

# Chesterton Community Association

Registered Charity No. 1139163

[www.chestertoncommunityassociation.org.uk](http://www.chestertoncommunityassociation.org.uk)

## Minutes of the AGM held at 7.00 pm at St Andrews Hall on Friday 29 September 2012

1. Present: Clare Blair, Michael Bond, Clive Brown, Lisa Bucholz, Zoe Conway Morris, Val Cutting, Ila Chandavarkar, Carolyn Gohler, Richard Johnson, Ken Turner, Nicky Morrison, Ginny Morrow, June New, Alice Zeitlyn.
2. Apologies: Tim Anderson, Ruth Jones, Diana Kazemi, Ian Manning, Ian Nimmo-Smith, Mike Todd-Jones, Tim Ward, Eleanor Whalley.
3. Welcome and Chairs Report.  
VC welcomed all to the AGM and outlined current projects:
  - **Village Sign.** A competition had been held across Chesterton for potential ideas and 142 entries had been received of which 134 had come from the Shirley Primary School. Winners certificates had been presented on 14 March 2012. A local artist was currently working on taking the winning ideas forward. A potential location had been identified but suggestions were also welcome from the community.
  - **Taster Evenings.** Following on from the taster evening on 8 March 2012, further evenings planned were an art and craft event on 16 November 2012, martial skills on 25 January 2013 and a relaxation and meditation evening on 15 March 2013. All events would showcase local groups.
  - **Chesterton News.** This Community Newsletter was launched through a successful community steering group including local churches and first published in December 2011. Thanks were given to the deliverers.
  - **Chesterton Festival.** CCA worked closely with the Chesterton Festival Steering Group on the successful annual Festival events.
  - **Libraries.** CCA works closely with the Friends of Milton Road Library including exploring options for greater involvement in the building management.
  - **Website.** There was a need for a volunteer to take on management of the website.
  - **Recreational Facilities.** It was noted that little progress had been made on improvements to local facilities.
  - **A Year in Chesterton Photography Project.** Running from 1 May 2012 – 30 April 2013, VC and KT were working with TA Camera Club and volunteers to produce a DVD with narrative and music.
4. Treasurers Report  
MB outlined the current position, which was healthy overall. He particularly noted the following.
  - **CCA general income.** CCA had been seed funded by a private donation but would now need to be self-funding.

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- **Grants.** A Cambridge City Council grant application for the meetings programme had been successful. Some monies from an earlier grant had been returned to Cambridge City Council as capacity to spend it had been limited. MB noted that CCA preferred to use the monies to benefit Chesterton rather than return it.
- **Chesterton News.** Originally funded through grants from various sources including the City Council and Hundred Houses, it was now generating income from advertising and it was hoped that its growing success would minimise the need for grants.

### 5. Election of Officers for 2012- 2013

- **Treasurer.** Michael Bond was elected as Treasurer.
- **Secretary.** Clare Blair was elected as Secretary
- **Chair.** Val Cutting was elected as Chair.

### 6. Close of Meeting

VC thanked all for attending. The Forum on Open Spaces across Chesterton would follow with Councillor Rod Cantrill, Executive Councillor for Art, Sport and Public Spaces, as the guest speaker.

VC also suggested any resident could contribute to the Year in Chesterton Photography project and photographs of Chesterton Festival or of the Olympics and Paralympics would be particularly welcomed.

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## Minutes of the Annual Forum held at 7.45 pm at St Andrews Hall on Friday 29 September 2012-10-01

### 1. Welcome and Introduction by the Chair

VC welcomed attendees and the guest speaker to the Forum meeting following the AGM. She noted the importance of open spaces and recreational facilities within Chesterton.

### 2. Guest Speaker. Rod Cantrill, Executive Councillor for Art, Sport and Public Places at Cambridge City Council.

Cllr Cantrill welcomed the opportunity to discuss with residents planned changes to how developer contributions would be allocated and spent in the City. He noted this included developer contributions for the public realm, indoor and outdoor sport, public art, open space and community facilities.

He noted the following:

- The City Council's approach to spending developer contributions. Public space was critical component for residents, especially in a growing City. There was limited open space in East and West Chesterton. The Council's role was to champion and be creative in agreeing additional facilities. He noted that the Council had been good at promising but poor on delivering.
- Devolution of funding to an area committee level. In future developer contributions would be devolved to each area committee to determine local priorities for spending. Where applications were determined by the main planning committee, 50% would be retained for city-wide projects.
- It was noted that the benefits of devolution would be transparency and accountability for the funding and project delivery, with reports on delivery available at every area committee meeting.
- Existing projects would run parallel with newly prioritised projects until completion. Cllr Cantrill noted he would also be happy to set up a local steering group of residents, members and officers and that this could give further confidence and accountability in the new delivery system.
- Cllr Cantrill summarised that the new system would provide local residents with clarity in regard to developer contributions collected and projects delivered through it.

### 3. Questions were invited from those present and covered the following:

- What existing projects are there? Cllr Cantrill noted there were outstanding projects to be delivered on the Vie play area and frontage site, Pyes Pitch and other play areas across Chesterton. He also noted a

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forthcoming meeting on developing new projects which residents could attend.

- How could the City Council motivate residents suffering from consultation fatigue? There was a plethora of meetings recently. Cllr Cantrill agreed this was an issue though recent meetings in other areas had seen c 30 residents in attendance which was considered to be useful.
- Chesterton Eagles needed better facilities. Cllr Cantrill agreed this could be considered. It was noted that improved local football facilities were part of a current undelivered project.
- In regard to delivery how would the City Council address the serious credibility gap given current undelivered projects? A lengthy discussion followed with many attendees addressing specific projects. Cllr Cantrill acknowledged that failure to deliver was disappointing. He agreed to explore the option of making a capital bid in the next Cambridge City Budget cycle discussions for delivery of the Logans Meadow LNR extension. He also undertook to consider how to best to deliver the agreed cricket and football improvements for Pyes Pitch. It was noted that the failure to communicate with residents on delays or through any City process was disappointing. He expected the new system to improve accountability.
- How would the new system improve delivery? Cllr Cantrill acknowledged the need for increased resource with the delivery teams. He noted that project managers would be responsible and accountable for delivery of individual projects and that previously the delivery had been through multiple officer teams leading to a failure to manage comprehensively.
- Would the Community Infrastructure Levy which would replace S106 mean less local funding was available for locally agreed projects? Cllr Cantrill noted the new system would facilitate discussions with developers on commuted sums. He also noted his preference was always for onsite provision rather than commuted sums.
- The recently resubmitted Cambridge City Football ground application was raised. The previous application had caused consternation in regard to the commuted sums as no discussions with local groups had taken place in regard to use of potential significant commuted sums. Cllr Cantrill undertook to see what discussions had been held internally with officers for the present application. Concern was expressed that the application had been submitted with little local discussion again though the developers had approached Old Chesterton Residents Association recently. It was noted that the new system will result in 50% of any commuted sum going to the city-wide developer contribution funding stream.
- Cllr Cantrill again suggested a local steering group might aid consultation and delivery of projects.

The Chair thanked Cllr Cantrill for his attendance and closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.