

Little Chesterford Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th November, 2021 at 7.30pm

Present Chair Robert Pumfrey, Cllr Ian Couchman, Cllr Lez Davidson, Cllr Paul Osborne, Cllr Annie Roberts and Cllr Fiona Wilkinson.

In Attendance District Councillor Neil Gregory, 2 members of the public and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council

21/068 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from County Cllr Paul Gadd and District Cllr Richard Pavitt.

21/069 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/070 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

21/071 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the September Parish Council Meetings were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chair Pumfrey signed the minutes.

21/072 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Paul Gadd's report is attached as appendix one.

Cllr Wilkinson circulated a draft Local Highways Panel application and asked whether there are any other changes prior to submission. No changes were requested, and Cllr Wilkinson resolved to forward the application to County Cllr Gadd.

21/073 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Neil Gregory reported that the new Chief Executive at the District Council is settling in well and making several changes, specifically the Planning Department has improved markedly in the last six weeks in quality of reports and decisions made.

21/074 FINANCE

- i. The clerk circulated a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were approved. Cheque - 100391 – A Lindsell – Clerk's salary September/October - £253.32 was agreed for payment.
- ii. The Clerk provided a budget update. The Council approved the proposed budget as a starting point and agreed to finalise the budget at the next meeting.

21/075 PLANNING

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

- i. UTT/21/3026/PDE – Manor Lodge, High Street, Little Chesterford
Proposed single storey rear extension- extending 8, from rear wall, maximum height 4m and height to eaves 2.80m – No comments.
- ii. UTT/21/3244/FUL – Meadowcroft, High Street, Little Chesterford
Demolition of existing house and erection of 1 no. replacement dwelling, including relocated access – The Council resolved to object as the site is susceptible to flooding, is out of character and scale, and there are concerns that the flooding history provided is inaccurate.

21/076 VILLAGE WORKS

- i. Chair Pumfrey reported that the memorial bench is now in situ. A £40 cash donation has been received towards the installation costs.

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ii. Cllr Couchman reported that Essex Highways rejected the initial application to replace the kissing gate on the footpath to Crow Hill, but have approved the mobility gate application, which is on order and should be delivered in the coming weeks.

iii. Cllr Davidson confirmed that the space between the kerb and the cabinets on the verge opposite the White House is boxed in with hedging and will require 14 flag stones to restore the area. This work cannot be undertaken before the water pipes have been installed.

iv. Cllr Couchman noted that the Essex Highways Devolution Scheme expired June 2021, but noted that he thinks that if the opportunity arises again it would be worth pursuing.

v. Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that Anglian Water have started work installing the mains pipes, although phase two will not be completed until March 2022. Cllr Wilkinson noted that she has a contact at AW if any issues arise.

21/077 LOCAL PLAN

Cllr Wilkinson updated the meeting regarding the technical review of the Call for Sites, which includes nine houses plus all former Grosvenor sites, opposite Thorpe Lea, the 124 site on London Road and a large site alongside the railway to Whiteways.

Cllr Wilkinson explained that the Parish Council have been asked to review the technical information on the sites put forward, which has highlighted a number of systematic errors, such as distance to hospitals, schools and other facilities. A lot of the information is not easily available and in some cases not locatable at all.

District Cllr Gregory suggested that Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Hall from Great Chesterford write to Stephen Miles (copying in District Councillors) saying that they can't execute the process as the information is not readily available to make a decision on and is in several cases inaccurate. The current deadline for responses is end of November.

Cllr Wilkinson detailed a meeting with Hill (10/11/2021) about both London Road developments. The 76 application is expected to be going to planning committee 24/11/2021 and is considered pretty much a done deal. The 124 application was discussed further, and it was noted that Hill don't accept that the location is unsustainable. The Parish Councils maintain their objections and focussed on the s106 list, specifically deurbanization of London Road which the Councils will push UDC to achieve if they are minded to approve. *District Cllr Gregory left the meeting.*

21/078 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan has reached the health check stage, and hopefully a grant will be received to cover it.

21/079 PARISH COUNCIL TRUSTEES

The Parish Council confirmed that they would like Cllr Wilkinson to continue as trustee for Hart and Nash Educational Charity.

21/080 MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

i. Planning application UTT/21/3296/HHF – Levant House, Little Chesterford. Shed replacement with summer House, received after agenda was set. It was agreed that an EGM is not required.

ii. District Cllrs meeting with Chesterford Research Park next week. Cllr Wilkinson raised concerns with the Park's Strategic Plan.

iii. Cllr Roberts mentioned the damaged finger post at the top of the road.

iv. Fibre broadband update.

v. Chair Pumfrey noted that the Clerk has handed in her notice and the Council thanked the Clerk and wished her well in her new role.

21/081 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th January, 2022.

The meeting closed at 9.10

Approved as accurate;
13/01/2022