

# Margaret Roding Parish Council

## MINUTES

### Ordinary Meeting of Margaret Roding Parish Council

held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at The Farmhouse, Reid Rooms

<b>Present</b>	<p>Cllr Peter Briggs  Cllr David Nicoll  Cllr Richard Parsons  Cllr Simon Phillips (chair)  Cllr Chris Turner (arriving during item 6)  Clerk Allison Ward</p> <p>County and District Cllr Susan Barker (leaving after agenda item 6)</p>
<b>Residents and Visitors</b>	None present

<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
	All in attendance.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Co-opting parish councillors</b>	
	There is one vacancy on the parish council, no expressions of interest have been received. The vacancy will continue to be advertised.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest for this meeting</b>	
	None	
<b>4</b>	<b>Public Forum</b>	
	No public present.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Minutes</b>	
	Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 were proposed by Cllr Parsons as a true record, seconded by Cllr Briggs with all in agreement; the Chairman signed the minutes.	
<b>6</b>	<b>County and District Cllr Report</b>	
	<p>The following County matters were reported to the meeting,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 54 schools in Essex are affected by RAAC, the nearest in the area is Hatfield Heath, there are also at least 2 libraries. Where Essex County Council (ECC) is required to spend monies to rectify they have received confirmation from government that they will be reimbursed.</li> <li>ii. Essex has a campaign to reduce the volume of waste food which goes into black bin rubbish, this is currently estimated to be 25% of the black waste. This waste is heavy and Essex are charged by the tonne for disposal and it can be used to create compost which is then sold for revenue. During September/October residents will receive information and a roll of compost bags to encourage recycling.</li> <li>iii. Ofsted has rated Essex children's social care services as 'Outstanding' in every area assessed, this is the second consecutive time this result has been achieved.</li> </ul>	

Signed Simon Philips  
Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

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	<p>iv. A level 2 devolution deal will be announced tomorrow, this will enable 'Greater Essex' (ECC, Southend and Thurrock Councils) to make collective decisions about the power and budget given to them by the Government. There is no elected mayor under level 2 devolution. The proposals will be consulted on towards the end of the year.</p> <p>The following District Matters were reported to the meeting,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Conservative Cllrs have concerns re Uttlesford borrowings as £90m of finance originally borrowed on low interest rates needs to be re-financed in the Autumn.</li> <li>ii. Regulation 18 Local Plan is due to be published for consultation at the end of October. Early indications are available as the consultation papers require approval at Uttlesford council and cabinet meetings. The government require Uttlesford to provide 15k houses between 2021-2041. Half of these are already committed through approved planning applications, the balance are proposed as extensions to existing towns and larger rural settlements. Margaret Roding is not listed as a village able to accommodate development other than the small 'windfall' sites. The clerk will circulate the links to Cllrs to access information once available.</li> </ul> <p><i>Cllr Turner arrives</i></p> <p>Cllr Parsons raised the issue with the drainage ownership along Marks Hall Lane. Thames Water has provided written confirmation the responsibility is not theirs and this view was supported by the jetting team that attended to clear the drains today, to note a large piece of branch was removed. Essex Highways have written to the clerk confirming the responsibility is not theirs and is Thames Water. The clerk confirmed there has been no success in getting a meeting of all parties in order to confirm responsibilities, County Cllr Barker agreed to work with Essex Highways to arrange this meeting.</p> <p>The clerk had sent Cllr Barker some pictures of the poor state of the footpath along the A1060 where vegetation has overgrown restricting its width. Cllr Barker confirmed she will raise with Essex Highways to determine action.</p> <p>Cllr Barker had shared an email with the parish council from the churchwarden at St Margarets concerned with safety when exiting the church access on the A1060 due to the speed of traffic. Whilst the meeting sympathised with the church, previous reviews have confirmed there is no solution that Essex Highways can implement that would assist. Cllr Briggs suggested the hardstanding opposite is utilised rather than the churchyard parking area. Clerk will respond.</p> <p>The Clerk will forward a request to repair the pot hole in the centre of the road opposite The Gossetts car park, this is a private road maintained by Uttlesford. The Clerk was also asked to report the pot hole outside Hockleys Cottage, Marks Hall Lane, (post meeting confirmation this pothole has already been reported, reference 3715568 and is noted for repair 'as part of a planned maintenance programme'.</p> <p><i>County and District Cllr Barker leaves the meeting</i></p>	Clerk
<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>7.1</b></p> <p><b>7.2</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clerk's Progress Update and Correspondence</b></p> <p>Town and Parish Councils were invited to consider supplementary information to support their responses to the Local Plan Issues and Options (call for sites evaluations) which were originally submitted in 2021. There are no developments or changes which would amend Margaret Roding parish councils' original response.</p> <p>A Town and Parish Council liaison meeting was held on 12th September and open to all Cllrs across the district, the only agenda item was an update on the Local Plan. The slides from the meeting which included timelines and outline information were circulated to Cllrs.</p>	Clerk

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7.3	The clerk forwarded the slides from the Uttlesford Code of Conduct training.									
7.4	Kemi Badenoch MP has put together a rural crime survey with the aim of learning more about how residents within the Saffron Walden constituency are impacted by this issue. Residents are encouraged to respond. <a href="https://www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/kemi-badenoch-mp-rural-crime-survey-2023">https://www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/kemi-badenoch-mp-rural-crime-survey-2023</a>									
8	<b>Councillor's Updates</b>									
8.1	<b>Environment and Health</b> - The parish defibrillator was taken for use during July, fortunately it was not required and later returned to service. The meeting considered adding a bleed control kit to the existing cabinet, Clerk to investigate further to assess space and cost.	Clerk								
8.2	<b>Transport</b> – Essex County Council published a consultation on its Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy. The deadline has now passed, however documents can be viewed as this link <a href="https://www.essexhighways.org/uploads/downloads/safer-greener-healthier/essex-electric-vehicle-charge-point-strategy.pdf">https://www.essexhighways.org/uploads/downloads/safer-greener-healthier/essex-electric-vehicle-charge-point-strategy.pdf</a>									
8.3	<b>Local Government</b> – On 31 October the second phase of changes under the Elections Act 2022 come into effect. The key changes include a new Government Online Voter Application portal allowing 24/7 access, the total number of electors for whom a person may act as a proxy will be limited to 4, of which no more than 2 can be “domestic electors” i.e., not service or overseas voters.									
9	<b>Planning</b>									
9.1	<b>Applications</b>									
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Application</td> <td>UTT/23/1826/FUL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Location</td> <td>Barns at White Hall, Chelmsford Road</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Development</td> <td>Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment to residential use comprising 7 no. new dwellings'</td> </tr> </table> <p>The meeting noted this site already has approval under permitted development to convert the existing barns to 4 no new dwellings, recently renewed see agenda item 9.2. Cllr Briggs proposed no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement.</p>	Application	UTT/23/1826/FUL	Location	Barns at White Hall, Chelmsford Road	Development	Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment to residential use comprising 7 no. new dwellings'			
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<p>9.3</p> <p>9.4</p>	<p>The meeting noted the invitation to contribute to Uttlesford's development of a Design Code to support the design of build property in the district. The meeting concluded that with no specific architectural features in the parish, there was nothing they could add from a local perspective.</p> <p>The meeting noted MAGS has extended the consultation period for stakeholders to the Stansted Airport draft noise action plan to 5th November. Guidance on matters to consider in responding has been received from Stansted Airport Watch and circulated to Cllrs. Given there is no direct impact on residents, the parish council agreed not to respond.</p>	
<p>10</p> <p>10.1</p> <p>10.2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Highways</b></p> <p><b>Update on progress with Marks Hall Lane and associated surface water drainage.</b></p> <p>Cllr Parsons reported he has spent time with the landowner seeking his views on actions that could alleviate the flooding. The conversations confirmed there used to be a ditch running down the west side through the property Hockleys Cottage, this is now blocked by the swimming pool and therefore no longer functions It was further suggested the ditch which runs from the A1060 towards river Roding needs further digging out. This is Strutt and Parker land, Clerk to contact farm manager for assistance including whether it is possible to create a further ditch on what is currently waste land on the south side of the A1060.</p> <p>Cllr Briggs added the various authorities are passing the buck and heads need to be banged together. It was suggested we should get the MP involved if the latest efforts to get a meeting fail within the next few weeks.</p> <p>Cllr Nicoll added that Cllrs are doing what they can to cut away vegetation, Cllr Parsons confirmed he had dug out the ditch behind The Gossetts to ensure the outlet pipe is clear, Cllr Parsons went on to confirm he had also cleaned highways signage and cut back vegetation. At the clerk's suggestion, Cllr Phillips proposed the parish council formally records a vote in support of Cllrs carrying out minor vegetation, ditch clearance, and sign cleaning on behalf of the parish council, this was seconded by Cllr Parsons with all in agreement, The clerk will produce a risk assessment for small works.</p> <p>Cllr Parsons noted there are no 30mph speed limit signs as you come off the A1060 onto Marks Hall Lane. Clerk to raise with Essex Highways.</p> <p><b>Update on A1060 overgrown footpath which restricts the Rodings school walking route.</b></p> <p>In response to the parish council's request, Essex County Council confirmed they would not instigate a review of the walking route at the request of the council, this must come from a parent.</p> <p>However, it was recognised the issue is primarily with vegetation. County Cllr Barker continued the correspondence. Essex Highways Officers identified the vegetation defect is overgrown hedgerow near Porters Cottage, Leaden Roding. This has now been cleared by the landowner. The encroaching vegetation on the footpath remains an issue, see agenda item 6, the clerk to continue to pursue with County Cllr Barker and Essex Highways.</p>	<p>Clerk/ Cllr Parsons</p> <p>Clerk/ Cllr Parsons</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>11</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parish Council Projects</b></p> <p>A VAS sign on the A1060 remains outstanding</p>	<p>Clerk/ Cllr Parsons &amp; Turner</p>

