

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue: Village Hall
Date: 29th October 2014
Time: 7:31pm
Chairman: Andrew Gardiner
Parish Councillors: Murgatroyd, Ridge, Coney, Clements
District Councillor: Susan van de Ven
County Councillor: Cllr Hales, Cllr Barrett
Clerk / Proper Officer: Sarah Scott
One member of the public.
Start Time: 19:31

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Dring – Work commitment
Cllr Harrison – Personal reasons
These were both accepted by the Parish Council

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

There were none received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 17th September 2014.

The Council agreed that these were a true and accurate account of proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

4. Public Participation.

Nigel Russell came to the meeting to represent Plaistow Way with regards to the replacement street lights. None of the residents wished the lights to be replaced and would be happy if they were removed completely. As Balfour Beatty were not in attendance, the clerk will contact them and relay this information. There had been no other comments received from Wallers Close or Colts Croft residents.

5. Finance Report

The Clerk took the meeting through the finance sheets and recent expenditure. The clerk had identified the following items for future expenditure and she will action them:

- Replacement dog and additional one to be placed either further up Heydon Road or at one of The Pudgell. She has also sourced a dog bag dispenser to be placed on The Plaistow
- Bus shelter light – Cllr Murgatroyd said this needs fixing. The clerk to contact Andrew Brown
- Pot holes on the Parish Council car park need filling – the clerk to obtain quotes
- Little Chishill Church – John Ridge to follow this up
- Church clocks service and pavilion clock repair – Clerk to action this

6. Village Hall Update

The last Village Hall meeting had been productive with progress being made on the floor and a shed. They are also going to redecorate the building. They are having trouble sourcing someone to lay the base for the shed. There is another Village Hall meeting next week. It was commented that the progress is good news.

7. Planning

North Hall Farm – the court case was adjourned and will continue in November.

Bridgefoot Farm – the Managers accommodation is back on the open market. The Clerk has contacted Paul Sexton who has yet to reply. Cllr Barrett to chase.

The Parish Council looked at the planning application - S/2317/14/LB – Hall Farm, Great Chishill. These were unanimously approved with no additional comment.

A planning application had been received today and an extraordinary meeting will be held to discuss it on 10th November at 7.00pm.

8. A Report on Speed Watch Activities and Movement of National Speed Limited to 40mph from Windmill to Village

To date there had 53 responses to the consultation with 50 saying yes and 3 saying no.

The Clerk is at highways tomorrow to bid for funding for a minor highways grant to cover some of the costs involved for moving the speed limit on Barley Road.

9. A Report on the Windmill by the Windmill Charity

Cllr Murgatroyd reported that the 125 year lease is signed.

- There have now been regular meetings.
- A leaflet drop will take place in the next month.
- There will be a village meeting on 14th March.
- £30k is being held by SPAB to start the restoration project.
- The windmill has been placed back on the Buildings at Risk register.
- The nails have rusted and the trestle and girts need looking at first.
- The Trust is looking for anyone with specialist skills to come forward to help with the restoration.

10. Village Lock-up

Cllr Coney will circulate a report he has drawn up with recommendations for the repairs to the lock-up. He has written the heritage statement and will then progress this with the planning department. The costs could be circ £2k.

11. Community Assets

The Parish Council had submitted to the LDF in relation to the Plaistow, Playing Fields, Bull Meadow and important village vistas. As yet, they have not seen the draft LDF from SCDC.

12. Written Reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr van den Ven reported

- Highways have to look at gritting reduction again for next year (30% reduction). The Clerk commented that it would be quite difficult to cut anything from Great Chishill as there only two routes on the schedule one being a dedicated emergency services route and the other a B road. She suggested that we write to Roger Hickford. Peter Reeve and his team.
- Verge cutting will be reduced from 3 cuts a year to 2.

- Community Grants – CAB may have their grant cut.
- Libraries and mobile libraries will have their budgets cut.
- The household waste consultation response was overwhelming and the conclusions will be delayed as the whole PFI contract is being investigated.
- The annual gully cleaning schedules have been sent out to the Parish Councils. If any have been missed or not cleaned effectively then John Clark should be informed.

Cllrs Barrett and Hales reported on the closure of Southwell Court Care Home in Melbourn. Three weeks ago on a Wednesday the residents and staff were told that home was to be closed within three months. A meeting was called on the Friday and the residents and families were told they would be rehoused somewhere in South Cambridgeshire. The current building will be knocked down and turned in to assisted living. There has been no consultation whatsoever on this. A grant of £2.2m was given to Metropolitan to build the home initially. If the buildings were sold off then the grant should be paid back to the HCA but if the building is knocked down and rebuilt (and sold on) then the grant does not have to be paid back. Andrew Lansley has become involved but Cllrs Barrett and Hales have yet to hear back from him or his office. The Parish Council is to write to him to ask about the grants, why there was no consultation etc. The care home does service Great and Little Chishill.

13. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda

There were none.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:39.