

Margaret Roding Parish Council

MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Margaret Roding Parish Council

held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at The Farmhouse, Reid Rooms

Present Cllr David Nicoll
Cllr Richard Parsons
Cllr Simon Phillips (chair)
Cllr Robert Trundle (from item 2)
Clerk Allison Ward

Residents and Visitors None present

1	Apologies for absence	
	Received from Cllr Peter Briggs (unwell) and Cllr Chris Turner (personal), apologies were accepted by the meeting	
2	Co-opting parish councillors	
	Cllr Phillips proposed that Robert Trundle is co-opted to the parish council to fill the final vacancy following the May 2023 elections, this was seconded by Cllr Parsons with all in agreement. Cllr Trundle to sign the acceptance of office. The Clerk will forward information to Cllr Trundle on completing the Register of Interests and will notify Uttlesford.	Clerk
3	Declaration of Interest for this meeting	
	None	
4	Public Forum	
	Cllr Parsons noted the challenge of getting information relating to the parish council to residents, Cllrs were not certain all residents were aware of the information available on the website. Clerk to include details in parish news and consideration be given to establishing a residents email list to allow information to be shared.	Clerk
5	Minutes	
	Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 19 th September 2023 were proposed by Cllr Phillips as a true record, seconded by Cllr Parsons with all in agreement; the Chairman signed the minutes.	
6	County and District Cllr Report	
	County and District Cllr Susan Barker sent apologies to the meeting.	
7	Clerk's Progress Update and Correspondence	
7.1	Ride London 2024 will take place on Sunday 26 th May, Ride London have written to the parish council offering to attend a meeting to outline proposals to support activities in the area, hear suggestions for overall improvements and further develop the Local Access Plans for residents	Clerk

Signed Simon Phillips
Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

Margaret Roding Parish Council

7.2	<p>and businesses. Parish council agreed there is no requirement to meet with Ride London, however Clerk to forward comment requesting that correspondence is very clear on how to enter and leave the parish. Clerk to also request via County Cllr Barker that if any local resurfacing takes place in advance of the event as it did last year, that this window is used as an opportunity to complete other local highway repairs and works.</p> <p>Communication from Stansted Airport Watch about future of organisation, Cllrs training courses, Local Plan correspondence, Autumn transport meetings and rough sleeper count (nil return for Margaret Roding) circulated.</p>	
8	Councillor's Updates	
8.1	Environment and Health	
8.1.1	<p>Further to the discussion at the September meeting, Cllrs agreed via email to purchase a bleed control kit (£94.98 ex VAT) which has been placed in the defibrillator cabinet with the addition of an external cabinet sticker to confirm its existence, the kit has an expiry date of 2026. The clerk has registered this via the manufacturer, and been advised there is currently no central database of bleed control kits, clerk to raise with Kemi Badenoch MP. In addition Cllr Parsons suggested a notice be placed on the village noticeboard advising that a defibrillator and bleed kit are available in the parish. Cllr Parsons to check the lock on the defibrillator cabinet as clerk reported it is 'sticking'.</p>	Clerk/ Cllr Parsons
8.1.2	<p>Following a request from a younger member of the community to carry out regular litter picking as part of Duke of Edinburgh volunteering, Cllr Phillips and Cllr Nicoll agreed to monitor and complete relevant paperwork. The clerk requested the parish council litter pick risk assessment is followed particularly in relation to hi-viz jackets and gloves. Cllrs were very encouraged by the actions and asked that their appreciations be passed on.</p>	Cllr Nicholls & Cllr Phillips
8.2	Transport – Cllr Trundle noted the bus stop signing is missing from the Ongar Road stop, and there is no timetable. Clerk to report to Essex Highways.	Clerk
8.3	Local Government – Nothing to report.	
9	Planning	
9.1	Applications - None	
9.2	Decisions - None	
10	Draft Regulation 18 Local Plan	
	<p>Uttlesford District Council is consulting on its Regulation 18 Local Plan. This version of the emerging Local Plan sets out Uttlesford's "preferred options" for where new housing and employment sites might be developed in the period to 2041. It also sets out planning policies to guide and support development in the district, the deadline for responses is 18th December.</p> <p>Within the hierarchy Margaret Roding is identified as a 'Small Village', this is based on a scoring system which assesses the services and facilities available in each parish. The Smaller Village hierarchy is sub-divided into two classifications either Smaller Village or Open Countryside. Margaret Roding parish is identified as Open Countryside where the policy states 'Development in open countryside will not be appropriate unless specifically supported by other relevant policies as set out in the Development Plan or national policy.' In addition land identified as Green Belt remains protected, this includes all of Margaret Roding south of the A1060 and extends to Leaden Roding both south and north of the A1060.</p>	

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Margaret Roding Parish Council

	<p>Cllrs considered the draft Plan and were fully supportive of the classification for Margaret Roding parish, Cllr Parsons proposed no responses are submitted, this was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement.</p>	
11	Highways	
11.1	<p>Update on progress with Marks Hall Lane and associated surface water drainage.</p> <p>Cllr Parsons reported on works completed and asked that a vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes to Strutt and Parker and Martin Ritchie in defining the issues and carrying out works. Clearing the ditches has made a difference to how quickly water gets away limiting the flooding of the highway.</p> <p>The meeting noted any responsibility for and resolution to the overflowing manhole along Marks Hall Lane would not be quick, and discussed at length whether a salt bin could be purchased for the corner of Marks Hall Lane and the A1060, and whether volunteers could place salt on the highway, the clerk to check whether this is possible and any legal implications for putting salt on the highway. Cllr Phillips to check the salt stock in The Gossetts car park salt bin.</p> <p>Cllr Parsons stated a meeting with Essex Highways and Thames Water was still necessary to help resolve the issues caused when surface water enters the foul water system, and added it is a threat to public health and a solution needs to be found, Clerk to chase for the meeting</p>	<p>Clerk/ Cllr Parsons</p> <p>Clerk/ Cllr Phillips</p> <p>Clerk</p>
11.2	<p>Marks Hall Lane speed limits</p> <p>Cllrs noted the response from Essex Highways confirming Marks Hall Lane is derestricted (60mph), Clerk to verify against the eligibility criteria for 30mph limit given there are no footpaths. Cllrs also noted the highway 'pedestrians on road' warning sign has been lying flat on the verge for two years despite several requests, Clerk to chase Essex Highways for an update on when it will be reinstated.</p>	Clerk
11.3	<p>Update on A1060 overgrown footpath which restricts the Rodings school walking route.</p> <p>This path has now been cleared and the Cllrs wished to record a vote of thanks to County Cllr Susan Barker for her help on getting the works completed.</p>	
11.4	<p>Other Matters – Nothing to report</p>	
12	Parish Council Projects	
12.1	<p>Parish Working Party March 2024</p> <p>Cllr Phillips proposed the annual March litter pick be extended to include vegetation clearance, sign cleaning etc. This was supported unanimously, a date will be set at the next meeting.</p>	Cllr Phillips
12.2	<p>80th D-Day Celebrations</p> <p>Clerk to contact Rev Robert Stone to see if it is possible to arrange an event at Margaret Roding church.</p>	Clerk
12.3	<p>VAS Sign</p> <p>No further progress.</p>	Clerk & Cllr Parsons

Margaret Roding Parish Council

12.4	<p>Parish Christmas Event 2024</p> <p>Cllr Parsons to speak to Reid Rooms to see if there is a possibility of holding a Christmas event for the parish.</p>	Cllr Parsons						
13	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting Dates 2024</p> <p>The following meeting dates were agreed for 2024, Clerk to confirm with Reid Rooms.</p> <p>Tuesday 16th January Tuesday 19th March Tuesday 14th May Tuesday 16th July Tuesday 17th September Tuesday 19th November</p>	Clerk						
14	<p style="text-align: center;">Finance</p> <p>14.1 The clerk presented the accounts to end September, the current balance is £8.294.</p> <p>14.2 Cllr Parsons proposed to approve the pay award negotiated by NALC and SLCC for clerks and other town/parish council employees as detailed in E01-2023/24 Local Government Services Pay Agreement, with the increase backdated to 1 April 2023. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement.</p> <p>14.3 Cllr Phillips proposed a grant is given to Essex and Herts Air Ambulance of £100, this was seconded by Cllr Nicoll all in agreement.</p> <p>14.4 Cllr Phillips proposed the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Parsons with all in agreement.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Allison Ward - Parish Clerk October and November 2023, plus salary increase</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 179.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Turtle Engineering Ltd (Allison Ward paid to reimburse) – Bleed kit inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 113.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essex & Herts Air Ambulance – grant see item 12.2</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 100.00</td> </tr> </table>	Allison Ward - Parish Clerk October and November 2023, plus salary increase	£ 179.62	Turtle Engineering Ltd (Allison Ward paid to reimburse) – Bleed kit inc VAT	£ 113.98	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance – grant see item 12.2	£ 100.00	Clerk
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15	<p style="text-align: center;">Items for next Agenda</p> <p>Agreed date for March 2024 parish working party and precept setting.</p>							
16	<p style="text-align: center;">Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 16th January 7.30pm at The Reid Rooms.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.25pm.</p>							