

# Great Chesterford Parish Council

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## **Draft Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021.**

<b>Present</b>	Chair Tom Newcombe, Councillors Simon Cleary, Penny McCullough, Mike Mitchell, Rachel Thackray and Sharon Tricerri.
<b>In Attendance</b>	County Cllr Paul Gadd, District Cllr Richard Pavitt, 1 member of the public and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

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### **21/090 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from District Cllr Neil Gregory.  
*Cllr David Hall arrived.*

### **21/091 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.  
*A member of the public arrived.*

### **21/092 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

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

### **21/093 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the public requested that the dog waste bin near the telephone box on Horse River Green is not replaced with a larger bin as the telephone box will soon be refurbished as an information point for HRG. It was agreed that the existing bin on the green could be moved fifteen metres further down the hedgerow to remove it from the immediate proximity to the adjacent property's patio, whilst remaining in the area where most people exercise their dogs.

### **21/094 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

County Cllr Gadd confirmed his plan to attend each second or third Parish Council meeting and has provided an update which is attached to the minutes as appendix one.

County Cllr Gadd detailed the £10,000 Locality Fund available for capital projects (in particular eco projects) minimum applications for £300, and funds must be spent in the current financial year.

*Cllr Julie Redfern arrived.*

Cllr Cleary queried the possibility of funding for replacement/upgrading of streetlights and County Cllr Gadd agreed that this could well be possible.

Cllr Hall confirmed that Great Chesterford has several major flooding and sewage concerns, particularly linked to proposed and approved large developments within the parish. District Cllr Pavitt noted that the sewage flooding in South Street always floods into the River Cam and that a lot of the road drains are blocked, and don't adequately function as a drainage system. County Cllr Gadd asked for Councillors to forward details of areas of concern. Cllr Redfern noted that during the resurfacing of Carmen Street, they didn't resurface to the edges of the road and a lot of growth is coming up, and that there is a drain at the junction with Jacksons Lane, where the road has been resurfaced, the camber of the road has changed, which prevents the water being able to access the drain. County Cllr Gadd asked for photographic evidence, details and what3words location details to be forwarded to him.

Cllr Mitchell confirmed ongoing discussion with County Cllr Gadd and compared Essex County Council's plans for the yellow lines on the High Street with the Parish Council's agreed plan. ECC are now reviewing GCPC's plan and County Cllr Gadd agreed to chase action in the next week or so.

The Council agreed that speeding issues have increased recently, and Cllr McCullough noted that she has several volunteers willing to operate a speed gun if one can be obtained.

Cllr Hall noted serious highways issues as a result of absence of action from Essex Highways to improve the current situation and that their lack of communication regarding current planning applications is wholly unacceptable.

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County Cllr Gadd suggested that the Parish Council could fund the works themselves if they feel that their requests to Essex Highways do not get actioned. Cllr Mitchell noted that Parish Councils do not have the power to finance work that is another statutory body's responsibility.

District Cllr Pavitt reported that Uttlesford District Council have appointed a new acting Chief Executive, Rob Tinlin, previously Southend's CEO. His key priority is appointing a new CEO, interviews are planned for September, with the role to be filled by early 2022. Transformation of the planning department is planned following a major review by East of England which makes significant suggestions for change. One of many points to be addressed is the consultees on development. Cllr Redfern questioned what is happening with the agreed increased inclusivity with Parish Councils, noting that GCPC have requested a meeting regarding the 124 application on London Road and nothing has happened. GCPC are not getting the opportunity to feed in early enough with current applications, historically the Parish Council had a lot of input with Bell View and Icknield Rise, but this is no longer the case with more recent applications.

The Council agreed to write to the acting Chief Executive and Gordon Glenday explaining that they have requested a meeting, have not been granted a meeting and object to the application going as far as committee, or the officer's report being written before the meeting with the Parish Council has taken place. District Cllr Pavitt noted that the Local Plan digital scoping report with expandable maps is now available for comment ( until 22/09/2021) on the UDC website.

## 21/095 PLANNING

The following comments were agreed in response to planning applications;

i. 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 – No objections.

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

Change of use from residential annexe to separate dwelling house – Strongly object on lack of residential amenity for both properties and lack of parking.

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

Conversion of existing single garage into home office/study space – No objections.

The following planning decisions were noted;

iv. UTT/21/1224/HHF – 10 Meadow Road, Great Chesterford

Proposed single storey rear extension and addition of pitched roof to existing garage – Approved with conditions.

v. UTT/21/2250/DOC – Lulworth House, Newmarket Road, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge conditions 5 and 6 (archaeology) attached to UTT/18/2243/FUL – Conditions discharged in full.

vi. UTT/21/1516/LB – Wilton House, High Street, Great Chesterford

Replacement of entrance gates, removal of concrete pier caps and increase in gate pillar height – Approved with conditions.

vii. UTT/21/0612/DOC – Land north of Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 4 (road condition survey) attached to UTT/19/2288/FUL – Discharge conditions in full.

viii. UTT/21/0611/DOC – Plot 7, Land north of Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 5 ( road condition survey) 9 (offsite flooding) and 17 (construction method statement) attached to UTT/20/3263/FUL – Discharge conditions in full.

ix. UTT/21/0479/DOC - Land north of Bartholomew Close, Great Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 10 (offsite flooding) and 18 (construction method statement) attached to UTT/19/2288/FUL - Discharge conditions in full.

## 21/096 FINANCE

i. The Council resolved to continue affiliation with the Rural Community Council of Essex.

ii. 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;

OP - Gidney Building Services – fit bench - £230.00

OP – Defib Store – new pads and battery - £286.80

OP – July salaries - £1797.42

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OP – Essex Pension Fund - £568.80

DD – A&J Lighting call out - £165.48

DD – A&J Lighting monthly maintenance - £161.64

DD – Information Commissioner – annual data protection fee - £35.00

DD – E.On streetlighting August - £479.77

were agreed for payment.

Cllr Mitchell noted the need for additional Councillors to sign up with Unity Trust to complete online payments and Cllrs Cleary and Hall agreed to sign up.

## **21/097 OPEN SPACES**

i. Please see appendix 2.

ii. It was agreed that the clerk will write to the doctors' surgeries asking if they will offer defibrillator training to interested parties.

iii. Covered within public participation.

## **21/098 RECREATION GROUND TRUST**

Please see appendix 2.

## **21/099 SCOUT HUT**

i. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that a temporary license has been granted to the Scout group to develop the Scout Hut. The Council resolved to undertake the necessary asbestos and electrical surveys, and it was agreed that the clerk would message on the Google group asking for quotes and recommendations.

ii. The Council agreed to finalise the license and lease arrangements between GCPC and the Scout Group, at the September meeting.

## **21/100 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Cllr Thackray provided an update as comments from residents, landowner and developers are worked through and responded to. They will be compiled into a document to demonstrate how feedback was undertaken and there will be a few small updates to the plan and maps as a result. There will be a consultation statement, which will be sent to UDC, which puts the plan into Regulation 15. The group have selected which examiner they wish to appoint, as a result of advice from the critical friend at UDC and await agreement from LCPC's NP representative. It is hoped that the next stage will be relatively quick, followed by the six week referendum.

## **21/101 LOCAL PLAN**

Cllr Hall confirmed that the Parish Council are waiting for assessment of the various sites put forward, which the PC are told they will have an opportunity to respond to.

Chair Newcombe indicated the Parish Council's desire to discuss the sites openly with UDC.

It was agreed that Chair Newcombe would send an email to residents requesting support from residents with property, planning or management experience to assist with the additional major planning challenges that are likely to befall the Parish Council in the coming months, to ensure that the best interests of the village are fully represented.

## **21/102 YELLOW LINES**

Discussed within County Councillors report.

## **21/103 NURSERY**

i. The Council resolved to carry out agenda item 21/103ii 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.

Cllr Mitchell noted that the nursery project continues to be very active and the Parish Council hope to be able to make an announcement by October.

The public left the meeting for the consideration of item 21/103ii.

## **21/103 Nursery (Part 2)**

ii. Cllr Mitchell detailed frequent and ongoing discussion in relation to the nursery with ECC and other parties.

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Chair Newcombe allowed the public to rejoin the meeting.

## **21/104 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

i. Shrubbery on Jubilee Gardens needs trimming back.

## **21/105 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th September 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm