

**Chesham Action Partnership
Management Committee Meeting
Tuesday 27th July 2010 at Chesham Town Hall**

M-08.10-1

In attendance:

Dr Tom Gorsuch (Chairman)	Chesham Society
Mr David Carter (Treasurer)	Chesham Society
Ms Kathryn Graves (Secretary)	Chesham Town Council (CTC)
Mr Bill Richards	CTC
Mr Ken Austin	Chesham Community Vision/Chesham Environmental Group (CEG)
Cllr Noel Brown	CTC, Chiltern District Council (CDC), Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC)
PCSO Mike Shepherd	Thames Valley Police (TVP)
PCSO Rob O'Callaghan	TVP
Mr Martin Woolnough	Chesham United Football Club/Little Spring School PTA
Mrs Kathy Mahoney	Little Spring School PTA
Ms Deborah Taylor	NHS Buckinghamshire
Ms Mora Walker	Chesham Museum
Mr Phil Folly	COPAG/CEG
Ms Barbara Richardson	COPAG
Cllr Merrin Molesworth	CTC
Mrs Jane Morris	Chesham Rugby Club
Cllr Mark Shaw	CTC/Pond Park Community Association
Mr Masud Ahmed	Chesham Asian Welfare Society

Apologies:

Management Committee: Mr Fred Wilson (Vice-Chairman) - Chesham Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Ms Alison Derek – BCC, Mr David Gardner – CDC, Cllr Gill Walker – CTC

Ms Moira Hamer – Amersham & Wycombe College, Mr Tony White - Chesham Town Twinning Association, Mr Brian McCullom - Chesham Park Community College, Ms Angela Martin - BCC Adult Learning and Libraries, Ms Heather Dean – Business Link, Mr Malcolm Godwin – BCC, Ms Jan Longhurt – Chesham Methodist Church, Cllr Roy Abraham – Chiltern Racial Equality Council

Apologies for lateness:

Ms Babara Richardson – COPAG.

1. Minutes of the Meeting of 8th June 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the 8th June 2010 were agreed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising

(i) Books For Schools

This matter was deferred to a future meeting.

(ii) Natural Living Centre

Arising from *Minute 3*, it was noted that the planning application for the Natural Living Centre has been withdrawn, but a revised application will be submitted.

(iii) Proposed Redevelopment of Chesham Hospital

In relation to *Minute 4*, the committee noted that the planning application for the redevelopment has been approved.

Cllr Noel Brown and Mr Ken Austin arrived at 2.01 pm.

(iv) Chesham Action Volunteers

Cllr Noel Brown (NB) said that the launch of the Chesham Action Volunteers had gone ahead on the 14th June, to create a voluntary group that can respond in times of difficulty. A discussion was held on the liability of volunteers and NB said that the new group will be seeking clarity on this issue and will be obtaining appropriate insurance cover.

Ms Barbara Richardson and Mr Masud Ahmed arrived at 2.07 pm.

3. Finance

Mr David Carter (DC) distributed copies of ChAP's revenue and expenses up to the 26th July 2010 and a ledger covering the 1st October 2009 to 30th March 2010.

ChAP expenditure this year has exceeded its income. ChAP has given money in response to nine applications, with an average grant of £217. The monies from CDC were received this June, but there is no guarantee what monies, if any, will be received next year.

NB queried what the insurance, listed as an expenditure, was for. DC explained that it is officers' liability insurance. It was agreed that the officers would continue seek cheaper quotes at renewal time.

NB asked whether CDC was the only source of income and suggested that ChAP should suggest schemes to CTC for funding. BR explained that whilst CDC was the only body providing finance, CTC provided a lot of free services, including room hire and administration.

4. Chesham Sports Festival Application

Mrs Jane Morris (JM) provided the background to the Chesham Sports Festival, which will provide a variety of tournaments and demonstrations for free. The event will take place on the 12th September at Chesham Park Community College and is being organised by Chesham Rugby Club. JM explained what other sources of funding are being applied for and that the size of the event and its associated costs

can be reduced if the full amount of funding is not achieved. NB said that the last time a similar event was held it did increase the amount of interest in sport by local children and saw the profile and membership of a number of local sports groups increase. For this reason, NB said he hoped that ChAP would be able to support this application.

The committee agreed to provide £230 funding to cover the cost of long jump sand, athletics results cards and athletic numbers.

Mrs Jane Morris left the meeting at 2.26 pm.

5. Little Spring School PTA Application

Mrs Kathy Mahoney (KM) outlined the plan for the PTA to organise an event at the start of the new school term to bring parents into the school environment and to encourage integration.

It was noted that one of the proposed activities is a petting farm. Dr Tom Gorsuch (TG) asked if the school had all the necessary facilities to offer this attraction safely, e.g. handwashing facilities. KM said that the school conducts all necessary risk assessments and has the appropriate insurance. Furthermore, the petting farm brings in all the required equipment and is an organisation that is approved by BCC and already attends the school as part of the curriculum.

Bearing in mind ChAP's limited resources, Mr Ken Austin (KA) asked why ChAP should fund Little Spring PTA, as opposed to other schools. KM said that Little Spring is located on the Pond Park estate, which is one of the more deprived areas of Chiltern and that the school has a diverse intake of students. For these reasons, it is important for the school to be able to run an affordable, inclusive event to encourage cohesiveness at the start of the new school year. Cllr Mark Shaw (MS) said that Little Spring School should be encouraged in its endeavours to reach out to the community. PCSO Rob O'Callaghan (RC) said that he has attended numerous events organised by the school and found them to be well attended by all sections of the community.

TG requested that the PTA provide ChAP with a specific item or items costing in the region of £250 that ChAP could provide the funding for. Mr Martin Woolnough (MW), the PTA Treasurer agreed to do so. KA proposed, and the committee agreed, that subject to receiving this information, the Chairman and Treasurer of ChAP could decide the amount of funding, in the region of £250, to fund specific aspects of the event.

6. Pond Park Community Association Application

MS explained that PPCA is setting up a weekly film and pizza night, in association with the Police, to get children off the streets and doing something constructive in the Pond Park area. This project was inspired by other similar projects elsewhere in the country, which have been very successful at engaging with young people who tend to cause disharmony in their community. The target age range is 11 to 15 year

olds. RC said that this is exactly the group that needs targeting in Pond Park and that Thames Valley Police is fully supportive of the project, and hopes that other activities can be run on other nights as the project develops. NB supported the project and said that it is important to establish activities in Pond Park itself, rather than expecting young people to come to the town centre.

TG queried how constructive the project would be and asked for examples of where similar projects have worked elsewhere. MS responded that the project will be valuable in breaking down barriers, teaching respect and getting parents engaged. He said that PCSO Les Roche would be able to provide examples of where the project has run successfully elsewhere.

KA asked who would be running the project and how sustainable it would be. MS said that initially the project would be run by PPCA with help from PCSO Les Roche. Over time, it is hoped that parents will take over its running; a few have already expressed their interest. Also, Chesham Youth Council is helping to support the project and it is hoped that CDC may get involved. Paradigm Housing is already working closely with PPCA and a funding application has been made to them. PPCA has also applied for further funding to the Local Area Forum and to the two county councillors whose wards cover Pond Park.

DC asked whether the activities of the group could be more productive, e.g. film-making, cooking, etc. MS said that the project may develop in time, but in the first instance the project needs to offer something that will instantly engage with its target audience.

MW said that a licence would be needed for showing films. MS said that he has sought assistance from the Licensing Officer at CDC in applying for a licence, which will cost in the region of £100.

TG said that ChAP needs to look carefully at its expenditure, owing to the limited funds available and requested that MS identify a specific area of cost that ChAP could fund. The committee agreed that, subject to the project going ahead and subject to PPCA providing a specific area for funding, the Chairman and Treasurer will decide upon the funding to be given up to a total of £250. NB commented that he would like to see ChAP give a higher amount of funding to PPCA.

7. Chairman of ChAP

TG expressed his wish to stand down as the Chairman of ChAP at the Annual General Meeting. Ms Kathryn Graves (KG) will circulate an email to the current committee members to ask them if they will be willing to stand again in the forthcoming year.

Action: Ms Kathryn Graves

TG called for nominations for a new chairman, but there were none forthcoming. The committee then discussed possible candidates for chairman and TG asked all members to approach their associated community groups for candidates. BR

suggested that ChAP needs to remain relatively independent and should not have as chairman someone who is representing a statutory body.

TG ran through the agenda of last year's Annual General Meeting and the committee agreed that this would be an appropriate template for the forthcoming meeting. It was agreed that the meeting will be held in October.

8. The Big Society

TG said that it is not possible to discuss the Big Society in any depth at the moment as the details of this concept have not been established. However, TG suggested that ChAP may have a useful role to play in the Big Society in time and that this topic should be discussed in the future.

DC queried ChAP's role in LAF. NB said that ChAP representatives would be welcome to attend LAF meetings, although ChAP is not a member of the LAF. In response to this, TG queried how ChAP could have access to the dates and paperwork for the meetings. BR agreed to ask Ms Alison Derrick for details so that dates and agendas of the LAF can be posted on the ChAP web page.

Action: Mr Bill Richards

9. Any Other Business

(i) Mini-Health Check

Ms Deborah Taylor (DT) announced that a mini-health check event will be held at Chesham Methodist Hall between 11 am and 2 pm on Saturday 25th September, which will be open to everyone. NB said that this was an important event due to the health disparities between the wealthy and poor people living in Chesham and that we should encourage as many people to attend as is possible.

DT will provide leaflets to KG for her to distribute to any interested members.

(ii) Chesham United Football Club

MW reported that the football club is now owned by its supporters. The management committee wants to increase the usage of the facility by the community and would be interested to receive suggestions.

(iii) Leaflet Racks

TG reported that two of the tourism leaflet racks, previously supported by CDC, no longer seem to exist and spares are being sought elsewhere in the District. He also noted with concern that the majority of leaflets refer to attractions and events that are outside Chesham.

(iv) Chesham Health Zone

DT reported that the contracts for the new Health Zone have been signed off and that work is due to start at the end of August 2010. It is anticipated that the zone will be completed in early 2012.

The meeting closed at 3.25 pm.