

GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY JANUARY 13TH 2015 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GREAT CHESTERFORD

Present: Neil Gregory
Matt Rowan
David Hall
Gareth Bevens
Sharon Tricerri

Julie Redfern
Howard Rolfe

Alan Cattley – Clerk

Eight members of the public.

15/001 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Newcombe and Witney.

15/002. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs. Redfern and Rolfe declared themselves as members of Uttlesford District Council.

15/003. Minutes of the Last Meeting

It was pointed out that minute 14/204 indicated that a ballot would be held in the event of demand for allotments exceeding supply. In fact, a “first come first served” policy will be operated; the minutes will be amended accordingly

15/004. Public Forum

It was asked whether there were any substantive changes in the plans for the houses to be erected behind Geldards under planning ref. UTT/14/3800/DFO. It was understood that there were slight changes to the outlines of plots 1 and 2, and changes to the drainage.

In response to queries about the Local Plan the following comments were made:

- The Inspector’s second report of December 19th had been consistent with the preliminary report.
- A primary concern was that the number of new houses required under the plan had been increased by approximately 10% from 523 to 580.
- The suitability of the Elsenham development had been questioned.
- UDC will be deciding whether to withdraw the plan.
- The Inspector mentioned the possibility of a new settlement, in which case there would be a call for developers and landowners to submit possible sites for consideration.
- Whatever site is chosen there would need to be room for further expansion.
- There is a duty to cooperate with neighbouring districts; this would include 6-7 others.
- A minimum of 3500 houses was required in order to qualify for the provision of full infrastructure
- The National Planning Policy framework exerted a final authority
- Currently, 14% of authorities have a plan in place.

It was asked whether the PC had had any contact with Bidwells; the response was negative.

It was also asked if there was any news of a projected opening date for the Village Shop. Cllr. Redfern will make enquiries.

JR

15/005. Neighbourhood Plan.

As provided for in the 2012 Localism Act, it was resolved to:
 Initiate a Neighbourhood Plan.
 Appoint a Steering Group and co-opt Joanna Francis as a member of the Group.
 Make provision in the budget and precept to cover likely costs.
 Secure administrative and professional help as required.

It was noted that the Department for Communities and Local Government had funds available towards the establishment of Neighbourhood Plans.

The Council supported the principle of a draft Statement of Intent

15/006. Planning

UTT/14/3800/DFO. Details following outline permission UTT/12/6006/OP –
 Details of scale, appearance and layout of the two dwellings, associated landscaping works, archaeological investigations and access (Alternative scheme to that approved under UTT/14/1811/DFO)
Location: Land Rear Of Geldards High Street Great Chesterford CB10 1PL
Resolved: To submit No Comment

It was noted that earlier plans had included provision for parking by residents of Rose Lane. The new owners were understood now to be seeking payment for this. A response from UDC is still awaited.

15/007 Request for funding

To consider a request for funding by Great Chesterford Primary Academy Year 6 Leavers' group
 It was resolved to decline the request, however Cllr. Redfern indicated that funds could be made available from the New Homes Bonus.

15/008 South Cambs DC planning application S/2968/14/RM

It was resolved to support this application.

15/009 Preschool.

Cllr. Gregory had met Michelle Wisbey of The Montessori Group who would be prepared to undertake a feasibility study. This would include provision of full day cover. It was noted that the Parish Council was content to consider recommendations from the study on the understanding that the existing Preschool committee was satisfied and that no obligation would attach to the P.C.

15/010 Village Plan.

It was reported that the Plan should be available by Friday 16th January.

15/011 Finance

Receipts and payments made since last meeting were noted. The sum of £1300 for ditch clearance was queried by Cllr. Rolfe as it was his understanding that the liability for this work lay with the owners of land bordering the ditch. Although this understanding was shared by other councillors, it was felt that the urgency for the work to be done and the possible consequences of failing to do so justified the expense. Cllr. Rowan was to write to residents. **MR**

The review of the Asset Register was in progress.

It was resolved to submit a precept request of £52,000, being unchanged from last year.

15/012. Matters for further discussion.

It was suggested that parking provision in Rose Lane be considered further.

15/013. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Wednesday 11th February 2015 at 7:30 in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm

Signed (Chairman).....

Date: 11th February 2015