

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th May, 2020 on Skype.

Present	Chair Tom Newcombe, David Hall, Mike Mitchell, Julie Redfern, Wendy Martin, Sharon Tricerri and Rachel Thackray.
In Attendance	District Councillor Neil Gregory and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

20/088 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from District Cllr Pavitt.

20/089 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

20/090 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 29/04/2020 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.

20/091 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Clerk read out concerns forwarded for consideration within public participation regarding;

i. The faulty automated speed sign near the Community Centre, speeding vehicles on Newmarket Road, and volumes of speeding vehicles causing neighbouring properties to shake, resulting in subsequent cracks in the plaster of the walls. It was noted that the faulty sign has been raised to County Cllr Moran a number of times and Cllr Redfern resolved to discuss the sign and damaged village sign during a meeting with County Cllr Moran 14/05/2020. JR

ii. Trees shadowing a neighbouring garden and overhanging a footpath on Pilgrims Close. The resident has been informed by UDC that there is no right to light to a garden area and that the footpath is adopted by Essex Highways, and that trees obstructing the use of the footpath should be reported to EH. The Council agreed that Essex Highways will establish whether works will be required to the trees.

iii. Cllr Mitchell detailed a request from the Environment Agency to locate a five foot by eight foot mobile toilet at Chesterford Community Centre car park, as part of a region wide scheme to provide services for their workers. It was agreed that the Parish Council in principle have no objections, but would need to see a formal proposal.

iv. Cllr Thackray detailed a request from a private tennis coach who wishes to book the multi sports court for one to one tennis lessons as per the current social distancing guidelines. It was agreed that the Council would gauge general use of the multi-sports courts for a fortnight before making a decision.

20/092 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

District Cllr Neil Gregory noted;

i. The approval of 13 dwellings in Bartholomew Close, including very serious conditioning on construction management and a meeting with residents and Parish Council representatives before the management is finalised.

ii. The Local Plan has been withdrawn, on a vote of 31/7. The leader of UDC faces the Scrutiny Committee 21/05/2020 to explain how the Council got to this point. Clear governance framework will be required to ensure the next plan is successful.

iii. Stansted Airport have until mid July to file any appeal regarding their application, although MAGS have recently been bailed out with £250m by Greater Manchester Councils.

iv. UDC's finance revenue remains extremely low, with arrears for council tax and business rates through the roof, and housing benefit and council tax relief applications sky high. Cllr Gregory commended Council officers hard work supporting residents and maintaining core facilities.

v. Concerns were raised regarding the long term viability of the school bus service.

Cllr Mitchell requested an update regarding the Parish Council's submission to UDC for reimbursement of legal fees incurred objecting to the Local Plan. Cllr Hall confirmed that the letter is being prepared for submission.

Cllr Gareth Bevens joined the meeting.

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20/093 PLANNING

The following comments were agreed in response to planning applications;

i. UTT/20/0949/HHF - 18 Thorpe Lea Close, Great Chesterford

Single storey rear extension, side facing dormer and first floor windows to side elevation. (02/06/2020) It was agreed that the Council does not object to the rear extension, but objects to the dormer window for reasons of visual amenity and design.

Cllr Penny McCullough joined the meeting.

ii. UTT/20/0944/NMA - 11 the Elms, Great Chesterford

Non material amendment to UTT/19/1650/HHF - 2 no. windows in study, replacement render at front of property and velux windows in kitchen. No objection.

iii. UTT/20/0958/HHF - Field Farm Cottage, Field Farm Drive, Great Chesterford

Erection of a residential annexe/studio.(01/06/2020) No objection, subject to suitable conditioning preventing the annexe/studio becoming a new dwelling in it's own right.

iv. UTT/20/0977/LB - Reed House, Manor Lane, Great Chesterford

Partial demolition and repair of rear garden wall.(04/06/2020)No objection.

The following planning decisions were noted;

v. UTT/200617/HHF - The Old Tower, High Street, Great Chesterford

Proposed two storey and single storey extension, erection of chimney and replacement of rear facing windows to match existing. (Renewal of previously approved UTT/17/1106/HHF) - Approved

vi. UTT/20/0595/HHF - The Old Elm Tree, Church Street, Great Chesterford

The insertion of a four panel window to the rear gable. - Refused

vii. UTT/20/0596/LB - The Old Elm Tree, Church Street, Great Chesterford

The insertion of a four panel window to the rear gable. - Refused.

20/094 FINANCE

i. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that he is meeting with the Chesterford Community Centre to discuss finance and funding and will report back at the next meeting.

ii. The Council resolved to appoint Yvonne Morton to carry out the internal audit of the accounts, once Yvonne's qualifications have been verified.

iii. The asset register was approved as £993,941.00.

iv. The Council resolved to complete the Section 1 Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 following receipt of the internal audit.

v. The Council resolved to approve the annual accounts, sign the Section 2 Accounting Statements 2019/20 and minute the approval, following receipt of the internal audit.

vi. The Council resolved to note the completion of the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance and Accountability Return (Exempt Authority) to be displayed from 13th June 2020, and making available the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and associated documents on application to the clerk, between 17/06/20 and 26/07/20, following receipt of the internal audit.

20/095 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Thackray confirmed that unfortunately Government guidance with regard to Regulation 14 consultations, is that due to Covid-19, consultation cannot take place before 06/05/2021. It is hoped that future easing of social distancing restrictions could bring that date forward, but regardless, the Neighbourhood Plan team continue to work hard and countless actions have been taken subsequently to this frustrating update.

20/096 NURSERY

Cllr Mitchell confirmed that the nursery was secured within four hours post break in, with repairs currently underway. It has not been possible to contact the Essex County Council representative to progress the post-mediation stage, but Cllr Redfern agreed to speak with County Cllr Gooding during a meeting 14/05/2020, and request an update.

20/097 LOCAL PLAN

Already covered within District Cllr Gregory's report.

20/098 OPEN SPACES

i. It was agreed that Sawston Phoenix Football Club can hire the Recreation Ground for 1/1.5hrs/Tuesday for a

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period of 10 weeks from July, at a cost of £25/session, subject to receipt of appropriate insurance documents and compliance with the Recreation Ground hire agreement.

ii. Cllr Tricerri confirmed that ROSPA intend to carry out the play park inspection in May and are aware that the gates are locked. ROSPA have been provided with contact numbers so the Council can arrange for access during the inspection.

iii. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that temporary supports have been added to the notice board, and work is being undertaken to repair the doors until a replacement can be purchased.

20/099 ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Council agreed to postpone the Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting until it is appropriate for the meetings to be rescheduled.

20/100 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

i. Grosvenor have requested a meeting with the Parish Council.

ii. Clerk to provide precis minutes for inclusion in the Broadsheet.

iii. All messages to the village are to be written in a format that can be used by email, on the GoogleGroup, on Facebook and added to the website.

iv. Advice to be sought regarding the use of Zoom to enable the public to join PC meetings.

v. Parish Council meetings to revert to monthly, on the second Wednesday, unless additional meetings become necessary.

vi. Cllr Bevins detailed Government funding currently available for cycle paths, and has contacted MP Kemi Badenoch and County Cllr John Moran in relation to this.

20/101 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th June, 2020.

The meeting closed at 21.48.