



LITTLE CHALFONT
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

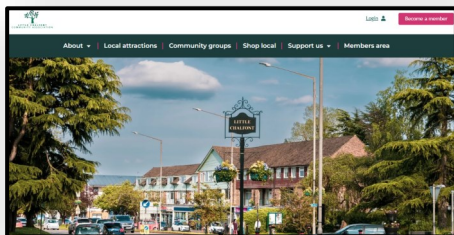
Little Chalfont Community Association
Supporting a vibrant community

NEWSLETTER
Summer 2024

Welcome to the Community Association's newsletter.

In our January newsletter we highlighted our vision to make Little Chalfont an attractive and sustainable place to live, work and enjoy, and appealed for support to enable us to continue to develop our activity in Little Chalfont. We are very pleased that five willing volunteers have come forward to provide support for the Little Chalfont Park Liaison Group and to coordinate Village Day in 2025. This is great news – but we are still keen for more volunteers to join and become part of our team.

Our first big initiative this year, which we announced at our AGM in April, is the imminent launch of a new, modernised, informative and interactive website. This will take over some of our membership



function, freeing valuable volunteer time and, significantly, will enable our members to have a say in what we do and how we do it. We are very keen that what we do continues to reflect the needs and desires of our ever changing community.

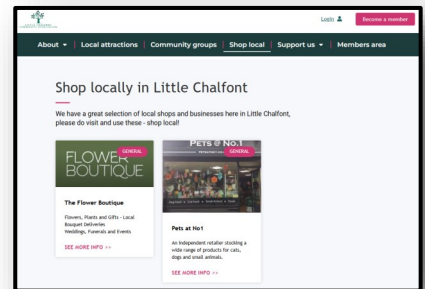
Current members will receive an email shortly, after the new website is launched, inviting them to log into the members' area of the website.



As well as managing the membership function for members, our new website will provide enhanced local information, which we hope will grow over time, with increased focus on local facilities and services, and encouragement to shop and socialise locally.

Please take time to visit the website and give us your views and any ideas for helpful content – for example there will be a 'local walk' area

coming soon, and we'd love some ideas of your favourite local walks.



For those of you not yet members, this is an ideal time to sign up, to benefit from our enhanced membership which gives you the opportunity to comment on our projects, and suggest new projects, in addition to receiving the regular email updates we provide to our members.

Please do visit the website www.littlechalfont.org.uk and please do also consider supporting your Community Association by giving a little of your time – details of how you can help specifically are all on the website.

STOP PRESS: See back page for announcement of next Little Chalfont Park development consultation

Village day 2025 announcement and centenary anniversary theme

As we announced at our AGM in April, we are delighted that we will be able to run Village Day on 21st June 2025.

2025 marks 100 years since the name 'Little Chalfont' was first used for the group of dwellings then known as Chalfont Station Road, so we are taking this 100th anniversary as our theme for what promises to



be a bigger and better than ever Village Day.

Planning is already well underway, and our organisers are keen to hear from any groups wishing to take part, either to perform or to have a stall on the day.

Please email villageday@littlechalfont.org.uk to register your interest.

Farewell to Roger Funk

Presentation at AGM

We paid tribute to Roger Funk who stood down as Chairman at our AGM after 14 years in the post. Roger joined the committee shortly after the Village Society and Revitalisation group amalgamated and was elected Chairman in 2010.

His immediate focus was to increase the Association's profile around the village, both with residents and businesses. Roger took the lead in formulating responses for some immediate planning issues, in particular Chiltern District Council's core strategy, the development of 250 dwellings on the former Sawmill site off Bell Lane, the land at Snells Lane (the old Sculpture Field) and subsequently the development of the Donkey Field, now Brayfield Lane/Close, off Burtons Lane.

Roger took the lead in taking action where there would have been negative impact, leading objections where appropriate and liaising to ensure proper consultation and minimum disruption. He exemplified the importance of working in partnership with other local bodies and communicating with the village.

Over the last few years Roger has played a leading role in the campaign to stop the development of the former golf course and Homestead Farm. The hundreds of hours that Roger and the co-ordination group put into formulating the response should not be underestimated.

Although the result of the appeal was disappointing, their work continues to inform activity to obtain the best outcome for the village (see back page).

Under Roger's leadership the LCCA has initiated and supported projects which have become separate organisations, contributing significantly to the growing sense of community within Little Chalfont.

With a group of volunteers and many donations from local residents, Roger spearheaded the establishment of the Little Chalfont Charitable Trust to purchase the Sculpture Field, which became the highly successful Nature Park, run now by its own management group and maintained by the parish council.

Leading on from the LCCA's Good Neighbours initiative, Roger had the vision to create a dementia cafe in Little Chalfont, Cafe 22, which is now run as a separate charity.



Presentation to Roger by Tom Robertson at the AGM

He managed all this while continuing to ensure that the Community Association's core projects, our Community Improvement Plan, Christmas lights, hanging baskets, Village days and a twice yearly newsletter of local events and news, all functioned smoothly and on time, for the benefit of the whole community.



The green glass plaque presented to Roger

Little Chalfont owes you a huge debt of gratitude Roger - we all thank you.

The LCCA Committee

Meet our new Chair

Margaret Booroff Davies was elected Chair of the Community Association at our AGM in April. She writes:



Margaret Booroff Davies: Chair

Having lived in Little Chalfont for almost 30 years, I am honoured to be taking the Chair of our Association. After a long career in financial services team and client management, I joined the committee two years ago, initially liaising with our local businesses and helping to facilitate our strategic review into our purpose and processes.

My husband, Vic Davies, became a parish councillor here last year.

I'm delighted that we are launching our new membership website this month and I am looking forward to working with the committee and the community to refresh our Community Improvement Plan and to plan our forthcoming 'Visit Little Chalfont' strategy.

Committee members



Steve Cooper: Treasurer



Sarah Dexter: Secretary



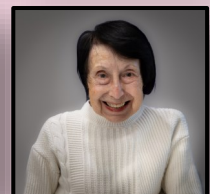
Adrian Lockyer: Membership coordinator



Sian Lloyd: Nature friendly village



Shirley Strange: Voluntary organisations and schools



Helen Tyers: Dementia friendly village

News from our parish council

Flags raised to mark D-Day

To mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6 June, the parish council raised Union Flags outside the shops in both Nightingales Corner and Chenies Parade (see picture).



D-Day was the start of the Allied invasion of Normandy, and was the largest amphibious operation in history. It enabled the United

Kingdom, the United States and their allies to land substantial forces on mainland Europe during the Second World War, beginning the liberation of Western Europe.

Large audience for parish council annual meeting

The annual parish council meeting in May 2024 attracted some 100 people, as the highlight of the evening was an address by a representative of the Hill Group, the company that will be redeveloping the old golf course site between Burtons Lane and Lodge Lane.

After the presentation, there were a great many questions, so many that it was not possible to address them all at the meeting. Subsequently the Hill Group held extra sessions in the village hall, where people could drop

in to talk to the group about any concerns they may have.

Come and join us!

The parish council currently has a vacancy for another councillor to help with its wide ranging duties. The work is very varied and no experience is necessary as any training needed will be provided. All it takes is a little time – a few hours each month, usually in the evenings – and lots of enthusiasm. It's your chance to have direct input to what happens in your neighbourhood.

If you're interested in volunteering for this role, we'd love to hear from you.

Just drop us a line at clerk@littlechalfontparishcouncil.gov.uk and we'll do the rest.

Amersham and Villages Community Board

Community board meeting and attendance at LCCA AGM

The board held their first in-person board meeting in February, which was attended by some of our LCCA committee members. It was great to be involved in the discussions around areas of local focus for the future and the opportunities offered by the board.

This was followed by a visit to our annual AGM in April by Mark Dormer, community board chair, and Lizzie Wright, community board manager, giving an overview of their activity during the last year, their priorities for the forthcoming year and how they can support us. Thank you Mark and Lizzie! A copy of their presentation will be available for you

to view on our new Community Association website.

Volunteering Fair

As part of their ongoing volunteering campaign, The Amersham & Villages Community Board held a successful volunteering fair at the Chilterns Lifestyle Centre on 5th June. Organised to celebrate volunteer week, over 30 local and community groups took part, talking to prospective volunteers about new opportunities to get involved in.



Lizzie Wright (left), Margaret, Roger, Rachael Matthews (BCC) and Mark Dormer at our AGM

Could you join the Buckinghamshire fostering community?

The board have also asked us to highlight an urgent need for foster carers. There are currently over 500 children in Buckinghamshire needing a loving home. Foster carers play a vital role in looking after children in care by providing them with a loving and safe home and supporting them in their everyday lives. In return foster carers are provided with 24/7 support, extensive training, competitive financial allowances and a range of perks and benefits in recognition of the valuable role they play. Visit the website to find out more:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/care-children-and-families/fostering/>

Little Chalfont library's Knit & Knatter

Village Pillar Box Toppers

More creations designed and produced by the Knit & Knatter group on the pillar boxes at White Lion Road (left) and Chenies Parade.



Dr Challoner's High School

Film making in the nature park

Exciting things are happening in our nature park, the wonderful community facility at the heart of our village. More of us should be enjoying it this summer.



To raise the profile, girls from Dr Challoner's High School are making a video for the park's website - a really powerful way to show the park's attractions on your phone or personal computer.

You may be new to Little Chalfont or had a lot on recently and may not know we even have a nature park. Nestled behind trees to the south of the road to Dr Challoner's High School, the park was bought and preserved by the community for the community and since 2016 it has been an island of peace and tranquillity for all to enjoy irrespective of age or mobility.

An area of ancient grassland and woodland, it's the perfect place to

see flora and fauna – you might see a deer or red kite or native orchid. It's open every day from dawn until dusk, there are park benches, picnic tables and a children's play area. Hard paths were laid in 2023 to improve accessibility and deliver the park's vision to be 'available to all'.

None of this would be possible without the brilliant volunteer efforts of the 'Friends' and others who raise money and undertake working parties to keep the park in good shape. It's very satisfying and enjoyable - new members are very welcome. If you are interested, please contact Peter Besley, chair of the Nature Park Management Group, on 07812 147476 or peterbsl@btinternet.com.

Chalfont Valley School

New roofs and solar panels



Chalfont Valley is part of the eACT, a multi academy trust. The trust has recently fully funded a brand new

roof at the school, complete with solar panels.

This was a huge investment by the trust, and we are very grateful for their support and backing. The roof has been patched up multiple times

over the years and was often tested in periods of poor weather.



However, we are happy to announce that work has been completed and the roof has stood up to the test



provided by the unseasonal showers we have experienced recently!

*Haydn Kilyan,
Head teacher*

Chenies School

Artists in the making for school fundraiser

Parents and friends of Chenies Primary School came together for a fantastic night of art, drinks and nibbles in May.

The 'Brush Party' was organised by Chenies Parent-Teacher Association to raise funds and bring the community together. A professional artist guided the 18 participants through their own versions of an acrylic painting of bluebell woods, bringing out hidden talents and a fair amount of laughter.



Altogether, £100 was raised for the school and the paintings are no



doubt being proudly hung in downstairs loos across the local area.

To find out about more events look for [@cheniespta](https://www.instagram.com/cheniespta) on instagram

Little Chalfont Community Foodbank collection

The Little Chalfont Community Association, supported by the parish council, is committed to building a community where residents are caring towards each other and their neighbours. We continue our focus on highlighting our good neighbours, and spoke with Catherine Murphy who set up and organises the monthly food bank collection which takes place in Little Chalfont.



Catherine, why did you start the food bank collections in Little Chalfont?

As a governor of a local school, I became aware during the COVID lockdown that the Chiltern foodbank was very much in need of donations. We started a weekly collection and continued this during the lockdown.

Where is the food bank that you collect for based?

The Chiltern foodbank is based in Chesham, initiated and supported by the Trussell Trust who work with

local communities to open foodbanks. It serves surrounding communities, including Little Chalfont and since the pandemic has been delivering food parcels to those in need.

How often do you arrange the collections?

When lockdown ended I became aware that the foodbank was still in need of donations, so we re-started a monthly collection on a Saturday, to coincide with the monthly Farmers' Market.

How does the collection process work?

The Trussell Trust make a list of what is needed every month, to ensure the food parcels they distribute are balanced, and meet community needs. The food items requested are generally easy to cook and serve.

We set up tents and tables in Chenies Parade and in the Cytiva car park from 9 to 12 noon on the second Saturday of every month (except August) and take in items of food from members of the local community.



We then transport the donated items to the foodbank distribution centre in Chesham, sometimes making two

or three journeys with a loaded car.

What has impressed you most?

The generosity of residents in Little Chalfont is fantastic and in particular we appreciate those who collect and donate on behalf of their neighbours or local street.

What support do you receive from the Little Chalfont Community Association?

The Community Association help to publicise the collections and they publish the monthly lists of food requirements to their members—crucially they assist by lending and helping us to set up the tents.

How do you organise volunteers to manage the collection?

Via a WhatsApp group. We have a small group of volunteers who come for an hour, or 2 or 3 hours, or just to assist with the erecting and dismantling of the tents. We would love a few more volunteers to come forward, even for just an hour once or twice a year. No special skills are needed, simply the desire to help others and willingness to undertake a little gentle lifting.

If you are able to spare a few hours, please either come and chat to me one Saturday morning – or email c/o the Community Association: secretary@littlechalfont.org.uk

Finally, Catherine, what message would you like to pass on to the community?

Please continue to donate whatever you can give!

Many thanks Catherine – we wish you continued success.

Dementia friendly village

Following the success of our dementia Cafe 22, we are now aiming to work with local businesses and shops to help raise awareness of the challenges faced by those living with dementia, and how shops could

respond to and assist people in this situation - and their carers. We are hoping to suggest some guidelines and hope that we may be able to provide support to increase understanding.

Please contact:

business@littlechalfont.org.uk

if you have any thoughts or suggestions.

Future food bank collections

No collection in August

14th September

12th October

9th November

9 – 12 noon Chenies Parade or Cytiva car park

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have had plenty of adventures already this year, with activities including volunteering with Restore Hope, caving, crate stacking, abseiling (all at PACCAR Scout Camp, Chalfont St Peters), badge work, fun with glow sticks, litter picking round Little Chalfont, night hikes, games, cooking and visiting a Sikh temple in the spring term.

After Easter the Beavers have had several trips to PACCAR doing more caving and crate stacking, as well as making mug cakes and a joint session with the Cubs where they enjoyed working together in races.



The Cubs have been doing some work in the Nature Park, improving their den building skills, crafting and visiting PACCAR for the Gladiator Challenge and Archery.

The Scouts have been outdoors a lot this term, with walks, bike skills, paddle boarding, fire lighting, a visit to PACCAR and spent the half term

on a canal boat going down to Paddington and having a go at the locks in London.



A number of the Scouts also took part in the District Chesham Kids Triathlon (Orienteering, Shooting and Archery). We had great weather for this and they all did really well in the activities, with one pair winning the shooting trophy.

We still have a few more weeks before we finish for the summer holidays and are planning on enjoying the good weather with more outdoor activities, including tennis and water fun and a night's camping for the Scouts.



We are starting to plan for next year and aim to have a group gathering in October with a campfire. Details will be on our website if you are interested in coming along and finding out about our group.



We are still working on opening a Squirrel Drey (for 4-6 year olds) and are looking for a few more Leaders and Young Leaders before we can start.

If you would be interested in helping us with this or any of the other sections, please contact Victoria Golby on 07770 782 922 or at victoriagolby@live.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can find us at:

[facebook.com/1stAmershamCommonScouts](https://www.facebook.com/1stAmershamCommonScouts) or

<http://1ac-scouts.weebly.com/>

Westwood Park Junior Football Club

Founded some 18 years ago, the club ran 25 teams across 14 age groups last season.

We were particularly excited to have launched our girls section. We have always welcomed female players, but they have, historically, been incorporated into mixed gender teams. Now we have dedicated teams and training squads for girls, with around 40 players participating. We were thrilled that our debut

season in the girls section was marked by a tournament victory for our U9s in the Bucks Girls Football League Cup. More importantly, the girls all seem to really enjoy playing and training together.

We are a community club, not an academy, so we welcome all abilities. We are based at Westwood Park and play almost exclusively on Saturday mornings. Some age groups are full, but in others we are actively looking for new players. We are particularly keen to build our girls section further and promise a warm welcome to all.



If you are interested in learning more, please contact us on our website.

[westwoodparkfootballclub.co.uk/contact](https://www.westwoodparkfootballclub.co.uk/contact)

FREE SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT LITTLE CHALFONT LIBRARY

STORYTIME EVERY THURSDAY

FOR TODDLERS

10.30-11.00

WITH STORYTIME AT THE NATURE PARK ON

25TH JULY



COMMUNITY CAFÉ

WEDNESDAYS

3.00-4.30pm

JOIN US FOR A CHAT,
COFFEE AND CAKE

DIGITAL SESSIONS

THURSDAYS

11.00-1.00PM

HELP WITH COMPUTER &
TELEPHONE ISSUES

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

CHILDREN 4-11 YEARS OLD

THE THEME IS 'MARVELLOUS MAKERS'
WITH CRAFT ACTIVITIES IN THE LIBRARY
READ SEVERAL BOOKS AND EARN REWARDS



DUPLO CLUB

THURSDAY

MORNINGS

11.00-12.00

JIGSAWS

CHILDREN AND ADULT

JIGSAWS

WIDE SELECTION TO TAKE
OUT ON LOAN

ADULT SCRABBLE CLUB

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

2.00-4.00PM

ALL WELCOME, ANY LEVEL

FILM SHOWINGS

EVENINGS &

MATINEES

WITH SUBTITLES

MORE INFORMATION

In the library

On our Website:

littlechalfontlibrary.org.uk

Facebook

Little Chalfont Evening WI

Inspiring women

It's been a busy year so far for Little Chalfont Evening WI. We continue to provide cakes and refreshments at the monthly farmers' market, as well as running a craft stall. Our gardening group have kept the triangle in the village looking beautiful (as we're sure you agree), including a special display for Easter.

Our walking netball group meets fortnightly on a Friday morning (*see photo below*) and you don't have to be a member to take part – please contact us if you're interested in joining.



Our afternoon tea group and curry club have sampled the menus at several local restaurants, pubs and garden centres. Our craft group spent a day in Bovingdon Green learning how to make clay goat sculptures. Horns and ears were a challenge but the results turned out well and everyone enjoyed it so much, a second session has been organised (*see photo right*).

Our book club reads a variety of genres, from classics to bestsellers, taking the opportunity to try something different and we discuss our views in a local pub.

Our quiz group has been going from strength to strength, with two wins and a 2nd place in recent months but we're always looking for new talent, particularly to answer football questions!

We've invited a wide range of speakers to our monthly meetings, on topics ranging from environmental monitoring in the River Chess to the challenges and opportunities offered by Artificial Intelligence. We've been kept amused by historical anecdotes about being a diplomat in Moscow



during the Soviet era and working as a tactical firearms officer in the Thames Valley police force. We also had an informative evening learning about Gilbert and Sullivan ... and attempting to sing some of their most famous songs!

If you would like to see what we are all about, please do contact us by phoning:

Diana on 07747 042264 or

Karen on 07711 771387.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm in Little Chalfont Village Hall. We welcome guests, so ladies, please come along and find out what we do

Diana Chatterton
Little Chalfont Evening WI

Little Chalfont Park development

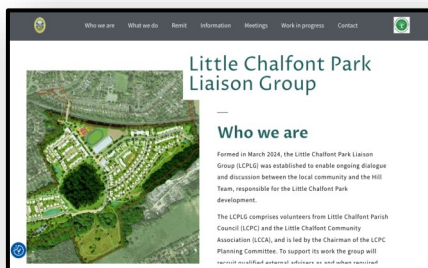
An update on progress

The pre-development phase of Little Chalfont Park, the site that incorporates the former golf course between Lodge Lane and Burtons Lane, is now underway. The archaeology survey is planned for July/August, although the construction phase is not due to start until early 2025.

The Hill Group, together with their partners (BD Landscape Architects, Barker Associates, CBRE, Cratus Group, i-Transport and JTP) have formed the Hill Team and are responsible for developing Little Chalfont Park.

The Hill Team is currently working towards securing full planning approval from Buckinghamshire Council by the end of this year. Once approved, activity on the site will become more evident as the Hill Team commences construction of up to 380 mixed tenure homes, up to 100 retirement homes, a 60 resident care home, as well as community and educational facilities.

To ensure the best outcome for Little Chalfont and to represent the interests of the community, the Little Chalfont Park Liaison Group (LCPLG) has been established with representatives from the Little Chalfont Parish Council and Little Chalfont Community Association.



Screenshot of LCPLG website home page

The LCPLG is also being supported by a group of residents from roads affected by the Little Chalfont Park site known as the Little Chalfont (LC) Roads Network.

The LCPLG has been meeting with the Hill Team on a regular basis since early March raising issues of most concern to the local community as well as gaining a greater understanding of the development process and the associated timeline.

The LCPLG has engaged external advisers to review key documentation such as the Design Code and in due course the Reserved Matters Applications (RMAs – containing detail beyond that of the initial outline planning approval) and the Construction Management Plan.

The aim being to focus effort on the issues that matter most to the community and those where the LCPLG can have most positive effect.

The Hill Team is committed to undertaking extensive consultation with the community throughout the planning approval process and construction phases and to date has:

- ◆ held the first public consultation event in the village hall on 9th May attended by 300+ residents. Everyone, attendees or not, was given the opportunity to review and comment on the first draft of the Design Code by 24th May;
- ◆ committed to respond to both the LCPLG detailed review of the Design Code and the 80+ questions / comments submitted to date by the community and the LC Roads Network by the end of July; and
- ◆ commenced discussions to ensure that the community facility in Little Chalfont Park is developed in line with community needs.

It is worth noting that the vast majority of feedback from the first consultation event related to issues around infrastructure, namely the impact on the road network, public transport and the provision of services and utilities.

As the outline planning permission covers only development within the Little Chalfont Park site boundary, many of the concerns sit outside the remit of the Hill Team. As a result, the LCPLG and LC Roads Network are seeking further clarification from Buckinghamshire Council on these matters.

You can register on the Hill Team Little Chalfont Park website <https://littlechalfontpark.uk/> to receive regular updates and see the latest information about the development.



Screenshot of Hill Team Little Chalfont Park website

The Hill Team have also set up a freephone helpline 0800 0126 730.

As of 15th July, the site had been accessed 890 times with over 80 contact forms submitted.

In addition, the LCPLG has launched a website:

<https://tinyurl.com/LCPLG>

showing details of work in progress and summary minutes of the monthly Hill Team meetings. (see screenshot left)

Residents can also use the site to contact the LCPLG with concerns that they feel are not being satisfactorily addressed via direct contact with the Hill Team.

SAVE THE DATE!

The next public consultation will be held on **12th September** in the village hall between **2pm and 8pm** and will cover detailed proposals for the site.

Chris Holmes,
Little Chalfont Park Liaison Group