**GREAT MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd November 2016**

**Present C**llr.D.Turner (Chairman).Cllr.I.Johnson.Cllr.S.Harris.Cllr.J.Newton.Cllr.P.Haylock.Mrs.

A.Crisp – Clerk. Members of the Public – 4.

**County & District Attendees:** None

**MINUTES**

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** Cllr.M.Elms, on holiday. Cllr.P.Maile work commitments.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting –**The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th October 2016, were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr.Harris, seconded Cllr.Johnson.
3. **Declarations of Interest** None.
4. **County and District Matters** *–* Cty.Cllr Finch pre-circulated an update on county matters*.*
5. **Officers Reports & Information Exchange –** *No business decisions may be made.*

**Cllr.Turner –Councillor Training** – The recent EALC group training session was helpful. Thanks extended to Cllr.Haylock for hosting. **Cllr.Newton** – Noted a number of local roads highlighted for roadworks. Cllr.Harris confirmed there is a plan for resurfacing of many roads in and around the parish, ECC Highways should provide more specific details 14 days before work commences. Details will be posted on the parish council website as and when received.

**Cllr.Harris – Website –** Details of proposed road sweeping dates are on the website. **Footpaths** – The footpath marker post at the top of the steps leading down from Church Field has been replaced.

**Cllr.Johnson –Transport** – Following the intervention of Cty.Cllr.Finch the service provided by Regal Busways has improved. **Neighbourhood Watch** A reminder for extra vigilance in securing property during dark nights and over the Christmas period.

**Cllr.Haylock – Planning** – See Agenda item 10.

1. **Public question time** Members of the public were invited to ask questions.

Q. Noise from the bottle banks is disturbing to nearby neighbours in Monks Ley Close, can their location and need be reconsidered? Cllr.Turner explained that a review of the bottle banks had taken place within past 6 months, there was a clearly identifiable need, supported by the parish and the current location is the only suitable and available site. Consideration had been given to exact position and they had been moved away from property boundary whilst ensuring they are still accessible. A reminder would be included within the newsletter regarding appropriate times of use.

Q. Disturbance and “anti-social” behaviour of night-time visitors to the car park was disturbing to nearby neighbours in Monks Ley Close, would the council consider some sort of barrier, easily removable by parishioners but to deter unwanted visitors? The council advised that any concerns regarding anti-social behaviour should be reported directly to the Police. Any other concerns should be raised with members of the council, at the time they are identified (within reasonable hours). The council agreed to consider whether a barrier or another option would be appropriate – agenda item for next meeting.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

1. **Progress Updates** – *Clerk provided an update on action points from 16th October Meeting*

The Clerk & Cllr.Johnson had attended the planning information session for Parish Councils hosted by Holmes & Hills Solicitors on 2nd November. Enquiries had been made to BT regarding the possible adoption of the BT payphone kiosk in the village, but the £1 adoption scheme only applies to the old red Heritage phone kiosks.

**8. Business Items**

8.1  *None tabled or carried forward*

**9. Financial Report**

**9.1 Current bank balances:-**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Current account: | £ | 97.77 | Reserve account: | £ 3771.36 |

**9.2 Noting of sums received:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NWB Interest Paid Aug - Sep | .20p |
| BACS – BDC S106 Money for Car Park Extension | 6230.00 |

**9.3 Ratification of payments made:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cheque – EALC – Council Training Session, Balance to Clear (original fee  £272.15 offset by £250 Training Award from 2013) | 22.15 |
| Cheque – Information Commissioner – Annual Data Protection License  Cheque – Trustees of Great Maplestead Village Hall (hall hire Jun-Nov 2016)  Cheque – Mortimer Contracts Limited – Autumn Verge Cut  DD – E-ON Electricity Quarterly Street Lighting | 35.00  52.00  600.00  18.64 |

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

None

**9.4 Other Finance matters:-**

**Local Support Grant –** Breakdown received from BDC detailing reduction in LSG over next 3 years - 2017/18 £645, 2018/19 £322 & 2019/20 £0. It is anticipated that a small reimbursement from the 2015/16 Council Tax Collection will be paid to the parish of £78.00.

**Planning**

**10.1** **Application Decisions**

10.2.1 *16/01307/FUL April Cottage, Monks Lodge Road. Proposed new access driveway to serve*

*High View. Granted 13/10/16*

10.2.2 *16/00270/TPO – Eastcote, Church Street. To carry out works on a tree affected by a TPO*

*6/88. Remove lower 4 branches and new growth at bottom of tree, reduce tree by 5*

*metres to the sides and 10 metres on top of tree. Granted 11.11.16*

10.2.3 *16/01529/FUL Springwells, Lucking Street. Creation of a separate access for Springwells. Granted. It was noted this decision was received after publication of the meeting agenda.*

**10.2 Applications Received**

*It was noted that application 16/01932/FUL Long Fen, Church Street had been received after publication of the meeting agenda.*

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

11.1 **Essex County Council Highways, School Warning Wig-Wag Lights** – Cty.Cllr.Finch has been chasing on behalf of the parish, but an installation date is still to be confirmed.

11.2 **Braintree Council Street Cleaning –** Street sweeping in Great Maplestead is scheduled for 14th December 2016, 20th March 2017, 23rd June 2017 & 25th September 2017.

11.3 **BT Community Fibre Partnerships** – Letter and information pack received from BT offering a part grant funded scheme. The Clerk has made further enquiries but is yet to receive a response.

11.4 **Parishioner Correspondence Regarding Bottle Banks** As discussed under Agenda Item 6.

**12. Content for E-newsletter** - Footpath maintenance work; road sweeping dates; bottle banks; planning applications and any relevant County/District news.

**13. Items for the Next Agenda**

Consider barrier/ideas for addressing unwanted visitors to village playing field car park at night

**14. Date of next meeting**: **11th January 2017** **at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed 8.20pm **Signed ……TRUE COPY…………**  **Dated** 11th January 2017