

## LANE END PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.30PM AT CADMORE END VILLAGE HALL

**ATTENDANCE:** Cllr Detsiny – Chairman, Cllrs Achurch, Coulter, Dunning, Coulter, Graham, Hunt, Nicolson, Osborn, Stewart.

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Mark Turner, Dominic Barnes.

**CLERK:** Mrs Hayley Glasgow

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** 14

#### 1) The Parish Council has invited The Lane End Players to give a presentation

The Lane End Players gave a presentation regarding what they do and have achieved. See appendix. The presentation was very warmly received, and The Council congratulated The Players on the scope of their work and the significant benefits this brought to the community.

#### 2) Public Questions

A Parishioner attended a presentation from Hey Broadband. He was disappointed with their lack of knowledge and would like more information as to when broadband might be installed in Cadmore End.

A Parishioner raised concerns regarding speeding on Park Lane. He had contacted the Community Speed Watch team but had not received a response.

The Clerk will contact the Community Speed Watch team and ask for an update as to when the community speed watch checks might be carried out. The Council are aware that several Parishioners have applied to take part. It was asked if the PC could carry out a survey of the speed of traffic, areas to include were Park Lane (between Ivy Place and Beach Avenue), Finings Road and Church Road. The Clerk will contact Buckinghamshire Council regarding a quotation for speed tubes.

The Parish Council could look at authorizing a private consultation with regards to the speed of vehicles driving through the Parish as a project from the Chalky Field funds.

There has been an increase in people using grass verges for parking; this is a concern.

A Parishioner asked if it were possible to have a pedestrian crossing installed on The Row. The Clerk will contact TFB.

A Parishioner thanked the PC for arranging a meeting in 2023 at the Lane End Village Hall but was disappointed only one meeting will be held there. LEPC Meetings have been distributed in several locations around the Parish, some of which the PC are fortunate to receive the hire of the room free of charge.

The Clerk will put a copy of the minutes on the noticeboards but due to the amount of space, the appendices cannot be included.

#### 3) Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Harries and Wright.

#### 4) Declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests

None.

#### 5) Minutes –

5.1 Approval of the Full Parish Council Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October

Council approved the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

5.2 Approval of the Closed Session Parish Council Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October

Council approved the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

#### 6) Matters arising from previous meeting

None.

#### 7) Clerk's Report / Invitations to Meetings, Correspondence & Reports received

The items below summarise the Clerks activities since the last meeting.

1. All allotment rent invoices and the revised tenancy agreement have been issued to allotment tenants.
2. Some allotment tenants have given up their plots. I am liaising with Cllr Wright re this.
3. We have received the valuation documents re the Pavilion and 3G muga. I have sent these documents to the insurance company and requested the figures are adjusted.

4. The water um for LEYCC has been ordered and will be fitted by Nisbet, the supplier.
5. In discussion with Buckinghamshire Council and LEYCC re damp issues.
6. I have requested that M H Groundcare go ahead with the tree works as agreed at the October Meeting.
7. I have requested that Buckland Landscapes cut back the foliage around the top pond at much as possible.
8. The 2023 meeting dates have been issued to Councillors.
9. A Parishioner contacted me about a large amount of fly-tipping just inside the woods behind the flats on Simmons Way. This has been reported.
10. Submitted the preferred locations for the EV Charges points to Bucks Council.
11. LEYCC have struggled with broken outside lighting. The quotation to repair is £500. Under the lease agreement LEPC are responsible for lighting and for the safety of the employees and hirers I have asked LEYCC to go ahead with these works.
12. As requested, I have added a caveat for an appeal into the Vexatious or Unreasonably Persistent Communication, Correspondence and Complaints Policy. The appeal will take place with one of the Ward Councillors. This policy has already been unanimously agreed.
13. An allotment tenant has kindly donated a large Christmas Tree to the Parish Council.
14. I have contacted the businesses on the High Street to request permission for small trees to be placed on brackets as we have previously done.
15. I have been in contact with TFB regarding the streetlight that was knocked over near Norths Garage. This is marked as a pending task and TFB cannot give a date when this might be replaced.
16. Parishioners continue to raise concerns regarding the state of lower pond.
17. Parishioners have raised concerns regarding the lack of play facilities in the Parish for younger and older children.
18. Parishioners have raised concerns regarding speeding in the Parish. I am liaising with Thames Valley Police regarding the community speeding scheme. I have put the following information onto LEPCs Facebook page:

#### Community Speed Watch

The Parish Council has received a number of enquiries from Parishioners concerned about the speed of vehicles driving through the village.

There is a community speed watch scheme run by the Police. Further details can be found on the below website <https://communityspeedwatch.org/WIZ-FRONT-v2-GetInvolved-new-3.php>

For more information or to get involved you can email and register your interest in the scheme

[lee.turnham@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:lee.turnham@thamesvalley.police.uk)

19. Cllr Osborn has visited the Buckinghamshire Council offices and met with a member of the Definitive Map Team. They confirmed that the lower pond and land beside Manchester Terrace does form part of Handleton Common which was originally registered as common land by the Dashwood family when the Common Land Register was set up. Cllr Osborn is contacting the West Wycombe Estate.
20. As per the closed session minutes I have sent a response to the Friends of Finings Wood Group.
21. The access cover at the bottom of the Column of Street Light 7 on Footpath 25 came off. It has exposed wiring which is presumably live. I asked the contractor to do an urgent repair.
22. The Remembrance Services are on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 at Wheeler End Memorial and follows onto Lane End.
23. An update was put on social media re Lane End Conference Centre, as follows:  
After over 50 years operating as a first-class venue dedicated for residential conferences & training events, the holding company HTS has decided to sell Lane End Conference Centre which is situated in the village of Lane End, close to Marlow and High Wycombe.  
Due to the combination of the Covid pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the impact of rising energy, staff and food costs, as well as a looming recession, the future outlook has been rendered bleak. Rather than limp along and suffer a long and painful decline, the Company has made the proactive and necessary decision to sell the site. It is hoped that a buyer can be found to continue to operate the venue and build on the great reputation that Lane End has established since its founding in 1969.  
Operations Director Mike Gough said, "I am so proud of our achievements at Lane End, and I am sad to say goodbye to so many greatly respected clients and suppliers and, of course, our brilliant team of loyal, warm, hard-working and capable staff."  
The venue is being marketed by Knightsbridge Commercial Business Sales – for details, please call Mike Gough on 01494 881171.
24. I have asked Ridgeway Woodlands to carry out the annual tree inspection. Cllr Achurch will be present and note the locations of the trees.
25. The Parish Council has received £500 donation from Veolia towards a new children's playground.
26. I have checked the AED units.
27. The Parish Councils Facebook page is regularly updated. If Councillors would like to add an update, please email the Clerk.
28. Issues re road, pavements & open spaces can be reported via [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)

#### Invitations to Meetings, Correspondence & Reports received – October 22

1. Updates from Buckinghamshire Council:

- a. Become a food champion
- b. Have your say on the Home to School Transport Consultation
- c. Update on HS2 from Buckinghamshire Council
- d. Buckinghamshire Council receives £2.7m funding to support rough sleepers in the county
- e. Info re flytipping
- f. Be Bright, Be Seen this autumn
- g. Have your say on health and wellbeing in Buckinghamshire
2. Other correspondence:
  - a. Campaign to Protect Rural England
  - b. Farming Advice Service - Forthcoming key dates for cross compliance
  - c. Upcoming events to support and grow your business – Bucks Business First
  - d. Community Impact Bucks update
  - e. Chiltern Conservation Board
  - f. Rennie Grove Hospice Care update
  - g. Campaign to Protect Rural England
  - h. Police & Crime Bulletin Oct '22 - Police numbers up, new Chief Constable
  - i. Cost of Living Crisis

#### 8) **Finance** – Approval of the account for October 2022

Council approved the expenditure of £16,404.68. Council noted the income was £1,554.50. Council noted the current account closing balance of £194,108.69 as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

#### 9) **Wayleave Agreements**

It was disappointing that Hey Broadband held an event and couldn't answer all the questions raised by the public. There have been some personnel changes within Hey that will not have helped.

Cllr Nicolson has a monthly update meeting with them. They have been building out from the centre of the village and are now utilizing existing electricity poles. The connections have now passed 630 homes. There has been a problem with getting wayleaves which they continue to work on. Cadmore End is one of the last phases, Cllr Nicolson will ask when the broadband is expected to come into Cadmore End.

F&W have requested wayleaves from the Parish Council to erect poles or attach wires to poles.

Their request to build new poles on Ditchfield Common has been withdrawn. Therefore, the only wayleaves are for existing poles on Moor Common and they request permission to access LEPC land.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to grant permission for F&W to access LEPC owned land to carry out their works.

#### 10) **Chalky Field project management**

For several months the Spending Priorities Group has discussed how LEPC might spend proceeds raised from the sale of the Chalky Field site. The SPG will be put into abeyance until LEPC are much closer to planning permission approvals.

Mr Ford, Headmaster of Great Marlow School, gave a presentation regarding what the young people of the Parish would like. Cllr Achurch has agreed to Chair a small working party with regards to this. It is hoped that a report at the December or February meeting will be tabled.

When planning permission approval gets closer, LEPC will set up a communication team with a small group of Councillors and possibly some members of the public. This will be to establish and ascertain Parishioners' views.

LEPC would also need to set up an implementation team. Cllrs Stewart and Nicolson will play key roles in this.

#### 11) **Lane End Parish Council Working Principles**

A working group met and discussed how LEPC are perceived by Parishioners. It was noted that a small number of Parishioners felt frustrated by some of the responses received from Councillors. LEPC are very aware that their work must be seen to be open transparent.

Councillors and the Clerk unanimously agreed to abide by the Nolan Principles.

The Council agreed the newly adopted working principles and a copy will be uploaded to the website.

Council thanked Cllr Graham for her efforts.

#### 12) **Grass Cutting Tender**

It was agreed that the new tender documents should be based exactly on what areas are currently being cut whether the land is Council owned or not. The exception being that we will trial reducing the number of cuts of grass verges from eight to six.

The Clerk will prepare the tender documents to be sent to five contractors.

#### 13) **Buckinghamshire Ward Boundaries**

The Boundary Commission are going to change Buckinghamshire Ward Boundaries in 2025. Buckinghamshire Councillors Mark Turner and Darren Hayday gave presentations on this issue.

The commission is currently recommending that The Chiltern Villages ward boundaries remain unchanged, but it would, in future, be represented by two Councillors versus three currently. This proposal was supported by Councillor Turner.

Councillor Hayday argued this was far too large an area for two Councillor representation. He proposed a new ward entity comprising of West Wycombe, Piddington, Wheeler End and Lane End These parishes adjoined each other and made geographical sense. They would have one Buckinghamshire Councillor representing them. Lane End Parish Council offered warm thanks to Councillors Hayday and Turner, and The Chair asked Councillors to inform The Clerk of their favored option.

A copy of both reports are attached.

#### 14) **Matters raised by Councillors**

Cllr Detsiny and Cllr Graham attended the climate change conference and reported that it was extremely informative. Cllr Graham has requested the slides so that she can forward these onto Councillors. They discussed the Parish Plan in relation to the Green Economy. Cllr Detsiny has invited a speaker to attend the PC meeting in February.

Cllr Graham reported that The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) offer a pond specialist to look at the ponds and write a 5-year plan. The cost for this is £600.00. There is some confusion about the ownership of the ponds. The Clerk will apply for the Business Tool on the Land Registry website.

Cllr Coulter reported that LEPC are currently disputing three invoices received from Buckinghamshire Council in relation to surveys they undertook at LEYCC. The invoices amount to approx. £1500.00; Buckinghamshire Council commissioned the surveys without advising the Parish Council. The Clerk will send information regarding this to Cllrs Barnes and Turner.

Cllr Graham reported that LEPC has received a donation of £2000 from Sir Edward Dashwood towards the children's play area. There is also a quiz evening arranged to raise funds. A discussion with Red Kite Housing Association is currently taking place with regards to funding.

#### 15) **Planning:** To consider new planning applications\* - See appendix.

\*Planning applications may have been updated after the agenda has been issued and therefore won't be listed on the agenda but may still be discussed. Please contact The Clerk for further details.

#### 16) **NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 in Lane End Youth and Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 21.01.

Signed..... Date.....

**Meeting to be closed – Exclusion of Public and Press, to exclude public and press in accordance with s1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item set out in Agenda item 17, due to the confidential nature of this item.**

*It is proposed by the Chairman that the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as matters which will be discussed are considered to be confidential*

#### 17) **Chalky Field**

## Appendix – Report from the Lane End Players

Presentation by Ceri Nicolson, Chairman of the Lane End Players and Alison Hartnett, Shadow Chairman

Introduction – Ceri Nicolson thanks the Parish Council for the opportunity to make a presentation and congratulates them on their decision to engage more closely with the community in this way. The Lane End Players (LEP) are an organisation which endeavours to go the extra mile to provide, within the Lane End Village Hall, the atmosphere of an evening at the theatre, complete with bar, front of house and ice cream. They do this at a fraction of the cost of going to see a West End Play. The Lane End Players encourage Councillors to come along and see for themselves by attending the current production "*Breath Of Spring*".

The present Lane End Players group have been in existence since 1972 and they recently celebrated their golden anniversary. It's impossible to calculate how many members they have had during that time, as it may run into the thousands. They are a non-profit making group and all receipts are either given to charity or ploughed back into future productions. As Andrew McTavish explained to this Council some months ago, LEP are the principal supporters of the Village Hall with whom they have a symbiotic relationship, as both would find it difficult to exist without the other. LEP's general pattern entails four productions per annum – one pantomime, two plays and one variety Summer Show. In an average year, approximately 2 and a half thousand tickets are sold which indicates the group's popularity.

The LEP constitution states that the group's purpose is to provide performing arts in Lane End and support charities. Every year, the group makes donations to both national and local charities. They do one free pantomime performance every year to an audience of disadvantaged children, autistic children and Child Carers. The local Rotarians also bring buses of the elderly to the pantomime and the Players have also performed free shows at homes for the elderly such as Framer's Court, Gracewell (now called Ridley Manor) Hughenden Village and others. They also give free talks and presentations to organisations such as the Alzheimers Society, the Women's Institute and the Parkinsons Carers group and are justifiably proud of their community service.

LEP also engages with the youngest members of our community. Alison Hartnett is the Child Protection Officer on the LEP committee and oversees activities involving children. Junior Lane End Players can join from the age of 10. Many of them get involved on stage, developing performing arts skills, such as acting, singing and dancing. There is also the opportunity to find out what goes on backstage, with set-painting, costume making, make-up etc. Older teenagers are encouraged to participate in the technical aspects of sound and lighting, all under experienced mentors and strict health and safety procedures. Often young people come to the LEP in order to have work experience to put their CVs and University applications – so in many ways the group is a free training resource in the village.

LEP's work with Juniors has led to some remarkable success stories, such as Grace Hogg Robinson, who is now an actress who has appeared in West End Plays, TV series such as *The Durrells* and *Silent Witness* and even appeared in major films such as *Troy*. Johnny Brown both performed onstage and did backstage work for the LEP but his passion was set build and design and he now works professionally as a scenic artist at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. Darren Cnsp, Stewart Mason and the Sims brothers, Peter and Tom have all gone on to run successful business within the film and tv industries – all graduates of the LEP School of Technology and all still active members, which is why LEP's Sound and Light team is so professional. The group also offers inexperienced directors the chance to try their hand at producing a play with their "New Director's Showcase". The continuing development of skills and talents is of the utmost importance to the group.

Many adult members come to LEP in order to pursue their love of theatrical production there are members who have worked for the BBC, Sky television, Telegenics, and with professional theatres. LEP also has professional photographers and graphic designers and their posters and programmes have won awards such as the acclaimed Dumayne Warne Trophy. One current member is a BAFTA judge and is highly esteemed in his profession of stage and film lighting. The level of talent that exists within the group is extraordinarily high.

The LEP belongs to a National Amateur Organisation called NODA, the largest organisation of its kind with over two and a half thousand members, which ensures that the group is operating to the highest possible standards. NODA representatives come to every production to produce a report and adjudicate for National Competitions. LEP has won multiple awards, including the prestigious "Flame" award for Inspirational contribution to the pursuit of excellence in theatre. The Lane End Players are therefore raising the profile of the village on a national scale.

The Players believe in supporting local businesses – for example, they sell ice creams bought from Laceys and Rebellion beer behind the bar. They have worked with many other organisations within the village – most notably, this Parish Council with whom they produced the hugely successful Open Air *Nativity*. The LEP are delighted to be co-operating with the Parish Council yet again at this year's *Christmas in The Village* event, where they will be featuring the Mummings, back by popular demand and a real piece of local theatrical history as the origin of the script goes back to 17th century Wheeler End. The Players will then take the Mummings on tour to several local hostelrys – all part of traditional Christmas entertainment and all completely free of charge.

Ceri Nicolson concludes on a personal note: She has considerable experience of working with different theatre groups but has found the Lane End Players to be the most friendly and welcoming group she has ever encountered. Throughout lockdown the members of the group supported each other with WhatsApp Groups and Zoom social evenings and produced two online video shows, filmed separately in their homes and bubbles, on their own cameras and then edited together. On a more sombre note, since the Covid Pandemic the LEP are finding it more difficult to sell tickets for indoor performances. They continue, undaunted to fulfil their commitment to offer the best possible theatrical experience to Lane End. Ceri Nicolson thanks Councillors for their time and encourages them to support the Players by purchasing tickets for their current and future shows.

## **Appendix - Planning**

22/07833/CTREE  
17A The Row Lane End  
Crown reduction of 5-6m x 1 Ash tree (T1)

No objection.

22/07617/FUL  
Orchard Cottage Moor Common Lane End  
Householder application for erection of part two/part single storey side extension

No objection.

22/07602/CLP  
2 Lammas Way Lane End  
Certificate of lawfulness for proposed installation of 18 x solar panels on south facing part of roof

No objection.

22/07534/CLP  
Land Fronting Beeches Farm Marlow Road Lane End  
Certificate of lawfulness for proposed installation of timber posts and entrance gate to Land Fronting Beeches Farm

No objection.

22/07482/CLE  
Skilmoor House Church Road Cadmore End  
Certificate of lawfulness for existing change of use of paddock as residential garden

No objection.

# Case for Lane End PC to join with West Wycombe and Piddington Parish Councils as one Ward

Written by Darren Hayday

Ward name to be considered = “West of Wycombe villages”



# Author

Darren was raised for the first 7 years of his life in Wheeler End Common and then mainly living in Elwes Road in Lane End, before moving with his family to nearby Cressex in Wycombe. He was schooled and baptised in Lane End.

His family ran what is today Kensham Farm (Cadmore End) for 3/4 generations before Bryan and Alison Edgerly took over in the 1950s

He has been a local Cllr locally for the past 20 years (District, County and Unitary), he is independent and covers the ward of West Wycombe.

His wife Orsolya is also a Bucks Cllr for the same ward (also IND). They both had the honour of being mayor and mayoress of Wycombe in 2006/7.

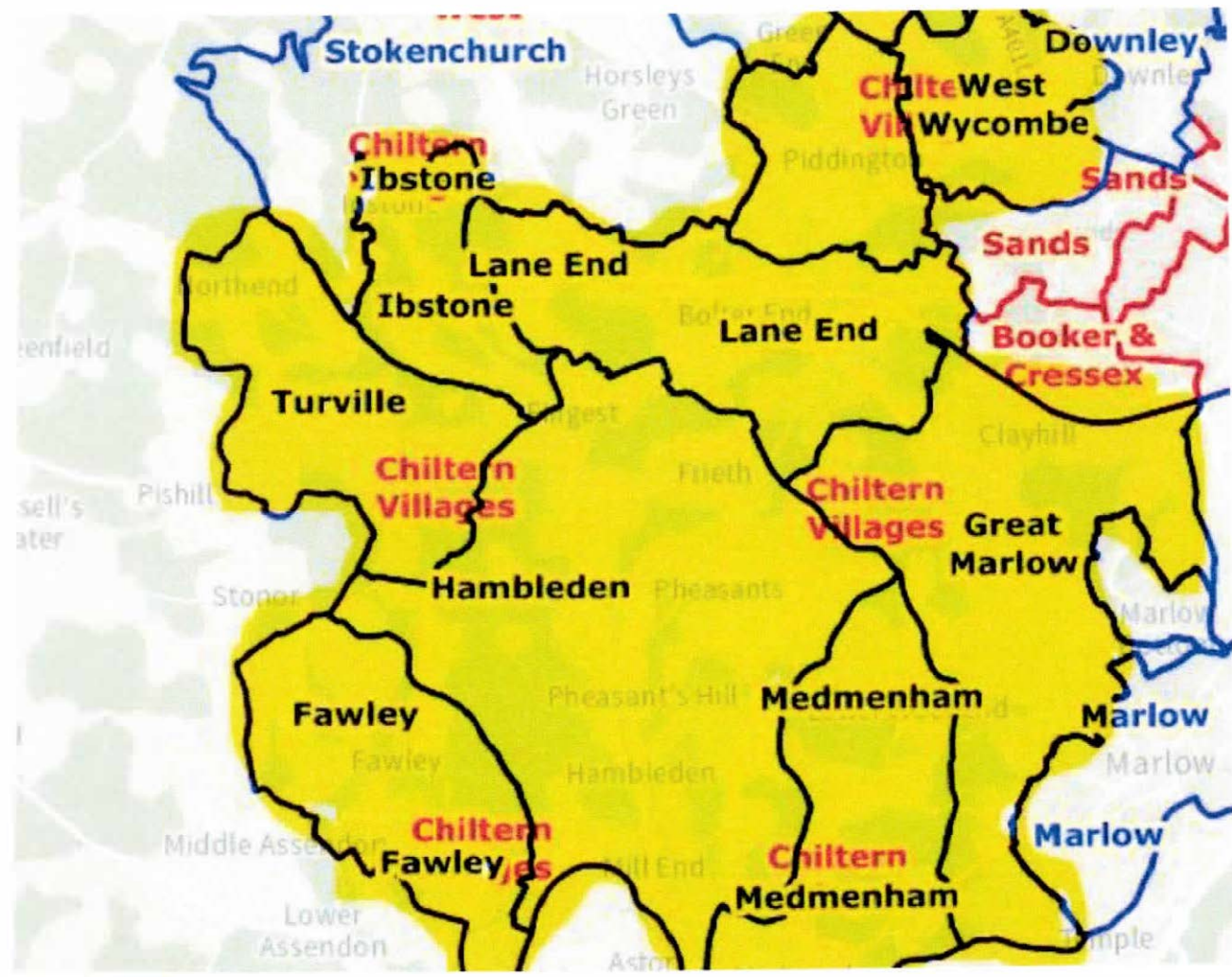
They both currently live in Marlow Bottom and are often seen out litter picking in their spare time.

# Default proposal

Boundary Commission have already decided after the first round of consultations that Lane End should join with the Chiltern ward.

The proposal included joining with the following councils:

- 136 voters)
- 136 voters)
- 1061 voters)
- 496 voters)
- 136 voters)
- 1131 voters)
- 136 voters)
- 724 voters)
- 1169 voters)
- 2605 voters)
- 8144 voters on default proposal



# Why am against the default

This is Darren's counter argument:

The ward is too big, it would stretch from Marlow to Medmenham.

Lane End parish villages and hamlets will have nothing in common with Turville or Fawley other than they are rural villages (the same can be said for any rural village in the UK).

There are hundreds of miles of roads and pavements that would need resurfacing and repairing in this very large area.

Also you would be one of many other Parish areas looking to gain funding from the local Community boards from a limited budget from your local Cllr, who themselves will be competing with other members and their wards.

The default option means that the 2 local Cllrs would have to also work their way around the many Parish Council meetings that from experience to attend this many would be very hard to achieve.

# Proposal

Instead of being only one Parish Council amongst many, you can be the largest Parish Council with West Wycombe and Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Councils, meaning that you will all be local and connected.

Piddington already shares Wheeler End with your Parish and West Wycombe is their next door neighbour.

You would only need 1 Cllr that can fight on your behalf as a leaner ward, and a much better chance of getting your roads and pavements resurfaced, with easier access to funding from the Community Boards for schemes. Lane End will be the bigger fish in a smaller pond.

The A40 links WW and Piddington and Chipps Hill/Boulter End Lane links to Lane End Parish through Wheeler End. It makes sense to have the 3 parishes linked by road.

# Proposal

Proposal of joining with 8 other Councils you only join with 2 for a total of 3 Parish Council wards.

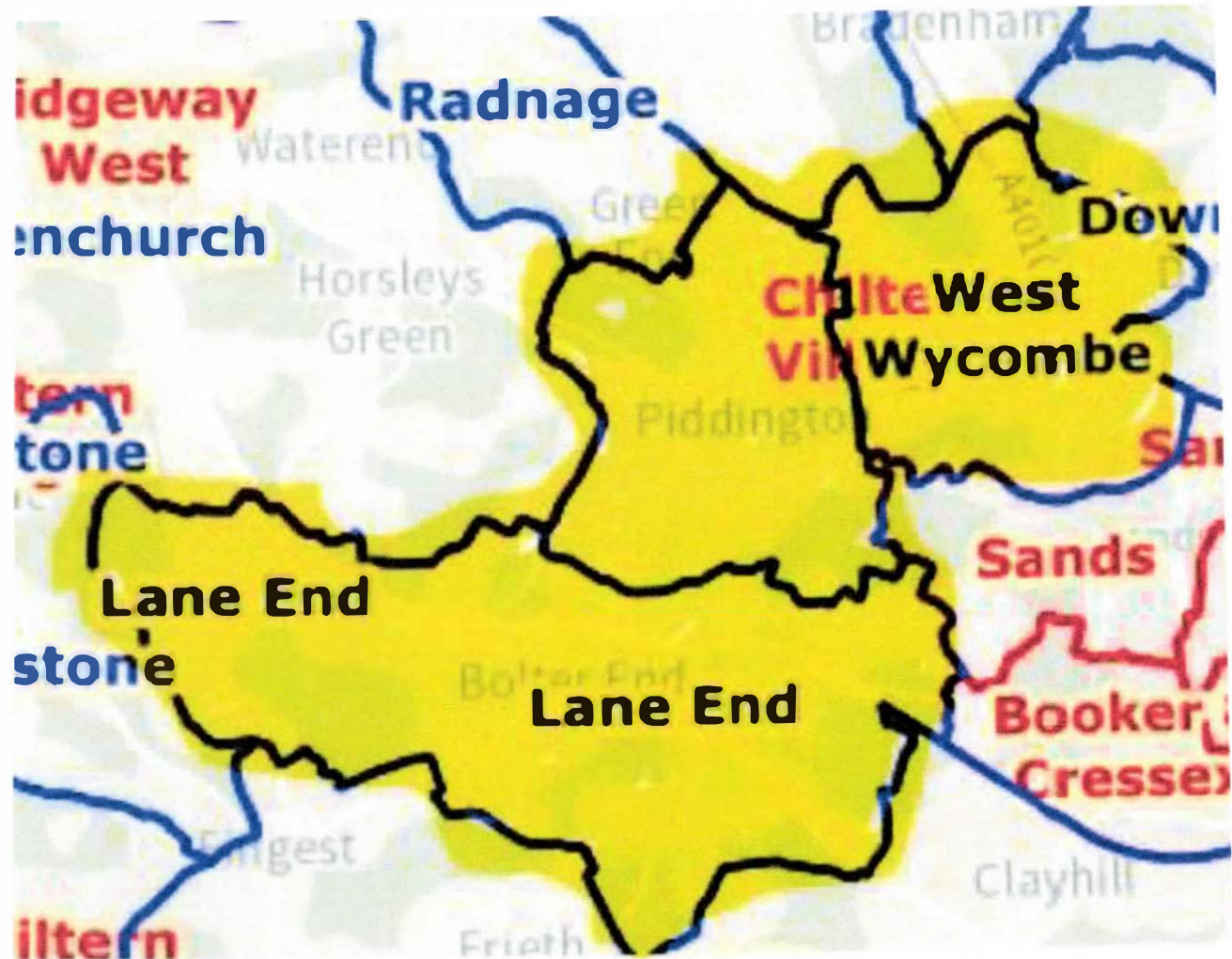
Ward (2936 voters)

Ward (496 voters)

Ward (1061 voters)

4493

Proposals criteria for a 1 member  
4521 voters (-1%) which is acceptable  
approved by Bucks Council officers



# Conclusion

Fully understand that there are historic bonds and loyalties felt with current and previous Cllrs, sharing friends over the years from current Chiltern Villages and various Community Boards, etc

However, these do not benefit Lane End as a Parish. If anything it gives a disadvantage.

The Boundary Commission is looking at new wards build up on local connections and looking at Parish wards and how they connect with neighbouring Parishes.

As much as you would want changes, improvements, a local Unitary Cllr is not able to offer you any benefit over the many other Parishes that they also have a duty to serve equally.

Both West Wycombe and also Piddington/Wheeler End PC's have both agreed to this proposal and have/will submit that they are in favour.

It is logical for all 3 Parish Councils to join together, whereby the Commission may still decide the default, at least you have now an option on the table which you did not before if you agree to this presented proposal.



## **Lane End Boundary Review.**

I must say, I strongly disagree with Darren's perspective.... And I hope the good folk of Lane End do too. Let me tell you why I think Lane End is strongly linked with other Chiltern Villages and explain why I think you should stay in the Chiltern Villages Ward.

### **First History**

From 1894 until 1934 Lane End was part of Fingest Civil Parish. In 1984 it became Fingest and Lane End Parish Council. It was not until 1988 that Lane End became a civil parish and illustrates a connection with other local villages.

Hambleden too, is a large parish, like Lane End, and contains its immediate neighbour Frieth, with whom Lane End connects and has strong local bonds. This in turn links as I have said to the connection with Fingest and Skirmet. Residents in Frieth share the bond with Lane End. An example is Mark Wallace, a Frieth resident who assisted with the Lane End Broadband project even though he himself is out of scope for connection. Also business connections...eg The Yew Tree is owned by Carlos and Joy, who own the Grouse and Ale...and they live on Shogamoor Lane.

Lane End parish sits high in The Chiltern Hills, an area rightly designated as one of "Outstanding Natural Beauty". Much of the parish comprises beautiful commons, lovely woodland and extensive farmland, another link with the other villages. It is not just roads that are important to our villages too. Footpaths and bridleways form connections and many residents do the 10.5k Lane End, Fingest, Skirmet circular loop amongst others. All the other Chiltern Villages are in AONB and share this connection and the wish to protect the green spaces and Finings Wood.

### **Then there is the connection through all our churches.**

The Hambleden group of churches, which includes, Fawley, Turville and Fingest and Hambleden, also have a link with Elim and Holy Trinity Church in Lane End. They, regularly collect food contributions for Elim's 'Community Matters' ministry supplying to the needs in the local area by providing food and household items for the 'Community Matters Food Bank' which helps many of the families in Lane End in need. The Parish of Ibstone St Nicholas is part of the Benefice of the South Chilterns Team Ministry. It too has strong links to the other Anglican churches in the South Chilterns Benefice at Lane End and Cadmore End and also contributes to the 'Community Matters Food Bank'.

I am not saying that Wheeler End, Piddington and West Wycombe do not have synergy with Lane End, and in fact I would welcome them into the Chiltern Villages as I see the clear connection, especially with Wheeler End. What I do not want to see is the other villages being removed at Lane end's detriment.

### **Geography**

Chiltern Villages is a big ward and always has been. But distance geography does not mean a two man ward cannot serve it well. It has been 18 months since the local elections and I hope Lane End PC will agree that their Buckinghamshire councillors have served them well proving that distance and size of ward is no object. As well as day to day resident issues and Parish Council requests, for the last year Zahir was chairman of Buckinghamshire Council and still has had time to chair the Lane End Youth Club. I have helped with Lane End broadband project from implementation and Dominic is the voice of reason at the Air Park. Clearly Lane End is not suffering from poor representation.

Also, as far as the council is concerned, I disagree with Darren about roads and pavements spending. We have local area technicians who monitor the roads and liaises with us as far as priorities are concerned. There is no budget on a 'per ward' basis. Roads are part of a long term asset programme.

The same is true of Community Board funding, which remains a local source of grants. The funding is open to all worthy projects and these are approved by all members within the entire board area. It has not been discussed how boundary changes might affect CB areas either. No one has suggested you would become part of the North West CB.

### **What's in it for us?**

Nothing. We cannot guarantee we will be re-elected in 2025. If the Chiltern Villages loses Lane End, you might argue in fact that whoever is re-elected would have a lighter workload.

I have enjoyed serving Lane End residents and if you are not a local member I would argue that you can't see the synergy between all the villages. Except Frieth which is clearly an extension of Lane End. The Lane End Parish Council website describes the council as - I quote, 'a group of picturesque villages located in the Unitary Authority of Buckinghamshire'.

Darren's proposal does fit the Boundary Commission policy in terms of 'whole parishes' and 'numbers of residents per Councillor' but that's where it ends.... but I really do not think you will be best served separating your Ward especially from Frieth.

### **What's in it for you...**

Remaining in what would be a two member ward has many benefits too.

It should be emphasised that Lane End has affluent areas but also has areas of high population density and areas with social problems, crime, social housing and poverty, not to mention the Air Park which has been an ongoing source of local angst for many years. It will be more difficult to manage the workload effectively as a single councillor in a single member ward. The additional work would easily overload the councillor's caseload.

Good working relationships between two, (currently three), councillors is a key benefit of a multi-member ward. The range of advantages include:

- **We discuss and debate issues together, all of us with local knowledge.** Single-member wards can't have this interaction. They can talk with their colleagues but who do not have the local knowledge.
- **We distribute workload between us as councillors.** Dividing tasks, such as, writing newsletters, delivering leaflets, holding surgeries and attending meetings.

Dividing tasks also helps manage potential conflicts of interests, for example, one councillor representing members of the public on a planning application, while another sits on the planning committee, like myself for instance as I sit on the West planning committee;

- **We utilise councillor experience and areas of expertise.** Allocating case work to the most appropriate councillor and more experienced councillor for a specific issue.
- **We can be more persuasive,** by joining together to add weight to an issue;
- **We can provide absence cover,** in periods of holiday, or illness for example;

In conclusion we discussed the historical connections, the church connection, geographical, AONB as well as advantages of a two Councillor ward v one with only a single Councillor. With Lane End's unique demographics, I hope you can see that Lane End is best served within the Chiltern Villages.

Thank you for listening.

Cllr Mark Turner.