

MINUTES

Great Maplestead Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th November 2022

Present. Cllr.M.Elms(Chairman).Cllr.S.Last.Cllr.P.Haylock.Cllr.I.Johnson.Cllr.J.Newton.
Cllr.S.Harris. Cllr.P.Maile. Mrs.A.Crisp – Clerk. Members of the Public 4.

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** – None
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** – The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th September 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr.S.Harris, seconded by Cllr.P.Haylock. Vote in favour-Unanimous.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr.J.Newton - Agenda Item 10.2.3 Land near to Little Lodge Farm, Church Road. Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. Did not participate in discussion or vote on motion.
4. **County and District Matters** – *Apologies extended by County & District Cllr.P.Schwie*
District – Review of BDC budget proposals for 2023/24, cuts in public spending expected. Works at White Hart Bridge in Great Yeldham on A1017 have begun.
County – Community Funding Opportunities – 2 new funds launched – **Winter Warmth & Welcome Spaces Fund** available for community groups, parish & town councils for grants up to £1k. **Community Challenge Fund** to fund new community not for profit schemes, group initiatives or ideas. Grants £300-£5k.
ECC has announced £8.687m of Household Support Fund grant will be used to support those in most need of help with rising living costs.
Essex Libraries Warm Welcomes – Libraries open year round for residents to visit in order to keep warm, get advice/information & stay connected with others.
Highways – 15 new road gritters will be in place by mid-November, taking advantage of new technology.
5. **Officers Reports & Information Exchange** –
Cllr.Last – See Agenda Item 8.1
Cllr.Maile – Has cleared all plant displays on village verges and triangles. Will be clearing cuttings from bund at village playing field.
Cllr.Harris – See Officer Reports.
Cllr.Newton- Nothing to report.
Cllr.Haylock – Refer Agenda item 10
Cllr.Johnson – **Neighbourhood Watch** – Reported that thefts of heating oil, pushbikes, and shed break-ins were on increase, though nothing reported in Great Maplestead.
Cllr.Elms – **Highways** – Members of Task Force have cut back verge vegetation beside pond on corner of Monks Lodge Road, opposite Gestingthorpe Rd.
Cost of Living Crisis – Has agreement from Dist.Cllr.P Schwier that council may apply for funding from District Councillor Community Grant Scheme, towards administration costs for Cost of Living Working Party.
6. **Public question time**
Comment – Parishioner concerns regarding planning application 22/02780/T56 Mobile phone mast (Agenda Item 10.2.3). Concerns cited include radiation risks – with reference to longer term effects and the “Precautionary Principle” adopted by other UK councils; proposed site and close proximity to residential building and business with employees; within 3km of local airstrips; question accuracy of ecology survey. The Chairman invited council debate on Agenda item 10.2.3. (Cross reference) and advised parishioners on material considerations.
Q.What police advice can be given for securing against oil tank thefts? A. Place padlock on tank and/or plant thorny bushes around tank (allowing for fuel delivery access).

7. Progress Updates – The Clerk’s report was pre-circulated.

8. Business Items

8.1 Village Playing Field – Cllr.Last announced that the National Lottery Community Grant application had been successful, with funding of £75k awarded to the parish council to enable the playing field redevelopment project to commence. He walked councillors through the terms & conditions of the funding and advised on the Working Party’s questions to the Lottery all of which had been answered satisfactorily, and that additional advice had been sought from EALC who had also responded positively. Cllr.Last proposed the council accept the offer and authorise the Clerk to sign and return the standard agreement letter. Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour- Unanimous

8.2 Great Maplestead Cost of Living Crisis Working Party – Report received and accepted from Working Party. See Appendix 1

8.3 Trench Filling at Village Playing Field – Cllr.Newton proposed that soil needs to be added to new drainage trenches to level off field surface. Work to take place when weather allows.Seconded Cllr.Elms. Carried.

8.4 Review & Adoption of New Policies:-

Cllr.Harris proposed adoption of 2 new policies for adoption, which are a requirement of the National Lottery funding.(Documents had been pre-circulated)

- Safeguarding
- Whistleblowing

Seconded Cllr.Elms. Vote in favour - Unanimous

9.Financial Report

9.1 Current bank balances:-

Current account: £142.93 Fundraising account: £18,513.64 Reserve account: £11,848.99

9.2 Noting of sums received:-

NWB Interest Paid – Sep-Oct 2022	£15.37
BACS – Braintree District Council Precept 2 nd Payment	£4500.00
BACS – J Gooding Pilates Donation towards village playing field	£20.00
BACS – J Watson – Greyhound Racing Fundraiser	£521.00
BACS – Donation from Marga Palmer towards playing field	£100.00
BACS – Braintree District Council Balance of S106 Monies	£2591.01

9.3 Ratification of payments made:-

DD N-Power Street Lighting – September	£11.82
DD N-Power Street Lighting - October	£12.21
SO Mrs Ann Crisp – Clerks Quarterly Salary	£1624.80
OB Paul Clark Print – Household Cost of Living Survey Flyers	£29.00
OB Hugh Pearl Land Drainage – Playing Field Drainage	£9045.60

9.4 Payments to be made:

None

9.5 Bank Transfers made:

Transfer from Business Reserve to Current Account	£200.00
Transfer from Business Reserve to Current Account	£1600.00
Transfer from Fundraising Account to Current Account	£9045.60
Transfer from Business Reserve to Current Account	£100.00

10.Planning

10.1 Decisions

10.1.1 22/01984/HH – 2 Toldish Hall Cottages, Toldish Hall Road – Erection of first floor side extension. Application withdrawn.

10.1.2 22/02069/HH – 7 Stone Cottages, Church Street – Erection of 2 storey rear extension, demolition of existing single storey extension & its replacement with a single storey rear extension to serve as annex. Replacement front porch (amendment to Application 21/03606/HH). Granted 29 9 2022.

10.2 New Applications

- 10.2.1 For information only due to nature of application, consultation not invited.
22/02582/AGR Bennetts Farm, Dynes Hall Road – Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development – Erection of 3no.agricultural storage buildings. BDC decision – planning permission required. 18 10 22.
- 10.2.2 *22/02945/AGR Bennetts Farm, Dynes Hall Road – Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development. Two agricultural storage buildings. Further application following receipt of BDC decision on 22/02582/AGR*
For consultation
- 10.2.3 *22/02780/T56 Land near to Little Lodge Farm, Church Road – The installation of a 25m high column with 3no.antenna and 2no.dishes. Installation of 4 equipment cabinets and associated ancillary development thereto.*
Cllr.Elms proposed the council object to the application at this site as there remain inaccuracies within the application, in particular with reference to the proximity to local airstrips and within 200m of a listed building and although non-material in planning consent, concerns should be noted with regards to the potential long term health effects. Seconded Cllr.Harris. Vote in favour - Unanimous
- 10.2.4 *22/02924/HH 2 Toldish Hall Cottages, Toldish Hall Road – Erection of two storey rear elevation.* Council believes revised proposition may be better for neighbouring properties. Cllr.Haylock proposed the council respond “No objection, no comment” Seconded Cllr.Haylock. Vote in favour – Unanimous
Received after publication of agenda
- 10.2.5 *22/02857/TPO St Giles School. Church Street – Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by TPO – Ref 1/98 T3: Species Oak T1 – Selectively prune to clear roof by 1.5-2m & remove any dead wood greater than 3cm diameter. Crown lift the remaining crown to 5 metres.* Cllr.Haylock proposed “No objection, no comment”. Seconded Cllr.Elms. Carried.

11. Correspondence – For notification

Essex County Council Budget 2023/24 Public Consultation A new public consultation on the ECC budget for 2023/24. Your opportunity to say how you would like public money spent. The consultation is open until Monday 28 November. You can take part in the consultation at:

<https://survey.euro.confermit.com/wix/7/p350931054797.aspx?ebrm=1&l=9>

Village History – Contact from Colne Engaine Village Archive community group who have identified papers relating to Great Maplestead. Files to be reviewed by Clerk

12. Content for E-newsletter

Update on Village Playing Field – Lottery Funding; Planning – Mobile Phone Mast & Update on Cost of Living Liaison Group

13. Items for the Next Agenda

Village Plant Displays
Budget & Precept 2023/24
Grass Verges

14. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 11th January at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.46pm

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

Date: 11th January 2023