

## Minutes of a meeting of GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue: Village Hall  
 Date: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
 Time: 7:30pm  
 Chairman: Vice Chairman Cllr Pine Chaired the meeting  
 Parish Councillors: Harrison, Ridge, Wiseman, Pine, Hatt  
 Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott  
 County Councillors:  
 District Councillor:  
 Members of the Public: There were three members if the public present.  
 Start Time: 7:30

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1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons) – 2 Minutes  
 Cllrs Dring and Clements – Previous commitment  
 Cllr Topping – Previous commitment  
 Cllr Roberts – Previous commitment  
 These were accepted by the Parish Council
2. To receive any declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest of Councillors  
 There were none declared.
3. Approval of the Minutes from the 11<sup>th</sup> July  
 These were approved as an accurate account of the meeting and were duly signed and dated by the Vice Chairman
4. Public Participation.  
 To allow up to 10 minutes for any members of the public and Councillors declaring a pecuniary and non pecuniary interest to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted at that meeting.

#### Phil Maynard – Church Clock

Phil Maynard came to report on the Church Clock. Below is a summary of points raised:

1. He gave a detailed account of how the church clocked worked and said that it had stopped working.
  2. There was a question mark over who is responsible for its maintenance. The clerk had replied to an earlier email saying that the clock is not on the Parish Council asset register, but said the Parish Council had once (in the past 10 years) helped to pay for a service.
  3. Phil said he thought that the Parish Council had appointed him as clockwinder, but in fact it was minuted by the previous clerk that the previous clock winder had handed over the reins to Phil.
  4. A horological company had assessed the clock and estimate that it would cost £1200 to repair.
  5. The Church had no money for such repairs so Phil had written to over 100 residents explain the situation and nearly all of the £1200 had been pledged.
  6. There might be a £200 short fall and if this is the case, the Parish said that they might be able to help. The Clerk asked who any monies should be sent to and it was reported that it should be given to the DCC. The Council will wait to hear back.
  7. Cllr Hatt suggested that the Parish Council should adopt the Church Clock, but the Vice Chairman suggested (and this was agreed by the rest of the council) that this should be deferred to the next meeting. In the interim, the Clerk to also speak to the Rector about ownership etc.
- Phil thanked the Parish for their time and left the meeting.

Martin Hague had sent an email to the clerk about Village / Community Asset registers. He gave permission for the clerk to circulate this to the Parish Council. He gave an overview to the Parish Council.

1. Village or Community assets cover such assets as village halls, pavilions, pockets of land, pubs, lock-ups and any valuable (in terms of amenity value as well as actual value) to a community. The orders are designed to protect assets in villages and there lists of assets listed on the South Cambs District Council website.
2. The assets are covered for five years, after which, they can be reapplied for.
3. It was decided it would be a good idea to do an audit and register significant assets in the village. The Clerk will action this.

There followed a general discussion about The Pheasant and its loss as a community hub due to its erratic opening hours. Local business such as B&B's, the campsite have been affected due to no food being served, added to this the employment opportunities to young people in the village have now been lost. For some local people it is an important amenity as it is the only place they can come and socialise. The pub will be one of the assets that the Parish Council will apply to be listed at SCDC. The Clerk had also received verbal and written concerns about the pub and what its future might be.

#### Carolyn Stokes – Bridgefoot Farm Kennels.

Mrs Stokes read out a statement regarding her planning application. There followed some questions about the business and the number of dwellings already on site. She also said that when they shut the kennels for a short time last time, business rates were reduced, but when they re-opened, they were greatly increased, which she said is normal practice.

5. Correspondence Received – 10 minutes  
 Email from Phil Maynard, representing the Bells Ringers regarding Church Clock – see above  
 Email from a Parishioner regarding Community asset suggestions – see above  
 Email from a Parishioner regarding The Pheasant Public House – see above  
 Email from a Parishioner regarding the street light on Heydon Road (not next to the bus shelter) and also in Reeves Pightle – awaiting feedback from the street lighting department  
 Email from Robin Dibblee and Highways regarding the chalk pit  
 Several emails from a Parishioner in Barkway regarding Flint Cross – the clerk suggested a joined up approach with all parishes re Flint Cross; we are awaiting updates  
 Email from North Herts District Council regarding the possibility of a footpath from Barley to Great Chishill  
 Email from enforcement regarding 14 Colts Croft – see below

6. Planning
  - S/2575/19/FL – Creation of a wildlife pond, Maltings Lane. The Council had no objections.
  - S/2703/19/FL – Change of use and conversion of cattery to a dwelling, Bridgefoot Farm Kennels  
There had to be one person on site for every 15 dogs for each 24 hour period. There were 90 dogs on site and the new property would have a tie to the business. The Council raised no objections
  - 14 Colts Croft. The new building is occupied and it is thought the hard landscaping is not complete, the original property has been rented out and the car parking that should have been started and completed before the new house is not complete. Enforcement came out in July; however Cllr Hatt and the Clerk had been chasing this up. Cllr Hatt heard today that the planning officers are not visiting properties as mileage payments are now not being paid. The clerk to contact District Councillor Debs Roberts.
7. Finance
  - Finance Sheets. These had been circulated and there were no questions. The next tranche of the Precept is due later on in September and the VAT reclaim has been paid.
  - New Financial Regulations. The Clerk reported that there are new model financial regulations that need to be adopted. The Clerk will get them ready for the next meeting,
  - Annual Insurance Premium. It was approved that the clerk pays the insurance premium.
  - Chishill Charities. The Clerk explained that Black Rock who hold the investment, which is approximately 35p per quarter wish to see audited accounts and minutes of the trustees meetings (which there haven't been for years). It was decided to close the investment, but carry on and give a small donation to villagers as had been done in the past. The Clerk to action.
8. Highways
 

The Clerk and Cllr Ridge had met with highways and highlighted the following issues:

  - White Lines
  - Hall Lane Path Repairs
  - Hall Lane Path Replacement
  - Drains on Hall
  - Flooding on New Road
  - Trees on May Street

As ever, budgets are an issue and it was concluded that the village is sometimes overlooked as it is on the county boundary, however highways are obtaining quotes for path repairs and white lining. He was also going to look into the trees along May Street.

Cllr Hatt suggested getting a hedge cutter to do the verges between Great and Little Chishill. The Clerk pointed out that some of these verges are protected and are not allowed to be cut during certain times of the year. Cllr Hatt commented it was a safety issue. The Clerk to try and source someone to do this.

  - Issue with Speed Humps on the road to the Village Hall. This had been passed to the Village Hall Committee and Playing Fields Association to action
  - Possible replacement of Speed Sign – Cllr Clements. Cllr Clements was not present.
  - Flint Cross junction. The Clerk is waiting to hear from the Barkway resident and Barkway Parish Council
9. Street Light Next to bus shelter. The Parish Council has taken over the sourcing of an energy supplier and payment for energy has SCDC had relinquished this duty. The Clerk is currently obtaining the NPAN number and MUS Certificate in order to facilitate this. It was agreed to use E-on as they currently are the energy suppliers to the bus shelter and as a consequence, we already have an account with them.
10. The Pheasant Public House  
See above
11. Windmill Committee  
Cllr Hatt reported on the progress to date which included continuing works to the mill, the commemorative bench has been secured some hedging had been tidied up.
12. The Church Clock  
See above
13. Lock-up – Chairman  
The Vice-Chairman in the Chairman's absence was pleased to announce that a planning application had been submitted.
14. District and County Councillors Written Reports – 10 Minutes
15. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda – 5 mins

There being no further business items, the meeting was closed at 8:53pm.