

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th October 2021.

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| Present | Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors Simon Cleary, Mike Mitchell, Julie Redfern, Rachel Thackray and Sharon Tricerri. |
| In Attendance | County Cllr Paul Gadd, District Cllr Neil Gregory, 3 members of the public and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council. |

21/122 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from District Cllr Neil Gregory, Cllr Gareth Bevens and Cllr Penny McCullough.

Cllr David Hall joined the meeting.

21/123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Chair Newcombe declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 21/132ii as a partner at Birketts.

21/124 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

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

21/125 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public made the following comments;

i. Please can the Council consider the purchase of a village Christmas Tree to be situated on Horse River Green. In 2020 the impromptu outdoor carol service was held on the green triangle on School Street, and it is hoped that a more organised event can be co-ordinated this year.

A member of the public arrived.

ii. Further support was given to the proposed Christmas tree, alongside a request to reconnect power to the telephone box to light the tree in the first instance and also light the newly refurbished telephone box and corner of Horse River Green.

iii. Receipt of Hill's new planting programme relating to UTT/20/3329/DF0 was noted and a copy provided to the Council. Chair Newcombe thanked the resident for his ongoing support and asked if he is satisfied with the changes. It was noted that the new plan is much clearer what they are doing and also resolves the management of the site. Hill have said they are happy to establish a management company for the trees, with associated bills paid as a service charge by the residents.

iv. There is an important storage need for the Cricket and Bowls Clubs to be accommodated within the Scout Hut refurbishment.

v. It will be the Bowls Club centenary in 2023, detail on celebration plans will follow.

vi. Cllr Mitchell extended the Council's thanks to Colin Day and his team for the recent renovation of the telephone box, which is attracting a great deal of attention and positive comments.

21/126 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Cllr Paul Gadd submitted his report- please see attachment one.

Chair Newcombe confirmed to County Cllr Gadd that all the drains on Carmen Street are blocked and resolved to forward photos to County Cllr Gadd to chase action.

Cllr Hall resolved to forward to County Cllr Gadd his summary of drainage issues to date, alongside engineers reports of visits to South Street including flooding issues from the bottom of Church Street to HRG.

Cllr Mitchell raised concerns regarding the regular inconsiderate parking on Carmen Street which would hinder access by emergency vehicles. Concerns were also raised regarding encroaching hedgerow on Carmen Street.

Chair Newcombe resolved to email residents requesting more considerate behaviour.

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County Cllr Gadd queried whether Pilgrims Close has been resurfaced and Cllr Tricerii confirmed that it has still not been repaired. Cllr Mitchell resolved to forward the what3words location to County Cllr Gadd.

Cllr Hall noted the Road Safety Audit Stage 1 which UDC published on the website on 29th September. The report makes numerous recommendations regarding the proposals so far submitted in order to improve road safety, and a Stage 2 Report is mentioned. Most concerning is the suggestion that a Pelican Crossing may not be justified because of the light traffic prevalent when the survey was conducted.

District Cllr Richard Pavitt reported;

i. He has forwarded a photograph to Chair Newcombe demonstrating the flooding issue outside The Delles on Carmen Street.

ii. The new CEO is in place and making a good impression.

iii. The letter from the Ministry regarding UDC breaching the 10% level of over-turned planning appeals is rather meaningless, as they hit 11% more than two years ago, there has been a subsequent huge turnover of staff.

District Cllr Pavitt left the meeting.

21/127 PLANNING

The following comments were agreed in response to planning applications;

i. UTT/21/2907/FUL - The Coach House, Chesterford House, High Street, Great Chesterford

Proposed extension and conversion to residential of former coach house, stable, outbuilding and garage (amended scheme to that approved under planning permission UTT/15/2436/FUL) - Agreed to support this amendment as an improvement to the previous scheme

ii. UTT/21/2908/LB - The Coach House, Chesterford House, High Street, Great Chesterford

Proposed extension and conversion to residential of former coach house, stable, outbuilding and garage (amended scheme to that approved under listed building consent UTT/15/2437/LB) - Agreed to support this amendment as an improvement to the previous scheme

iii. UTT/21/2858/HHF – 9 Ash Green, Great Chesterford

Garage conversion, front porch, internal alterations with associated fenestration changes – No comment.

iv. UTT/21/2863/NMA - Land North Of Bartholomew Close, Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Non material amendment to UTT/21/2113/FUL - Changes to materials - No comment.

v. UTT/21/2805/DOC - Land North Of Bartholomew Close, Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 7 (wildlife sensitive lighting), 9 (SuDs maintenance) and 14 (details of walk/cycle way) attached to UTT/21/2114/FUL- No comment.

vi. UTT/21/2804/DOC – Land North Of Bartholomew Close, Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 7 (wildlife sensitive lighting), 8 (SuDS maintenance) and 13 (details of walk/cycle way) attached to UTT/21/2113/FUL - No comment.

vii. UTT/21/2835/CCLB - May Cottage, Carmel Street, Great Chesterford

Certificate of lawfulness for works to a listed building to repair damp issues - No comment.

The following planning decisions were noted;

viii. UTT/21/2609/DOC – Wilton House, High Street, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 2 (Schedule of materials) attached to UTT/21/1516/LB – Discharge conditions in full.

ix. UTT/21/2314/HHF – 18 Thorpe Lea Close, Great Chesterford

Convert middle bedroom into a study and side facing dormer to include juliet balcony - amendment to extension approved under UTT/20/0949/HHF – Approved with conditions.

x. UTT/21/2301/FUL – The Bothy, Marigold Cottage, School Street, Great Chesterford

Change of use from residential annexe to separate dwelling house – Refused

xi. UTT/21/2293/HHF – The Limes, School Street, Great Chesterford

Conversion of existing single garage into home office/study space – Approved with conditions.

xii. UTT/21/2113/FUL – Land north of Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application for amendment to condition 15 (materials) of UTT/19/2288/FUL - Revised schedule of materials – Approved with conditions.

xiii. UTT/19/2243/FUL - Land Rear of Smock Mill House, Whiteways, Great Chesterford

Erection of 3 no. new dwellings with separate double garage alongside ancillary access, parking, landscape and associated works – Refused.

21/128 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;

E.On Streetlighting September - £479.77
Unity Trust Bank – quarterly charge - £18.00
Chesterford Community Centre – electricity recharge - £63.34
Mr Moralee – grass cutting - £584.63
PKF Littlejohn – External Audit - £480.00
Effex Electrical Contractors – Scout Hut electrical survey - £216.00
CB Mowers Ltd – mower service - £329.54
Salaries – September - £1769.66
Essex Pension Fund – September - £559.75
HMRC quarterly payment - £701.98
A&J Lighting monthly maintenance - £161.64
E.On Streetlighting October - £531.28

were agreed for payment.

The Council also resolved to pay an additional invoice for clearing the ditches up to £1000, once it is received. It was agreed that the Clerk would clarify the mower ownership.

ii. The Conclusion of Audit was noted.

The Council resolved to change the order of the agenda items to accommodate the public present.

21/130 OPEN SPACES

i. Please see appendix 2.

The Council noted that the growing season this year has resulted in exceptional growth at times encroaching onto pavements and footpaths. The PC works with UDC and ECC in relation to growth and encroachment that falls within their responsibility. With the bird breeding season over, residents are encouraged to cut back such growth from their properties and those of neighbours who may be less able which encroaches onto pavements and footpaths.

Cllr Redfern suggested liaising with Fulbourn Tennis Club regarding winders.

ii. The Council agreed to consider the request to install solar lighting along the path from the Recreation Ground to Meadow Road at the November meeting.

iii. The Council agreed in principle to purchase a Christmas Tree to be located at Horse River Green, at a maximum cost of £1000. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Swards End Clerk, SWTC and EALC regarding suppliers and quotations to ensure the tree is safely secured.

Cllr Gareth Bevens arrived.

The Council agreed to reuse the current solar lighting for this year with a view to considering an electrical supply for further years. Cllr Cleary offered to provide a generator to further decorate the tree at the carol event night. Cllr Thackray resolved to liaise with County Cllr Paul Gadd and District Cllrs Gregory and Pavitt regarding the possibility of grants from their individual Locality Funds.

iv. Cllr Cleary agreed to work with Cllr Bevens and the Clerk to spearhead a fundraising committee specifically tasked with projects such as the play park, and skate park renovation. Cllr Hall suggested that an email is sent to residents to invite wider participation.

21/129 LONDON ROAD DEVELOPMENTS

i. Cllr Hall provided an update following the public consultation at the Crown House, and a meeting two days later alongside LCPC and Chris Tyler from UDC relating to the 124 house application. UDC have confirmed that the application won't come before planning committee this year and they accept that the implications should be considered alongside the 76 application which is coming to planning committee 27/10/21 for approval of detailed plans.

The 124 house application currently has objections on heritage grounds by Place Services which Hill are challenging. The Road Safety Audit prepared on behalf of Essex Highways 29/09/21 raises a raft of concerns regarding road safety and position of the pelican crossing.

ii. A prioritised list of S106 requirements was agreed as pedestrian and cycle access, skate park replacement, Recreation Ground play area refurbishment, Cam river bridge deurbanisation, nursery contribution, B1383 access bridge, and running track. Cllr Hall undertook to circulate text incorporating the list for submission to

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UDC and Hill; he also agreed to provide in view of his absence on holiday a summary of principal issues to be raised by the PC at the forthcoming planning committee meeting.

Chair Newcombe detailed the S106 framework and the need to balance what could be a long and expensive shopping list with what is lawful and acceptable, alongside what items will make the development most acceptable to the community.

Cllr Redfern asked the Council to consider taking the responsibility of the play areas from the management companies, for a financial contribution for upkeep. Chair Newcombe suggested taking a different route to take over ownership of the land with Hill taking responsibility for the first year, to then be transferred to PC or UDC or a management company.

21/131 RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Please see appendix 2.

21/132 SCOUT HUT

i. The Council agreed to extend the existing license to include signage and lighting.

ii. Chair Newcombe resolved to obtain a quotation to review the draft lease.

A member of the public left the meeting.

21/133 NURSERY

i. The Council resolved to carry out agenda item 21/133ii 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 21/133ii.

21/133 Nursery (Part 2)

ii. Cllr Mitchell detailed recent progress and meetings.

The meeting reopened to the public.

21/134 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

i. 2022 Queens Jubilee - Cllr Cleary to lead, 1st Friday of June – November agenda.

ii. Call for sites.

iii. Saffron Walden Town Neighbourhood Plan.

iv. Cllr Bevens submitted his resignation to the Parish Council and Chair Newcombe, on behalf of the whole Council, thanked Cllr Bevens for everything he has done for the community over the twelve years he has sat on the Parish Council.

v. Parish Council vacancy.

v. Cllr Redfern agreed to speak at the planning committee meeting.

vi. S106 review.

21/122 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th November 2021.

The meeting closed at 22.45

**Approved as accurate
10/11/2021**