

Little Chesterford Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Skype Meeting held on Thursday 10th September, 2020 at 7.30pm

Present Chairman Robert Pumfrey, Cllr Lez Davison, Cllr Paul Osborne, Cllr Annie Roberts and Cllr Fiona Wilkinson.

In Attendance District Cllrs Neil Gregory and Richard Pavitt
Amanda Lindsell - Clerk to the Council.

20/066 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr Ian Couchman.

20/067 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Fiona Wilkinson declared a personal interest in agenda item 20/072ii, as a neighbour of the applicant.

20/068 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

20/069 MINUTES

The minutes of the September Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chair Robert Pumfrey devolved power to the Clerk to sign the minutes on his behalf.

20/070 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Cllr Richard Pavitt provided the following updates;

i. Stansted Airport Appeal - This is ongoing with interminable sessions with the QC representing UDC to understand where this is going and how to defend the appeal to the best of their abilities during the 44 days of hearings starting in January, at great expense to both sides.

ii. Local Plan - 6 months of consultations have commenced, with community forums debating various key topics, which officers will report back local impact on conclusion of the consultation.

District Cllr Richard Pavitt noted that although Uttlesford lacks a five year land supply, there is no obligation to accept proposals that are unsustainable, the onus is on the community to prove the unsustainability of inappropriate proposals.

District Cllr Neil Gregory congratulated the finance director at UDC who has worked wonders to stabilise the medium term financial forecast, with UDC in a far stronger position than most councils, particularly noting that Croydon Council have been the first to issue a S114 notice, effectively declaring itself bankrupt.

20/071 FINANCE.

The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were agreed.

Cheque - 100380 - A Lindsell – Clerk's salary September & October 2020 – £188.41 was agreed for payment.

20/072 PLANNING

The following responses were agreed to return to Uttlesford District Council relating to planning;

i. UTT/20/2724/OP - Land East Of London Road, Little Chesterford

Outline application for the erection of up to 134 dwellings with all matters reserved except for access - The Council agreed to strongly object to this application with the same objections submitted to UTT/19/0573/OP, and additionally objecting to the heightened impact on the visual amenity and landscape, the lack of appropriate consultation and complete lack of sustainability.

District Cllr Richard Pavitt left the meeting.

ii. UTT/20/2694/HHF - Riders Croft, Walden Road, Little Chesterford

Erection of greenhouse - No objection.

iii. UTT/20/1149/LB - The Old Cottage, High Street, Little Chesterford

Proposed removal of internal wall - The Council agreed that there is insufficient information within the application regarding the historic importance of the wall to enable a decision.

District Cllr Neil Gregory left the meeting.

The following planning decisions were noted;

iv. UTT/20/2288/DOC - Land To The South West Of London Road, Little Chesterford

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Application to discharge conditions 14 (Archaeology), 15 (Heritage), 16 (Archaeology) and 17 (Archaeology) of application UTT/19/0573/OP - Discharge conditions in full.

v. UTT/20/2173/HHF - 3 Walden Road, Little Chesterford

Install fibre-cement cladding (Hardieplank) to cover bricks on the top half of the front elevation and cover the bottom half of the front elevation with sand-cement render and paint - Approved with conditions.

vi. UTT/20/2734/DOC - Land Rear Of Millfields House, Walden Road, Little Chesterford

Application to discharge condition 7 (details of materials) attached to UTT/18/3048/FUL - Discharge conditions in full.

vii. UTT/20/1943/LB - Small Barn Joseph Farm Walden Road Little Chesterford

Conversion of former barn to 1 no. dwelling - Withdrawn.

viii. UTT/20/1827/PAQ3 - Barn At Springwell Nursery Joseph Farm Walden Road Little Chesterford

Prior Notification of change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwelling - Prior approval not required.

ix. Cllr Wilkinson reported on her attendance at two design meetings regarding the site to the west of London Road, where the design was reviewed by the board of design experts and comments made to the applicant. At the second meeting the redesign still goes to the boundary and has no provision for bus laybys or provision to address the potential cumulative effect if UTT/20/2724/OP proceeds. Noise mitigation issues have been highlighted for those living nearest to the railway, with significant fencing being required.

It is noted that both proposals are being handled by the same developer, although they are being treated individually, with little joined up thinking regarding cumulative effect.

20/073 LOCAL PLAN

Update covered within District Cllr's report.

20/074 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that residents have received a flyer detailing the summary presentation. The defined areas agreed for protection are;

- i. The chalk slopes to the east of Chesterford.
- ii. Cam valley.
- iii. The roman fort, town, temple and view east.
- iv. The northern gateway.

Cllr Wilkinson suggested that Councillors ensure they are familiar and happy with the wording of the policies and noted the housing site selection which rejects the Kings Farm five houses, Manor Cottages and the site to the east of London Road from the site selection. The site opposite Rectory Barns is selected with minor conditions.

The field between Great and Little Chesterford, from Manor Cottages to the ditch along the river with willow trees in the middle is suggested as a designated green space, and this is currently out for comment.

Cllr Wilkinson recommended that the Council reads the summary presentation and view the housing site assessment and refer any questions or comments to Cllr Wilkinson or the email address on the flyer.

20/075 BUS SHELTERS

The clerk noted confirmation that the insurance company will settle the claim for the destroyed bus shelter £2446.00 – excess £125 = £2321.00. The Council agreed to consider CCTV or other deterrents to prevent further incidents.

20/076 GIGACLEAR

Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that despite being told that the majority of residents would be enabled in September, and having registered to Gigaclear's website, there has been no update. Clerk to request a Gigaclear update.

20/077 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- i. Fly tipping.
- ii. Budget.
- iii. Asset register

20/078 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th January, 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.51pm.

Approved as accurate 14/01/2021