

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th September 2021.

Present	Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors Gareth Bevens, David Hall, Simon Cleary, Julie Redfern, Rachel Thackray and Sharon Tricerri.
In Attendance	District Cllr Neil Gregory, 1 member of the public and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

21/106 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from County Cllr Paul Gadd, District Cllr Richard Pavitt, Cllr Mike Mitchell and Cllr Penny McCullough.

21/107 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/108 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the August Parish Council meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and signed by Chair Tom Newcombe.

21/109 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public detailed his attendance with Cllrs Hall and Redfern at a meeting with Hill regarding the London Road developments UTT/19/0573/OP and UTT/20/2724/OP. The Council resolved to discuss further at agenda item 21/113.

Chair Newcombe detailed;

i. Receipt of a request from a member of the public to consider whether they have any land available to be used for dirt jumps. It was agreed that the Council do not have any land available at this time for dirt jumps but resolved to communicate to the resident areas locally that it may be worth them investigating. District Cllr Gregory was also asked to enquire as to whether the bike track near Herberts Farm is still in use.

ii. The Council discussed the email and messages received from residents regarding speeding in the village, and it was agreed that Cllr McCullough and the volunteers who have agreed to co-ordinate a Speedwatch group should liaise with Ickleton Parish Council, who have significant experience of Speedwatch and prepare a report for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting, detailing the training, practicalities, restrictions and benefits of Speedwatch to enable the Parish Council to consider funding a speed gun.

iii. Concerns were raised following receipt of the Highways England letter detailing the planned M11 closures 16/09/21 – 13/12/2021.

Full closure J8-10 northbound 10pm-5am 16/09/21-20/09/21, 14/10/2021 and 11/11/2021.

03/12/2021 – 05/12/2021 full weekend closure.

J9 – 10 northbound single lane closure 24hours, 17/09/2021 – 13/10/2021, 15/10/2021 – 11/11/2021.

Full closure southbound J10 – 9, 10pm – 5am, 14/10/2021, 11/11/2021 and 02/12/2021.

10/12/2021 – 13/12/2021 full weekend closure.

J10 – 9 single lane closure 24hours, 15/10/2021 – 11/11/2021 and 12/11/2021 – 02/12/2021.

iv. Communications were received from the applicant following the Parish Council's objection to planning application UTT/21/2301/FUL. The applicant has been notified that the period for comments has expired, and that any additional information would be best directed to the case officer at UDC.

21/110 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Cllr Neil Gregory reported;

i. The previous issues with Bartholomew Close deliveries at school drop off and pick up time appear to have stopped. Cllr Bevens noted that there has been a reduction in the number of lorries on site.

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- ii. UDC have appointed a new Chief Executive from South Northants who comes well recommended. Mr Glenday has left the Planning Department and further personnel changes are anticipated.
- iii. The new s106 framework changes will be coming into place before Christmas.
- iv. The Local Plan Scrutiny Team meets next week and Simon Payne is currently looking to have the Local Plan in place in September 2023. Cllr Redfern requested a timetable for the Local Plan and District Cllr Gregory confirmed that he has already requested one.
- v. The School Transport Team at ECC have started the new academic year well. Cllr Bevins questioned whether there is any provision in planning guidance to make a claim against UDC for expenditure incurred by the Parish Council in response to the previous draft Local Plan. Cllr Hall and Chair Newcombe detailed communications with UDC and MP Kemi Badenoch and the Council resolved that there is not provision for the Parish Council to make a claim against UDC.

21/111 PLANNING

The following comments were agreed in response to planning applications;

- i. UTT/21/2660/CLP – 11 South Street, Great Chesterford
Proposed loft conversion with rooflights – No objections.
- ii. UTT/21/2609/DOC – Wilton House, High Street, Great Chesterford
Application to discharge condition 2 (Schedule of materials) attached to UTT/21/1516/LB - No objections.
- iii. UTT/21/2314/HHF – 18 Thorpe Lea Close, Great Chesterford
(Reconsultation of) Internal alterations to create a Study and side facing dormer to include juliet balcony - amendment to extension approved under UTT/20/0949/HHF - No objections.
The following planning decisions were noted;
- iv. UTT/21/2117/HHF – Bartle House, Carmen Street, Great Chesterford
Proposed single storey front/side extension – Approved with conditions.
- v. UTT/21/2277/CLP – 7 South Street, Great Chesterford
Proposed loft conversion with rooflights – Approved with conditions.

21/112 FINANCE

- i. The Clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books for the Parish Council current and deposit accounts which were agreed and signed.

The following transactions;

RCCE Annual membership - £72.60
Chesterfords Community Centre – hall hire - £28.00
Grafton Merchandising – 35 fence panel purchase - £1703.40
Salaries August 2021 – £1615.74
Essex Pension Fund - £551.51
A&J Lighting monthly maintenance - £161.64
were agreed for payment.

- ii. This agenda item was deferred to another meeting.

21/113 LONDON ROAD DEVELOPMENTS

- i. Cllr Hall and Colin Day detailed their meeting 23/08/2021 with Cllr Redfern and Hill to review Hill's revised layout proposals for the site following deferral by the Planning Committee of the Application UTT/20/2724/OP, GCPC raised three issues, highways, water matters and s106 and woodland buffer. Detailed notes of the meeting and a document drafted by Colin Day regarding the woodland buffer have been circulated and shared with Hill. Concerns include;
 - a. Issues raised a year ago have not been acted on by UDC.
 - b. The S106 was not shared on the UDC website until after the decision was made.
 - c. The woodland was originally contained within the site under consideration and was part of the early consultation, but following a deal with UDC Axis took the woodland out of the site and put it on land next door which they do not own. GCPC raised that issue and were told it would be covered by S106 or blue lines. This moves the building line further into Great Chesterford.
 - d. The proposed woodland of 27 feather trees in 1.5 acres is wholly inadequate. Hill has now agreed 27 larger trees but Colin Day's document suggests 500 feather trees would be appropriate.

e. A detailed maintenance programme needs to be provided in the S106, which is vital to ensure the trees survive. There also needs to be provision and adequate funds for the maintenance of the wood and clarity of future ownership of the wood.

Chair Newcombe asked for clarity in what GCPC are asking UDC to do about it all in the context of reserved matters. Cllr Hall noted that Nigel Brown conceded that some fleshing out of the s106 is required and suggested GCPC request a further s106 is offered to negate the issues as highlighted to UDC including the open management scheme must be approved.

District Cllr Gregory suggested that GCPC write to jwalsh@uttlesford.gov.uk and explain the problems and issues. The Parish Council noted that Hill are being reactive and responsive, and that the new positioning of the houses is an improvement. Cllr Hall suggested, and it was agreed that the PC have a sensible discussion with Hill to see if they can move things forward

ii. The Parish Council considered and endorsed, the objections to the current proposal relating to the woodland zone, as set out in the S106 agreement and resolved to hold a further meeting with Hill.

21/114 OPEN SPACES

i. Please see appendix 1.

Cllr Redfern resolved to seek advice from Fulbourne Tennis Club regarding winders.

The Clerk explained that quotations have been requested from several companies to provide an electrical survey of the Scout Hut. Only one company has provided a quotation and it was agreed to proceed with the works.

The Clerk explained that quotations have been requested from several companies regarding the asbestos survey of the Scout Hut. Only one company has provided a quotation. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Andrew Taylor for any contacts and to proceed with the works with the cheapest quotation received.

ii. The Council agreed to consider participating in the Essex Highways Devolution Scheme at the next meeting.

21/115 RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Please see appendix 1.

21/116 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Chair Newcombe noted that three residents have stepped forward to help assist with anticipated additional major planning challenges and other names have been suggested who may also get involved.

21/117 LOCAL PLAN

i. Cllr Hall confirmed that last week's UDC cabinet meeting considering the spacial strategy, appears to firmly place Great Chesterford in the frame based on locality to Chesterford Research Park, the motorway junction and train station.

ii. Already covered within the District Councillor's report.

District Cllr Gregory left the meeting.

21/118 YELLOW LINES

The Parish Council agreed to consider this agenda item at the next meeting.

21/119 ONLINE CALENDAR

It was agreed that Cllr McCullough would investigate implementing an online calendar for use by the Parish Council.

21/120 NURSERY

i. The Council resolved to carry out agenda item 21/120ii in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The public were excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 21/120ii.

21/120 Nursery (Part 2)

ii. Cllr Redfern detailed recent progress and a further meeting planned 14/09/2021. It was agreed that an EGM would be planned within the next fortnight.

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The meeting reopened to the public.

21/121 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- i. 2022 Queens Jubilee - Cllr Cleary to lead, 1st Friday of June – November agenda.
- ii. Peter Fentem`s wife Rosemary has sadly passed away. Chair Newcombe resolved to express the Parish Council`s condolences.
- iii. Call for sites.
- iv. Saffron Walden Town Neighbourhood Plan.
- v. Cllrs Redfern and Cleary submitted apologies for the October meeting.

21/122 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th October 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.35