

## 10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES & GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

- A. Finance & Emergency Committee:** All councillors had received a copy of the draft minutes from the last meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2013 (Minutes FM 03/2013) and the contents were noted and accepted including the salary increase for the Clerk backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.
- B. Planning Committee:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September.
- C. Allotments:** There are still some of the numbering stakes to be put in and a work party will be organised to do this.
- D. Burial Areas:** Cllr P Wilson is investigating a report that the wall in the Closed Cemetery is damaged. New signs will be put on the gates at the Closed Cemetery and Non Conformist Burial Ground asking people to keep the gates shut and pick up their dog poo. Cllr Wilson had received a call about the grass cutting at the Cemetery and had advised the parishioner that it is cut as and when it is required to keep the costs down. The Clerk advised that Mr Jack Wright had retired from grave digging.
- E. Environmental Overview Group:** The next meeting will be held in September, date to be arranged. Cllr Lyon will speak to the contractor about the footpath that runs along the back of the High Street and also about cutting in Fairchild's Meadows. The Recreation Field hedge will be trimmed over the next couple of weeks and other hedge work will be carried out in October/November.
- F. Fairchild's Meadows:** The group had met on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and plans are in place for work to be carried out on the pond and to cut back the brambles around the pond and in the middle field. A section of the thistles in Long Meadow have been sprayed and it now needs to be grazed by the sheep then the whole field will be sprayed again in the spring. The sheep should be in during the next month and once they have grazed Long Meadow they will move into the Wildflower Meadow. Emergency contact signs will be erected at the two main entrances in Chewells Lane and Hinton Hedges Lane. A plant survey had been carried out on a section of the Wildflower Meadow and further surveys are planned for next year.
- G. Road Safety:** Cllr G Wilson will chase up on the latest Local Minor Highways bid for Duck Lane (see Minutes MM 07/2013 Item 10E). Cllr Norman asked the group to look into the possibility of a footpath at Feast's Green and Cllr Wilson will ascertain the required width for putting in a footpath.
- H. Wayman's Pits:** The grass has been cut, baled and carted together with some bales from last year. The Steam Rally will be held on 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> September.
- I. Arkenstall Centre:** The last meeting had been held in July and Cllr G Wilson is progressing a grant application for the toilet upgrades. Various maintenance and painting work has been carried out over the summer. The recent garage sale had been very successful with 54 garages taking part and approximately £500 raised for the Centre.
- J. Haddenham Youth Club:** The Club will start again on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September and opening times will remain at 6.30pm to 8.30pm until further notice. The Youth Leaders will be setting rules with the members and asking them to set their own too. These will include issues such as litter and smoking outside the pavilion entrance. All members will also be asked to complete new membership forms. Some sports activities are planned on the Recreation Field whilst the good weather holds and there are plans to bring in various workers to discuss issues such as sexual health and substance misuse. A consultation will be carried out with members to ascertain what types of activities they would like to have at the club. Advertising for the Club has been stepped up to try to encourage more people to join.
- K. Neighbourhood Panel:** The former Chairman had been re-elected at the last meeting and Cllr G Wilson was elected as Vice Chairman. A report had been made about litter and debris on Station Road but nothing appears to have been done about it so far. The new E-cops system was discussed.
- L. Pond:** A work party had been held on the morning of 31<sup>st</sup> August to clear vegetation around the bird watching screen to make it more usable and interesting. Another area was also opened up to create a possible new viewing area. The committee members will inspect this and plans to put in a seat and safety barrier will be discussed. A stainless steel Guppy fish weather vane, made by John Burgess, had been erected on the middle island as a memorial to the late Mr Guppy who had originally donated the pond to the village. A Boating Day event was then held in the afternoon and was well attended.

S.M.