

## **REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017 - LOCAL AREA FORUM REPRESENTATIVE**

The role of Local Area Forum is to strengthen local democratic accountability allowing locally elected councillors to put forward proposals for improvement in their the local community area.

Membership includes County, District and Parish Councillors and representatives from the Police, Health Authority and other organisations. Local people are encouraged to participate, and with time set aside at each meeting for public questions. The LAF meets Jan, May and September; there is a link on the Bucks CC website with more details (*not always up to date*). Chenies LAF includes Amersham, Chesham Bois, Penn and Coleshill, so we are quite small in comparison.

This year, we have sought LAF support for an extension to the speed limit. This request has been rejected by the LAF. There is currently further funding available of £14k up to March 2018 which we are able to apply for. Any request for LAF funding requires match funding from the PC. The PC has reviewed a number of potential options.

I have attended one LAF meeting to date, with discussions centred around roads, flooding, policing and community links programmes. The key element to note from this meeting was the fact that what might be considered simple proposals from the public, such as yellow lining, can take up to 3 years to process. It is therefore imperative that any proposals are fed through the PC for direct discussion with the LAF.

David Martin (April 2017)