

CHALFONT HEIGHTS ROADS COMMITTEE

"Bochym",  
Lewis Lane,  
Chalfont Heights.

February 1981.

Dear Resident,

I have pleasure in attaching a copy of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 6th February this year, and I have been asked to take this opportunity to draw your particular attention to a few points raised either at the AGM or in Committee during the year.

1. PLEASE do not park on the verges - this causes damage and inconvenience to everyone.
2. PLEASE do not let your dog foul the verges - it is unpleasant, to say the least, for those residents who try to keep their verges trimmed and tidy.
3. PLEASE stop and think before lighting a bonfire on a beautiful summer evening. There are too few sunny days anyway and to combine them with bonfire smoke is really inconsiderate.
4. PLEASE help to keep the Heights free from litter by looking after the immediate area surrounding your property. This way we can overcome the problem caused by Council services not extending to the Estate.

Many thanks for your continued co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



Denis Bates  
Chairman

Encl.  
AGM Minutes  
Financial Statement  
Terms of Reference (to follow)

MINUTES OF THE 26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE CHALFONT HEIGHTS ROADS COMMITTEE

held on Friday, February 6th, 1981 at the  
Chalfont St. Peter Sports Club at 8.15 p.m.

Present: Nine members of the Committee and 38 residents. TOTAL 47

Apologies for absence were received from : J.C. Campbell, D.W. Clarke,  
Lt. Col. Dickson, Mrs. J. Laurie, and K.G. Smith.

Mr. D.A. Bates in the chair

The Chairman opened the meeting by paying tribute to Mr. John Laurie who had died last year. Mr. Laurie took a great interest in the Estate and his knowledge of Chalfont St. Peter contributed a great deal to the production of "A History of Chalfont Heights" which was published privately by the Committee to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Estate. His passing is a great loss to the community.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as circulated.

2. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

The report on the work of the Committee covering the year ended 31st December, 1980 was approved and adopted as circulated prior to the meeting.

3. QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THE REPORT

a) Trees on Lincoln Road

Mr. Jarvis reported that they were not included in the years programme but they would be discussed with the tree surgeons during this current year. As they were becoming very tall, some residents asked if trees on the verges to their properties might be lopped at their own expense, but this was not considered practicable and might lead to the loss of too much overhead cover in isolated sections.

Trees within garden boundaries could be trimmed by the tree contractor at the residents own expense but it was felt that arrangements should be made through Mr. Jarvis in advance to enable the surgeons to plan the work to fit in with the Estate programme.

It was noted with pleasure that residents were concerned enough with the care and preservation of Estate trees to suggest bearing the cost themselves but although it would be preferred to carry out this work through the tree programme, residents are reminded that there is a statutory preservation order on trees of 12" or more in diameter and if a particular specimen on their property is worth preserving then such an order may be obtained from the appropriate authority.

b) Roads

The ramps were considered to be successful but some young boys on unlicensed and uninsured motor-cycles were using them indiscriminately and illegally, especially on Sunday mornings (Ellis Avenue particularly) and this was causing annoyance.

It was thought that if a Committee member might take a convenient opportunity to discuss this with the parents of the boys, some of whom were known to be children of residents, this might help to stop this nuisance.

The meeting understood that the boys were under the impression from the Police that they were not breaking any laws on private property but this is not so - liability in accidents and insurance apply to all roads open and used by the public whether privately or publicly owned.

The Chairman undertook to write to the Chief Constable pointing out that such advice (as had been purported to be given to these youngsters by local Officers) is both dangerous and misleading.

The soakaway in the road outside Mount Fort, Ellis Avenue was reported still blocked. Although the contractors had been instructed to clear it, they had apparently attended to the wrong one. Mr. Jarvis undertook to attend to this as soon as possible.

c) Finance

On the suggestion of the Chairman, a very warm round of applause was given to the Treasurer for her outstanding success in achieving 100% response to the payment of subscriptions.

The request from the Treasurer for an increase in the full subscriptions from £20.00 to £24.00 p.a., and the reduced subscription from £16.00 to £20.00 p.a. was approved unanimously.

The meeting did consider that although the Committee had achieved splendid work without increase in subscriptions over the past few years, by so doing, it had probably depleted its reserves considerably. If this was so, the meeting suggested that the increase should be more substantial, since by any standards the present subscription rate was fairly modest for the amount of work the Committee had set out to achieve.

This attitude was welcomed by the Committee and although the subscription increases were small this year, the Committee would promise to look into realistic subscriptions to match future programmes for consideration next year, ever bearing in mind the position relating to income tax.

The treasurer appealed for subscriptions to be paid promptly (at the new rate) and help her achieve the same success as in 1980.

d) Trustees/Development

There were no questions under this heading but the general subject of trees being included in covenants was raised. The Committee were unaware of any covenants which included restrictions on trees, but situations had arisen where the Trustees had released restrictive covenants on the basis of preservation of certain trees but each situation was considered on its merits and its effect on the Estate and surroundings.

4. ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

In the absence of any further nominations, the Committee was unanimously re-elected en-bloc to serve for a further year of office. The meeting also generously expressed its thanks to the Committee for its work on behalf of the residents.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. Dogs

Once again the objectionable habit of allowing dogs to foul the grass verges was raised. This is very unpleasant when walking the verges and for those residents who try to keep them clean and tidy. There was an appeal from the meeting to keep pets under control.

ii. Bonfires

The meeting raised the practice of lighting bonfires during summer week-ends and summer evenings, making it most unpleasant for those wishing to enjoy what little sunshine we get without being enveloped in smoke and smell. Residents were urged to give a little more thought before lighting up which would help to solve the problem. Better still compost the rubbish or take it to the Council tip in Amersham Road.

iii. Terms of Reference

Twenty-six years ago the Terms of Reference of the Committee were established at the first Annual General Meeting, and this has been the basis on which the Committee has acted ever since. As there must be many new residents who are unaware of these terms it was suggested that a copy be circulated.

6. THE MEETING CLOSED with thanks to the Sports Club for providing the facilities of the Bar and for the use of the Club House.