

GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

*MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 8PM IN THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE, GREAT CHESTERFORD*

Present: Michelle Cookson – Chairman
Peter Fentem
Russell Pope
Howard Rolfe
Susan Ross
Julie Redfern
Tim Fowell

Elaine Culling - Clerk

One member of the public

Action

07/32. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Graham Field.

07/33. Declaration of Interests

To receive any ‘personal’ or ‘personal and prejudicial’ interests relating to items on the agenda. Howard Rolfe and Julie Redfern declared themselves as District Councillors for Uttlesford District Council

07/34. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Chairman signed as a correct record of events the minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2007.

07/35. Recreation Ground – Report Submitted

CCTV – both the Cricket Club and the Bowls Club have agreed to donate £500 to this project. It was agreed to pursue another quote in light of the increased VideCom Quote.

RP

Youth Shelter – Perry Dazey will be approached regarding the installation of CCTV and the relocation of the Youth Shelter.

RP

Path behind Play Area – the Clerk outlined the three options put forward by SmallWorx. It was agreed to proceed with a short term measure for this winter of preventing the mud from moving whenever it rains, from the play area across the path, and topping the path with road shavings in order to raise its level. At the same time the bushes alongside the path will be pruned back.

EC

The situation will be reviewed in the spring.

Other - It was noted from the report submitted that there are a number of medium risk items in the recent ROSPA report on the play area that should be attended to. These will be put in hand.

RP/EC

07/36. Planning

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

Application No: UTT/1327/07/FUL. Proposed extension and conversion of garage to form games room and study.

Location: Magnolia Cottage, Carmel Street, Great Chesterford.

Concerned to ensue that this will not compromise any off street parking, or right of access for neighbouring properties. To request as a condition that it not be sold as a separate dwelling.

TF

Results

Application No: UTT/0971/07/FUL. Alterations and extensions to Copperfields and Wren Cottage. Demolition of outbuildings and flat roof extensions.

Location: Copperfields and Wren Cottage, Church Street, Great Chesterford.

Conditional Approval.

Application No: UTT/0992/07/FUL. Proposed rear conservatory.

Location: 20 Pilgrim Close, Great Chesterford. **Conditional Approval.**

Application No: UTT/1056/07/FUL. Two storey side extension including integral Garage and enclosed porch, alternate scheme to that approved under UTT/2018/06/FUL.

Location: Karu, School Street, Great Chesterford. **Conditional Approval.**

Proposed Wind Farm South West of Linton

Peter Fentem had recently attended the existing wind farm at North Pickering near Swaffham. He was unable to hear the turbines at a distance of 50 metres and noted that there were a number of dwellings in close proximity.

It was agreed to advise Enertrag UK of our reasons for objecting to this development on the following grounds:

1. Their height will dominate an area of rural beauty.
2. They will be in close proximity to a number of public footpaths and bridleways, including the ancient Icknield Way.
3. They present a distraction to road users, being clearly visible from a number of roads, including the A1307 which is known to have a high accident rate.
4. This is one of the least windy places in the UK.

TF

A weekend visit to the North Pickering wind farm will be pursued with Enertrag.

EC

Agreed that any future wind farm documents should be passed to Peter Fentem for review.

Stansted Airport

The appeal has now re-started with the evidence against expected to be completed by the end of September, and a decision to be given by Christmas. Although Great Chesterford has been allocated a time at the enquiry to speak, Howard Rolfe is now unable to attend and as hoping to send someone else.

TF/HR/
JR

Hexcel Composites Ltd – nothing to report

Other

It was reported that at recent meeting of the Uttlesford District Council Environment Committee the need for new housing in the area was considered. There are four options, two of which would require development to take place in Great Chesterford; approximately 80 homes on London Road and/or behind Chesterford house.

The preferred option though is for a major development at Elsenham which would have the advantage of being able to be built in an eco friendly way together with the appropriate infrastructure.

The observation was made that this option could have an effect on flooding in the region as Elsenham was the source of the river Cam, and therefore any development would need to address this risk.

07/37. Location of the Green Waste and Civic Amenity skips

Following receipt of a letter questioning the location of the village skips, the siting of those skips at Horse River Green was discussed. They have been at this location for many years now, are manned, are felt to be visible to traffic approaching from both directions and are thought to have a benefit in being centrally sited within the village. The Civic Amenity skip is booked for 7 visits this year, 4 at Horse River Green and 3 at Meadow Road, the Green Waste skip comes every week, alternating between the 2 locations, commencing in April and normally running until the beginning of November, The views of Meadow Road residents are not known.

It was agreed to keep the matter under review and to approach the School to ask whether it would be possible to site the Horse River Green skip there.

EC

Bollard on Horse River Green

The Parish Council was reminded that the bollard was placed on Horse River Green, following consultation with both residents and the Police, as a means of deterring the habit of local youths from congregating in their cars and causing a nuisance. It was agreed that it had been successful in this aim. Keys to the bollard are held by Howard Rolfe, the Clerk and a local resident.

Clerk to reply to the letter received.

EC

07/38. Great Chesterford Steam-up

It was agreed to allow the organisers of this event to have the use of Horse River Green and Coronation Green again this year. They would however be informed of the points raised by the residents of South Street concerning this event and requested to extend the litter clear up afterwards to include the surrounding roads.

EC

07/39. Finance

It was resolved that the Council, in accordance with its powers under section 137 and 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:-

£100 to Home-Start Uttlesford

07/40. Reports

Open Spaces

Pilgrim Close - progress on sourcing a contractor for the tarmac work.

The Clerk to enquire whether this is something SmallWorx will do.

EC

- progress on arrangement for replacement tree to be planted.

TKE Landscaping has been asked to quote to provide and plant.

Horse River Green – progress on repairs to telephone box.

This has been reported to BT, however it could take up to twelve weeks. It appears that there has not been a working telephone in this box for some time.

Highways

Part Night Scheme – this is now in place, however there have been reports of timing issues. Essex County Council Highways will be contacted in order to clarify the situation.

EC

Footpaths in the village – A list of footpaths, that are in a poor state, will be compiled ahead of the forthcoming Parish visit by Essex County Council.

JR/HR

School Bus – progress on getting the bus to stop at Little Chesterford and Ash Green.

This has now been agreed in principle however the cost to users might be an issue. It was agreed that a price be sought from the bus company and that the Friends of the School be approached to help fund the service.

JR

Other

Pharmacy for Village – It is known that should this go ahead it will have a detrimental effect on the service offered by the two doctors surgeries, and the viability of the village shop. Enquiries will be made to try to ascertain the likelihood of this proposal going ahead.

MC

07/41 Matters for Further Discussion*

Speeding along London Road has become a problem again and the vehicle activated sign does not always light up as it should.

HR

07/42.Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be on Wednesday 10th October 2007 at 8.00pm at the Community Centre.

Meeting Closed at 10.05pm

Signed (Chairman).....

Date: 10th October 2007