

# MINUTES

## GREAT MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 Present** Cllr.M.Elms (Chairman). Cllr.S.Last.Cllr.P.Haylock.Cllr.I.Johnson.Cllr.J.Newton. Cllr.Maile Mrs.A.Crisp – Clerk. Members of the Public – 2.

**1. Apologies and reasons for absence** - Cllr.S.Harris–self-isolation.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting** – The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr.Last, seconded by Cllr.Haylock.

**3. Declarations of Interest** Cllr.Newton – Agenda item 10.2 21/03072/COUPA Byham Hall – Non-Pecuniary Interest owns neighbouring land. Cllr.Newton advised he would not speak or Vote.

**4. County and District Matters** –

**District** – BDC have received awards for the good care of district playing fields. Operations staff have worked hard to maintain during increased usage over past 18 months.

November 20<sup>th</sup> - Braintree Christmas lights switch on; Pedestrianisation and work at Victoria Square is progressing; Up to 150 new jobs being created from I-Construct project at Springfield Industrial Estate; The Gridserve forecourt at the Horizon 120 site is proving popular; Budget will be announced shortly; Councillors Community grant must be spent by end of February

2000 drains have been cleared in last month and 288 street lights replaced, all thanks to on-line reporting by residents and councils.

*Cllr.Elms raised a query regarding drains in the parish a large number of which have not been cleared and highlighting those requiring specific attention (lower Church Street).Cllr.Schwier asked that details are forwarded to him in writing.*

**County** – VAZ/SID speed advisory equipment is now available for purchase from ECC, equipment can be shared among parishes to help spread cost; ECC is updating 1000 street lights per week with LED bulbs saving energy & cost on maintenance; ECC road gritters can be followed via Twitter to see when and where they are active; Updates to Public Rights of Way can now be viewed on-line so users can be aware of any work/closures; Survey being undertaken in collaboration with Anglia Ruskin University regarding drivers interaction with cyclists on roads.

**5. Officers Reports & Information Exchange** –

**Cllr.Elms – Task Force** – Individual litter picks to continue until next Spring

**Cllr.Haylock**- To report on agenda item 10 Planning

**Cllr.Newton**- The roadside ditch opposite The Forge will be cleared shortly to help drainage.

**Cllr.Johnson** – Advisory warnings regarding usual winter thefts from sheds and of heating oil

**Cllr.Maile** – Has applied for some free winter bulbs from ECC

*Cllr.Harris (absent from meeting) pre-circulated his report ahead of the meeting. The full report may be viewed under Officer Reports on the parish council website.*

**6. Public question time**

Q. With regards to land on corner or Sudbury/Hedingham Road & Monks Lodge Road subject to High Court injunction, who is responsible for enforcement of the injunction, if appropriate, after the deadline date of 12 January 2022? If it is BDC Enforcement do they have resource and power to take action?

*County & District Councillor Schwier arrived at this time and addressed the question*

The Clerk is to write to Cllr.Schwier who will seek clarification from BDC

*County & District Councillor Schwier left the meeting*

**7. Progress Updates** – The Clerk confirmed that all actions from the September meeting were complete. The DofE volunteer who has been litter picking in the village during the past 3 months has now completed their task. Thanks extended for their commitment. The council's VAT reclaim account is now reactivated following problems at HMRC during 2020.

## **8. Business Items**

### **8.1 Village Playing Field –**

8.1.1 – Cllr.Last advised that the fundraising target has increased and realistically the amount now required to complete the entire project will be £60-65k. This is to allow for the inclusion of an accessibility pathway, which it is felt is a necessity to provide access all year round and for all field users. In addition, costs have increased due to inflationary pressure. Just over £29,000 has been raised/pledged to date. Thanks were extended to the Trustees of Great Maplestead Village Hall for their donation of £10k. The quiz night raised £518 and further fundraising events are being planned. Awaiting a response to the CIF application. Tender document in progress.

8.1.2 – Cllr.Last proposed the council approve an application for National Lottery grant funding of £40,000.00 towards the new playground equipment, new drainage, new full access pathway & associated works. Seconded Cllr.Haylock. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

8.1.3 – Cllr.Elms proposed the council approve application for use of remaining S106 monies of £2591 towards the playing field project. Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

**8.2 Update to Open Spaces Action Plan for 2022** – Cllr.Haylock proposed the easy access pathway is added to the list of facilities covered and the installation of a new boules court is removed. Seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

## **9. Financial Report**

### **9.1 Current bank balances:-**

Current account: £62.97    Fundraising account: £14663.26    Reserve account:£10067.04

### **9.2 Noting of sums received:-**

NWB Interest Paid – Jul-Aug 2021	14p
Precept 2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment	£4034.00
Donation from Trustees Gt.Maplestead Village Hall	£10,000.00
Jade Gooding - Pilates Class funds received in error	£70.00
Donation - Proceeds from Autumn Village Walk	£75.00

### **9.3 Ratification of payments made:-**

DD E-ON Quarterly Street Lighting	£30.00
SO Mrs A Crisp – Clerks Salary Quarterly Jul-Sep	£1624.80
BACS Trustees Gt Maplestead Village Hall – Pilates class	£70.00

### **9.4 Bank Transfers made:**

From Reserve Account to Current Account	£1600.00
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### **9.5 Other**

Increase to electricity charges from 1<sup>st</sup> December up 8.40p per kWh. Alternative tariff not available for small unmetered electricity supply.

## **10. Planning**

### **10.1 Application Decisions**

*21/02513/DAC – Purls Hill Farm House, Purls Hill – discharge of conditions 3 & 4 of approved application 20/02021/HH. Granted 14 10 2021*

*21/01996/HH – Library Cottage, Monks Lodge Road – Erection of single storey rear extension with pitched roof. Granted 15 9 2021*

*21/02079/TPO – The Old Vicarage, Church Street – Group of 4 lime trees-crown lift to same height as previous work & reduce stress on lower boughs. Granted 31 8 2021*

*21/02426/T56 – Land near to Little Lodge Farm, Church Rd, Little Maplestead – Prior approval for installation of 25m high column communications mast with 3 antenna & 2 dishes. Installation of equipment cabinets & associated ancillary development.*

*Refused 22 9 2021*

21/02302/VAR – Highview, Church Street – Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of permission 15/00914/FUL. Variation would allow alterations to fenestration and replace render with brickwork and cladding. Granted 15 9 2021

## 10.2 Applications -

21/03045/FUL – Lynwood, Toldish Hall Road – Demolition of existing detached bungalow & erection of 2 residential dwellings, landscaping and associated parking. Cllr.Elms proposed the council object based on material considerations – impact on neighbouring properties, particularly Henstooth; increased traffic and potential for parking issues on narrow country lane regularly used by agricultural machinery; over-crowding of site, one property would be more in keeping with site and location. Seconded Cllr.Johnson.  
Vote in favour – Unanimous.

21/03072/COUPA – Byham Hall, Little Maplestead Road – Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (class C3) & for associated operational development – change of use to 5 residential dwellings.  
Cllr.Haylock proposed the council object due to the intense development of a building near to a listed building; access concerns where driveway meets main road as potential hazard due to bend in road; and impact on PROW 27 Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour - 2  
Vote against- 3 NOT CARRIED.

Cllr.Elms proposed the council object as the proposed new development cuts across POW 27 & the potential traffic hazard where the driveway meets the main road. Seconded Cllr.Last. Vote in favour – 3 Against -2.

21/03099/FUL – Land north of Osier Way, Sible Hedingham – Erection of 2 storey medical centre with allocated parking. Cllr.Haylock proposed the council comment that the proposals for parking do not support the size of the new medical centre, roads in the area are already congested. Seconded Cllr.Elms. Vote in favour- Unanimous.

21/03213/TPO – Limewood Church Street – Works to lime tree with TPO – Crown lift to 6 metres, removing all epicormic growth stopping at main leaders. Reduction of 3 lower growing branches by 1 metre to allow light into garden. Cllr.Haylock proposed “No comments, no objections”. Seconded Cllr.Newton. Vote in favour – Unanimous.

## 11. Correspondence – For notification

**Consultation on Essex Bus Service Improvement Plan, Enhanced Partnership Plan & Scheme** – residents invited to comment via [consultations.essex.gov.uk](https://consultations.essex.gov.uk)  
Consultation closes 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

**Parishioner Correspondence** – Complaint from 4 households regarding noise from village bottle banks. BDC Environmental Dept. advise recent noise survey did not conclude a statutory nuisance & BDC Waste Team will not make any changes to facility. Parish council response sent advising there will be no changes to existing facility which continues to be a convenient parish amenity. Noted there may be new glass waste systems, introduced by central government, within the next 2 years.

**Parishioner Correspondence** – Enquiry whether the parish council were aware of breaches of planning at site on corner of Monks Lodge Rd/Sudbury Rd in Castle Hedingham, and supportive of actions taken by Castle Hedingham PC. Council confirmed they were in regular dialogue with CHPC and that a high court injunction had been issued against landowners with a number of restricted activities and ruling that the land should be restored to its former state by 12 January 2022.

**Consultation on A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme** - The consultation is open from Tuesday 9 November to Sunday 19 December 2021. Further details may be found at [highwaysengland.citizenspace.com](https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com)

## 12. Content for E-newsletter

Update on village playing field; land in Castle Hedingham-Monks Lodge Rd/Sudbury Rd;

**13. Items for the Next Agenda**

Village Playing Field Update

**14. Date of next meeting:**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm**

MEETING CLOSED at 9.15pm

**Signed.....TRUE COPY.....**

**Dated 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022**