

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

AMENITY LAND COMMITTEE

AGENDA

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2010

The meeting will commence at 7.30 pm at the Council Office, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP10 8DS

1. Ms K Wood **Chairman** (TG)
2. R Smith **Vice-Chairman** (L)
3. Ms E Belcher (FH)
4. Mrs J Chalmers (FH)
5. Mrs S Digby (FH)
6. I Forbes (TG)
7. Ms J Johnson (TG)
8. C Jordan (L)
9. L Willis (L)
10. D Johncock (ex-officio) (FH)
11. J Herschel (ex-officio) (TG)

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1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** At the time of the agenda distribution, no apologies for absence have been received.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** To receive any declarations of interest by Members pertaining to Agenda Items.
3. **TYLERS GREEN COMMON (agenda page 2)**
4. **KINGSWOOD (agenda page 3)**
5. **FENNELS WOOD (agenda page 4)**
6. **COMMITTEE BUDGETS (agenda pages 5)**
7. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (agenda page 6)**
8. **DELEGATED ACTION (agenda page 7)**



H R O Jones
Clerk of the Council
26 January 2010

AGENDA ITEM 3

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The Council owns this land, which is registered as Village Green and lies within a Conservation Area.

TYLERS GREEN COMMON

Deed of Grant: Gorse View – CONSIDERATION

The Council has been asked to consider an application for a Deed of Grant for Access Rights from the Solicitors representing the owner of Gorse View, Ireland Abrahams Solicitors.

A copy of J Abrahams letter of 22 December 2009 is attached (**APPENDIX A**).

At the Committee Chairman's request the Clerk has arranged to meet the Council's Solicitors, Benhams, on 26 January 2010 to obtain advice about the application.

Having previously considered the application, the Council wrote to Mr Herd on 1 May 2008 indicating:

- *"The Parish Council does not require residents on Tylers Green or Totteridge Commons to obtain Deeds of Grant for Access Rights;*
- *Deeds of Grant are authorised in consultation between the Chairman of the Amenity Land Committee and Clerk, or if appropriate, referred to that Committee for consideration;*
- *If an application was considered for the existing property at Gorse View it would only be approved under the provisions of the Vehicular Access Across Common and Other Land (England) Regulations 2002 and details of the year of build and open market valuation of the property would be required. Each application is considered on a case by case basis taking into account any historical access rights and the effect that any changes would have on the amenity area; and*
- *The Council will not consider applications for potential premises until planning consent has been obtained from the relevant planning authority."*

Members are asked to consider the application for a Deed of Grant for Gorse View in light of the comments of the Council's legal advisors.

AGENDA ITEM 4

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The Council owns this woodland. The land is maintained in conjunction with the Council's Forestry Consultants, UPM Tilhill.

KINGSWOOD

UPM Tilhill: Closure of Chilterns Office – CONSIDERATION

It is noted that UPM Tilhill, the Council's Forestry Consultant, has closed its Chilterns Office.

The Council's contact for Tilhill, Mr D Lewis, is now based in Winchester.

A copy of correspondence exchange of December 2009 and January 2010 between the Clerk of the Council and UPM Tilhill is attached for information (**APPENDIX B**).

The Clerk of the Council and Council Warden will be meeting Mr Lewis on 28 January 2010 in order to discuss transitional arrangements and the ongoing management targets.

Members are asked to consider matters arising from the closure of the Chiltern Office of UPM Tilhill in respect of the management of Kingswood and to advise on any action required, as appropriate.

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FENNELS WOOD

Fennels Wood: Ownership and Management of Wood – CONSIDERATION

With the Committee Chairman's approval, J White has asked the Committee to consider the ownership and management of Fennels Wood. He writes:

"Fennels Wood is now divided in two by the M40 motorway and this has had a devastating effect on the Loudwater side as the motorway has stopped the natural drainage down the valley side and therefore the woodland on the north (Loudwater) side dries out badly in summer months. You will find much more woodland degradation on this side than the South side.

This northern part in particular, needs some good management and replanting with species which may withstand the drought more effectively (More tap rooted trees such as Oaks could well be the answer.

CWPC has established footpaths through both parts of this wood and installed steps at various points with the cooperation of the owner under a licensing arrangement.

Fennels Wood is invaluable at keeping motorway noise away from the residential area of Flackwell Heath and particularly Loudwater, particularly in summer time with full leaf cover.

Both sides of the wood provide tremendous recreation areas for all the population.

I believe that we should be spearheading a drive to purchase this woodland ensuring that the management of the area is improved in all respects and the woodland preserved for future generations.

Rather than doing this directly ourselves, it may be more advantageous to try to interest the Woodland Trust is taking the lead and/or the Chiltern Society."

The Woodland is currently owned by Mrs Olsen's estate (Mrs Olsen elder having passed away in 2009 and the estate transferring to Mrs Tracy Olsen of Stokenchurch). The Council has sought to purchase the land in the past but without success.

Members are asked to consider J White's proposals regarding the ownership and management of Fennels Wood and to advise accordingly on any required action.

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COMMITTEE BUDGETS

Attached are:

- The finance detailed report (**APPENDIX C**)
- Projected variances from budget 2009/10 (**APPENDIX D**)
- Budget summary sheet (**APPENDIX E**)
- Earmarked reserves sheet (**APPENDIX F**)

The Budget Reports show:

- The 2008/09 budget, actual income and expenditure;
- The 2009/10 actual income and expenditure figures are correct to the end of December 2009. The annual projected is an estimate of income and expenditure for 2009/10 to 31 March 2010; and
- The 2010/11 budget.

2009/10 Budget

| | Budget | Projection at 31/3/10 |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Expenditure | 41,342 | 46,464 |
| Income | 2,137 | 11,109 |
| Net | 39,205 | 36,355 |

The projected expenditure for 2009/10 is £2,850 under budget. The variances are set on the variance spreadsheet.

2010/11 Budget

The Budget as set at the Council meeting on 19 January 2010 is:

| | 2009/10 | 2010/11 |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Expenditure | 41,342 | 40,624 |
| Income | 2,137 | 6,147 |
| Net | 39,205 | 34,477 |

When comparing the 2010/11 Budget and the 2009/10 budget it can be seen there is a difference of £4,728. This is mainly due to the exceptional expenditure and income in each year's Budget.

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ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Approval of Accounts for Payment - CONSIDERATION

The Accounts for Payment are to be circulated at the meeting for the approval of Members.

Members are reminded to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interests in any items submitted for payment.

Members of the Press and Public are asked to be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of any Confidential Payments, such as payments to members of the Council Staff.

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DELEGATED ACTION

Delegated Action - INFORMATION

Since the last meeting of Amenity Land Committee the Clerk has authorised and processed the following permit:

- Penn & Tylers Green Super Fun Run to take place on Tylers Green Common on 19 and 20 June 2010 (25 12 09).

Since the last meeting of Amenity Land Committee the Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk have authorised and processed the following permit:

- To authorise the installation of the Betty Lay memorial bench at Tylers Green Common with paving slabs, rescinding the Amenity Land Committee Minutes of 3 February 2009 Item 3 (i) and pending a review of the surface treatment of the paths and benches to be agreed with Penn Parish Council (19 11 09).