



Maplestead Magna Carta

The Official Newsletter of Great Maplestead Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan – the Parish needs you...

Help us plan for the future...

The **Localism Act (2011)** allows a **Parish Council** or **neighbourhood committee** to establish policies to meet local planning needs and aspirations, and formulate them into a **Neighbourhood Development Plan**.

Such policies may cover:

- ❖ specific neighbourhood planning objectives
- ❖ the broader planning context – transport connections, local facilities and services
- ❖ important local projects and infrastructure priorities
- ❖ management of – or site-specific concerns about – housing, economic development and the environment
- ❖ changes to planning designations

To ensure parishioners are fully involved in any development decisions affecting the future of **Great Maplestead**, the **Council** is looking for **volunteers to sit on a committee** which will prepare and produce our **Neighbourhood Plan**.

The purpose of the **Plan** will be to assess the physical assets of the village, set out what should be protected and determine areas where future development could take place.

The **Plan** document will include:

- ❖ an audit of land use and infrastructure
- ❖ views and opinions about local aspirations and needs for conservation and development
- ❖ objectives and infrastructure priorities
- ❖ a map outlining open spaces of local importance, assets of community value and locations for development

Once completed, the document will become part of **BDC's Local Plan** and might also result in the production of a **Neighbourhood Development Order**, which (subject to independent scrutiny, and the support of a local referendum) would set out development proposals without the need to seek separate planning permissions.

Producing the **Plan** will enable the committee to highlight local issues and priorities and develop a vision for the future of **Great Maplestead**.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Neighbourhood Plan committee and being an active contributor to this very important project, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Watch out for the Wig-Wags

In Issue 3 it was reported that, to improve safety and reduce potential accident risks, a full-time 20mph limit was going to be introduced around the School.

Unfortunately, after a number of implementation dates had been promised and not met, **EC** Highways informed the **Council** that the work could not be done "*as the road layout and speed limit distance specification do not meet criteria*".



An alternative solution has now been proposed – to install flashing wig-wag signs (left) on the three approach roads to the School, to replace the existing School signs.

The new signs will display an **advisory 20mph limit** when the lights flash – these will be activated by automatic timer for an hour each weekday morning and evening, during pick-up and drop-off times. The speed limit will revert to 30mph at all other times.

It is hoped that these signs will be in place for the start of the autumn term.

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Winning ways...

Great Maplestead recently won an Award in the **2016 Essex Village of the Year Competition**, promoted by the **Rural Community Council of Essex**.



The award was in Class 5 – the category for villages of 400 inhabitants or fewer.

The Certificate (left) was presented to the **Parish Council**, along with a cheque for **£150**, at the **RCCE AGM** held at Chelmsford City Racecourse on 6th July 2016.

Size matters

As part of the Council's on-going policy of improving amenities within the village, consideration is being given to extending the Playing Field car park.

It has become increasingly clear that the existing parking provision at the field is now inadequate, with insufficient space, restricted parking access and limited manoeuvring room.



The proposal is to lengthen the car park from 20m to 37m and widen it from 13m to 17m...



...and widen the entrance from 4.5m to 6.5m.

These changes will allow for two rows of parked cars – with space between them to facilitate parking easily – and help improve entry and exit.

It is also hoped that the larger car park will reduce dangerous on-street parking during School pick-up and drop-off times and provide improved access to the Bottle Bank.

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Latest Planning News

The Parish Council considered the following Applications at its last Meeting:

- ✚ **16/00618/ELD** For a lawful development certificate in respect of property known as *The Treehouse*, used as a single dwelling for more than 4 years. **The Treehouse**, Hulls Mill Farm.
Permitted 14/06/16

It was agreed that a letter objecting to this decision would be submitted to **BDC**, on the basis that it provides retrospective approval, by default, for the permanent dwelling on this site, built in contravention of the original application.

- ✚ **16/00853/FUL** Application for a proposed new roof to dwelling, to incorporate 2 bedrooms & a bathroom, with 3 dormers to the front elevation and 1 to the rear. **Pentire**, Church Street.
- ✚ **16/01031/FUL** Erection of a one-and-a-half storey 4 bedroom property. **Buttercups Cottage** (next to Mount View), Church Street.

Latest Planning News (contd.)

It was agreed that the response to these should be "No objections raised, no comment".

See other responses & comments by clicking on: http://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200225/search_and_track_planning_applications, then clicking on 'View Current Applications', typing in the **planning references** and opening the files.

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Local Plan Consultation

A series of Public Exhibitions are taking place in the district until the end of July...

...inviting comments on the **Local Plan** about proposed future homes and growth in the area.

Details of the **Plan**, and the dates/venues are at: https://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200230/planning_policy/701/new_local_plan/2

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Forthcoming Events

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

- ✚ **Sat 16th/Sun 17th July Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'** – by the **Sudbury Dramatic Society** in the garden of **Magpies**, Church Street. Entry from **1.00pm**; Performances start **2.00pm** both days. Tickets **£10** online/**£15** on the gate. Teas and strawberries on sale during the interval.
- ✚ **Thurs 28th July Maplestead Meets on the Beach** – a fun day out for all the family at **East Terrace Beach**, Walton-on-the-Naze. Contact Phillipa Mills (01787 460 578) or Paula Sillett (01787 462 253)
- ✚ **Sat 3rd September* Maplesteads' Flower Show** – for **schedule and show** details contact Ian Johnson (01787 461 109).
- ✚ **Sat 10 September* Jumble Sale** + raffle and refreshments. Opens **3.00pm**, admission **20p**. Contributions gratefully received by Doreen Faulks (01787 460 727 - also local collections) and Diane Smith (01787 473 300).

Further details and clickable links to more information about these, and other events, can be found on the Parish Council website.

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Contacting the Council

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

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