

**MINUTES OF THE A MEETING OF
GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

Venue: Village Hall
Date: 14th July 2016
Time: 7:00pm
Chairman: Andrew Gardiner
Parish Councillors: Harrison, Clements, Dring, Ridge
District Councillors: Cllr Hales
Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott
Start Time: 19:30pm

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Loukes – Prior engagement
Cllr Coney – Illness
Cllr van den Ven – annual leave
Cllr Barrett - Illness

2. To receive any declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest of Councillors

There were none received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM

The minutes were a true and accurate account of proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. Finance – 10 mins

The Clerk took the council through the finance to date. All S106 monies have now been spent on the outdoor gym. The second tranche of the precept is due as is the grant from County for verge cutting. The Chairman signed off the finances.

6. Planning

The Clerk has tried to contact John Koch regarding the North Hall Farm. We are trying to understand which properties are holiday lets and which are regular lets and who is going to police the conditions put in place. She was also requesting a copy of the submission by SCDC to the appeal at Maltings Lane.

The Clerk had received correspondence relating to 104 Hall Lane. The housing department has estimated it will cost £30k to do it up now that it is vacant and the council are reluctant to spend this money and want to sell it. The Parish Council strongly disagree and the Clerk is to reply stating the Councils feelings.

The Clerk spoke about personal experience with planning at the moment and the lack consistency with policies and procedures.

7. A report from Speed Watch

Cllr Harrison reported on the recent data which had been collected. The Parish Council wanted to see if the 40mph buffer zone had had any impact in cars speeding into the village from Barley. Martin Gruselle has the hand held gun to use between the windmill and the village entrance.

As New Road is always consistent with speeding traffic, it was suggested that the moving sign be situated further down New Road. Cllr Harrison to liaise with Martin..

The Clerk spoke about her ongoing issues with highways relating to the dangerous flooding on New Road. She has been chasing this for a number of years now. She has also contact Peter Taylor at highways and is still no further forward with this or the return of flooding outside of the Pink House in Heydon Road. Cllr Hales to chase.

8. A report from the Windmill Trust

Cllr reported that a bat survey had started and the findings should be available in mid-August. Listed Building Consent will be sought for the works to the tressle. The Rotary Club of Saffron Walden have volunteered to dig up the turning track.

9. A Report on the Lock-up

The Clerk to speak with Cllr Coney.

10. County and District Councils Written Reports

Great and Little Chishill Parish Council, July 2016, County Councillor Report

1. The County Council has voted through a new Devolution Deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as a combined authority. The new authority will have a paid mayor with considerable powers and this will constitute a new layer of government. I voted against the deal because I believe that the role of mayor is unnecessary, wasteful and takes decision making away from lower tiers of government – parish, district and county. The deal sets out aspirations and financial commitments but contains no business case. The mayor will be elected in May 2017. There is a view that it might all not happen anyway, because post-Brexit government will tighten up on austerity measures.
2. Bus services: To be revisited in September, though it would be dishonest of me to suggest that there is funding to maintain the very significant subsidy required to run the 31 bus beyond April.
3. Rail services by contrast look to improve: Half-hourly off-peak services will be provided on our stopping station services at Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton from 2018, with the roll-out of the Thameslink Service. The Rail User Group has been lobbying for this for many years. All trains will be eight-car, able to carry nearly 1500 passengers. At all three stations, Cambridge-bound platforms will be lengthened. On the London-bound platforms, there will be selective door opening. The reason for this is the consistent annual footfall rise of about 10% across these stations.
4. Community Rail Partnership – this is an umbrella organization for the Rail User Group that can help us to access grants. We have been invited to join up with a new Melbourn area Community Interest Company currently in the process of being formed, in order to facilitate provision of some paid administrative assistance for the rail campaign which has become so active. We now have District Council support in covering our membership of the national Association of Community Rail Partnerships. The County Council also provides significant strategic officer support. County and District councils are now compiling an appendix to the South Cambs Transport Strategy to address strategic improvements for all three stations,

following on from the station audits carried out by Railfuture. A request for funding has been made to the four parish councils closest to the service. If Chishill Parish Council wishes to explore a connecting link to any of these, the CRP could be a helpful tool.

11. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda – 5 mins

Cllr Dring mentioned that the Parish Council might be approached to make a donation towards the purchase of a village marquee.

Mr Pearce had asked the Parish Council to look into floodlighting the gym and to reopen discussion about a footpath between Barley and Chishill.

The next meeting will be on 14th September.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:35.