

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th December, 2020 on Zoom.

Present	Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors David Hall, Wendy Martin, Mike Mitchell and Sharon Tricerri.
In Attendance	District Cllr Richard Pavitt, Judith Snares (UDC's Housing Strategy and Operations Manager) and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

20/180 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from District Cllr Petrina Lees.

Apologies for late arrival were received and noted from Cllr Rachel Thackray.

20/181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr David Hall declared a personal interest in agenda item 20/187iii, as a neighbour of the applicant.

20/182 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the November Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chairman Tom Newcombe authorised the Clerk to sign the minutes on his behalf.

Cllr Gareth Bevens joined the meeting.

20/183 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

District Cllr Neil Gregory joined the meeting.

20/184 UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

UDC's Housing Strategy and Operations Manager, Judith Snares noted that the construction management team have not yet been officially appointed to the Bartholomew Close development, although this planning condition, along with the survey of the roads will be met before work can commence. It is anticipated that the developer will be appointed in the new year.

Cllr Julie Redfern joined the meeting.

Judith confirmed that the construction management plan will specify working hours, hours to avoid deliveries, signboards for site manager contact details, letter drops for significant events and will be signed off by the planning department prior to commencement of works. Planning are then responsible for any breaches and will have regular site meetings with contractors, alongside a meeting between UDC, the contractor and the Parish Council to discharge planning conditions.

Chair Newcombe noted the Parish Council's enthusiasm to attend this meeting, and the unusual situation where UDC are the client and the enforcer. Judith confirmed that this is subject to regulations, and that all developers are part of the considerate constructors scheme.

District Cllr Pavitt asked whether large loads could be decanted off site so smaller vehicles can be used to access the site. Judith confirmed that the constructor decides what is brought to site, but that the planning department will need to sign off the plans prior to commencement of works, where issues such as this can be mitigated.

Judith detailed UDC's experience in dealing with construction sites in Uttlesford, confirming that they are swift to act if regulations are not being adhered to. Site managers are very approachable and it would be hoped that a positive relationship with the constructor will ensure that the development proceeds without issue.

Judith noted that one of the bungalows has been changed to 3 bedroom to accommodate the needs of a disabled family with specific requirements.

Cllr Penny McCullough joined the meeting.

20/185 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

District Cllr Neil Gregory detailed;

Great Chesterford Parish Council

- i. More clarity has been shared on UDC's medium term financial position, due to the good work of the finance team.
- ii. Local Plan Scrutiny meeting 10/12/2020 - local governance arrangements remain unclear.
- iii. The latest call for sites is due to commence 02/01/2021.
- iv. There are rumours of an additional 50,000 houses in South Cambs to be centred around Melbourne, will need to keep an eye on South Cambs call for sites.
- v. Cllr Hall is meeting with John Evans 11/12/2020 to discuss failings relating to the now withdrawn Local Plan. Cllr Redfern resolved to review various County Council issues with County Cllr John Moran. JR

20/186 FINANCE

- i. The Parish Council voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Bowls Club as their contribution to the access restriction measures being put in place to the road which serves the Community Centre, Recreation Ground and Bowls Club.
- ii. The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books for the Recreation Ground Trust and Parish Council Current and Deposit accounts which were agreed.

The following transactions;

- OP - Solar Centre - lights for 1 tree (reimburse clerk) - £55.99
 - OP - Spring Cottage Landscaping - ditch clearance/hedge cutting - £450.00
 - OP - ECC - HER data N Plan - £75.00
 - OP - Sawston Phoenix FC refund - £50.00
 - OP - Lock, Stock & Barrell - FB padlocks for HRG bollards (reimburse Cllr Mitchell) - £63.45
 - OP - Solar Centre - lights for tree x 5 (reimburse clerk) - £279.96
 - DD - A & J Lighting - call out 34635 - £326.82
 - OP - Brandon Hire Station - turf cutter hire - £96.74
 - OP - Grafton Merchandising - nursery fencing -GAI/356972 - £451.85
 - OP - Grafton Merchandising - nursery fencing -HAV/378346 - £180.75
 - OP - Universal Fencing - bollards - £1934.73
 - OP - Bryan Lecoche - concrete block hire - inv 5354 - £201.60
 - OP - Bryan Lecoche - concrete block hire - inv 5355 - £201.60
 - OP - Salaries & expenses - November 2020 - £1721.69
 - OP - Essex Pension Fund - November 2020 - £556.10
 - DD - A & J Lighting maintenance inv 34675 - £161.64
 - DD - E.On - streetlights December 2020 - £465.02
- were agreed for payment from the PC current account.

20/187 PLANNING

The following comments were agreed in response to planning applications;

- i. UTT/20/3053/LB - Mill Cottage, Newmarket Road, Great Chesterford
Proposed internal alterations including new hearth and new flooring in living room. Retention of repair works to rectify damp problems in living room, exterior wall insulation and cladding of interior beam - No comments.
- ii. UTT/20/2886/CLP - Maybury House, Carmel Street, Great Chesterford
New rear extension and removal of existing lean-to conservatory - No comments.
- iii. UTT/20/2811/DOC - The Close, Church Street, Great Chesterford
Application to discharge conditions 5 (parking plan), 7 (biodiversity enhancement strategy) and 8 (lighting scheme) attached to UTT/20/0256/FUL - No comments.
- iv. UTT/20/2736/HHF - The Old Tower, High Street, Great Chesterford
Section 73A Retrospective application for the erection of a boundary fence - No comments.

The following planning decisions were noted;

- v. UTT/20/2581/CLP - 8 The Willows, Great Chesterford
Proposed replacement outbuilding - Withdrawn.
- vi. UTT/20/2254/LB - Mill Cottage, Newmarket Road, Great Chesterford
Re tile and re felt single storey extension roof - Refused.
- vii. UTT/20/2237/HHF - Campden House, Carmel Street, Great Chesterford
Converting the garage attic level into an office space with Dorma and Velux windows - Approved with conditions.

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Cllr Rachel Thackray joined the meeting

viii. Cllr David Hall provided an update relating to consultation on the London Road planning applications, including;

- a. There is a prospect of a meeting with the developers of the approved 76 house application, to discuss plans drawn up for which they have consulted and asked for comments. Comments submitted have been directed at road safety, particularly relating to the play area next to the main road.
- b. There have been 90 contributions from Great and Little Chesterford residents in response to the application for 134 houses, the vast majority of which are opposed to the application, and the manner the consultation has been conducted.
- c. The Parish Council agree that publicising the proposals only through the googlegroup is inadequate consultation.
- d. County Cllr Moran has been asked to forward Parish Council and resident concerns relating to road safety on to Essex Highways to ensure concerns are addressed.
- e. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan steering group are familiar with the boundary of the flood plain, and that the site does have flooding issues, although this week's river flooding was an unprecedented high level. Cllr Mitchell resolved to forward photographs of the flooding to County Cllr Moran. MM

District Cllr Neil Gregory left the meeting.

20/188 OPEN SPACES

- i. Please see appendix 1.
- ii. Following a request to site a memorial bench in memory of a long standing Great Chesterford family, the Council resolved to approve the replacement of the damaged wooden bench on Horse River Green with a recycled Eco-Age bench, transfer the existing plaque and add an additional plaque with the family's details. AL

District Cllr Pavitt left the meeting.

20/189 RECREATION GROUND TRUST

- i. Please see appendix 1.
- ii. Cllr Mitchell proposed the installation of a height limiting barrier near the entrance to the Recreation Ground. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Redfern and approved by the Council. There was 1 abstention. It was agreed that Cllr Mitchell would circulate further details following communications with Chesterford Community Centre and the Bowls Club. MM
- iii. Following extensive discussions on the merits of fencing and the possibility of expanding or moving the play park area, it was agreed that Cllrs Mitchell and Triccerri would continue to seek quotations for replacement fencing for the play park. MM/ST

20/190 LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Cllr Hall noted that the outcome of the call for sites will not be known for several months. The local community consultation has begun, the value of which will only become evident further down the line.

Cllr Hall reported, following a review of contemporaneous documents he had undertaken, that it is clear that District Council officers failed to tell elected Members at the time they adopted the Local Plan in October 2018 that AECOM had already reported that the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal was non-compliant and defective; it had failed to evaluate reasonable alternative sites. Officers maintained to UDC's Scrutiny Committee when it considered the matter in May 2020 that the failure was due to "unintentional oversight by an officer."

20/194 NURSERY

Cllr Mitchell confirmed that communications continue with ECC, Cllr Redfern has also been in touch with County Cllr Gooding, a virtual meeting has taken place and a site meeting is planned with the contractor for the new year. The speed of progress continues to be frustrating, but the council are reliant on other agencies to move this project forward.

20/192 OVER 70S CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Great Chesterford Parish Council

CLlr Redfern confirmed that the usual Christmas Lunch at CCC is unable to go ahead due to Covid restrictions. As an alternative, the volunteers have agreed to deliver fully covid compliant Christmas lunches on Sunday 20th December to 154 residents who will be spending Christmas alone.

Several generous local businesses are donating food items for the lunches, including Coles, H Morgan, Wellcome Trust, Days and Uttlesford District Council.

The Council agreed to underwrite any necessary expenditure up to £500, and it was agreed that the clerk would submit a grant application to the ECC Micro Grant scheme. AL

Volunteers are still required for preparation for this event.

The Council agreed that this Christmas is a particularly relevant time to consider those around us, who may be alone, and consider what appropriate action can be taken.

20/193 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

Chair Newcombe thanked everyone in the community for how they have pulled together and helped out in such an extra-ordinary year.

Our local communities of Ickleton, Hinxton, Abington and Little Chesterford continue to support us, and we thank them, and for this we are very grateful.

The Parish Council continues to work extremely hard, with special thanks to Mike Mitchell, Julie Redfern and Rachel Thackray for everything they do for the benefit of our community.

Special mentions must be given to Amanda Bonass, John Burwood, Colin Day, Simon de Gray, Eddie Hatfield, Aubrey Howe, Karen Sheairs and Jane Waller.

However this year's Chairman's award is shared between two extremely valued members of our community; Pam Maskell, for everything you do in so many elements of our community, and CLlr David Hall, for your continued works with planning, the ongoing Local Plan, and indeed also the Neighbourhood Plan.

20/191 STREETLIGHTS

The clerk confirmed that quotations have been requested for the work highlighted in the recently conducted surveys from Electrical Testing Ltd, Innolight, Altitude Services, Sterling Electrical, John Henry Civil Engineers, GM Briton Ltd and Ringway Jacobs, none of which have provided a quote to date.

It was agreed that the clerk would also contact Wellcome Trust to enquire as to their maintenance supplier. AL

20/195 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

i. Chair Newcombe noted investigations carried out in response to concerns about high ditch water levels;

a. The ditch was flowing well even at the highest point, up to half way along Hyll Close. It was noted that some residents have reduced the height of their bund by removing hedges.

b. In 2 places the undergrowth is growing into the ditch, holding back a lot of water. The land owner has been asked to clear the ditch, but this will not be able to take place until the field crop has been harvested.

ii. Chair's communication to residents to include ditch and nursery update, dog waste and cycling on footpaths issues and a reminder to keep up to date with the Neighbourhood Plan. TN

iii. Yellow lines High Street.

iv. Stanley Road lights.

v. Neighbourhood Plan.

vi. Cycle Path.

vii. Xmas tree for village.

20/196 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at 21.46.

**Approved as accurate;
13/01/2021**