

A Meeting of GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue: Village Hall
Date: 13th July 2023
Time: 7:30pm
Chair: Cllr Dring
Parish Councillors: Ridge, Leitch, Hall, Hatt, Clements, Pine (arrived 8:00pm)
Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott
County Councillor: Not present
District Councillor: Not present
Members of the Public: None
Start Time: 7:30pm

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Hobro – previous commitment.

Cllr McDonald will be later due to other meetings. **The Clerk texted to advise him mid-way through the meeting not to come as the meeting would be finished by the time he got to the Village Hall

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

The Chair is friends with the occupants of 62 Heydon Road who have a planning application which the Council will discuss.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the AMC May -

There were no comments on the minutes and it was agreed these were an accurate account of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chair.

4. Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. Correspondence Received (already circulated)

The Clerk had been sent a grant opportunity and this will be discussed under agenda item 12.

6. District and County Councillors Report (already circulated)

Cllr Hatt commented that he was pleased to see that the trial of a 4 day week at SCDC had been challenged.

7. Planning

- Cambridge Acre Survey. The clerk has been chasing feedback from Acre on the survey. She will continue to do this.
- 23/02225/OUT – Land adjacent to 4 North Hall Cottages. Erection of 2 dwellings The Council is happy with the outline application as it stands providing it fits with the planning protocols for this area.
- 23/02298/HFUL – 62 Heydon Road, Great Chishill, convert existing outbuilding to form ancillary annex. The Council had no objections.
- 23/01975/PA – Land at Hill Farm Barns, May Street, WITHDRAWN
- Rectory Farm, Little Chishill. The owner (who has put the Farmhouse up for rent) wants to meet with Cllr Ridge to discuss any breaches of planning.
- North Hall Farm. The Clerk was most disappointed by the last response from SCDC on this and they are effectively not prepared to assist with this. It was suggested that a FOI request was made to aid the Clerk get to the bottom of what premises are holiday lets and what are leased properties.
- Bridgefoot Farm. The appeal is in progress. It was noted that the caution signs erected by Highways had been removed. Clerk to contact highways.
- Rabbit Residence. The Clerk explained that enforcement had been out and given the owner of the land at the Rabbit Residence 6 months to leave the site. The Clerk had requested that since the infringement was first reported that the 6 months should be taken from them, which the Council agreed with. The Clerk to reiterate this with Cllr Hobro. There was a general discussion about the site and ownership of the site and the trustees of the organisation.

8. Finance

- The audit papers have been with the external auditors for a while now. They had asked for evidence of one form, which the clerk has done. Because this year the finances fall into the threshold which allows us to claim exemption from a full review of the audit, the Clerk is entitled to and has requested exemption.

9. Highways

- Outstanding highways issues in Great Chishill (drains, floods, potholes, New Road, Footpath) (Cllr McDonald). Grips are due to be cut in August. The Clerk had received some complaints re the verges which highways cut and Cllr McDonald has asked when these will be done.
- Outstanding highways issues in Little Chishill. Cllr Ridge reported that items are still outstanding.

10. Speed and safety

- Speed Watch. The speed van has been out again. The Clerk to send Cllr Hall details of potential speed watch volunteers.
- Mirror. The Clerk to purchase the mirror and then the Council will work out where it can go.

11. Policy Document

Cllr Hatt was worried about the amount the policies we have as a council. The Clerk explained that all policies are standard policies and we need them to cover us as a body and due to the size of our organisation we actually have very few.

12. Children's Playground

The Chair had received an email from the committee who said they are happy to fundraise but would like assistance with the management. The Chair to set up a meeting with the committee, the Clerk, the PFA and himself.
The Clerk had received an email relating to the Cambridge Priority Capital Fund and it is felt that playground committee might qualify for a grant which will be discussed at a meeting.

13. County Broadband – (City fibre)

City Fibre appointed have now been appointed. Parishioners should register their interest in this scheme. Clerk to publicise and put in the newsletter.

14. Promotion of Parish

The Clerk continues to promote the Parish Council in the newsletter and social media platforms. Cllr Hall commented that the road sweeper had been out and this could be shared. Clerk to action.

Actions from the Annual Meeting of the Parish. The Chair wrote to Cllr McDonald re school bus transport to Newport as because we live in South Cambs parishioners have to pay a lot of money to use this service.

Sharing minutes in the newsletter is not feasible but links could be shared on social media and items of interest are already shared in the newsletter. Clerk to share links.

15. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda – 5 Minutes

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.

Cllr Pine will report on the Village Hall Meeting.

There being no further notifiable business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:24.

Cambridgeshire County Report

This summer, the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme is offering free spaces for children in Cambridgeshire who are eligible for free school meals, to enjoy enriching experiences and nutritious food.

This continuing initiative offers primary and secondary school children in Cambridgeshire the chance to enjoy a range of exciting experiences. With a focus on providing healthy meals alongside engaging activities, this programme is ideal for children who want to stay healthy and active this summer.

Each session will include a nutritious meal, a variety of exciting activities or sports and the opportunity to socialise with other children.

Subject to availability of places, any child receiving income-related free school meals is eligible for the programme. The programme will run from 20 July to 31 August, with the exception of bank holidays. Eligible children can attend a holiday scheme for free for up to 64 hours.

Funded by the Department for Education (DfE), the HAF scheme enables local authorities to coordinate free holiday childcare and enriching experiences locally.

As part of the programme, eligible children will be able to access:

- Fun and entertaining play opportunities or new experiences that help children to develop their skills and knowledge.
- At least one meal a day.
- Guidance on increasing awareness of healthy eating, lifestyles, and positive behaviours.
- Parents will be supported with information and signposting to other services and support which might be helpful to families.

Further information can be found at Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme 2023 - Cambridgeshire County Council.

LHI Scoring

The LHI scoring for complex & non-complex schemes was published in the July 4th Highways Committee:

https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccc_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/2105/Committee/62/Default.aspx

Additionally there are safety programmes including the A505 crossing between Duxford & Whittlesford:

https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/CCC_live/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=17px2YotiRuRtu6KKTdZYIFAHsHWj8%2fSWrBqvCad%2bMrH6U4ouCVF3Q%3d%3d∓rUzwRPF%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNlh225F5QMaQWcTPHwdhUfCz%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d∓mCTIbCubSFFxsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d∓kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d∓uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAjvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJff55vVA%3d∓FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5oIA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d∓d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJff55vVA%3d∓WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJff55vVA%3d∓WGewmoAfeNq16B2MHuCPMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJff55vVA%3d
The 20 mph scheme scores will be published later.

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 cldr.hobro@scambs.gov.uk.

Public recycling bin trial

The District Council is running a trial deployment of recycling bins for village public spaces, which will begin later this year. These will be blue bins for mixed recycling, following the same rules and colour as our domestic blue bins. The aim of the trial is to assess demand

and whether or not the bins are used correctly before adapting collection vehicles for full-scale deployment if the trial is successful.

During the trial there will be a limit of two recycling bins per parish. Parish Councils that would like to take part in the trial are invited to contact Sarah Phillips at sarah.phillips@scamb.gov.uk.

Mobile Food Hub

A new Mobile Food Hub, funded by the District Council and run by not-for-profit organisation, Hope CIC, is being launched to further support communities during the cost of living crisis. Fresh produce and essential items, some of which will be free and others at below retail price, will be brought directly to villages around South Cambridgeshire to help people with rising food prices. It is the first service of its kind in the district. The initiative was launched amid figures from the Consumer Prices Index in April which showed food shopping bills have risen by almost 20% in the last year.

The Mobile Food Hub will visit Papworth, Orchard Park and Duxford weekly, with further locations to be confirmed. It will be open in Duxford every Thursday from 11am to 12noon. The villages have been selected based on Census deprivation data, mapped against where current foodbanks and food hubs operate from.

Any resident struggling with increasing costs, including those who live outside of these villages, can access this Mobile Food Hub by turning up on the day. No vouchers or referrals are needed. There will be a mix of fresh and long-life food on offer. Food is coming from both donations and purchasing from local suppliers. Residents will also be able to buy essential affordable items.

Review of achievements in 2022/23

The council has produced two videos summarising its achievements during 2022/23 to give an overview to taxpayers of how their money is being used to deliver and improve services. These can be watched here: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#).

Cost of Living support

The District Council's Communities Team have created a new leaflet advising residents of support available during the cost-of-living crisis. There is a push this year to encourage more people to apply for Council Tax support as many who are eligible for this scheme are unaware it exists.

If you are able to assist with distributing this leaflet within your parish, please email chris.riches@scamb.gov.uk who will arrange for leaflets to be printed.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service survey

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service have asked the council to share details of their latest public survey to help improve their service in preparation for their next five-year plan. The survey should take 10-15 minutes to complete. There are three £50 shopping vouchers which you can have a chance of winning by completing it.

2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review

On 27 June the Boundary Commission for England submitted its final report to the House of Commons detailing its recommendations for new Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries. It includes some changes to the boundaries for South Cambridgeshire Parliamentary Constituency. There are no changes for Foxton Ward as a result of the recommendations.

Four-day working week update

Last month I reported that the four-day working week trial at the District Council had been extended by a year, following the success of the initial three-month pilot. In those three months, the scheme had generated direct savings of £300,000 thanks to an improvement in recruitment and retention. Further savings on the £2 million annual bill for agency staff are anticipated as the trial continues. Additional indirect savings are also expected as we see the broader benefits of moving away from a high turnover of temporary staff. The independent assessment of the trial reported significant improvement in most of the Key Performance Indicators assessed, with no serious outliers of concern.

The council was therefore surprised to receive a letter on 1 July from Lee Rowley MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, requesting a halt to the trial. This letter generated significant media attention.

The District Council Leader, Bridget Smith, has requested a meeting immediately to understand the reasons behind this request in light of the range of benefits for taxpayers that the trial has demonstrated.

The four-day working week is an example of modern working practice that has demonstrated productivity benefits in the private sector. South Cambridgeshire District Council is the first council to assess its effectiveness in the public sector. The extended trial will determine whether this change in working practice can continue to deliver significant service quality improvements while reducing costs for the council and taxpayer.