Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11 May 2022

Present Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors Simon Cleary, David Hall, Penny

McCullough, Julie Redfern, Rachel Thackray and Sharon Tricerri.

In Attendance County Councillor Paul Gadd, District Councillors Neil Gregory and Richard

Pavitt and Clerk to the Parish Council, Kate Stacey.

22/83 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Mike Mitchell.

22/84 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Redfern declared that she had a 'personal' interest in the planning application at 22/88v.

22/85 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the 13 April 2022 Parish Council meeting and the extra-ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 28 April 2022 were approved as accurate records and signed by the Chair.

22/86 Public Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

22/87 County and District Councillor's Reports

A report had been circulated to ClIrs by ClIr Gadd prior to the meeting. In summary, details of a Locality Fund would be circulated soon. Work was on-going in relation to clearing drains and addressing flooding; receipt of photographs of defects assisted greatly. It was confirmed that brickwork had not been cleared from the B184 culvert and the lamppost on the corner or Church Street/London Road was still redundant. ClIrs reported that potholes on the two roundabouts in Essex on the outskirts of the village towards Cambridge were particularly bad. There were also large potholes on the Rookery Close/Jackson's Lane junction. ClIr Gadd reported that funding had been approved for a full review of the Gt Chesterford to Saffron Walden cycle route.

Cllrs Gregory and Pavitt gave verbal reports. In summary, the site allocations for future housing in Essex were shortly to be announced. Uttlesford District Council Planning Department was severely short staff causing significant difficulties and delays with planning administration. A new Director of Planning was due to start in June. Cllrs Gregory and Pavitt had attended a presentation by land developer Catesby and encouraged GCPCs to meet with them.

22/88 Planning

The following comments were agreed to be returned to Uttlesford District Council (UDC) relating to the applications below:

i. Internal alterations plus replacement boiler house roof and entrance canopy to rear of house. July Farmhouse Carmel St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PH, Ref. No: UTT/22/1176/HHF. **No comment.**

ii Internal alterations plus replacement boiler house roof and entrance canopy to rear of house. July Farmhouse Carmel St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PH, Ref. No: UTT/22/1177/LB. **No comment.**

iii. 1 no. Sycamore- fell to ground level, Middle House Carmel St Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PH. Ref. No: UTT/22/1093/TPO. **No comment.**

iv. Proposed front bay window extension, loft conversion and internal amendments. 47 Jacksons Lane Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PT. Ref. No: UTT/22/1029/HHF. **No comment.**

v. Extension to house, conversion of stable block to living accommodation, extension to outhouses and erection of triple garage (works commenced under planning permission UTT/0021/93/FUL and listed building consent UTT/0022/93/LB), Chesterford House High St, Gt Chesterford, CB10 1PL. Ref. No: UTT/22/1012/CLE. **No comment.**

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vi. Two storey side extension, single storey front porch and single storey rear extension. 2 Ashworth Villas Whiteways Gt Chesterford, CB10 1NX. Ref. No: UTT/22/0602/HHF. **Strongly object on design grounds.**

vii. Planning Appeal CT1 Land Rear Of Smock Mill House Whiteways Gt Chesterford CB10 1NX. Ref. No: UTT/19/2243/FUL. **The Council agreed to reiterate its concerns; previous objections stand.**

UDC planning decisions for the previous month were noted.

22/89 Planning; 124 dwellings, Land East of London Rd

Cllr Gregory reported that the Chief Executive of UDC had admitted that the planning committee overseeing the above application had dealt with it in an erroneous way however in his view the outcome was likely to be the same should it be resubmitted. Cllrs agreed that this was the likely outcome and there was little point in challenging the decision given the potential costs of doing so. It was noted that the related S106 agreement was still with UDC for drafting.

22/90 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 first instalment of the precept had been received. The following were approved for payment;

Staff salaries and expenses, April	£1,624.26
Essex Pension Fund, April	£464.89
Jubilee flag	£48.42
CB Mower Service	£817.94
Parkers Pitches, top dressing, grass seed, Rec	£3,384.00
GCPA Leaver's Party Cttee (grant application)	£100.00
Community Centre contribution to oven (grant application)	£2,227.24
Treecology, tree removal, Pilgrims Cl. play area	£1,020.00

22/91 Recreation Ground play area (Appendix 1)

Cllr Mitchell's report was received. It was agreed to accept a quote for £667.15 ex VAT for the repair of the swing in the play park; currently there was a danger that one swing could collide with another.

22/92 Open spaces (Appendix 1)

Cllr Mitchell's report was received. Cllr Cleary reported that he had identified 13 non-working street lights; he would forward the list to the Clerk to seek quotes for the work. Cllr Thackray would investigate if a locality grant could be obtained to replace the current bulbs with LED versions. Cllr Tricerri reported that the tree recently felled at the Pilgrim Close play area had been found to be rotten inside and also contained a wasp nest. It was noted that a replacement tree had already been planted to replace the rotten tree.

22/93 Hire/use of Football pitch

It was agreed that SWPSGFC and SWCFC could hire the football pitch at the Recreation Ground for Saturday mornings from September until the end of May subject to the condition of the pitch.

22/94 Yellow Lines

It was reported that a redrafted plan for yellow lines on the High Street was shortly to be received.

22/95 Pilgrim close – use of open space

An outline plan had been received by residents. It was agreed that discussion would be deferred until a resident (or residents) could attend the meeting.

22/96 Jubilee

Cllr Cleary reported that a poster had gone around the village advertising the event on the Sunday of the Jubilee weekend. He had also applied to UDC for a £3k grant to support Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Cleary noted that little interest in involvement had been shown by residents and he would meet with the WI who had initiated the event to consider what else could be added. It was noted that the Jubilee beacon would be lit at 9.45pm on the Thursday evening to coincide with the national beacon lighting event and a young resident had volunteered to provide the music.

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22/97 Nursery

There was nothing to report under this item other than Cllr Mitchell was progressing applying for a loan to take the project forward.

22/98 Matters for Further Discussion

Matters for further discussion or future agenda items were: Street lights, bike racks and the forthcoming internal and external audit reports for the 2021/22 financial year.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

22/99 Date of Next Meetings; Tuesday 31 May 2022; Annual Village Meeting

Wednesday 8 June 2022