

# Margaret Roding Parish Council

## MINUTES

### Ordinary Meeting of Margaret Roding Parish Council

held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at The Farmhouse, Reid Rooms

**Present** Cllr Lee Cooper (chairman)  
Cllr Ian Crisp  
Cllr Simon Phillips  
Cllr Chris Turner  
Clerk Allison Ward

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

**Residents and Visitors** 0 residents

	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
1	Cllr Peter Briggs sent apologies to the meeting due to a pending appointment, Cllr Lorraine Player sent apologies to the meeting due to work commitments. Both apologies were accepted by the Parish Council.	
	<b>Declaration of Interest for this meeting</b>	
2	None	
	<b>Public Forum</b>	
3	None	
	<b>Minutes</b>	
4	Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 were proposed by Cllr Cooper as a true record, seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement; the Chairman signed the minutes.  The meeting also accepted the notes from the meeting of 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 when it was not possible to hold a face-to-face parish council meeting, these were also signed by the Chairman and will be retained in the minute file.	
	<b>County and District Cllr Report</b>	
5	The only significant matter to note at District level is the ongoing work on the Local Plan, the proposed sites currently being evaluated will be publicly consulted on in March 2022.  Cllr Barker commented on Uttlesford funds being made available to the Local Highways Panel, Cllr Barker is due to present a motion at the full council meeting in early December. There is recognition the process needs to speed up as currently any acceptable proposal can take 3 years before it is completed.  In mid-November, Essex County Council won Social Work Employer of the Year and a social worker from Essex won the national Adult Social Worker of the Year Gold Award. Cllr Barker added 'it is good to know we have a good team.'  Cllr Barker commented on the government's recent consultation on raising the minimum EPC standard in all domestic rented properties to band C by 2028, a response to the consultation is	

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	pending, Currently, privately rented properties are only required to achieve a minimum EPC rating of E.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Clerk's Progress Update and Correspondence</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Cllr Turner laid a wreath on behalf of Margaret Roding parish at the ten villages remembrance service held at High Easter on 14 <sup>th</sup> November.	
<b>6.2</b>	Issues with footpaths 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22 which are either overgrown, or have been ploughed and not reinstated were reported to the Essex PRow officer for investigation after the Parish Council was unsuccessful in engaging with the landowner.	
<b>6.3</b>	There have been numerous emails relating to the gullies and pipes between Hillenor and University Cottages which backed up and caused flooding to front and rear gardens during last season's heavy rain. A team from Essex Highways visited in early September and cleared some of the silt from the gullies and jetted along as far as they were able. Following this the landowner has carried out some works to ditches in front of University Collect Cottages, however further works are required, and Cllr Cooper is liaising. The Clerk has written to residents at Hillenor for assistance with ditch clearing, no response has been received, Clerk to forward correspondence to Essex Flood Management team. The Clerk has written to Uttlesford for assistance in clearing the ditch behind The Gossetts, a response is pending. County Cllr Susan Barker sent the link to the Essex County Council booklet 'Guide to Ordinary Watercourse Maintenance' and this is now available on the parish website.	Clerk
<b>6.4</b>	Cllrs noted the request from a resident asking the Parish Council to coordinate a meeting of landowners to discuss and agree a regular maintenance plan for ditch clearance. Given Parish Councils have no powers to enforce maintenance, Cllrs felt this was not achievable and were of the view the only approach is to work with landowners on an individual basis.	
<b>6.5</b>	The potholes in The Gossetts have been repaired.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Councillor's Updates</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	Environment and Health – Nothing to report.	
<b>7.2</b>	Transport – Nothing to report.	
<b>7.3</b>	Communication – Nothing to report.	
<b>7.4</b>	Local Government – It was proposed by Cllr Cooper to continue to hold bi-monthly Parish Council meetings subject to availability of The Farmhouse. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement. Proposed dates for 2022 are: 25 <sup>th</sup> January, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 19 <sup>th</sup> July, 27 <sup>th</sup> September, 29 <sup>th</sup> November.	Clerk
<b>8</b>	<b>Planning</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p><b>Applications</b></p> <p>Application No UTT/21/3406/HHF  Location Hornes Peppers Green  Development Proposed two storey rear extension, proposed single storey side extension and log burner with flue</p> <p>Cllr Crisp proposed no objection, this was seconded by Cllr Turner with all in agreement.</p>	

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8.2	<p><b>Decisions</b></p> <p>Application No UTT/21/1928/HHF  Location Chasefields, Marks Hall Lane  Development Rear extension and loft conversion  Decision Conditional approval</p> <p>Application No UTT/21/1899/HHF  Location Hornes Peppers Green  Development Proposed two storey rear extension, proposed single storey side extension and log burner with flue  Decision Refused</p>	
9	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Local Plan</b></p> <p>The parish council considered the technical assessment completed by Uttlesford for the site adjacent to Margaret Roding wood and the Clerk's draft response. Cllrs were asked to forward any further amendments after which the Clerk will submit by the deadline of 29<sup>th</sup> November.</p>	Clerk
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Defibrillator</b></p> <p>The Clerk was asked to explore with Uttlesford the possibility of placing an external cabinet containing a defibrillator at The Gossetts car park which would be mounted on a pole and not require connecting to a mains supply.</p> <p>Assuming this was achievable Cllrs considered two options for outdoor cabinets that are not powered by a mains supply. One option provides power via solar panels mounted on the rear of the cabinet; however, this is a costly solution which Cllrs felt would not be viable given the position of the solar panels and potential location. An alternative insulated external cabinet was agreed as a viable option, in this scenario it is noted the battery may deteriorate at a faster rate than one housed in a heated cabinet. Clerk to obtain quote and possible funding options.</p>	Clerk  Clerk
11	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Highways</b></p> <p>11.1 Essex Highways has issued guidance to Town and Parish Councils who wish to purchase their own Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS), this requires an application to be completed in order to place equipment purchased by parish councils. Cllr Turner proposed Margaret Roding submits an application requesting a VAS (on rotation) at the entry to the parish from both Leaden Roding and Chelmsford, on the existing poles which were placed by Essex Highways for this purpose. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement.</p> <p>11.2 The parish council is grateful to the landowner for cutting back hedging which was encroaching the footpath between Ongar Road and Hillenor; the clerk is following up on a query re Essex Highway ownership along part of this stretch.</p> <p>11.3 The Clerk to contact landowners for assistance on cutting back hedging from Marks Hall Lane towards Leaden Roding and request assistance from County Cllr Barker for overgrown sections which are not in the parish.</p> <p>11.4 Cllr Phillips proposed that the parish council purchases two new flood signs after one of the parish council's signs 'disappeared'. This was seconded by Cllr Turner with all in agreement.</p>	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk

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12	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Local Highway Panel Requests 2022/23</b></p> <p>Cllrs noted that applications for signage at the bend by Garnish Hall and speed limit reductions through the parish, had already been submitted and were 'awaiting funding' to evaluate. There were no further requests.</p>	
13	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finance</b></p> <p>13.1 Cllr Phillips proposed the following cheque be issued; this was seconded by Cllr Crisp with all in agreement.</p> <p>Allison Ward (Parish Clerk salary August to November plus expenses) £ 245.28</p> <p>13.2 The Clerk presented the quarterly accounts for the period April to September 2021 including an,updated full year estimate. The current cash balance as of September 2021 is £8,117. There were no questions or concerns, and the reports were accepted by the Parish Council.</p>	Clerk
14	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Items for next Agenda</b></p> <p>Precept setting. Litter pick – provisional date of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022.</p>	
15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm in The Farmhouse at the Reid Rooms, subject to availability. The meeting finished at 9.20pm.</p>	