**GREAT MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

 **Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 22nd June 2016**

**Present C**llr.D.Turner(Chairman).Cllr.I.Johnson.Cllr.S.Harris.Cllr.M.Elms.Cllr.J.Newton Mrs. A. Crisp – Clerk. Members of the Public – 9.

**MINUTES**

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** Cllr.P.Haylock & Cllr.P.Maile
2. **Minutes of previous meeting –**The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 11th May 2016, were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr.Harris, seconded Cllr.Newton. The minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting held on 24th May 2016 were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting.Proposed by Cllr.Elms, seconded by Cllr.Harris.
3. **Declarations of Interest** Item 10.2 16/00853/FUL – Cllrs.Turner, Elms, Harris, Newton & Johnson declared an NPI as the applicant is known to them via the Task Force and other village events.
4. **County and District Matters** *–* Dist*.*Cllr.J O’Reilly-Cicconi provided a brief summary of the continued Local Plan process. MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC Questions were invited. Cllr.Johnson explained dissatisfaction with BDC management of historic applications reference 16/00618/ELD the Treehouse, Hulls Mill. Cllr.O’Reilly-Cicconi recommended a complaint letter is sent. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
5. **Officers Reports & Information Exchange –** *No business decisions may be made.*

**Cllr.Elms – Highways** – pond drainage at Purls Hill has been repaired. Road scraping in Mill Lane has taken place. A surface water assessment survey is due to be done by Essex CC Highways. The new pipework for Lucking St drainage is still on ECC plan. The pothole on corner of Monks Lodge Rd/Gestingthorpe Rd has been reported along with flooding problems outside Brook Cottage in Lucking St. The warning hazard lights at the school are now likely in Q3 2016 it had been hoped these would be in place for the start of Autumn term, but now unlikely. It was agreed a letter would be sent to ECC expressing dissatisfaction at time taken, and concerns re safety when dark nights return. **Task Force** – litter pick undertaken in May, thanks to Mary Elms for sorting all the litter. **Bottle Banks** – overloaded after bank holiday weekend. BDC were contacted for an extra collection.

**Cllr.Harris – Website –** the past events page is up to date and still in process of uploading archived material. **Newsletter –** the special edition Magana Carta on fly tipping was delivered to every household. The next scheduled edition will be circulated w/c 11th July. **Footpaths** – the SLA with Essex CC for maintenance is now in place and the money has been made available. A contractor needs to be sourced for the “heavier” footpath clearance, although funds minimal so will be restricted on what may be achieved. Cllr. Harris has attended a 2 day course covering health and safety and correct use of strimmers and cutting equipment. Paths still to be cleared are beside St Mary’s Wall, beside Chiffneys and the far end of the footpath leading towards Chiffneys from the village hall track. Recent attempts to clear paths have been thwarted by adverse weather.

**Cllr.Newton – Village Playing Field** – Grateful to the school for organising the grass cutting but would prefer for grass to be cut when dry to avoid unnecessary build-up of cut grass. Clerk to speak to school.

**Cllr.Johnson – Neighbourhood Watch** – Many recent burglaries have been via patio doors which have not been locked correctly. A local meeting scheduled with Chief Police Commissioner was cancelled.

**Cllr.Turner – Playground Equipment** – To be considered as part of the project to increase the car park at the village playing field. Cllr.Turner will be attending a Volunteer Playground Inspection course on 30th June. Attended recent BDC Local Plan meeting which lasted over 6 hours, concern regarding concentration levels and quality of decisions.

1. **Public question time** MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

Comment – Support idea of a Neighbourhood Plan and Mrs Schwier has volunteered to join any future Working Party addressing the subject.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

1. **Progress Updates** – *Clerk provided an update on action points from 11th & 24th May Meetings*
* The request to the Village Hall Committee requesting consideration of the relocation of bottle banks to land beside the village hall was discussed at a meeting on 21st June. Cllr.Newton advised that the Committee were not attracted to the suggestion of relocation.
* Cllr.& Mrs Harris had met with judges for RCCE Best Kept Village Competition but we have not heard any further. Winners will be announced at the RCCE AGM 6th July, which Cllr.Harris will attend.
* The Council’s insurance had been renewed at a premium of £266.06, in line with previous approval.

**8. Business Items**

8.1 **BDC Draft Housing Strategy Consultation** – Cllr.Turner proposed he draft a response, for prior circulation to all Councillors. Much of the content is irrelevant to Great Maplestead but there are areas such as affordable housing which have relevance.Seconded Cllr.Elms. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

8.2 **Dog Waste Bin Church Street –** Carried forward from May Annual meeting, to reconsider safety of current site and possible re-location. Cllr.Elms proposed the bin be removed. Cllr.Turner counter-proposed that the bin is re-located to the footpath in Gestingthorpe Rd, almost opposite Little Chelmshoe, as there is a dog friendly b&b operating at that site. Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour unanimous. Cllr.Elms to speak to landowner and owners of Little Chelmshoe.

8.3 **Planning Committee –** To reconsider need and formation of Planning Committee. Cllr.Turner proposed the existing arrangement for all Planning matters to be discussed by full council either at scheduled or EOM meetings, seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – unanimous.

8.4 **Extension of Car Park at Village Playing Field –** Cllr.Elms circulated proposals to extend size from 20.1 metres long x 12.6 metres deep to 37 metres x 17 metres. The entrance would also be widened from 4.5 metres to 6.5 metres. The proposition is in line with ECC preferred specifications. 3 quotes had been obtained. Cllr.Elms proposed extension proceed and the quote of £6230.00 be sent to BDC for approval and release of S106 monies. Seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

8.5 **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr.Turner proposed that the village should be invited to consider the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – Unanimous. Cllr.Turner to attend a briefing session at the RCCE on 2nd July and report back.

**9. Financial Report**

**9.1 Current bank balances:-**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Current account: | £67.70  |  | Reserve account: | £ 5000.01 |

**9.2 Noting of sums received:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NWB Interest Paid Apr-May | 31p |
| BACS – BDC Precept 2016/17 1st InstalmentBACS – BDC Local Support Grant 2016/17BACS – BDC Council Tax 2015/16 One off paymentBACS – HMR&C VAT Refund | 2041.00968.0042.00208.99 |

**9.3 Ratification of payments made:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| None |  |

 **Payment(s) to be made requiring approval:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cheque – Chris Mortimer Landscapes – Spring Verge Cut | 600.00 |

**9.4 Other Finance matters:-**

 **Clerk Salary, Changes to National Pay Scales –** To adopt revised level of £8.717 per

 hour.

 **Electric** – new rates to be applied by E-ON wef 1st July 2016, increase from 12.40p per kw

 to 14.40p per kw.

**10. Planning**

10.1 **Application Decisions**

 *16/00618/ELD – The Treehouse, Hulls Mill Farm, Hulls Mill Lane. Application for lawful development certificate in respect of property known as The Treehouse, for use as a single dwelling for more than 4 years.* Granted 14 16 2016. Cllr.Turner proposed that a letter of complaint would be sent to BDC regarding the historic handling of applications and lack of enforcement at this site.Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

10.2 **Applications Received**

 *16/00853/FUL – Pentire, Church Street. Application for proposed new roof dwelling to incorporate 2 bedrooms and bathroom, including 3 dormers to the front elevation and one to rear. Cllr.Elms proposed response to support application, which conforms to VDS and will enhance existing property. Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour - Unanimous*

 *16/01031/FUL – Buttercups Cottage, Church Street. Erection of one and a half storey 4 bedroom property. Cllr.Turner proposed response no comments or objections. Seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – Unanimous.*

**11. Correspondence – *For notification***

11.1 **ECC Winter Salt Bag Scheme –** Launched for 2016/17. No additional supplies required.

11.2 **Parishioner Correspondence**  - Letter from Mrs Hennessey in response to Parish Council submissions regarding GRMA259 in the BDC Local Plan.

11.3 **Parishioner Correspondence -** Problems with dogs mess, left behind on grass verge along Monks Lodge Road, reported to BDC.

11.4 **BDC New Local Plan 2033 Consultation** – Notification of public seminars, full details on noticeboards and parish council website.

**12. Content for E-newsletter** - reminder re litter/bottle banks; school warning lights; Local Plan public viewing dates; bench sponsorship for village playing field; invite to volunteers for Neighbourhood Plan

**13. Items for the Next Agenda**

 None

**14. Date of next meeting**: **17th August 2016** **at 7.30pm**

 Meeting closed 9.05pm **Signed……TRUE COPY………………**  **Dated** 17th August 2016