

Little Chalfont



Community Improvement Plan

July 2018

Introduction

THIS PLAN REPLACES THE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN THAT WAS ADOPTED IN 2009 FOLLOWING A MARKET TOWN HEALTH CHECK AND RESULTS FROM A REVIEW AND CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY UNDERTAKEN IN 2017.

The Review

This produced some 400 suggestions which were filtered, prioritized and then grouped into the four categories presented in the revised Plan. Outstanding items in the original 2009 Plan were also reviewed and carried forward.

The Outcome

There are four underlying themes to the outcome:

1. Improvement of community assets which will serve the needs of a population that has grown to over 6500.
2. A clean, tidy and well maintained village.
3. Improving the appearance of the village centre, coupled with a desire to be recognized as a nature friendly village.
4. A focus on attracting visitors to the village and its surrounds, in turn helping to maintain the economic viability of the village.

The contents of the Plan are a faithful representation of the suggestions received, although in some instances have been widened to embrace a review of facilities etc. for the whole village.

(cont'd)

Introduction (continued)

Implementation

- Overall responsibility for implementation rests with the Little Chalfont Community Association (LCCA), which incorporates the Little Chalfont Revitalisation Group.
- In practice, the LCCA will liaise closely with the Little Chalfont Parish Council and specific actions or projects will be taken forward by either body individually or jointly as circumstances dictate. Such decisions will usually be driven by the organisation best placed to achieve the desired outcome, including access to funding.
- Wherever possible, members of the community will be involved in the delivery of their aspirations.
- Some aspirations could well prove to be challenging but have nevertheless been included, to ensure that they can be explored and researched.
- Copies of the Plan will be made available through the websites of the Community Association and the Parish Council, with printed copies supplied to anyone who wishes to have one.
- Regular updates of progress will be publicised to the community through newsletters, websites and social media.

Resources

In support of the Improvement Plan, a pack has been prepared as a source of reference for those implementing specific actions or projects. This contains illustrative comments received during the consultation and a complete list of the suggestions.

Acknowledgements

To Sian Lloyd and Rose Crabb for leading the review, consultation and preparation of the Plan.

To John Aberson for recording and analysing all the responses.

To the committee members of the Community Association and all who assisted at the consultation events.

Environment



- ***Raise the profile of Little Chalfont as a nature friendly village***

- Complete the Nature Park project and increase its promotion.
- Replace/increase trees on key roads in the village
- Wildflower planting around the village

Improve the appearance of Little Chalfont



- Scheme to improve the appearance of the village centre
- Flowers around signage
- Make the most of all green spaces in the village
- Work with Transport for London on station appearance and surrounds

Keep Little Chalfont tidy



- Set up volunteer litter picking groups around the village
- More bins outside the shops
- More dog litter bins in popular dog walking areas

Community



- ***Improve facilities at Westwood Park***

- New pavilion with toilets and changing rooms
- Improved drainage and levelling of pitches
- Activities for children and teenagers during school holidays



- ***New and improved community amenities in village centre***

- Build new Community Centre on existing village hall site
- Provide continued support for our Community Library
- Additional community events

- ***Community Support***



- Local scheme of driver transport for use by elderly residents for medical appointments and shopping
- Develop a Good Neighbour ethos for the village including:
 - Increase of Resident and Road Associations
 - Increase the reach of Neighbourhood Watch
 - Annual/Regular 'Do something for your neighbour days'
 - Buddy schemes between different age groups
- Develop an electronic means of reaching the whole community

Transport



- ***Improve the safety of pedestrians and drivers***
 - Introduce a 20 mph speed limit through village centre and by primary schools
 - Extend pavement railing on either side of railway bridge
 - Regular maintenance of signage and street lighting to ensure that it is clean, visible and effective
 - Review all pedestrian crossings (position & type) within the village, inc. near schools
 - Provide crossing from Snells Wood to Nature Park entrance
 - Provide lighting and CCTV for Beel Close/Marigold Walk underpass



- ***Parking and traffic speeding enforcement***
 - Monitor and continually explore ways to improve parking in the village
 - Facilitate improved enforcement of existing parking restrictions
 - Improve enforcement of speed restrictions
 - Explore means of limiting commuter parking in residential roads



- ***Maintain heavily used areas for pedestrians and drivers***
 - Keep drains cleared throughout village
 - Improve gully clearing throughout the village
 - Pursue repairing of potholes and aid reporting by residents
 - Regularly clear overgrown hedges, trees etc. from cycle paths & footpaths



- ***Work with TfL to improve services linked to rail/tube and station***
 - Increase capacity of cycle racks
 - Increase parking at the station
 - Tidy up land behind Citygate Bodyshop Repairs
 - Improve road surfaces (station approach either side)



- ***Improve conditions for cyclists***
 - Increase cycle path infrastructure and its effectiveness

Business & Tourism



- ***Constantly review parking provision for village centre to reduce retailer/resident frustration***

- Seek to optimise parking in the village for visitors to shops and amenities
- Advertise Snells Wood 1hr free parking more widely and improve signage to direct people to Snells Wood car park
- Encourage residents to walk or cycle to minimise waiting time for a space in Chenies Parade and queuing in the main road (A404)



- ***Maintain the vitality of the retail landscape***

- Encourage as far as is achievable a good mix of retail outlets
- Seek strict application of the Local Plan policy criteria for cafes and food outlets
- Establish a Business/Trade Association: Enhance the annual Small Business Saturday
- Consider an additional promotional event e.g. a food festival



- ***Enhance the appearance of the village centre***

- Develop a programme of improvements, including landscaping
- Maintain the hanging baskets
- Improve the Christmas lights
- More benches on the village green



- ***Encourage visitors & tourism***

- Provide directional signage from station to the Nature Park
- Provide attractive notice board at village side station entrance which promotes Little Chalfont
- Develop a visitor strategy