

**Chesham Action Partnership  
Management Committee Meeting  
Tuesday 29th March 2011 at Chesham Town Hall**

**M-4.11-1**

In attendance:

Cllr Noel Brown (Chairman)	Chesham Town Council (CTC), Chiltern District Council (CDC), Bucks County Council (BCC)
Mr Fred Wilson (Vice Chairman)	Chesham Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Mr David Carter (Treasurer)	Chesham Society
Ms Kathryn Graves (Secretary)	CTC
Dr Tom Gorsuch	Chesham Society
Mr Bill Richards	CTC
Ms Deborah Taylor	NHS Buckinghamshire
Mr Malcolm Godwin	Bucks Business First
Cllr Merrin Molesworth	CTC
Mr David Gardner	Chiltern District Council (CDC)
Mr Masud Ahmed	Chesham Asian Welfare Society
Cllr Mohammad Fayyaz	Anjuman-ul-muslameen
Mr Phil Folly	Chesham Environmental Group (CEG, COPAG)
Ms Liz Wright	CAB
Mr Jed Elverson	yourChesham
Mr Martin Parkes	The Salon
Mr Mick Carling	Chiltern Marcoms

Apologies:

Management Committee:

Cllr Gill Walker – CTC, Mr Ken Austin (Chesham Community Vision/Chesham Environmental Group), Ms Mora Walker (Chesham Museum), Ms Barbara Richardson (COPAG)

Ms Beverley Trevitt – Bucks Community Foundation, Mr Saul Huxley (Nexus Community), Ms Judy Vivis (Age Concern Bucks), Cllr Roy Abraham (Chiltern Racial Equality Council), PCSO Mike Shepherd (Thames Valley Police), Mrs Irene Perrin (Shed@ThePark), Mr Brian McCollum (Chesham Park Community College), Mr Kevin Patrick (Chesham Park Community College), Ms Lesley Perry (Chesham Museum), Cllr Chris Spruytenburg (CTC)

**1. Minutes of the Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

The minutes of the meeting of the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

**2. Matters Arising**

In relation to 8(vi), Ms Deborah Taylor (DT) advised that she has put forward to the GP representatives the concept of their attendance at ChAP and will keep us informed of progress.

*Mr David Gardner arrived at 2.38 pm.*

### **3. Chilterns Citizens Advice Bureau**

Ms Liz Wright (LW) explained that the local CAB assists approximately 6,000 clients every year and approximately half of these require help with debt and benefits issues. The work of CAB is entirely voluntary and relies upon donations. The CAB is also working in the Chesham SureStart centres to try to detect problems early for young parents. There will be a new, national phone line in operation by the end of the year.

In order to consolidate and improve service delivery, it is intended that the branch will relocate to Townsend Road. This will also locate the branch closer to the majority of the CAB's clients. The CAB is currently looking for funding to enable the move to go ahead. LW said that the CAB is actively seeking to forge closer links with Chesham's Asian community.

### **4. Funding Application**

#### **(i) Age Concern Buckinghamshire**

Before the funding application was discussed, Dr Tom Gorsuch (TG) queried whether ChAP would receive funding from Chiltern District Council this year. Mr David Gardner (DG) confirmed that, as the revitalisation group for Chesham, ChAP would receive £2,000 in April.

The group confirmed their support for the Good Neighbour Scheme project and to encourage other groups to support the initiative, it was agreed to provide a grant of £250 to the project.

### **5. Core Strategy Update for the Public Enquiry**

ChAP has been chosen to be represented at several hearing sessions. Cllr Noel Brown (NB) said that grassroots comments are important and should be focused upon in ChAP's attendance at the enquiry. NB suggested that the arrangements for the hearing should be confirmed with the organiser.

**Action: David Carter**

### **6. Town Centre Revitalisation**

NB welcomed Mr Mick Carling (MC) and Mr Martin Parkes (MP) to the meeting as representatives of a new working group that has formed to revitalise the High Street. The first meeting of the group was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March and involved different High Street stakeholders. The group is working upon the principle that the town centre could be managed like a shopping mall and promoted to the outside world, with strong collaboration between the different shops.

The idea of surveying the public to find out what they would like to see in the town centre was considered. Mr Jed Elverson (JE) said that a survey could be run through yourChesham, which is delivered to 12,000 households, and that he would be interested in participating in the group. DG said that it would be beneficial to network across the different revitalisation groups in Chiltern, as the groups share

common issues. He also stressed the importance of identifying the needs for the High Street in a scientific manner that can be achieved through accessing funding. DG said he felt that Chiltern District Council's community team would like to be involved.

Mr Malcolm Godwin (MG) said that the Bucks Economic and Learning Partnership would now be known as Bucks Business First and would have more emphasis on Business. MG said that he would be keen to be involved and said that Chesham cannot beat the big clone centres, and so needs to play to its strong independent retailer presence and attract more of the right retailers in.

NB concluded the discussion by saying that ChAP would be willing to support this initiative and felt it likely that the Town Council would also offer support.

*Mr Jed Elverson and Mr Masud Ahmed left the meeting at 3.25 pm.*

#### **7. Market Update**

NB advised that a co-operative of existing market traders would be taking over the management of Chesham General Market from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

#### **8. Local Area Forum**

NB said that he would like to see ChAP represented at the LAF and said that the date of the next forum would be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.

*[The meeting will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall, Ashley Green. The next meeting is scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> June.]*

#### **9. HS2 Action**

NB said that Chesham has, to date, been on the periphery of the High Speed Rail 2 issue, and that the Town Council hasn't taken a formal view to date. NB raised his concern that Chesham will be impacted during the works. Mr Fred Wilson (FW) advised that the Chesham Chamber of Trade and Commerce had taken a view on HS2 at its last meeting and would be writing on the issue. There was a consensus of opinion that the Town Council should be encouraged to comment on the issue.

#### **10. Small Grants Scheme**

DG said that Chiltern District Council's small grants scheme was open and would welcome applications, even from groups that are not formally constituted at this stage. The deadline for applications is the 3<sup>rd</sup> May and the full details are available on [www.chiltern.gov.uk](http://www.chiltern.gov.uk). DG can be contacted by phone at the District Council with any enquiries. In response to a query, DG said that it would be possible for ChAP to apply for funds for a specific project, e.g. something stemming from the CCV.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

##### **(i) Insurance**

The group agreed that the insurance policy should be renewed at the cost of £205.20.

*Mr Mohammad Fayyaz left the meeting at 3.43 pm.*

**(ii) Healthzone**

There was a discussion about the size of the healthzone building and whether this had been reduced. DT confirmed that the healthzone remains on track to be completed towards the end of 2011 with the full range of facilities agreed in the planning permission granted. This will include two GP surgeries.

NB raised his concern that the District Nurses will not be based at the healthzone and DT agreed to look into why this is happening. *[Post-meeting note: It is Bucks Healthcare who has moved the District Nurses, and not the Primary Care Trust.]*

*Mr Phil Folly left the meeting at 3.50 pm.*

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

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

*The meeting closed at 3.50 pm.*