

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9 November 2022.

Present Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors Mike Mitchell, Penny McCullough, Julie Redfern and Rachel Thackray.

In Attendance District Councillors Neil Gregory and Richard Pavitt and Kate Stacey, Clerk to the Council and five members of the public.

The meeting started with a presentation by representatives from Urban and Civic outlining the evolving plan for the 1,500 dwelling development at the Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton.

22/140 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Sharon Tricerri.

22/141 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Newcombe declared he was a partner at Birketts; relevant to agenda item number 22/147 and Cllr Mitchell declared an interest at agenda item number 22/145 iii as a neighbour.

22/142 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair with the following amendment to replace;

22/139 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm Wednesday 12 November 2022.

With;

22/139 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm Wednesday **9** November 2022.

22/143 Public Forum

A resident raised the on-going issue with the vegetation and potholes creating hazardous conditions under and over the railway bridge on the border of Ickleton and Great Chesterford. It was agreed that GCPC had done all that it could do to progress the matter but that pressure would continue.

A resident raised the issue of the increased activity at Boro Farm aggregate recycling facility since an appeal against the refusal of planning permission had been lodged. It was reported that aerial photographs showed that work was still continuing and also now where it was not permitted which was a criminal offence. Cllr Newcombe would liaise with the Chairs of neighbouring PCs and County Councillors to agree a shared way forward given the potential costs if a planning consultant were to be engaged. GCPC would also submit comments against the appeal prior to the deadline of 30 November. It was agreed that the PC would fund further aerial photographs of the site.

22/144 County and District Councillor's Reports

The above reports were received. Cllr Gadd had forwarded a written report; the majority of drains in the Village were now clear, potholes had been reported, ECC were struggling to finance activity. Cllr Pavitt highlighted the Climate Change/Uttlesford Zero Carbon Communities Grant available to PCs. Cllr Gregory highlighted the unsustainable placing of asylum seekers in the district and also the new staff joining the UDC Local Plan team.

22/145 Planning

a. The following comments were agreed to be returned to Uttlesford District Council relating to applications as follows;

i. Application to discharge condition 2 (window and door details) attached to UTT/22/1667/HHF. **19 Thorpe Lea Close** Gt Chesterford, CB10 1FF. Ref. No: UTT/22/2912/DOC. **No objections.**

ii. Application to discharge condition 2 (window and door detail) attached to UTT/22/1671/HHF. **20 Thorpe Lea Close** Gt Chesterford, CB10 1FF. Ref. No: UTT/22/2913/DOC. **No objections.**

iii. Single storey side and rear extension. **High Green**, Rose Lane, CB10 1PN, Ref. No: UTT/22/2546/HHF; **Reconsultation** following revision. **No objections.**

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b. The following Uttlesford District Council planning decisions were noted;

i. Golden rain tree to reduce by 30% and reshape, **October Lodge** Carmel St Gt Chesterford CB10 1PH. Ref. No: UTT/22/2730/TCA. **No Objections.**

ii. Application to discharge condition 6 (archaeology) attached to UTT/21/3231/HHF. **Flint Cottage** Newmarket Rd Gt Chesterford, CB10 1NS. Ref. No: UTT/22/2689/DOC. **Discharge Conditions in Full.**

iii. Application to discharge condition 3 (additional drawings) attached to UTT/22/1177/LB. **July Farmhouse** Carmel St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PH. Ref. No: UTT/22/2591/DOC. **Discharge Conditions in Full.**

iv. Proposed re-surfacing of existing drive and replacement vehicular gate. **The Old Elm Tree Church** St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1NP. Ref. No: UTT/22/2367/HHF. **Approved.**

v. Replace windows with traditional flush casement timber windows. **3 Manor Cottages** Manor Ln Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PJ. Ref. No: UTT/22/2211/HHF. **Approved.**

vi. Variation of condition 2 (Biodiversity, Surface Water Drainage, Hard and Soft Landscaping and Tree Protection) of UTT/21/2113/FUL to allow removal of trees behind plots 12 and 13. **Land North Of Bartholomew Close** Bartholomew Close Gt Chesterford. Ref. No: UTT/22/1260/FUL. **Refused.**

vii. 1no. Rowan, 1no. Apples- fell. 1no. willow, 1no. ash- reduce height by 3-4m. 1no. apple- reduce 3 upper stems by 1m back to crown. 1no. willow- reduce and shape to main trunk. 1no. Pear- reduce crown by 1m. 1no. Willow- reduce vertical branches by 2-3m to create weeping shape. 1no. Hornbeam- reduce branches to clear yew. **Brock House** Manor Ln Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PJ. Ref. No: UTT/22/2932/TCA. **No Objections.**

viii. 1no. Multi stemmed Alder - Reduce height to form high pollard at approximately 10m, remove largest stem growing over river back to old coppice point at 1m. 1no. Victoria Plum - 1-2m crown reduction on garden side only. 1no. Crab apple - 1-2m crown reduction, **River Green House** Church St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1NP. Ref. No: UTT/22/2970/TCA. **No Objections.**

ix. Proposed works to cellar ceiling joists, chimney breast top plate and 2no. additional vents - amendments to scheme approved under UTT/22/1581/LB. **May Cottage**, Carmel St Gt Chesterford. CB10 1PH. Ref. No: UTT/22/2427/LB. **Approved.**

22/146 Finance

The bank statements and review of accounts were noted for October and the following payments were approved;

HMRC/PAYE, July, Aug, Sept	£263.39
Staff salary and expenses	£1,915.95
Pension to LGPS	£559.60
Multisports/scout hut electricity charge	£69.49
CCC hire charge (09.02.22 - 14.12.22)	£54.00
A&J lighting, monthly maintenance charge	£161.64
Stationery (reimburse clerk)	£5.50

The Clerk reported that NALC had agreed a retrospective national salary award for 2022/23 which the PC agreed to implement. It was noted that according to the GCPC financial regulations a draft PC budget would be prepared by the end of November for approval at the December meeting.

22/147 Boro Farm aggregate recycling facility

Addressed under agenda item 22/143 Public Forum.

22/148 Open space (smaller play area) at Pilgrim Close

No residents attended the meeting to describe a plan for costing. Cllr Thackray reported that she had drafted a grant application and another had been initiated to fund the plan (value approx. £2,500) but she was reluctant to apply if there was no support from residents. It was agreed that the Clerk would advise the

residents of the situation.

22/149 Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that there were currently eight faulty parish council street lights. Two quotes for replacement with LED bulbs had now been received and in consideration it was agreed to ask the PC's current contractor to replace the faulty lights with 13 watt LED bulbs (ie the cheapest quote). It was also resolved that the PC would set aside funds to upgrade ten lights to LED each year as and when faults occurred. The Clerk would also investigate whether a grant could be sought to fund a complete upgrade.

22/150 Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton; Outline Planning Permission for 1,500 dwellings

Representatives had attended earlier in the meeting to give a presentation to the PC of the evolving plans for the development. Cllr Redfern reported that she would be attending a liaison meeting on 7 December.

22/151 Railway bridge and tunnel between Great Chesterford and Ickleton

Discussed at agenda item 22/143 Public Forum.

22/152 Risk Assessment

The risk assessment document was approved. It was noted that actions within the risk assessment were required by the PC and Clerk to reduce some current risks and that the document would be reviewed annually.

22/153 Internal financial control document/policy

The internal financial control policy document was approved with some amendments. It was noted that the document would be reviewed annually.

22/154 Councillor vacancies

It was reported that a potential recruit had stepped back due to other commitments. Cllr Redfern agreed to write to the village seeking volunteers and also put a piece in the Village Broadsheet.

22/155 Recreation Ground play area

The PC received Cllr Mitchell's written report. Cllr Mitchell noted that the ditches around the Rec were now clear. The drains at the car park would be cleared following leaf fall. The top dressing of the football pitch had been successful. The gym equipment on the Rec required maintenance and repair amounting to around £778; it was agreed that this would be taken from the current budget. A quote would be sought for a wind break for the tennis court (following a suggestion by a resident).

22/156 Open spaces

The PC received Cllr Mitchell's written report. Cllr Mitchell noted that quotes were being sought for the maintenance of the trees around Horse River Green together with the trees around the Doctor's surgery on School Street (in anticipation of a contribution from the surgery). Consideration would be given to the removal of the small bush by the Village notice board and replacement with a bike rack.

22/157 Dogs and dog waste bins

i. Recreation Ground play area

It had been reported that dog waste had been discovered in the fenced play area on the Recreation Ground despite the 'no dogs' signs. It was agreed that the Clerk would remind residents of the 'no dogs' rule.

ii. London road

It was agreed that an additional dog waste and additional litter bin would be installed on London Road (following a resident's request).

22/158 Nursery

i. It was resolved to carry out agenda item 22/158 in closed session 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.

ii. An update was received.

22/159 Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that the Plan was proceeding to the referendum stage when residents would be asked to vote on Thursday 8 December as follows *“Do you want Uttlesford District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Great & Little Chesterford to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”* Cllr Thackray reported that there would be an advertising campaign encouraging residents to vote.

22/160 Resolution under S45 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

It was noted that at a meeting of the Full Council of UDC meeting at 7.00PM on the 6th December 2022 at the Council Offices it is intended to resolve to confirm a resolution dated 31st January 1989 and made under S45 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 adopting Part II of the said Act within the District of Uttlesford.

22/161 Christmas Tree

It was agreed to set aside up to £200 for the purchase of a Village Christmas tree and associated sundries.

22/161 Matters for Further Discussion

No items were raised for further discussion at the next meeting aside from the budget for 2022/23 raised under item 22/146 Finance.

22/162 Date of Next Meeting; Wednesday 14 December 2022

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

DRAFT