



<p>Council March/April 16. It was also noted that the current clubhouse is in a bad condition. The Parish Council will meet with key members of the football team and LESA to discuss if remedial works can be done in the short term.</p> <p><b>5) LEYCC / Playing Fields</b> Cllr Wright requested this was deferred until a future meeting.</p> <p><b>6) PACE Project</b> The initial research for The Playing Fields was carried out by David Lett of New Meaning. Mr Lett has approached BCC, Red Kite and the Parish Council with a suggestion to donate his outstanding fee of £6000 to a 'Champion' whose task would be engender continued community interest in the Playing Fields.</p> <p><b>7) Matters Arising</b> None.</p> <p><b>8) Finance -</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i) Approval of payment of Accounts for December 2015 Council approved expenditure.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ii) Proposed draft budget &amp; Precept 2016/17 Council noted the draft budget and suggested minor modifications on several budget lines. Council awaits confirmation from WDC re the LCTS Support Grant.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">iii) Donation to the Open Spaces Society Having already made a donation to the Open Spaces Society this financial year, Council decided to defer this to a future meeting.</p> <p><b>9) Replacement of road sign</b> BCC asked if the Parish Council would like them to install a new sign as you enter the village from Sands. The 'Kill your Speed' sign must be taken away as they are no longer valid. Council resolved to a the installation of a new sign to state:  'LANE END  Twinned with St Pierre d Oleron  Please drive carefully through our Village'.</p> <p><b>10) Chiltern Rangers Community Minibus</b> Chiltern Rangers CIC is an organisation that provides the use of a community mini bus.  Users are requested to join a minibus membership scheme, which has an annual charge of £25. Thereafter, the bus can be hired at a flat rate of £60 (incl. VAT) per day. This covers insurance and breakdown and the minibus should be returned with a full fuel tank.  The drivers would need to be sourced from a team of volunteers between the ages of 21-75, have been driving for at least 2 years and have undertaken MIDAS training.  Cllr Smith will draft a letter to all local organisations to establish if there is interest. This will be brought back to Council for consideration at a future meeting.</p> <p><b>11) M40 Group</b> The M40 Group has achieved an agreement with the Highway Agency for the installation of barriers. It is expected that these might be installed in 2017/18. The Parish Council wanted to express thanks to Ken Edwards and his Committee for all their work on this important issue.</p> <p><b>12) Pond Cottage</b> It was reported to the meeting in open session that at the previous meeting on 2nd November 2015 Council had determined in Closed Session that it would sell a small strip of land on Moorend Common which was immediately adjacent to Pond Cottage to the owner of Pond Cottage. This decision had been taken in accordance with the powers that that Council has to sell land under Section 127 of the LGA 1972.  The decision was based on legal and professional advice received by Council in terms of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>52/12</b> <b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Cllr Smith</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Clerk</b></p>
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avoiding a potentially protracted and expensive legal action regarding a minor boundary dispute.

In taking this decision, Council had reaffirmed that it was their intention at all times to protect the integrity of the Common and if in the future there was any substantial encroachment it would not hesitate to take any necessary legal action.

### **13) Grass Cutting / Devolved Services**

The Grass Cutting Working Group presented the following recommendations to Council:

The Group had agreed that in general terms the performance of the existing contractor was very good. It was noted that there had been one or two instances where relatively minor issues had arisen but that these had been quickly addressed once they had been raised with the contractor. The Group also agreed that there seemed to be a generally good level of satisfaction with the existing grass cutting regime in that very few complaints or adverse comments had been received from parishioners throughout the duration of the contract.

It was noted that whilst there were potential advantages in periodically market testing for the delivery of contracted services, there was no actual obligation to do so at any prescribed or set intervals. It was also further noted that there were potential advantages in retaining the same contractor if general performance levels were satisfactory.

The Working Group felt that consideration also needed to be given to the Council's decision to take on Devolved Services from Buckinghamshire County Council in that this would clearly require additional grass cutting to be undertaken as well as some other work including hedge trimming, siding out, weed killing and maintaining Footpaths.

The Group had concluded that in taking on Devolved Services there was a lack of local knowledge in terms of what was exactly involved and there would inevitably be a steep learning curve in the first year or two. In this respect there would also inevitably be a degree of trial and error in determining the best way to deliver the services that had been devolved. However, and notwithstanding this, the Group had reached a view that there would be clear advantages in integrating the new grass cutting responsibilities with the main grass cutting contract.

On this basis, and with respect to grass cutting, the Group determined that :

The incorporation of Devolved Services, and the uncertainties surrounding this, provided exceptional grounds to give consideration to retaining the existing contractor for a further limited period. As such, and noting the good levels of performance of the existing contractor, it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to retain this contractor for a further period of 2 years subject to the provision of an acceptable quote for the delivery of the same work that is undertaken in the existing contract.

In addition, and noting that the existing contract included a small proportion of land not in the Council's ownership, it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to continue the grass cutting of these areas for at least a period of a further 2 years.

It was further agreed to recommend that the existing contractor should be invited to tender for the new grass cutting responsibilities arising from Devolved Services.

Finally, and in relation to the other new responsibilities arising from Devolved Services, it was agreed that :

Noting the scale implied by the scope and specification of these new responsibilities, and the limited funds provided, it was agreed to recommend that the Council should adopt a generally reactive approach to these new responsibilities. In terms of hedge flailing specifically, it was however agreed to recommend that a general priority should be given to main roads and junctions.

It was further agreed to recommend that Council should identify a number of "preferred contractors" able to undertake the work required and agree in advance rates for doing so. It was noted that for certain tasks this could potentially include the contractor undertaking the grass cutting.

Council resolved to fully accept the recommendations presented by the Working Group.

**14) Clerk's report**

- i. The Church has advised they are currently seeking advice re the container and asked The Clerk to put their request on hold for the moment.
- ii. The ad for a Trustee(s) for the Mole and Pickett Charities has been published in Clarion, on the notice boards and LEPC website.
- iii. Council's Solicitors have confirmed that a letter to terminate the lease with LESA has been issued.
- iv. The Clerk and the Chairman have been in contact with BCC regarding the VAS not working correctly. BCC advise this now a high priority.
- v. No 2 Ditchfield Cottages have asked Council to progress their easement for their gas pipe.
- vi. Wycombe DC has been in the process of an ongoing project to devolve the management services of its rural green spaces across the District. The District Council owns two sites in Lane End, one at Lammas Way. The Clerk has contacted WDC and advised LEPC may be in a position to re-consider.
- vii. SSE is currently carrying out lamp changes and the electrical testing. The painting of the columns has not yet been carried out.
- viii. The speed awareness wheelie bins stickers are being distributed to the 30mph main roads within the village.
- ix. The Manager at Londis has confirmed they would be happy for the AED unit to be fixed to the side of their shop.

Action – Clerk

Action – Clerk

**15) Invitations to Meetings, Correspondence & Reports received**

Council noted the report.

Action – Clerk

**16) Matters raised by Councillors**

The Clerk will contact WDC again about the flytipping.

Action – Clerk

A bush outside the ex Chinese on the Harris Garden has been cut down, the Clerk will contact BCC regarding this.

The Parish Council should consider if an event should be planned for the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. There are several Lane End Community related Facebook pages, Council should consider how to link them together.

Action – Clerk  
Action – Cllr  
Harries

Cllr Harries offered to draft a letter which could be sent out to any new residents moving into The Village. This would be a welcome letter and fact sheet.

Cllr Smith reported that she had attended a meeting with UK Mats re progress on site.

Action – Clerk

**17) Planning: To consider new applications and receive Wycombe District Council Decisions and Appeals**

**New Applications**

<u>15/08152/FUL</u>	2 Sycamore Cottages Church Road Lane End	Householder application for removal of existing garage and outbuildings, erection of replacement single storey timber clad garage/store/garden room building <b>No objection.</b>
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NEXT MEETING: To confirm the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in the Sycamore Room.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting 21.25.

Signed..... (Chair)

Dated.....