

GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

*MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL 2012 AT 7.30PM IN THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE, GREAT CHESTERFORD*

Present: Joanna Francis - Chairman
Howard Rolfe
Sorrel Gordon-Foxwell
Gareth Bevens
Wazz Mughal
David Hall

Elaine Culling – Clerk
Tim Fowell and 3 further members of the public

Action

12/31. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from **Cllr Redfern, Cllr Tricerri** and **Cllr Gregory**.

12/32. Declaration of Interests

To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda.

Cllr Rolfe declared himself as a member of Uttlesford District Council.

12/33. Minutes of the Last Meetings

Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2012.

12/34. Public Forum

There will be 15 minutes available for Public Forum, if required, and the opportunity for members of the public to register with the Chairman should they wish to speak on a particular agenda item.

Tim Fowell was present to speak on item **12/35. Neighbourhood Plan** as he had recently attended a related training session.

Two members of the public wished to speak regarding item **12/39. Recreation Ground** as follows:

- With the wear and tear of the goal mouths being an ongoing issue can the Council consider the purchase of portable goal posts or demountable goal posts as a means of discouraging casual use of the football pitch between matches.
The PC agreed to investigate the costs. **Clerk**
- Can the Council consider erecting a goal post elsewhere on the Recreation Ground for casual users to use.
The PC agreed that the possibility of this should be investigated. **Clerk**

One member of the public was present to hear the decision regarding item **12/38. Diamond Jubilee Oak**

12/35. Neighbourhood Plan – report circulated

To consider and agree whether to support and encourage the production of a Neighbourhood Plan for the village.

Members raised concerns regarding the expense and time required to produce a Neighbourhood Plan when it is unclear that having one would carry more weight at a judicial inquiry than a Parish Plan.

Resolved to seek advice from the Head of Planning at Uttlesford District Council and to consider this matter again once a response has been received **JF**

It was agreed to move item 12/39.Recreation Ground and item 12/38. Diamond Jubilee Oak forward as permitted by Standing Order No. 8

12/39. Recreation Ground – report circulated

To consider and agree any changes to be made to the existing 2011-2012 contracts for the 2012-2013 season, including whether there should be any increase in the annual rent charged.

Resolved that there should be a small increase in the annual rents charged as follows:

- Great Chesterford Football Club – rent increase from £450 to £480 for the 2012-2013 season.
- Walden Wanderers Football Club – rent increase from £225 to £240 for the 2012-2013 season

No other changes to be made.

To consider and agree the rent to be charged to the new under 7's mini soccer team.

Resolved that there should be an annual rent of £120 charged for the 2012-2013 season to be reduced by 50% to £60 in return for the club carrying out its own pitch maintenance. **WM**

12/38. Diamond Jubilee Oak – report circulated

To agree the location where the Jubilee Oak will be planted.

Resolved that the tree will be planted at the Recreation Ground in the corner bounded by the Play Area, Football Pitch and the Slade. **JR**

12/36. Planning

To consider any comments to be returned to Uttlesford District Council (UDC) on the following applications:

UTT/0639/12/FUL. Erection of carport and first floor extension

Location. 9 Ash Green, Great Chesterford

No objection

Results

UTT/0056/12/FUL. Erection of two storey front extension and extension to garage

Location. 24 Jacksons Lane, Great Chesterford
Conditional Approval

UTT/0114/12/REN. Renewal of approved planning application **UTT/0267/09/FUL**
 (Single storey rear extension)

Location. Rose Cottage, Rose Lane, Great Chesterford
Conditional Approval

12/37. Finance

To receive and approve the end of year accounts

Resolved to approve the accounts as circulated which were duly signed by the Chairman; they will now be put forward for internal audit.

Clerk

To note the schedule of cheque payments/receipts since publication of the previous agenda

Resolved to note schedule as circulated.

12/40. Bowls Club Planning Application for New Club House

To agree to apply for planning permission on behalf of the Bowls Club.

(Although the PC would be applying for the planning permission the Bowls Club will be reimbursing the cost; the benefit to them is that the cost will be halved).

Resolved to apply for planning permission on behalf of the Bowls Club

12/41. Matters Arising/Items for Information

1. 12/27. Annual Village Meeting

To reflect on the recent meeting and its key themes

Cllr Bevans stated that he had been made aware of 4 issues considered important by those who attended as well as by other members of the village who had been unable to attend:

- The need for a cycle path between the village and Saffron Walden.
Cllr Rolfe was of the view that a cycle path should certainly be pursued with both **UDC** and **ECC** and that in the short term **ECC** should be asked to ensure that the footpath between Great and Little Chesterford is kept clear of encroaching greenery.
- The fact that people moved to the village because they wished to live in a rural environment rather than an urban one and that accordingly, although they understood the need for some development there is concern that all of the open spaces in the village are in danger of being lost.
Cllr Rolfe and the **Chairman** were of the opinion that the Community Assets and Fields in Trust schemes might provide some protection regarding the open spaces.
- Why is the site south of Stanley Road, Rookery Close and Four Acres being considered as 2 separate sites rather than one whole site bearing in mind the access issues on the Rookery Close side?
 The **Chairman** explained that these sites were separately owned and that although the owner of the one of the sites was ready to develop, the owner of the other site was not.

- Is it right that development be allowed to take place without any corresponding change in school place provision.
Cllr Bevens questioned whether there was a process of engagement that could bring all interested parties together into one process, such as the Compact process that was previously circulated.

2. **12/35. Council Standing Orders**

Due to time constraints review of this matter has been scheduled for the quieter summer months.

Clerk/DH

3. **11/146. Play Area Phase II Development**

All new equipment has now been installed and grant money received.

4. **11/147. Winter Salt Bag Scheme**

*The second tonne of salt has been delivered c/o the **Chairman**.*

Cllr Rolfe asked that members consider where this salt should be stored in order to make it readily available ahead of next winter.

HR

Some appropriate signage to alert residents to the rules regarding use of the grit from the grit bins has still to be added.

Cllr Rolfe is to investigate the possibility of stencilling directly onto the bin.

HR

It is not known whether ECC are prepared to install any new grit bins in the village.

Cllr Rolfe will contact ECC to request additional grit bins at the junction of Carmen Street and Newmarket Road and at the junction of Ickleton Road and the B1383.

HR

5. **11/85. Allotment Proposal**

On hold until an appropriate piece of land can be secured.

6. **11/86. Pilgrim Close/Rookery Close Area**

***Cllr Tricerri** to report on progress with establishing a Community group*

Carried forward to the next meeting.

ST

7. **11/65. Recreation Ground**

UDC has now carried out the works necessary to their side of the flood defence ditches.

Bowls Club/Scout Hut Leases

These are still to be finalised however **Cllr Hall** has been made aware that the proposed 7 year leases might cause the Bowls Club some problems when it comes to securing funding for their proposed new Club House.

DH

8. **10/22. Community Speed Watch**

Tim Fowell will be asked to confirm that he still wishes to establish a group on behalf of the village.

HR

9. **10/79. Matters for Further Discussion - 20mph limit**

Cllr Rolfe stated that he is confident that this scheme can be achieved via the forthcoming devolved highways budget to district level.

HR

12/42. Matters for Further Discussion

For Members to raise any items that may need to be discussed at a future meeting.

Members were asked if they wished the **Clerk** to continue with the practice of circulating a Log of Mail; it was agreed that they did.

The **Chairman** reported that the Council had been asked to consider the burial of a pet at the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that this was not appropriate and that it is suggested that a tree is planted in memory of the pet instead.

JF

12/43. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Wednesday 9th May 2012 commencing at 7.30pm in the Sports Lounge at the Community Centre

Meeting Closed at 22.02pm

Signed (Chairman).....

Date: 9th May 2012