

Great Chesterford Parish Council

Issue 3

January 2012

Recent achievements

- Completion of the tennis court upgrade to a multi-sports area
- Two new pieces of equipment in the under-12s Play Area
- Replacement of 4 benches

On-going Projects

- Equipment for the smaller children in the Play Area.
- Replanting of Fagg End and Hall Garden

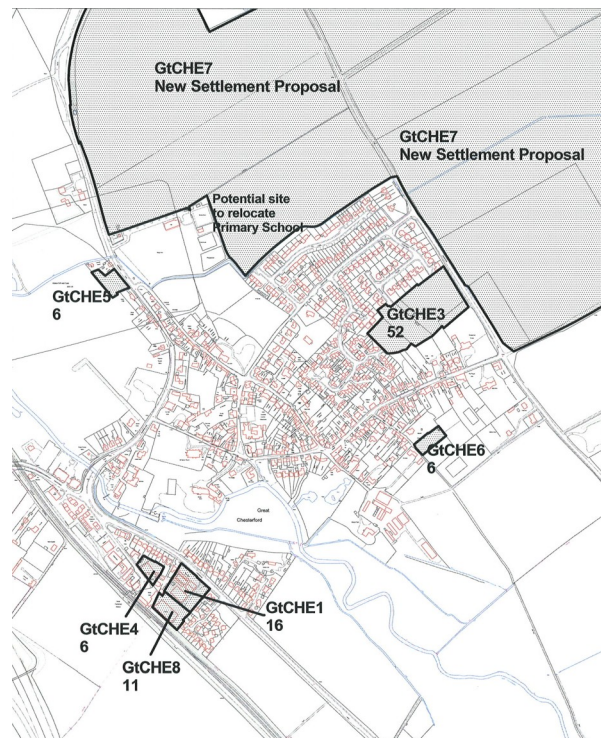
Chairman's Award

There are many people in the village who make/have made a major contribution to the village by selflessly giving their time to village organisations or helping other residents. The 'Chairman's Award' will be presented each year at the Annual Village Meeting to a resident, chosen by the Chairman, from names put forward. If there is someone you would like to nominate for this award, please contact the Chairman.

Local Development Framework (LDF) Consultation

You should be aware from articles in the local papers that Uttlesford District Council are consulting residents on proposed locations, across the District, for housing developments. The map below shows the locations put forward by developers (not UDC) in and around Great Chesterford. These sites may not necessarily be considered appropriate for development and UDC are asking for your views: are the sites good or bad and why? You can discuss these, in person, with planning officers at the Public Exhibition being held in Great Chesterford on the 9th February or enter your comments on-line (details below).

The Parish Council will submit their comments after the sites have been discussed at the PC meeting on February 22nd.



- Great Chesterford is considered to be a 'key village' but issues identified by UDC are: no affordable housing, no capacity at the Primary school, the need to maintain and encourage employment opportunities, no allotments.
- UDC are **not** consulting on housing numbers yet; this will take place in June.
- In order for the village to have a 'voice' and be heard, it is important that you take part in this consultation.

Have your say at the Public Exhibition at the Community Centre from 10am-8pm on Thursday 9th February or on-line at www.uttlesford.gov.uk/developinguttlesford.

Please note that comments you made in the previous consultation for the same sites will not be taken into consideration.

Chairman's Appeal - PC Vacancies

Tim Fowell has recently stepped down after more than 6 years on the Parish Council. I would like to thank him for all his hard work and for giving us the benefit of his experience.

We now have two vacancies with a third from May 2012. The Parish Council will have some key decisions to make this year that will affect the way in which the village grows in size, due to housing developments, and the services that can be provided. We need residents to help us shape the community and play an active part in ensuring that the growth is sustainable. There are many issues that need to be addressed, for example, options must be investigated to ensure that the school will be able to accommodate the increased number of children and we must try to make sure that there is sufficient land designated for employment use to allow people to live and work locally and for existing local businesses to expand. Please take the time to consider being involved in the making of these decisions; there is one meeting a month.

Multi-sports

The multi-sports area is very successful; it is well used by residents and much admired by people visiting the village. Basketball lines are being added to fully utilise the hoops.

There will be some free tennis coaching available, for all ages, during the Easter holidays. Information will be publicised nearer the time in the Broadsheet, on email via the Google group and on the PC noticeboard in School St.

Under-12s Play Area

A decision will be made shortly with regards to the final pieces of equipment for the Play Area. We are looking to provide something for the younger children which we hope will be as popular as the cantilever swing and the rotating net climber.

Snow Clearing Equipment

The Parish Council now has two salt spreaders, 1 tonne of salt and a number of snow shovels which will be made available to volunteers should they be required. Please contact Joanna Francis or the Clerk should they be needed for clearing the pavements.

Meetings

Meeting dates, agendas and minutes of previous meetings are all available on the village website. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 22nd February, 7:30pm at the Community Centre. From April, meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Affordable Housing Update

The Parish Council was consulted on a draft development proposal for the New World Timber/greenhouse site. The owners/developers, the housing association and UDC, have agreed in principle that the 'affordable' element of this development could be for 'local' people only. The Parish Council is waiting to see the revised proposal before making a decision on the location of the affordable housing.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations will run from 2-5th June 2012. We are intending to organise a village event on Sunday 3rd June. Anyone interested in helping should contact Julie Redfern.

We will be planting a 'Jubilee' oak tree. Please contact the Clerk if you have a suggestion for where it could be planted, bearing in mind that it will grow to be over 20m in height!

Precept

The Precept for the Year 2012/2013 was set at £46,500 at the December meeting (£43,000 in 2011/2012). The budget is available on the village website.

Community Engagement

There are several ways in which residents can bring issues/concerns to the attention of the Parish Council.

For younger residents we have two Youth Reps who you can talk to or email:

Sam Hobson
sammy791@hotmail.com,

Charlotte Witney
charlotte.witney@btinternet.com

Issues can be raised with a Councillor in an informal setting at the 'Afternoon Tea' session, every Wednesday 2pm - 4pm at the Community Centre.

You can contact the Parish Clerk or one of the Councillors, using the contact details listed.

Parish Council

Parish Clerk - Elaine Culling
Acremore
High St
Great Chesterford

Tel: 01799 530052
E-mail: e.culling@yahoo.co.uk

Councillors:

Joanna Francis (Chairman)
530903,
joanna_franis@btinternet.com

Sorrel Gordon-Foxwell 530217
David Hall 530247
Wazz Mughal 530470
Julie Redfern 530308
Howard Rolfe 530742
Sharron Tricerri 530802

For matters relating to Uttlesford District Council you can contact your **District Councillor, Julie Redfern** on 530308

The Annual Village Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th March at the Community Centre.
