

## GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

*MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2009 AT 7.30PM IN THE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE, GREAT CHESTERFORD*

**Present:** Peter Fentem – Chairman  
Susan Ross  
Howard Rolfe  
Tim Fowell  
Sorrel Gordon-Foxwell

Elaine Culling - Clerk

1 member of the public

### Action

#### 09/27. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from **Cllr Redfern** and **Cllr Clark**.

#### 09/28. Declaration of Interests

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

**Cllr Rolfe** declared himself a District Councillor for Uttlesford District Council and a trustee of the Community Centre.

#### 09/29. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Chairman signed as a correct record of events the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009

#### 09/30. 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.*

The person present explained that she had recently set up a garden share scheme in the village as there were no allotments. This is a scheme that matches up those who would like to have an allotment with those who have a large garden that they are happy to share. A note had been put in the Broadsheet which had so far matched one gardener up with one garden owner. It was agreed that in order to further promote the scheme that a notice be placed on both the notice board and village website.

Clerk

#### 09/31. Planning

*To consider any comments to be returned to Uttlesford District Council on the following applications:*

**Application No: UTT/0267/09/FUL.** Single storey rear extension.

**Location:** Rose Cottage, Rose Lane, Great Chesterford.

**No Comment.**

**Application No: UTT/0232/09/FUL.** Installation of one wind turbine with access track, crane hard standing and cable on land to the south west of Linton, Cambs. Permission for a further seven turbines is being sought from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

**Location:** Land to the south west of Linton, Cambridgeshire.

**Object – 2 letters attached for submission to UDC and SCDC**

**TF/Clerk**

The Council have been advised that SCDC were unlikely to decide this application for several months and that UDC had agreed to delay their decision until after the SCDC decision was known.

**Cllr Rolfe** agreed to request from UDC a date for any final comments.

**HR**

**Cllr Rolfe** also agreed to find out the date of the Wadlow Wind Farm Inquiry.

**HR**

### **Results**

**Application No: UTT/0070/09/FUL.** Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, front porch and bay window and remodelling to form one dwelling.

**Location:** Field Farm Cottages, Field Farm Drive, Great Chesterford.

**Conditional Approval**

**Application No: UTT/1594/08/FUL.** Erection of replacement dwelling.

**Location:** Field Hall Farm, Field Farm Drive, Great Chesterford.

**Refused**

### **5 London Road**

*To receive a report following the UDC Development Control Committee meeting held today at which this application was discussed*

**Cllr Ross** attended the site meeting in the morning as well as the committee meeting in the afternoon. The application had been called in due to concerns about the access; however as this is off a private road it could not be considered. A number of issues were raised – restricted space, site is an old sand pit, access from Station Road very steep, however the application was approved as these are all building control issues rather than planning issues. It is not known whether access from Station Road has been obtained.

### **Welcome Trust Community Liaison Group**

*To consider whether the Parish Council should approach the Welcome Trust with a view to becoming a member of its Community Liaison Group.*

It is known that the Welcome Trust is considering installing 4 wind turbines on land owned by them adjacent to the A1301. They have a Community Liaison Group of which both Ickleton and Hinxtton are members.

It was agreed to approach Welcome with a view to having some sort of representation on this group.

**PF**

The **Chairman** informed the meeting that he had been advised that recent earthworks on the Great Chesterford/Ickleton boundary had resulted in reducing the floodplain and been held responsible for recent flooding in Ickleton. It is believed that the work was done to improve drainage from the motorway however it is not known who owns the land concerned.

**Cllr Rolfe** agreed to investigate further

**HR**

**09/32. Finance**

*To consider a donation to the following groups:*

*Uttlesford Home Start which supports families in their own homes.  
A donation of £100 was given in June 2006.*

*East Anglia's Children's Hospices, information about which can be found  
at [www.each.org.uk](http://www.each.org.uk)*

It was resolved that the Council, in accordance with its powers under section 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

£200 to Uttlesford Home Start

**Clerk**

Any donation to the East Anglia's Children's Hospice will be considered again later in the year.

**Clerk**

**09/33. Recreation Ground*****Recent clash of football/cricket fixtures***

*The football team and cricket club had both organised matches to be played on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. To discuss how to negotiate new written contracts with the users of the Recreation Ground.*

The **Chairman** outlined the situation which he felt highlighted the need to reinstate signed contracts for all users of the Recreation Ground. It was agreed to discuss this matter fully at the forthcoming Strategy Meeting.

**Cllr Rolfe** asked that the need for a Parish Plan be added to the agenda for this meeting

***Skate Board area***

*To receive any update on funding/fundraising*

**Cllr Gordon-Foxwell** gave the excellent news that a grant of £45,000 had recently been awarded by the Essex County Council Youth Initiatives Fund. This leaves £15,000 to find with 2 additional grant applications outstanding.

***Multi-Sports fencing***

*To consider the need for repairs whilst funding is sought for an upgrade.*

An application to the Community Spaces fund has been submitted and a response awaited. In the meantime it was agreed to proceed with basic repairs to the existing fencing.

**Clerk**

**09/34. Matters Arising/Items for Information****1. 09/07. Recreation Ground**

**Cllr Rolfe** to report back regarding the missing flood prevention vents at the Community Centre.

**Cllr Rolfe** confirmed that the flood prevention vents were no longer available and that it had been agreed to use expandable filler instead.

**2. Update on recruiting new councillors.**

There is the need to continue to canvas for suitable candidates.

3. **09/22. Hall Garden**

*The Chairman to report back on whether the Gardening Society would be willing to take responsibility for the replanting of this area.*

The **Chairman** reported that the Gardening Society was not prepared to take on the replanting of this area, however the name of a landscape gardener had been provided.

4. **09/20 Finance – Grit Bins**

*Cllr Rolfe to confirm the number and location of grit bins to be ordered.*

**Cllr Rolfe** confirmed that there would be 4 grit bins ordered which would be located at the top of Meadow Road, the junction of Jackson Lane with the B184, half way up Park Road and School Street. He will liaise with Essex County Council Highways regarding ordering and delivery.

**HR**

5. **09/19. Planning – Affordable Housing**

*Cllr Fowell to report back following his approach to Hastoe in this matter*

**Cllr Fowell** visited the offices of the Hastoe Housing Association which are based in Little Chesterford. If asked to look into the possibility of a scheme in Great Chesterford they would first organise a Housing Needs Survey and then look for a suitable site. It was felt that it was unnecessary to have a Housing Needs Survey as a similar exercise 5 years ago had clearly identified a need; the need to identify a suitable site was seen as the first priority. It was agreed however to formally ask Hastoe to begin the process of a scheme.

**TF**

6. **08/92. Community Speed Watch Scheme**

*Cllr Fowell to report back on the procedure now that funding has been obtained.*

**Cllr Fowell** has been advised that training will only be provided if the accident statistics are considered bad enough and that the cost of a speed gun is £875 + vat. Before proceeding Essex County Council will be contacted to check whether the grant awarded can be spent directly by the Parish Council or whether it needs to be spent via the County Council.

**TF**

**09/35. Matters for Further Discussion\***

*For Councillors to raise any items that need to be discussed at a future meeting.*

The poor state of the new crash barrier on the Newmarket Road was discussed as well as the large pothole in Jacksons Lane. **Cllr Rolfe** stated that both these items were in hand.

**HR**

The large number of rabbits on the Recreation Ground has been identified as a problem. **Cllr Ross** agreed to obtain a quote for their removal.

**SR**

The plants on Fag End are causing a visibility problem for vehicles leaving the village at the end of Carmen Street. It was agreed to assess the planting and take any necessary action.

**Clerk**

The need to sweep the multi-sports surface on a regular basis was discussed. It was agreed to investigate employing someone to take on this task.

**Clerk**

It is known that there have been 75 applications for the 30 places at the village school this year. **Cllr Ross** agreed to speak to the chair of Governors to offer any help or support.

**SR**

**09/36. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is the Parish Council AGM and will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.30pm at the Community Centre.

**Meeting Closed at 9.15pm**

**Signed (Chairman).....**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009**