

MINUTES OF A MEETING

GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue: Village Hall
Date: 10th March 2014
Time: 7:00pm
Chairman: Andrew Gardiner
Parish Councillors: Ridge, Murgatroyd, Erskine
County Councillor: Susan van den Ven
Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott
Members of the Public: There were five members of the public present

The Parish Council welcomed Chris Malyon who is Financial Director at Cambridge County Council. He gave a comprehensive overview of the Councils spending plans for the next financial year. He then answered questions for the Council and Public. It was a very interesting and useful presentation.

Actual start time: 7:00

1 Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Barrett – previous commitment
Cllr Hales – previous commitment
Cllr Dring – previous commitment
Cllr Coney – previous commitment
Cllr Harrison – previous commitment

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

There were none declared.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 6th February 2014 (already circulated)

It was resolved that the minutes were a true account of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation.

Neil Clements gave an overview of his planning application.
Alan South and Andrea Hamblin reported on their objections to the planning application relating to Malting's Lane.

5. Finance Report

The Clerk took the Council through the financial sheets. The Council have been given funds to repair the steps on the footpath in May Street. The Council have also been awarded a minor highways improvement grant for the installation of gates into the village on New Road. The Parish Council to pay a nominal 10% donation for this work. The Chairman signed the finance sheets and payment schedule.

6. Village Hall Update

The Clerk read a report from Stuart Farrow. There had been a Village Hall Committee meeting and there are new members on board. The arrangement is working with Andrew Brown and works are being carried out.

The Chairman had asked to see the latest set of accounts from the Village Hall. They have a significant amount of money in their bank accounts, which could probably pay for a new floor and internal decoration. As it currently stands the Parish Council will not be passing over their annual grant. However, if the Village Hall were to spend a significant amount of this money, then, we would consider reinstalling the grant. The Village Hall could afford to pay for Andrew Brown themselves, as it currently stands. The Clerk and Chairman to meet with Stuart Farrow to discuss this matter.

7. Bus Consultation Meeting - Cambridgeshire Future Transport (CFT)

The Chairman attended the latest CFT meeting. He said that many of the comments / requests from other delegates were unrealistic. He had written to Paul Nelson saying that he sympathises with him but with the No 31, the length of the journey is prohibitive. He went on to suggest that more frequent shuttle buses or enhancements to car schemes might be the way forward, given the number of people who use the bus and the frequency that they use it.

8. Planning

- S/0273/14 – 14 Malting's Lane

The Parish Council had earlier listened to the concerns that were raised and a letter from them will be placed on file. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to recommend refusal for the following reasons:

- The Parish Council believes that the current plans constitute an over development of the plot
 - The height of the building is inappropriate to its surroundings and far too tall
- S/025/13 – 32 Barley Road. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval the approval of this application and there were no comments to add.

9. A Report on Speed Watch Activities

The speed watch team continue to collect data via the flashing sign. The clerk to set up an appointment with Martin, Susie and the Chairman to discuss the way forward from here.

There is a contingent from Gamlingay and Hatley Parish Councils coming to look at the sign on Friday.

10. A Report on the status of the lease agreement Windmill by the Windmill Charity

- Jim Brearley gave a timeline of progress to date and a history of how the windmill became surplus to Cambridgeshire County Council.
- The mill will be lease on a 125 year lease with a peppercorn rent.
- Cambridgeshire County Council will pay the buildings insurance.
- The Windmill Trust will pay the PL insurance.
- English Heritage now have no funds available for grants for the windmill.
- A benefactor has left SPAB £29,000 which has been allocated to Great Chishill for refurbishments.
- Cambridgeshire County Council have been very slow when dealing with the lease. Similarly the Trust's solicitors have been slow, but as they are doing the work for no payment, the Trust do not feel they can push them.
- The windmill is not in too bad a of state or repair and has held up well this winter despite the wind and rain.
- Phase one will be to strip down the windmill and reboard it.
- Bob Tribble is the restoration manager, Gill Crutchington is the secretary, Jeff Gill is a trustee, as is Cllr Murgatroyd who is the PC representative, and the historian on the project, John Gandy is the legal advisor, Simon Hudson is a paid consultant and there are also 2 mill rights involved.
- There are 150 friends of the mill.
- The ultimate dream would be to make the windmill turn into the wind.
- The Windmill Trust are to apply for a Heritage Lottery Grant, but this is very specialized.
- A member of the public congratulated Jim Brearley on getting this far with the windmill.
- The Chairman knows of someone who has past experience in putting together a bid for the Heritage Lottery Fund and asked Jim if he would like him to contact them to see if they can help with the windmill's submission.

- He went on to say how disappointment he was with slow progress that is being made. He also commented that there had been an apparent lack of trustees meetings. He asked if there was a project plan, including timescales in place for the phased renovations starting for instance with the date that the lease will be finalised and signed. There was not one. However Jim said that there would be one once the lease is signed. The Chairman commented that the lease had now been with the Trust for four weeks and this was unacceptable. Mr Brearley said that the solicitor they are using is doing the work for free and so they felt unable to pressure them, but he is confident that the lease will be signed within weeks.
- Cllr Ridge asked what would happen if the insurance premium goes up say 4 or 5%, would the County still pay it. The answer was yes as these were in the terms of the lease.
- Cllr van de Ven offered her weight to push the County Council if they were dragging their feet. She was thanked, but it would not be necessary.

11. Written Reports from the County and District Councillors

The Local plan going this to the vote this week. See also below from County Councillor van de Ven.

12. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda

There were none.

The clerk to check on the Fly tipping and to chase her contact at SCDC.

13. Confirmation of the Date of the Next Meeting (already scheduled)

24th April 2014 7:30

20:15 meeting closed

Chishill Parish Council
March 2014
County Councillor Report

The Local Plan goes for decision next week. There are a number of difficult issues for other parts of the district – why so many houses are planned for Waterbeach, especially post 2031, and Bourn where there is no obvious transport infrastructure and clear route into Cambridge – while fewer than originally envisaged at Northstowe, in spite of the massive investment in transport infrastructure (Guided Bus and the contribution to the A14). There is an inevitable interlinking with the Transport Plan and supporting City Deal for transport infrastructure county-wide that makes this a difficult collection of variables.

Hub Library: GCSE and A Level students have been using the Hub for study after school and during February half-term and say they would use one of the meeting rooms as a quiet study room during May half-term, if given the opportunity – i.e. using the Hub as a library in the same way they would Cambridge Central Library.

Community Transport and subsidized transport cuts: Debate at the County Council's budget meeting on the long-term implications of losing community transport and subsidized bus services resulted in a kind of reprieve in that a pot of £500K was identified for 'public transport,' the details of which are to be worked out by a cross-party group of councillors.