

# Margaret Roding Parish Council

## MINUTES

### Ordinary Meeting of Margaret Roding Parish Council

held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021, via Zoom due to Covid 19 restrictions

#### Present

Cllr Peter Briggs  
Cllr Lee Cooper (chairman)  
Cllr Ian Crisp  
Cllr Simon Phillips  
Cllr Lorraine Player  
Cllr Chris Turner  
Clerk Allison Ward

County and District Cllr Susan Barker (leaving after agenda item 5)

#### Residents and Visitors

0 residents

1	None	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
2	None	<b>Declaration of Interest for this meeting</b>	
3	None	<b>Public Forum</b>	
4		<b>Minutes</b> Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 were proposed by Cllr Crisp as a true record, seconded by Cllr Briggs with all in agreement. The minutes will be signed by Cllr Cooper when the Parish Council can meet face to face.	
5		<b>County and District Cllr Report</b> Cllr Barker thanked the Clerk and Cllrs for their support in progressing local flooding concerns. Cllrs confirmed the issues appear to be a mixture of blocked ditches and pipes and responsibilities cover several landowners, Uttlesford and Essex Highways. There are additional issues with the Thames Water pumping station. Cllrs updated Cllr Barker on the key issues, a. Ditch behind The Gossetts cleared by Uttlesford however the debris has been left and needs removing or it will end up back in the ditch. The Clerk has contacted Beresfords to ask them to collect their sign. The pipes entering this open ditch at Gunn House and leaving at Ravenstone are now visible and flowing. b. Marks Hall Lane, water from the fields converges into a drain adjacent to Windrift where there is a manhole. In heavy rainfall water 'escapes' from the manhole and runs down the road pooling at the bottom at the A1060. The local view is there used to be open ditches on both sides of Marks Hall Lane which were piped when the houses were built. Essex Highway jetting team attended in December and a blockage was cleared, however the water continues to overflow at the manhole. The Parish Council is of the view the pipe is possibly not large enough to take the volume of water now coming off the fields. c. The landowner has cleared the ditch at the bottom of Marks Hall Lane to reveal where the drainage pipes are, this has improved the situation and given somewhere for the water in point b to go.	Clerk

Signed  
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Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

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	<p>d. The field drainage from behind Hilenor to Hurstcombe runs into an open ditch as far as the rear of Woodmead before entering a pipe under properties and exiting in what is understood to be the Essex Highways drain in front of Hurstcombe. This is a piped drain as far as Gunn House, after which it is an open ditch as in point a. Water is backing up into residents' gardens, clearing the ditch in point a has not resolved this issue suggesting there is possible blockage between Hurstcombe and Gunn House, this has been reported to Essex Highways several times, latest reference 2700485.</p> <p>The Parish Council asked Cllr Barker for the report from the jetting teams visit and if there is a map showing Essex Highways pipe/drain responsibilities.</p> <p><i>Cllr Chris Turner joins the meeting</i></p> <p>County Cllr Barker confirmed the Essex County Council precept will see a 0% increase with a 1.5% increase in the Adult Social Care precept. There are various Covid grants available to support businesses and details are on the County and District websites.</p> <p>Cllr Turner raised the dangerous bend on the A1060 adjacent to Garnish Hall where a serious accident occurred earlier in the month. This is one of several over recent years, the majority involve speed from the direction of Chelmsford. Suggestions were considered and a decision made at item 9.4.</p> <p><i>County and District Cllr Susan Barker leaves the meeting</i></p>	
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b></p> <p><b>6.2</b></p> <p><b>6.3</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clerk's Progress Update and Correspondence</b></p> <p>There is a new community agent for the Uttlesford Area. These agents provide community led early intervention support for people to live independently in their own homes. Further information or to request a visit, please see <a href="https://www.communityagentsessex.org.uk/">https://www.communityagentsessex.org.uk/</a>.</p> <p>The appeal by MAGs against Uttlesford's decision to refuse an increase in passenger numbers at Stansted began on 12 January and is scheduled to run for 40 days. Keep up to date with proceedings via <a href="https://programmeofficers.co.uk/ssairport/">https://programmeofficers.co.uk/ssairport/</a></p> <p>Clerk to re-confirm position of defibrillator and progress.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>7.1</b></p> <p><b>7.2</b></p> <p><b>7.3</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Councillor's Updates</b></p> <p>Environment and Health</p> <p>7.1.1 – Guidance from Keep Britain Tidy is not to do 'organised' litter picks during the current lockdown. New guidance is expected at end of February and it is hoped an organised event will take place on 13 March. If this is not possible Cllr Phillips will liaise with residents and plan for individuals to cover a section in their own time. Bags can be collated in the normal location and the Clerk will organise collection.</p> <p>7.1.2 – Increase in dog fouling on public footpaths not being pick up. Cllr Crisp has arranged for additional notices to cover hot spots.</p> <p>Transport – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Communication – Gigaclear continue with the fibre cabling. Works scheduled are Ongar Road from its junction with A1060 to Marks Hall Lane 24-26 February, Marks Hall Lane from its junction with A1060 to Ongar Road, 26 February-5 March.</p>	<p>Cllr Phillips/ Clerk</p>

Signed  
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Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

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7.4	Local Government – Reminder, the 10-year official census in England is scheduled for Sunday 21 March 2021. For more information go to <a href="https://census.gov.uk/">https://census.gov.uk/</a>		
8	<b>Planning</b>		
8.1	<b>Applications</b>  Application No            UTT/20/2101/LB Location                    Garnish Hall, Chelmsford Road Development                Section 73A Retrospective application for the continued use of a converted outbuilding as a self-contained residential annexe.  Cllr Briggs proposed no comment on this application, this was seconded by Cllr Turner with all in agreement.		
8.2	<b>Decisions</b>  Application No            UTT/20/2942/PAQ3 Location                    Barns at White Hall, Chelmsford Road Development                Prior Notification of change of use of agricultural building to 4 no. dwellings Decision                      Approved		
8.3	<b>Local Plan Update</b>  8.3.1 – Cllrs noted the Local Plan workshop invite for Town and Parish Councils on 3 February to discuss the first 5 themes consultation.  8.3.2 – Cllrs noted the start of the ‘Call for Sites which is open until 21 April. Further information can be viewed at <a href="https://uttlesford-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/35905">https://uttlesford-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/35905</a>  8.3.3 – The Clerk had responded to Uttlesford confirming the TRACC data on walking, cycling and public transport accessibility. This included a comment on the unsafe walking route from the village along the A1060 for families attending Rodings Primary School.		
9	<b>Highways and Footpaths</b>		
9.1	<b>Flooding in the village</b>  9.1.1 – in addition to the discussion at agenda item 5, the Parish Council noted the flooding between Ongar Road and Adams Well on the A1060. Cllrs are of the view this both a gully and ditch issue, Clerk to report and contact the landowner for assistance.  9.1.2. - Cllr Briggs noted the ditch system around the village links together before joining the River Roding on the western edge of the parish border. There are several places where ditches need clearing to allow the flow of water. Cllr Cooper suggested the low kerb levels on the A1060 were also a contributing factor to highway flooding, some gullies appear damaged or restricted as a result, these have been reported to Highways.		Clerk
9.2	<b>Essex Highways continue to progress with works to clear and hold back vegetation from the footpath adjacent to the A1060 between Blue House Cottage and Oak Cottage.</b>		
9.3	<b>9.3.1 – Log 2691281 sign defect close to Four Wantz is due for repair with works being scheduled.</b>		

Signed  
 Lee Cooper  
 Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

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9.4	<p>9.3.2 – Log 2691285 overgrown vegetation between Chestnut and Hunt Cottages, Essex Highways confirmed no action planned, log closed.</p> <p>9.3.3 – Log 2697002 sign defect at village entry knocked over, pending inspection.</p> <p>Further to the discussion at agenda item 5, Cllr Turner proposed the Parish Council submits a Local Highways Panel application to add warning signage at the Garnish Hall bend on the A1060 to advise drivers approaching from Chelmsford. This was seconded by Cllr Crisp with all in agreement.</p>	Clerk
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Essex Wide Bus Shelter Project</b></p> <p>Essex County Council (ECC) are collaborating with other local authorities to bring together a unified bus shelter estate, this includes the transfer of all assets to ECC except shelters owned by Parish Councils.</p> <p>The Parish Council was asked to verify its ownership of the shelter opposite Marks Hall Lane. This shelter was not purchased by the Parish Council, is not listed on its asset register, or included in its insurance policy. Cllr Briggs proposed the Parish Council responds confirming it does not own the shelter and does not wish to take on this asset given the additional costs and maintenance that would be required, however if there was a suggestion from ECC that it is to be removed, the Parish Council asks that it is consulted. This was seconded by Cllr Turner with all in agreement.</p>	Clerk
11	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Budget 2021/22 and Quarterly Report for 2020/21</b></p> <p>The Clerk presented the financial report for the period April to December 2020. There is no unexpected expenditure. The closing cash position at December 2020 is £7,731.</p> <p>The Parish Council considered the draft budget for 2021/22, after which Cllr Briggs proposed that the precept request remains level at a total value of £2,000. This will result in a 1.8% increase (average annual monetary amount of £0.39) on the Parish Council part of Council Tax invoices, this is due to a small movement in the valuation of properties/contributors to Council Tax, within the parish.</p>	Clerk
12	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finance</b></p> <p>Cllr Briggs proposed the following cheque be issued; this was seconded by Cllr Philipps with all in agreement.</p> <p>Allison Ward (Parish Clerk salary December and January 2021 plus expenses) £ 122.64</p>	Clerk
13	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Items for next Agenda</b></p> <p>Nothing in addition.</p>	
14	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 7.30pm. This meeting will take place via Zoom.</p> <p>The meeting finished at 8.55pm.</p>	