



Maplestead Magna Carta

Award-Winning Newsletter of Great Maplestead Parish Council

Data Protection – Making Sure Your Information’s Safe...

Age of Consent – by New Order...

A new order - the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) – takes legal effect in the UK from 25th May 2018.

This Regulation replaces previous law (the **Data Protection Act 1998**), giving you more rights and additional protection with regard to how your personal data is used by organisations.

• GDPR’s Basic Principles:

These are that your personal information should:

- be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently.
- only be used for a **specific purpose** that you have been made aware of, and for no other purpose without further consent.
- be **adequate, relevant and limited**: i.e. only the minimum amount of personal data should be kept for the specific purposes mentioned.
- be **accurate** and where necessary **kept up to date**.
- **not be stored for longer than is necessary**, and that the storage used be safe and secure.
- be used in a way that ensures **appropriate security and protection**.

• GDPR’s Key Changes:

These concern how your **consent is obtained**: you must now explicitly **'opt in'** to allow your personal data to be used, and it must be made clear to you **for what purpose** this information is required.

You will also enjoy **new rights**, such as access to your data, portability and the right to be forgotten; your data **must only be used for the purpose for which it was provided** – and be deleted when it is no longer needed for that purpose.

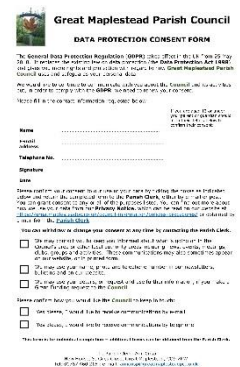
What the Council must do now ...

As a publically-accountable body that uses and safeguards parishioners’ personal data in order to operate and meet its statutory obligations, **Great Maplestead Parish Council** must comply with the **GDPR’s** principles or face heavy penalties.

Data the **Council** holds about you could be in either electronic or hard-copy form; they could include your name, postal and e-mail addresses, photos or phone numbers – in effect, any information that you’ve provided for either a specific purpose or which could otherwise be used to identify you.

To ensure **GDPR** compliance, the **Council** must now **seek new consents to use your data**, and **keep safe records** of them. In most cases, this will just mean refreshing information that you have already provided – but, in some cases, it may mean gathering new information (e.g.: a contact phone number if you are organising an event listed on the **Council’s** website).

This will be done by issuing a **Data Protection Consent Form** to each household in the Parish, either by hand with a printed copy of this newsletter, or electronically. **Each parishioner needs to provide their individual consent**, so you may need to copy the form to ensure that the required consents are properly submitted to the **Parish Clerk** before the **25th May**.



Precise information about how the Council may use your data is in its Privacy Notice at <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/council-information/policies-procedures/>. A hard copy of this document may be obtained from the **Parish Clerk** on request.

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The Lost Library of the Maplesteads

The Maplesteads’ Mobile Library service has been withdrawn, with immediate effect.

As was foreseen in **MMC** Issue 2 (October 2015) this was due to a steady decline in parishioners patronising the service.



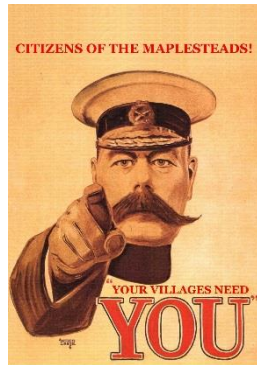
The **Public Consultation** reviewing the Library Service provision across Essex – carried out at the end of 2017 – showed that less than one person a fortnight in the Maplesteads was using the mobile library, so now it is lost forever...

Celebrating a Centenary

In November the Maplesteads will jointly be celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War 1, as part of a national commemoration.

The organisers are currently looking for people from across both Parishes to participate in this event; a leaflet describing what's involved, and asking for volunteers, was distributed to every household in the **April Parish Magazine**.

To find out more, or to offer to take part in what will be a memorable event, please contact **Martin Elms**: martinelms.1@gmail.com or tel: 01787 461 421



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Attack of the Bee Killers...

This spring sees the threat of a countrywide invasion by Asian Hornets.

This non-native species spread through France in the 2000s; its first UK sighting was in 2014.



Otherwise known as Yellow-legged Hornets, these insects can be introduced through imported plants, cut flowers or in/on untreated timber – they are also thought to have flown across the Channel.

Asian Hornets are highly aggressive predators of native insects and pose **a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators**. They nest in trees and man-made structures and feed on fruit and flowers.

People are being cautioned not to disturb active nests but to notify, with photos if possible, **Asian Hornet Watch** at alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

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Littering's Fine...

From the beginning of April local authorities have been given powers to nearly double their maximum fine for dropping litter.

The maximum fixed penalty goes up from £80 to £150, and **Braintree District's** standard default penalty increases from £75 to £100; in April 2019 the minimum penalty increases to £65.

Evidence is needed to refer cases of littering to the police – so please e-mail **Martin Elms** with the registration numbers of suspicious cars and times, locations and photos if possible.

Latest Planning News

The **Council** noted the following planning decisions at its meeting on 28th March:

Application Decisions:

- + **17/02148/LBC** St Giles Cottage, Lucking St. Removal of rear lean-to part glazed, part corrugated cement based sheet roof covering and provision of natural grey slate and two conservation roof lights, red clay terracotta chimney pot and cowl and removal of plaster beneath existing opening. **Granted 19/01/18**
- + **17/02226/FUL** Monks Haven, Gestingthorpe Road. Erection of single storey rear extension. **Granted 08/02/18**

There were no **Applications Received**.

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Forthcoming Events

During the next few months there are a number of events at the Village Hall* that you may wish to note for your diary:

- + **Thursday Mornings* Pilates** – weekly sessions for men/women of all ages/fitness levels. **9.30-10.30am & 10.45-11.45am**. Cost **£40** for **5 classes** (or **£5** for the first one). Call Catherine Pawsey (07814 459 683) for details.
- + **Weds 18th Apr* Annual Parish Assembly** - starts **7.30pm**. An informal meeting for village organisations and groups to report their past year's activities and promote future events.
- + **Sat 6th – Sun 7th May* Sixth Annual Great Maplestead Beer Festival** – open **1.00pm to midnight** (Sat); **12.00 noon to 5.00pm** (Sun). Sample a wide range of local beers and ciders. For more information see the '**Events**' page on the **Parish Council** website.
- + **Sun 10th Jun: Boules** – on the **Playing Field**. An *alfresco* afternoon with a French flavour. Starts: **2.00pm**/Cost: **£2 per player**. Bring your own picnic/chairs.
- + **Friday Evenings from 15th June – 31st Aug: Boules** – on the **Playing Field**. Make the most of those warm summer nights! Starts around: **6.30pm**. B-y-o drinks, snacks & chairs.

Much more information can be found on the '**Events**' page of the **Parish Council** website.

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Contacting the Council

Any comments, requests or correspondence should initially be made to the Parish Clerk:

**Ann Crisp, New House, St Giles Close
Great Maplestead, CO9 2RW**

Tel: 01787 460 216 (4-6pm Mon-Thurs)

E-mail: anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk

Website: <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk>