A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 12th April 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present; H Blurton, W Cant, C Quilter, P Savill (Chairman), M Scott, A Smith and K Young.

Also present were seven members of the public and Cllr I Grundy.

**146. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from T Boem.

**147. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**148. Democratic Time**

Following the March meeting there had been a discussion after Democratic Time between parishioners/CBC/Environment Agency. The residents had been promised that they would be contacted and a public meeting arranged. Although they had been contacted individually no public meeting had been arranged. The residents requested that the 20th April consultation ‘drop in session’ at the village hall which had been arranged by CBC/Environment Agency be cancelled.

Cllr Grundy confirmed that the drop in session would take place as arranged and it was agreed **P Savill** would write to The Environment Agency explaining that the Parish Council strongly supported the idea of having an evening set aside for a meeting between the Parish Council, residents of nearby parishes, residents of the village, planning department and The Environment Agency. (This was not to be a Parish Council meeting.) P Savill reported that Andy Bestwick, CBC Senior Planning Officer, had offered to attend the next PC meeting on 10thMay to report back on the ‘drop in session’. H Blurton reported that Swan Lane was to be re-instated following the completion of works. He also offered to notify residents of Margaretting Tye of the date for the special meeting.

**149. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2012 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**150. Matters Arising**

a. Parish Council Vacancy – The clerk reported that there had been no enquiries about the vacancy.

b. Queens Diamond Jubilee – P Savill reported that she had received requests for 58 mugs and had received an income of £80.50 for them. She also reported that so far 23 children were attending the party and 10 pensioners were attending the tea party. Funds stood at £2,578.50. A programme was to be organised and a decision had to be made whether more waste bins were needed. **Clerk** to check that public liability for the event is covered by our insurance policy.

c. Hedge/Maldon Road – P Savill reported that she had notified Highways.

d. Network Rail - A Smith reported that Network Rail’s contractors were to reinstate the damaged verges in Maldon Road after completion of work.  **P Savill** to speak to contact at Network Rail about reported future work.

e. Water Lagoon/Swan Lane – It was reported that a 90 day order to clear the rubbish had been served on the occupants.

**151. Best Kept Village Competition 2012**

M Scott had completed and returned the entry form. He discussed some of the points that he had included. P Savill thanked him on behalf of the Parish Council for his hard work.

**152. Accounts**

Authority was given for payment of the following;

Neptune Furniture (Bus Shelter Bin) £302.64

M D Landscapes (Grasscutting) £439.20

CBC (Dog poo bin/Parsonage Lane) £307.38

P Savill outlined the end of year accounts and reserved monies. The clerk reported that the end of year accounts were due at the auditors by 11th June 2012.

**153. Maldon Road Playing Field**

Allotments K Young reported that someone had enquired about an allotment, he came and looked at one but hadn’t been in touch since. He had also been to visit Bob Wells who was still very poorly.

Play Area P Savill reported that she had submitted a request for funds for a toddler swing to the Essex Chronicle’s Heart of Essex Community Awards Scheme. C Quilter reported he had inspected the play area and there were no problems. **K Young** to make some enquiries to the new contact in the village regarding skate ramps.

**154. Planning**

H Blurton reported the following

Mole Cottage 12/00187/FUL First Floor Extension Granted

Mole Cottage 12/00188/CLOPUD Pool House Refused

Fristling Hall 11/01597/FUL Erect two sheep rearing barns with shepherds hut and resurface and extend access track Granted

1 & 2 Ivy Cottage 12/00135/FUL Amendments to 1100664/FUL Granted

Paddocks 12/00126/CAC Demolition of existing building and construction of replacement three bedroom dwelling Granted

Durrants Farm, Maldon Road 12/00370/FUL

Demolition of existing steel/timber outbuilding and replacement with new courtyard stables and store building in oak frame/weatherboard finish

PC’s comments; whilst the PC has no objections in principle to this application there were two concerns. (a) This is such a large development and with the stables already existing it might be used to set up a livery/house riding business. (b) If this were the case it was felt that the existing and proposed access due to lack of suitable visibility from the proposed access for vehicles in both direction would result in an unacceptable degree of hazard to all road users to the detriment of general highway safety. The PC would support any comments made by ECC Highways regarding site access.

The Oaks, Wantz Road 12/00384/FUL Change of use to offices falling within class B1.

The Parish Council objects to the application.

**155. Village Sites**

1. Repairs and Maintenance – H Blurton reported that the gates to the play area needed re-treating, he was to get some quotes. Also, the commemorative tree opposite the school needed some attention; the rails needed painting and the area inside needed clearing before covered by chippings. **H Blurton** to contact K Young’s neighbour regarding a quote for repairs to the bus shelter opposite the Black Bull.

2. Grass Verges, Footpaths and Bridleways - Nothing to report on grass verges. M Scott had sent some information off regarding the bridge across bridleway 22 (Hopes Bridge) and was waiting for the outcome.

3. Pond and Trees – In T Boem’s absence there was nothing to report.

**156. Village Projects**

a. Parish Council Office H Blurton reported that he had met with two surveyors who had taken all the measurements. He was waiting for the building regulations and plans which may have already been sent off.

b. Village Gateways Nothing to report

c. Whites Bridge Walk Boards CBC to approach The Environment Agency to see if this project could be included in the flood alleviation scheme.

d. Whites Bridge Traffic Calming Scheme Still being worked on.

**157. Correspondence**

a. Audit – Clerk reported that the audit had to be completed and submitted by 11th June.

b. Oyster Magazine – Issue 32/Spring2012 – **Clerk** to pass onto T Boem

c. Chelmsford Voluntary Service booklet – **Clerk** to file

d. Essex County Council/ Choral Evening – **M Scott** to reply

**158. Any Other Business**

a. May Parish Assembly – **P Savill** to let councillors know the date of the assembly after checking the availability of the village hall.

b. I Grundy reported that there were ongoing changes within the Highway Department.

c. M Scott reported that Kings Wood and the 414 had been cleared of rubbish.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 10th May 2012 at 7.30 p.m.