

MINUTES OF MEETING
Great and Little Chishill Parish Council Meeting

Venue: Village Hall
Date: Wednesday 12th October 2010
Time: 7:30pm

In Attendance

Chairman:	Andrew Gardiner
Parish Councillors:	Cartwright, Scott, Erskine, Brearley, Murgatroyd, Dibblee
Clerk / Proper Officer:	Sarah Scott
County Councillor:	Susan van den Ven
District Councillors:	Val Barrett
Members of the Public:	There were none.

Actual Start Time: 7:30

1. Apologies for Absence and Reasons

Jose Hales – personal reasons – accepted.

2. To Receive Any Declaration of Interests

2.1 Councillors to declare any personal interest in any items on the agenda. There were none declared.

2.2 Councillors to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest in any items on the agenda and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during the public participation. There were none declared.

3. Public Participation

To allow up to 10 minutes for any members of the public and Councillors declaring a prejudicial interest to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted at the meeting. There was no public participation.

4. To Approve Previous Minutes of 15th September 2010

4.1 It was agreed that these were a true and accurate record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

5. To Discuss Planning Applications

The Clerk said she had been trying to obtain the status of 15 Heydon Road as it was submitted in April and it appeared there was no decision to date. She is to continue to follow this up. The Clerk also brought the Councils attention of some written complaints from parishioners about the way they had been treated by the Conservation Department; a discussion followed on planning policies / conservation policies and other examples of confusion / grievances were discussed. The Clerk to write a letter of complaint and Cllr Barrett will advise who to address this to.

ACTION

Clerk

Clerk

6. Finance

6.2 The Clerk had pre-circulated the up-to-date accounts and they are in good order. She ran through items that are due come out of the bank accounts in second half of the year which are significant (tree works, lock-up etc). She had a query over Elections and thought that the PC was due an invoice as it was an Election Year.

It was proposed by Cllr Scott and Seconded by Cllr Murgatroyd that the following invoices were paid:

G&R Verge Cutting £195, Berforts Newsletter £55.09 x 2, Playground Grant £1050, Clerks Salary £362.30.

7. Footpaths

The Parish Council is still waiting for Highways to come back regarding the offer of planings. Clerk to follow up.

Cllr Scott produced a map of Bull Meadow showing existing footpaths. He indicated that there is a possibility that the land may in the future house livestock and this could be an issue for local dog walkers. Generally the Council thought it was good that livestock might be introduced to the village.

Clerk

8. Highways

There was an overview of progress to date. Karen Lunn who has taken over from David Lines, said she could not obtain costings for the gates by the windmill for at least six weeks as she is under pressure workwise. The Clerk had pointed out that the Parish Council had been waiting since May, but there was no response forthcoming. The Clerk had written regarding the removal of New Road from the gritting schedule (as had the Chairman and Cllr van de Ven) and all were disappointed not to have received replies. A discussion took place as to if there is a Charter in place for timescales for responses to be actioned or an Ombudsman that could be contacted, as the issues of winter gritting routes and using our own resources to assist needs to be addressed urgently. The non-response is totally unacceptable. The Clerk is to contact Fowlmere School to hi-light the New Road issue. The PC are to try and raise the lack of response at the Council Meeting on Tuesday.

Clerk

Clerk

New Road and the planings - the Clerk reported that only half of the road appeared to have been completed and the planings that had been added are being washed away. She had contacted highways and they will come and inspect again, but are not planning on doing any further works.

9. Speed watch

Cllr Scott reported on activity to date, which included the Police Enforcement Van visiting the village. It showed 5% speeding through the village instead of the normal 20-25% travelling over 25mph (it was thought that cars were flashing one another as a warning). The Speed Watch statistics had proven beyond doubt that there is a problem in Chishill with speeding and the next stage was for Highways to come up with a solution or progression in technology to create a solution. The police are the enforcers and so it is not up to them to come up with a solution. Cllr van den Ven stated that the best solution is a stationary hazard as people want to avoid. A discussion followed about other solutions. Cllr Scott asked about the Audit of the road that was due to take place and queried where we were on it this. Cllr van de Ven explained the scenario around Melbourn being offered the 20mph speed limited and how it was eventually rejected. Cllr Scott will attend the Police Panel meeting next week and will again raise the concerns of the Parish.

Cllr Erskine

		ACTION
10.	Windmill The Clerk gave an overview of the current state and explained that John Bartram and his team will be making interim repairs to get the mill through Winter. The Clerk and Chairman are attending a meeting next week at County Hall to discuss the future of the windmill.	Clerk Chairman
11.	Lock-Up The Clerk has two quotes and is awaiting the third quote before sanctioning the work.	Clerk
12.	Residents at Risk Cllr Cartwright has a meeting with Claire Bruin scheduled next week and can report more after that.	Cllr Cartwright
13.	Skate Park Update Cllr Scott said that there is still no 'group' responsible for the Skate Park area. The Parish Council had asked for a committee to be formed and the Clerk read an extract from the June minutes whereby it looked like a committee was to be formed. Cllrs Erskine and Dibblee to speak with the Youth Group to see if they can form a Youth Committee to take charge of the park. There is now a hole in one the pieces of equipment that needs repairing. Cllr Dibblee said that the footballers are willing to re-erect the basketball hoop on a Wednesday and it just needs organising. Cllrs Dibblee and Erskine to speak with the Youth Group and Amanda Silvester to try and get a Youth Committee formed to take ownership of the skate park.	Cllrs Dibblee & Erskine
14	Youth Group A question of what funds were actually received from the County for the Youth Club was asked and the Clerk clarified. Any response the Parish Council needs to make with regard to the consultation of Open Access Youth Clubs needs to be submitted by the end of October. Cllr Erskine had already written and it was felt that this was sufficient. The Clerk stated that members of the Youth Group come from Barley, Fowlmere, Chrishall, Melbourn and Heydon. She did not know the precise numbers but will follow this up with Fred Smith. This is so the Clerk can write to the other villages and explain the danger of losing the Youth Group and request a donation to ensure funding for the future. A question arose of the Parish Council funding the other Youth Worker and the Clerk stated that because of the monies involved she would have a problem doing this as it would be a disproportionate use of funds in relation to other village causes and groups. A question arose as to if the Youth Worker is needed; Cllrs Dibblee and Erskine reported that it is key to the success of the Group.	Clerk
15.	Children's play area The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Youth Group about Public Liability insurance they will obtain it.	Clerk
16.	Trees on Parish Council Land There had been three surgeons out to quote for works to trees on the Plaistow, Bull Meadow and the Playing fields. Once they are all in, a decision will be made as to which works will be carried out and by which supplier.	Clerk / Cllr Scott
17.	Parish Plan Review Cllrs Scott to email out the original survey for the Council to overview it. He and the	Clerk

Clerk will draft a piece for the Newsletter calling for volunteers.

Cllr Scott

ACTION

18. County and District Councillors Reports – Discuss and Resolve

Cllr Cartwright said they had heard more in this meeting from the County and District Councillors than previously. An agenda item will be present each meeting for the District and County Councillors to report on items relevant to the Parish.

Clerk

19. Rabbit Sanctuary

The Clerk gave an overview of the recent meeting and she was pleased to report that there had been not problems or issues of late.

20. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

21. Matters for Future Consideration

Blue bins – the Clerk and Cllr Barrett to find out legal position on accepting them or not – as there were a couple of people in Hope Cottages who did not want them. Cllr Scott asked if there were smaller ones for those people with limited space.

Cllr Scott stated that it would be useful to know what is happening with Neighbour Watch and the Clerk to invite them to the next meeting.

Cllr Scott also asked if we could try again and present the vase to Mrs Buckland, by way of thank you for all her years of service, and asked how it could be facilitated – Clerk to liaise with Janet Crouch.

Cllr Brearley gave an update on the Parish Council website, this month there had been 1,400 page visits, on a single day there were 175 page visits. This averages 50 page visits a day, which are good statistics.

Clerk

Clerk

Cllr van den Ven bought the Council's attention to a Youth Services initiative that currently runs in Melbourn. It offers new mothers a drop-in service for advice on subjects such as breast feeding. She asked if the Parish Council had an opinion on it and queried if this should be under the 'health care provision' budget rather than Youth Services. Cllr Dibblee commented that she had attended a similar set-up in another county in her role as a health visitor and commented that, it was difficult establishing a balance between a social gathering and an educational service.

Cllr van de Ven also spoke about how 6th form students can obtain up to £100 a year off their annual train fares to attend sixth form college in Cambridge.

The Grit bin under the finger post in Little Chishill has somehow been tipped over. The Clerk has examined it and because it is full of grit, she needs assistance in righting it. She is to liaise with some farmers to see if they could help. – needs some machinery to move it.

Clerk

22. Next Meeting is scheduled for 15th November 2010, 7:30 in the Pavilion.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:34.