income stream and should improve the profits from café.

11. **Gym**

The three year lease on the gym equipment came to an end at the beginning of the March. The Council has now purchased the old equipment at a cost of £2,700 and entered into a one year maintenance equipment at a cost £400 per month.

12. This should produce savings of around £9,000 on the budgeted provision of £16,500 over the next twelve months. This will allow time for the economic climate and gym membership to settle down. Consideration will need to be given later this year as to whether to replace all the equipment next year in one major overhaul or by stages.

Recommendation

That the financial position be noted.

Report of the officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION & THE ARTS COMMITTEE
meeting to be held 11th June 2012.

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 7 – CHANGE TO CHEMICAL
DOSING AT CHESHAM MOOR GYM AND SWIM
CENTRE**

Reporting Officer: Bill Richards (01494 583824)

Summary

1. To consider the installation of an ionising generator at Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre as a way of disinfecting the pool.

Background Information

2. The Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre currently uses traditional chlorination techniques for the open air pool in the form of chlorine powder. Such chemical treatment is required to kill micro-organisms, including bacteria, protozoa and viruses that occur naturally in recreational waters.

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Strategic Objectives

4. Accords with the Council's Environmental Policy.

Equality Act Implications

5. Non applicable.

Detailed Consideration

6. The Chairman of the Friends of Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre has been investigating the possibility of reducing the cost of chlorine (chemicals) used for disinfecting the Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre Pool after reading an article in the ASA 'Swimming Times' magazine.
7. Currently government and environmental regulatory agencies require that public bathing water contains an excess amount of free-available chlorine (FAC) above the amount which enters into reactions designed to inhibit the activity of micro-organisms. The aim is to ensure effective elimination of all pathogenic micro-organisms and to provide excellent general sanitary quality of swimming pool waters.

8. The Friends are now actively looking at disinfection using copper/silver ion generation. The low solubility of these metals serve as a natural, controlled release mechanism which add trace amounts of these ions to the water. In addition to bacteria, ion generation is also effective in controlling viruses, algae and fungi in the part per billion (ppb) range. Moreover copper and silver ion disinfection of swimming pool water has several advantages over chlorine, for example;
 - The ions are chemically stable and do not undergo the destructive reactions of aqueous chlorine
 - They do not form objectionable by-products such as chloramines or trihalomethanes (THMs)
 - They do not escape from the water by volatilisation as chlorine does.
9. Maintaining effective range concentrations of copper and silver ions in swimming pool water in a convenient and reproducible manner is accomplished by electrolytic generation of the ions. Electrolytic ion generators consist of a positively charged anode consisting of the metals to be ionised and a negatively charged cathode. The electrodes are housed in a chamber through which the water to be purified, flows. The anode and the cathode are connected to a power source and a weak electrical charge flows between them, releasing silver and copper ions from the anode. The metals ion concentration is precisely controlled by varying both the flow rate of water through the chamber and the current to the electrodes.
10. The system has been around for over 20 years in the USA and used in many countries, apart from the UK and Europe, and was developed for the NASA space projects to purify the water. The UK is now looking at utilising the system and Northfield Leisure Centre in Birmingham has become one of the first pools in the country to install such a system and it appears to be proving very successful. As well as offering significant annual savings, a survey undertaken at the centre showed a marked increase in bather satisfaction with a significant improvement recorded at a margin of 51 per cent to 18 per cent of bathers affected by the lower levels of chlorine and the reduced levels of chloramines in the atmosphere.
11. In respect to the possible year-on-year savings, the finances can be summarised as follows:
 - Costs of chlorine per year at the Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre is **£4,000**.
 - The proposed MineralPURE 2 electrode system generator for the 80,000 imperial gallon open air pool would be **£5,000** ex vat. The installation has been estimated between **£1,750 - £2,250** ex vat. It is estimated that the electrodes should last between 2 to 4 years, dependent on how the pool is used and replacement electrodes are £125 at present. We would need 2 electrodes so the cost would be **£250**.
 - This system would reduce the pool's chlorine down to 0.5ppm (parts per million) and give the Council a saving of approximately 70% on the £4,000 spent on chlorine currently – approximately **£2,800** every year.

On these figures it can be seen that the pay-back period would be in three years. Additional savings would also be made through reduced back washes due to cleaner water thereby reducing water heating costs.

12. In regards to the environment, it is well-documented that, in its various artificial forms, chlorine plays a major role in the most pressing current environmental problems; depletion of the ozone layer, global warming and acid rain. The pollution caused by its widespread use has been linked to a variety of serious health effects; poisonings have occurred in the chlorine industry since its inception and chlorine compounds have accumulated in the body-fat of animals and humans.
13. Disinfection of drinking water, sewage and swimming pools uses small amounts of chlorine which have major health and environmental impacts. Organic matter in the water combines with the chlorine to form many hundreds of organochlorine byproducts. Among the best understood are the trihalomethanes, which includes chloroform. The trihalomethanes are known carcinogens, and chlorination of water is increasingly being linked to a range of human cancers and other serious health problems such as increased susceptibility to cardiovascular disease. Greenpeace, among others, believe that *'By relying on chlorine in this way, one serious public health problem, infectious disease, has been traded for the spectre of long-term and possibly intergenerational transfer of chemically induced damage to health.'* Moreover, over the last decade an increasing number of studies have reported a correlation between recreational water chlorination and respiratory allergies including asthma, hay fever and allergic rhinitis.
14. The Chairman of the Friends of Chesham Moor Gym and Swim Centre has already been instrumental in the successful implementation of the solar power project at the centre (an amount of £583 has already been paid back to the Council up to the end of March). He comments that *'There appears to be major benefits in health, cost, ecology and customer satisfaction and we feel it would be of great benefit to our pool in our on-going campaign in trying to reduce our overall running cost, which in turn must benefit the council /council tax payers.'*
15. The only possible concern is the relative newness of the technology in this country and therefore no references that could vouch for its longevity. However, the generator comes with a 5 year warranty, with a life expectancy of at least 15 years and has been awarded the internationally recognised NSF/ANSI Standard 50. Therefore Members may be minded to take the slight risk in investing in this technology, especially since major leisure providers such as Centre Parcs and Total Fitness UK are now actively looking at installing such technology.
16. A full 16 page case study report from Clearwaterenviro Ltd on the Northfield Leisure Centre is available for Members upon request. A site visit to Birmingham could also be arranged if deemed desirable.
17. No monies have been earmarked in the renewals and repairs budget for such technology.
18. Financial Regulations usually require a minimum of two quotes for services over £5,000. However Clearwater are the sole distributors for this MineralPURE Ionisation System in the UK and therefore it should be deemed a proprietary item.

Recommendation

That the Committee determine whether it wishes to proceed with the idea of purchasing and installing an ionising generator for the open air pool at a cost not to exceed £7,500.

Report of the officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION & THE ARTS COMMITTEE
meeting to be held 11th June 2012.

**AGENDA ITEM NO 8 : ELGIVA PROJECTS AND
FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Reporting Officers: Mark Barnes (01494 582902) and Bill Richards (01494 583824)

Summary

1. To approve renovation works for the Elgiva foyer and toilets; agree the launch of an Elgiva ‘supporters club’ and receive a financial update for the theatre.

Background Information

2. It is usual for the theatre to have a two week ‘close down’ in August to allow for major maintenance and renovation to take place.

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Strategic Objectives

4. 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.’*

5. **Equality Act Implications**

Non applicable.

Detailed Consideration

Foyer and Toilets Redecoration

6. The Elgiva Theatre is coming up to 14 years old this November and increasingly needs upgrading and refreshing to ensure that patrons still feel it is a vibrant place to visit. As the foyer/cafe particularly currently looks tired and a bit shabby, it was felt imperative that this upgrade was done so the venue retains a modern, clean, warm and inviting look and feel for our many customers.

7. To achieve this, the Elgiva team (project managed by the Deputy Manager, Moira Little) is intending to undertake a much needed refurbishment of the foyer/cafe area and main toilets. A brief description of the project is as follows:
- A new painted colour scheme on the walls using contractors.
 - New sofas.
 - Two new high bar tables,
 - Blinds for the main windows to help alleviate the summer ‘greenhouse’ effect.
 - A new large advertising board on the main curved wall to replace the old, broken and dated Perspex frames.
8. The overall costs will be approximately £8,500 and these monies will be from the Elgiva’s Renewals and Repairs budget. As the individual items will all be under £5,000 in costs, the financial regulations do not require formal Committee approval but the Manager would like to inform Members of what is taking place and obtain general support for the overall works.

Elgiva Membership Scheme and Website.

9. At the request of Members, the Manager has been asked to attempt to find an extra £9,000 of new income, a difficult task but a plan has been hatched to try to raise extra income with the introduction of The ‘Elgiva Elite’ Supporters’ Club. This is ostensibly a membership where, for a small annual fee, supporters will be offered certain benefits such as advanced booking opportunities. However, as much as they get some discounts etc, the scheme is being ‘sold’ as a supporters’ club for people in our community (and there are lots of them) who want to help secure the long term future of this vital facility. It is a scheme adopted by many other theatres. The ‘Elite’ scheme should be going live around mid June and the Manager would like to extend and record his thanks to new Board member, Mick Carling (Better Chesham), whose input has been invaluable in setting up and managing this scheme. Obviously all current Members are welcome to join the scheme and help kick start the supporters club. Additionally, The Elgiva.com website is also being redesigned and updated to ‘match’ the new colour scheme and should be live by the start of the Autumn season, something again well overdue as the current site is outdated and impractical for today’s web surfers and potential online advertisers (hopefully another new income stream).

Financial Position

10. As will have been seen from the figures submitted by the Chairman of the Elgiva Board of Management along with the Board minutes for April, it can be seen that the theatre had a spectacular last three months of the financial year. There were several sold out movies including ‘War Horse’ and ‘The Iron Lady’ and shows as diverse as ‘Oliver’ and ‘Fireman Sam’. This increase in business, tallied with the savings in expenditure, has helped turn a difficult year into another successful

year, with the theatre coming £6,000 under its original budget (£25,000 under the revised budget) and some £11,500 under its 2011/12 final budgetary spend (excluding Renewals and Repairs). The Manager would like to extend his thanks to, not only the brilliant Elgiva team, but to the many other people who have been a part turning the theatre's fortunes around, including the helpful Board members and the Town Hall crew to name but a few, which in the Manager's opinion, constitutes a remarkable team effort.

Recommendation

- 1. That the foyer renovations be noted and approved.**
- 2. That the 'Elgiva Elite' membership scheme be noted and approved.**
- 3. That the financial position be noted and the Elgiva staff be congratulated on its financial out-turn.**

Report of the officers to a meeting of the
RECREATION & THE ARTS COMMITTEE
meeting to be held 11th June 2012.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 9 – POLICY ON PERSONAL TRAINERS/FITNESS GROUPS USING COUNCIL'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Reporting Officer: Bill Richards (01494 583824)

Summary

1. To consider devising a policy on use of the Council's parks and open spaces for fitness classes.

Background Information

2. The Council usually charges £200 flat fee for the use of Lowndes Park and other open spaces (e.g. Codmore Field for the Donkey Derby).

Financial Implications

3. As outlined within the report.

Strategic Objectives

4. 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

5. Non applicable.

Detailed Consideration


6. Officers have now been alerted to the fact that a number of commercial fitness/aerobic exercise classes (currently six that they are aware of) taking place in Lowndes Park and potentially another one at Marston Field. Though one of these classes has had the instructor contact the Council first to seek permission, officers have only become aware of the others existence through the classes' respective advertising.
7. These classes range from one-to-one personal training to larger, more traditional aerobic type classes taking place on the grass or on the Performance Area.
8. Obviously as no formal preparation for the classes is required, there is a debate as to whether Lowndes Park and the Recreation Grounds should simply be classified

as public open space to be utilised by commercial groups at their own risk or whether the Council ought to be seeking income from such use. Certainly officers have been concerned about the issue of 'vicarious liability' (a legal doctrine that assigns liability for an injury to a person who did not cause the injury but who has a particular legal relationship to the person who did act negligently) and the dangers of someone being injured on our land. Accordingly officers have insisted on seeing the fitness classes' public liability insurance certificates; risk assessments and instructors' professional training certificates.

9. In respect to income, the Council has been requesting that the classes make a donation to the Friends of Lowndes Park on a termly basis (suggested amount £25). This figure was based on the original class in Lowndes Park stating that they had very low profit margins and suggesting that any formal charge would result in its small personal training class either re-locating elsewhere or folding completely.
10. Clearly it would not be a good use of officers' time to insist on seeing all the balance sheets for these small classes and, in reality, they would be unlikely to be forthcoming. Officers are aware of the Council's directive to increase income generation but generally believe that it would be difficult to enforce regimented fees on such small classes who, in essence, simply need a flat area of land to exercise upon and could re-locate to such a suitable surface anywhere in or out of Chesham.
11. Conversely it would seem unfair that commercial classes can take advantage on the Parks and Premises team's excellent maintenance regime without paying for the privilege as they would do in a village hall for instance. Accordingly the Committee may feel it appropriate that the current policy of seeking donations for the Friends of Lowndes Park be continued. Alternatively, the Committee may like to impose a small termly fee that goes directly to the Council after a completion of a booking form to supplement the insurance and other documents already requested.
12. Officers do not believe that these exercise classes will bring in a significant amount of income for the Council. Indeed if the Council wishes to support the general health and well-being agenda, there is an argument for not requesting a fee of any kind in order to help these businesses flourish in difficult times.

Recommendation

That the Committee agree to officers continuing with their current policy of seeing public liability insurance certificates; risk assessments and instructors' professional training certificates and then seeking donations to the Friends of Lowndes Park for commercial exercise classes.


Bill Richards
Town Clerk