Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 19th February 2026
Great & Little Chishill

Present: Cllrs Dring, Hall, Leitch, Ridge (Chair);
Members of the public: Ruth and Robin Diblee
Minutes: A Lorenz, Parish Clerk

1 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Clements and Cllr Hatt.

2 To receive any declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest of Councillors
None received.

3 Approval of the Minutes of the January 2026 PC meeting
The minutes were approved by the meeting and subsequently signed by the PC Chair.

4 Public Participation
Robin and Ruth Diblee reminded the council members present that replacement of the existing safety mirror with a larger one had been on the PC to-do list for several months (as shown by PC meeting minutes). They expressed their frustration over the delay and asked that this safety measure be expedited.

5 Speed and Safety

1. Cllr Dring has located the replacement safety mirror in a fellow parishioner's garage; he and Cllr Ridge will attempt to change the mirrors over at the next weekend after the meeting, subject to suitable weather conditions.

2. According to County and District Cllrs, a traffic light at the Flint Cross junction with the A505 will be discussed under the 2027-28 programme of highways improvements.

3. Following on from the surgery event on 7th February, at which parishioners raised the alarm about several 'pothole hotspots,' there appears to be some movement regarding repairs. There is evidence of pothole infill on New Road. The PC expects more action by Cambridgeshire Highways once more water has drained from New Road and will monitor the situation.

Parishioners are encouraged to keep reporting potholes to Cambridgeshire Highways to keep up the pressure. Cllr Hall noted that it would also be useful to start reporting debris and mud on roads and pavements via this online reporting tool, since a combination of wet weather and building works in Heydon has created additional hazards.

6 Parish Councillor candidates, 7th May elections
All cllrs present at the meeting are willing to stand again (Cllr Ridge intends to stand down as Chair). Cllr Hall reported to the meeting that he was scheduled to have a conversation with a potential new candidate.

The Clerk has not yet received any notification or instruction from the South Cambridge electoral officer regarding the local elections. Nomination of candidates opens at the end of March.

7 Finance

1. The Clerk presented the combined finance sheets for December 2025 and January 2026. These were accepted and signed.

2. The Clerk reported that she currently comparing website and email hosting packages by government-endorsed providers with modular, self-administered options. The aim is to comply with incoming data regulation but keep the expenditure on these basic digital items as lean as possible.

The Clerk also reported to the meeting on spend to date in the financial year 2025-26 and on the probable bank balance at the end of the financial year.

8 Planning

1. 49 Barley Road planning application 25/01603/HFUL (granted in summer 2025)
   The PC has no objections to the modifications requested.
2. Plaistow tree work, 26/0090/TTCA:
   The PC's application for remedial tree work has been started by the tree surgeon.

9 Enforcement issues

Neither the PC Chair nor the Clerk have received any answer to their enquiries since the last PC meeting. The status of all local enforcement issues currently live (Rabbit Residence, North Hall Farm, Bridgefoot Farm, Barley Road) is therefore unknown.

The meeting agreed that the Clerk should follow up on her last email to the enforcement Chris Braybrook (Greater Cambridge Shared Planning), copying in Cllr Ridge and County Cllr Peter McDonald.

She will seek information on the following points:

- Status of County enquiries into the 4 sites.
- Process of serving and implementing an enforcement notice (Rabbit Residence, due late February).

10 Questions re District and County Councillors' Reports

No questions were raised.

11 War Memorial, repairs

The meeting discussed several options for sprucing up the war memorial enclosure. Since remodelling and repainting the gate is likely to incur prohibitively high costs, the PC meeting adopted and alternative solution. The plan is to remove the gate in its entirely but leave the decorative metal chains on either side intact, making for a more open access to the war memorial.

The next step is an informal inspection to see what would be needed to remove all hinges and brackets from the supporting brickwork.

12 Notices and matters for the next agenda

- Grant application by the playground project
- All four local planning enforcement sites
- Co-option of councillors/ candidates for PC

These minutes have been approved as a true account of the Parish Council meeting held 19th February 2026.

Signature: Date: 19th March 2026

John Ridge, Chair of the Parish Council