

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

### GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue: Village Hall  
Date: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013  
Time: 7:30pm  
Chairman: Andrew Gardiner  
Parish Councillors: Harrison, Erskine, Dring, Ridge, Coney, Murgatroyd  
Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott  
Others Present: 2 Members of the public

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Actual start time: 7:30

#### **1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)**

Susan van den Ven – Previous commitment

Jose Hales – Previous commitment

Val Barrett – 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 11th September (already circulated)**

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

#### **4. Public Participation.**

The meeting was closed at 7:32.

Rosemary Livings thanked the Parish Council for the cheque for the URC.

The meeting reopened at 7:33

#### **5. Finance Report**

The Clerk had circulated the finance sheets. She had an extra table for the S106's funds, so they can easily be accounted for.

She also explained that she had received correspondence relating to precept setting whereby if we wish to keep the precept the same for next year, it would look on paper as if we were raising it as we will not receive funding from affordable housing / council houses. The Precept will be on the next agenda.

It was agreed that the finance sheets could be signed by the Chairman as there were no queries

#### **6. Village Hall Update**

The Clerk gave an overview of the very positive meeting which had taken place earlier in the month. Cllr Erskine questioned why the Parish Council was still giving a grant when money did not seem to be spent on the hall maintenance. She queried their audit / accountancy processes and it was pointed out that at the aforementioned meeting the committee had stated that they were happy with their accountants. It was also noted that the Village Hall Committee had to submit annual accounts to the Charities Commission.

Points of the notes from the village hall meeting:

- New members had come forward.
- The Youth Club are moving from the pavilion to the Village Hall and will not meeting when the WI meet on one Tuesday a month.
- It had been mooted that maybe in time, the WI might wish to relocated to the URC, now that it is being vacated by the Nursery\*\*.
- A caretaker / maintenance manager has been approached to look at the short, medium and long term planning for the village hall (maintenances, aims, objectives). He will be contracted on an initial 6 month trial period and the Parish Council will underwrite the costs to a maximum £2000. The Clerk will liaise with him, the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee.
- The Village Hall had been saving up a reserve to do essential works on the floor.
- The Chairs in reception would be disposed off.
- The Clerk will write a piece for the newsletter to hi-light the changes and also make organisations aware that if they use the facility they should have a representative on the Village Hall Committee.

\*\*A member of public present at this meeting, said that it would be unlikely that they would move because of parking issues in Barley Road.

To conclude, the Village Hall will be an agenda item and the Parish Council will monitor progress with the new care taker / maintenance manager in place.

## **7. Planning**

- North Hall Farm – notices have been sent out to the residents and the owner.
- The outstanding planning application for North Hall Farm (for holiday lets) is still outstanding although the Parish Council have been informed that a recommendation for refusal will be upheld by the planning committee.

## **8. A Report on Speed Watch Activities**

Cllr Harrison gave a report on the latest speed watch meeting and what the next steps could be (advisory signs, police van at appropriate times etc). One third of all vehicles entering Great Chishill from New Road are speeding.

It was asked if the 30mph sign could be moved on Barley Road to the windmill. The Clerk explained that this had been looked at several times and highways were reluctant to do this and this is why the village gates were installed. The Clerk is setting up a meeting with the Chairman, Cllr Harrison and Highways.

The Clerk had reported that she had been approached by Gamlingay Parish Council about the flashing sign. Cllr Harrison wondered if we could rent the equipment out – the Clerk to get details of our Speed watch cluster groups.

## **9. Winter Gritting**

The schedule of winter gritting had been approved. The Parish Council had asked how much it costs to grit Great Chishill; the Clerk read out the response, which did not address the question. When the Parish Council meet with highways, they will ask about gritting in the village and also ask about New Road, as we now have stats to show how much it is used (notwithstanding it is the school bus route).

## **10. A Report on the sale of the Windmill by the Windmill Trust**

Cllr Murgatroyd report that a donation from SPAB for £29.5k will be given to the Windmill Trust for the first phase of restoration. With regard to the lease, Nick Sweeny is on extended leave and his colleagues are not in a rush to sign the lease. The Parish Council have seen sight of the draft lease and it did seem to be a standard lease. Clerk to contact John Gandy to ask him about it.

The Windmill Trust had requested a grant of £2k to cover administration costs. Cllr Dring proposed and it was unanimously agreed to defer this decision until the lease was signed.

## **11. Broadband**

The Chairman, Clerk and Cllr van de Ven had meet with BT and Connecting Cambridgeshire. The Clerk is be the village broadband champion. The infrastructure to receive superfast broadband will be rolled out from December 2014. The only difference we will notice in the village is that for every BT cabinet, there will be an additional one installed. The closer you live to a cabinet then the more effective the speed will be. The fibre optic cables are running from Royston using existing tunnels. It will then be up to individuals to select their superfast broadband packages. 90% of the whole of South Cambs are expected to receive superfast broadband. There will be remote areas which will not receive it.

## **12. Written Reports from the County and District**

There were no reports.

## **13. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda**

Cllr Ridge asked if Little Chishill Church be put on the finance agenda as they need help with funds for a French Drain.

Cllr Harrison reported on a very interesting Cams Corridor meeting which talked about waterways (rivers) etc in our County and the access to some areas is now being allowed.