

A Meeting of GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue:	Village Hall
Date:	17 th November 2022
Time:	7:30pm
Chairman:	Cllr Dring
Parish Councillors:	Ridge, Leitch, Hall, Hatt
Clerk / Proper Officer:	Sarah Scott
County Councillor:	
District Councillor:	Cllr Hobro
Members of the Public:	None.
Start Time:	7:30pm

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Pine and Cllr Clement – previous engagements
Cllr McDonald – previous engagements

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

There were no declarations received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting on 13th October

These were approved as an accurate account of the proceedings and were signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. Correspondence Received (already circulated)

There were no comments relating to the correspondence reports.

6. District and County Councillors Report (already circulated see below)

The Clerk spoke about the Making Connections Consultation which she had circulated and put on social media. It appears that there is a plan to potentially have regular buses (from Great Chishill) that would stop at a hub and then a connection could take you to other parts of Cambridge. She also said that there was section on the congestion charge. Cllr Hobro spoke about the plan and had some reservations. There was a discussion about usage and it was felt it might be of interest to the village particularly as to access trains we have to use cars.

- Avian flu is affecting the region and birds must be kept inside.
- Cllr Hobro reported that Cllr McDonald had received a prestigious award for his work in supporting businesses during the pandemic.
- The first Warm Hubs Initiative is now up and running
- There was by-election in Longstanton
- It has been 6 months since the scheme to house Ukrainian families was launched and families have been welcomed into the community
- There is a campaign to encourage families to obtain booster jabs to maintain healthy immunity during the winter
- 22 New Build Council houses are now available in the area. There was a query about the total amount of houses available and there also housing association properties in the region

7. Highways

- Outstanding highways issues in Great Chishill. The Clerk has taken photographs of the roads and flooding and sent them to Cllr McDonald. He is chasing highways on this.
- Outstanding highways issues in Little Chishill. There is still no news from Highways re outstanding Chishill works despite Cllr Ridge chasing.
- Straw lorries. There does not to be any movement of straw for the time being.
- Potential extension to footpath to access the Village Hall. Cllr McDonald forwarded this query to a colleague who said that if there are footpath repairs to be done, then it might be added to this. The Parish footpath works were completed earlier this year so this is not an option. The Clerk to keep chasing this.
- Speed and safety. Cllr Hall had been conducting research into what is available to us and establishing facts. He took the Council through his findings. He and the Clerk are to liaise. The Clerk had also contacted Barley Parish Council to ask about their speed camera. The Parish Council did not fund it and it has speed / number plate recognition. Speeders will be sent a letter from the police and persistent offenders may be visited by the police.
- May Street junction in Great Chishill. The Clerk is to investigate purchasing a mirror to aid access from May Street at the crossroads

8. Shed Break- Ins

Following more shed break-in's the Clerk had spent more time talking to the police. This time the burglars were working in broad day light. The police had a message, if think you see a crime in action, call 999, please report any theft as this helps create a picture which should ultimately help us get some police presence. Please also report all theft / criminal damage.

9. Planning

- LDF. We should hear more in January.
- Rectory Farm, Little Chishill – Cllr Hobro had been following this up with Rachel Arnall and we should receive some further information.
- North Hall Farm – the Clerk had reported these on the system and has yet to hear anything. Cllr Hobro met with the Clerk and Cllr Ridge to discuss
- Bridgefoot Farm – there is lots of activity at the site. Half of the site comes under Melbourn Parish Council and Cllr Ridge has spoken with Cllr Hales. The site appears to be expanding.

10. Cambridge Acre Survey

After discussion the Parish Council are happy to go ahead with the survey providing it is made quite clear that the Parish Council did not commission it. We would prefer if the developer who commissioned it had their name mentioned and the Parish Council would like to see sight of it before it is circulated. The Clerk to contact Acre with these points.

11. Finance

- Finance Sheets (already circulated). These were signed and dated the and there were no queries on them.
- Chishill Charity Gifts. The Clerk gave an overview of the Chishill Charity and the gifts that are given each Christmas. She will arrange delivery off the gifts this year. The chairman mentioned that the pheasant pub where holding a Christmas charity lunch and they may be in contact with the Clerk to discuss.

12. Email Policy

Councillor Hatt had raised some queries about the draft e-mail policy. After discussion the Clerk will amend the policy to reflect how we log emails and circulate a communication report. Any items from the log that need the council's attention are added to the next agenda so that the council can discuss and take action as appropriate. Councillor Hatt referred to points 6-7 and 8. The Clerk will also amend the Parish Council Disclaimer on the foot of the e-mail to reflect that the e-mail address and content belongs to the parish council.

13. Lock-Up – 5 Minutes, Cllr Ridge, Chairman

Councillor Ridge reported that he is having trouble obtaining quotes. Councillor Hatt asked what was going to be done in terms of works to the look up. He suggested contacting Tony Andrews and offered to do this for the Parish Council.

15. Children's Playground

The Clerk has not heard back from the Chair of the committee. The Chairman has offered to follow this up.

16. Heydon Parish Council

Councillor Hatt suggested that following on from Heydon Parish Councils Parish Plan, maybe we would like to meet with the chairman, John Arthur. The Clerk will invite John to the next meeting to talk about their plan and the protection of the vistas leading to Heydon.

17. Dates for meetings next year – 5 minutes, Clerk Tuesday 13th Chairmans drinks

A short discussion took place about the frequency and days of meetings for 2023. It was agreed to keep the meetings on a Thursday, monthly except (December, August and July). Councillor Hall suggested a possible break at Easter which we can sort out nearer the time. Christmas drinks will be on the 13th of December at The Pheasant, final details will follow in due course.

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

Matters for the next agenda will include a village Coronation celebration / gift for children and also school trips at Chrishall School.

There being no further notifiable business the chairman closed the meeting at 8:50.

Report for Parish Councils – November 2022.

Cambridgeshire County Report

Cost of living Support. This mirrors the South Cambs information and also to be updated regularly.
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

Supermarket Vouchers

Over 21,000 families received supermarket vouchers last half term in a bid from Cambridgeshire County Council to help tackle financial pressures during the school half term break.

The cost-of-living crisis, and rising energy bills have put an additional strain on families who were already worrying about how to make ends meet. The County Council distributed over £320,000 from the Holiday Voucher Scheme to provide support during the October half term. The scheme will also continue in December and February half terms, to give families a helping hand during the winter.

21,427 vouchers were sent to support children who would usually be eligible for other support. Each eligible child's parent was issued a £15 voucher that could be used at a supermarket of their choice. Eligibility automatically included families who met the following criteria:

- Early Years Pupil Premium
- Children eligible for income related funded two-year-old education
- Eligible for income-related Free School Meals
- Students eligible for 16+ bursary.

Further details can be found here: [Cambridgeshire Holiday Voucher Scheme - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Bus Service Update

After many days of discussion, a new tender was found for the previous 915 service in Foxton/Fowlmere. Funding is available until March 2023 so we have a breathing space at least for now.

Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/20/22/UTT

A combined planning & enforcement appeal has been submitted and a temporary stop notice has been put on this site. However they appear to be flouting this.

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3306988&CoID=0>

Crash Barrier Work A505 Feb 2023

12 weeks of work are proposed here for barriers replacement. I've warned County on the possible disruption and will have a call with Officers soon.

Foster Carers Unaccompanied Children

An appeal has been launched to find more Foster Carers for unaccompanied children who are seeking asylum in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fostering Service urgently needs carers to meet the needs of children and young people who are often forced to leave their family and country behind to seek protection from violence, persecution, war, detention, climate change, terrorism, or the disappearance of their family. When unaccompanied minors arrive in the UK, they're looked after by the local authority who will safeguard them and promote their welfare. They frequently take long and dangerous journeys alone, or are trafficked in circumstances unknown to them, arriving at their destination feeling confused, alone, and disorientated.

Unaccompanied minors are also likely to have different cultural, religious, family and language experiences. Foster Carers support unaccompanied minors to maintain their cultural and religious identity while helping them integrate into a community in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough.

By becoming a part of the Local Authority's Fostering Community, you can help us to guide vulnerable children and young people through their early years and play a central role in supporting children and young people to heal, and develop into happy, healthy adults who have a bright future.

If you are interested in Fostering and Adoption for unaccompanied minors and want to find out more, please get in touch: · Visit: cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering · Email: fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
· Call: 0800 052 0078

Foxton Hub

Im still waiting for an update from GCP and draft papers for the hub.

Peter McDonald
Nov 7th 2022

District Council Report for November 2022

Councillor James Hobro
District Councillor for the parishes of Foxton, Fowlmere, Heydon, Great Chishill & Little Chishill.

I am always happy to hear from residents with any questions about these or other issues relating to the District Council. Please contact me by telephone on 07768 706670 or by email at clr.hobro@scambs.gov.uk.

New bus service from Chishill proposed The Greater Cambridge Partnership has just published their first proposal for a more comprehensive bus network to be rolled out from 2023, with more frequent services, a simpler, lower fare structure, and a sustainable travel zone in Cambridge.

The proposed bus network would connect Heydon and The Chishills with the Greater Cambridge bus network, with regular services from 5am to 1am daily.

The proposals are under consultation so [please have your say](#). **New Centrebus 26 bus service**

In September, Stagecoach made the shock announcement that it would discontinue 18 bus services across Cambridgeshire from the end of October, including the 915 service from Royston to Cambridge via Melbourn, Fowlmere, Foxton and Harston. This is despite passenger numbers in the UK reaching 85% of their pre-pandemic levels and continuing to recover. It comes at a time when we need these services more than ever due to the climate emergency and the rising cost of fuel.

This happened just when the Greater Cambridge Partnership launched its Making Connections consultation aimed at improving bus provision across the county. After the announcement from Stagecoach, I approached the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority, along with other local representatives, asking them to intervene urgently to restore the Royston–Cambridge service.

The Combined Authority undertook an urgent review with the aim of continuing as many as possible of the routes terminated by Stagecoach, and pledged £1.7 million for this process. On 25 October it was announced that the service will now be provided by Centrebus and will become the number 26 once again (follow [this link](#) for service information). Unfortunately, the frequency is now reduced to every 2 hours.

I believe that we need frequent, reliable and affordable buses in this area, and will continue to work with County Councillor Peter McDonald and other local representatives to improve our options for bus travel.

By-election for Longstanton ward A by-election was held on 3 November to elect two new district councillors for Longstanton ward after two district councillors stood down. Councillors Natalie Warren-Green (Liberal Democrat) and Tom Bygott (Conservative) were elected. The next scheduled election for South Cambridgeshire District Council is in May 2026, when all the seats on the council will be up for election.

Avian flu: birds must be kept inside Poultry and captive bird owners must keep their birds inside from 7 November, as the country faces its biggest ever outbreak of avian flu. South Cambridgeshire District Council is urging local bird keepers, including pet bird owners, to keep their birds in lockdown and use strict biosecurity measures to help protect their flocks from the disease, regardless of type or size.

The lockdown housing measures legally require all keepers to ensure their birds are indoors and to follow stringent rules, such as keeping the number of people entering the bird enclosure to a minimum and using specific footwear that can be cleaned before and after entering the enclosure, just for dealing with the birds. Following restrictions already in force for Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex avian bird flu has now been found in areas of Cambridgeshire.

To protect against the outbreak of avian bird flu, the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has announced that from Monday 7 November all areas of England, including South Cambridgeshire, require the mandatory housing of all poultry and captive birds. This includes pet chickens and ducks.

To achieve the requirements, birds must be kept in an area that is fully covered, so as not to allow wild birds to enter or their faeces to contaminate the area. Failure to comply with the housing measures set by DEFRA could result in a fine. Further details can be found on the [Gov.UK website](#).

Over the past year, the United Kingdom has faced its largest ever outbreak of avian flu with more than 200 cases confirmed since late October 2021. The introduction of the housing measures comes after the disease was detected at over 70 premises since the beginning of October, as well as multiple reports in wild birds.

Councillor Peter McDonald wins 2022 Award for Resilience and Recovery The Local Government Information Unit hosts the annual [Clr Awards](#), the only national awards celebrating the work of councillors across the country. This year, Councillor Peter McDonald of South Cambridgeshire District Council won the Resilience and Recovery award, and is one of only six councillors in England and Wales to be recognised at this level. The judges highlighted his oversight of business grant funding which enabled Cambridgeshire's unique business growth fund, supporting 102 local businesses. They were also impressed by the part this played in rapid rollout of electric vehicle and charging point technology. Although Peter is our County Councillor here in Foxton ward, he also represents Duxford ward on the District Council.

First Warm Hubs open The first Warm Hubs have opened their doors this year as part of a new initiative to support communities in South and East Cambridgeshire this winter. In South Cambridgeshire, the first Warm Hubs opened at Gamlingay and Caldecote. Hardwick, Cottenham and Comberton will be the next villages to see Warm Hubs open up.

More hubs will open in November across both districts. Operated from community buildings, they are designed to support vulnerable and isolated people, as well as those on lower incomes, at a time when the cost of living is a significant challenge. The new initiative has been developed by South and East Cambridgeshire District Councils and funded by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, as part of

our local [Integrated Care System](#). They are coordinated by [Cambridgeshire ACRE](#) – the charity dedicated to supporting and strengthening rural communities across Cambridgeshire.

Operating at the heart of local communities, the Warm Hubs concept has been designed to offer warm, friendly and inclusive places with access to light refreshments. Hubs also provide residents with somewhere to socialise, take part in activities and receive information on how to reduce bills, access financial support, and stay healthy and well.

The activities and services available at Warm Hubs are operated by trained volunteers from within the local area who are individuals who understand the needs of the local communities.

I would be very interested in hearing from any residents who would like to see a Warm Hub anywhere in Foxton ward.

New Council homes delivered across the district South Cambridgeshire District Council and partners have delivered 22 new build Council homes across the district, further increasing the number of homes that are genuinely affordable for local people to live in.

There are 12 new properties in Swavesey, a mixture of affordable rent and shared ownership houses and apartments, eight in Waterbeach, which comprise affordable rent and shared ownership houses and maisonettes, and two affordable rent houses in Meldreth, with a further five affordable rent and shared ownership houses to be handed-over in the coming weeks. All properties are built to a high specification with high levels of insulation and double-glazed windows to help reduce monthly costs of keeping the homes warm as winter approaches.

Affordable rent is capped at no more than 80% of the local market rent, including service charges where applicable. All properties have been marketed to people with a local connection to the villages in the first instance, before then being opened up in stages across the district.

South Cambridgeshire District Council owns and maintains around 5,500 Council homes. Further new build properties will become available soon in the villages of Sawston, Great Abington and Melbourn. You can apply for housing [on the District Council website](#).

South Cambridgeshire marks 6 months of welcoming Ukrainian families Ukrainian families continue to settle into life in South Cambridgeshire thanks to a range of grant-funded activities organised by the District Council including day trips, English classes, free laptops, books and bikes.

Six months since the government launched its Homes For Ukraine scheme, the Council remains the top district in the country for hosting families, with 808 visas issued and 720 guests arrived so far, since the government's scheme began in March 2022.

The council has provided extensive support to families fleeing the war with the help of local partnerships including more than 340 items of free tech goods delivered such as 93 laptops, 77 Chromebooks, 52 mobile phones and 124 SIM cards.

In addition, hundreds of English lessons have been given plus day trips to help people integrate into life in a new country.

The Council continues to keep hosts and guests in South Cambridgeshire connected with regular bulletin updates and has established an [online welcome pack](#) for new arrivals, alongside [a dedicated web page offering extensive information](#). The Council has also set up dedicated Facebook pages for [Hosts](#) and [guests](#), and is due to launch a dedicated Facebook group [for young people](#).

Air and water quality advice now available to all farmers in England On 12 October, the government announced that farmers across England are now able to benefit from the advice of Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) advisers following the expansion of the programme. Local CSF advisers provide confidential on-farm support and advice across the farming community to encourage uptake of new and existing agricultural schemes and help farmers comply with regulations. CSF is led by Natural England, in partnership with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Environment Agency. Advisers offer a range of support including signposting to relevant sources of advice, grants available, offering one-to-one tailored advice, including a visit from an agricultural specialist, or running group training and on-farm events. CSF also works in partnership with a range of organisations including councils, water companies, trade bodies and environmental organisations. Their work has included part-funding advisers and tools to reach more farmers, enabling them to increase the resilience of their farm businesses. Further information and details on how farmers can speak to local advisers can be found at the link below.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/air-and-water-quality-advice-now-available-to-all-farmers-in-england>

Guidance and how to speak to local advisers:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/catchment-sensitive-farming-reduce-agricultural-water-pollution>

New vaccine marketing campaign urges millions to boost their immunity this winter The UK Health Security Agency has launched a new campaign urging millions of eligible people to get their flu and COVID-19 booster vaccines to top up their immunity. Almost 10 million people in England have already received their boosters. Adverts will air across television, radio, social and digital media, stressing the importance of people getting both vaccines to increase their protection this winter. There will also be targeted communications for individuals with long-term health conditions, pregnant women and ethnic minority communities, with a particular focus on those with low vaccine confidence. The latest COVID-19 data has shown continued high rates of cases and hospitalisations in recent weeks. Cases of flu have climbed quickly in the past week, indicating that the season has started earlier than normal. This is leading to increased pressure on emergency departments, with rates of hospitalisations and ICU admissions rising fastest in children under 5. Around 33 million people are eligible for the flu vaccine and 26 million people are eligible for the COVID-19 booster.

News story:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-vaccine-marketing-campaign-urges-millions-to-boost-their-immunity-this-winter>

Campaign material:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YFEG1LjGxQFiNgSD7esXa97w0WFoWPKR>

New professional standards and stricter regulation for social housing standards The DLUHC has announced changes to the Social Housing Regulation Bill to improve housing quality for social housing tenants and help complaints to be dealt with quicker.

Measures include:

· Changes to the Social Housing Regulation Bill will strengthen the powers of the regulator · All social landlords will be required to ensure that their staff meet competency standards · Regulator to publish plan for regular inspections of largest landlords

The move comes as a result of amendments to the Social Housing Regulation Bill which completed Report Stage in the House of Lords yesterday. DLUHC has also committed to consulting on a minimum energy efficiency standard in the social housing sector within six months of the Bill receiving Royal Assent. Last month, £1.5 billion was made available for social housing providers and councils to make energy efficiency upgrades.

Announcement: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-professional-standards-and-stricter-regulation-to-drive-up-social-housing-standards>

First ever UK woodland natural flood management guide published A new guide outlining how forests and woodlands can reduce the damaging effects and financial impact of flooding on vulnerable communities was published on 25 October by the Forestry Commission, Natural Resources Wales, Scottish Forestry and Northern Ireland Forest Service. The new practice guide provides advice to landowners, forest and woodland managers, planners, practitioners and flooding authorities on how forests and woodlands can make a positive contribution to natural flood management and play a stronger role in flood mitigation.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-ever-uk-woodland-natural-flood-management-guide-published>

Funding for solar farm agreed Plans for a solar farm which will power electric bin lorries used by the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service have taken a step forward, following confirmation that Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council both have funding in-place.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has also outlined proposals to help fund the Waterbeach Renewable Energy Network (WREN) solar farm. The final Business Case and funding arrangements are due to be presented to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for its decision at its November Board meeting on Monday 14 November.

In order to reach the net-zero aspirations of the Councils, Greater Cambridge Shared Waste must invest in electric or alternative fuel bin collection trucks. Greater Cambridge Shared Waste currently operates Cambridgeshire's first electric bin lorry, which entered service in November 2020. A second electric bin lorry, which has a revolving body to help compact waste, has been collecting waste from streets across the city and district since June 2022. The new solar farm will enable these and other electric bin lorries to be charged using clean energy.

The programme proposed by Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils therefore includes a solar panel power plant on land adjacent to the Depot, along with a battery storage system, charging islands, cabling and other associated works to form a smart micro-grid.

There are approximately 50 bin lorries in the fleet. The solar project will allow for up to about 30 diesel trucks to be replaced with electric vehicles. The remainder will transition to alternative fuel sources such as biofuels, where possible, as their operational requirements (eg travel distances) cannot currently be fulfilled using the electric bin lorries available at the moment.

Currently the complete bin lorry fleet consumes around 695,000 litres of diesel fuel a year resulting in the emission of 1,800 tonnes of CO₂ a year. The long-term goal is to replace the entire fleet with electrical or alternative fuel vehicles.