

A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton (Vice Chairman in Chair), T Boem, L Edwards, C Quilter, M Scott, P Slade, A Smith and A Wallace.

In attendance: Three members of the public and Cllr I Grundy

**120. Apologies for absence** were received from Mrs P Savill.

### **121. Democratic Time**

Mrs Bridle attended the meeting to express her concern about the Flood Alleviation Scheme. She outlined the flood zone that her property was on - zone 3. She had been in contact with the Environment Agency who requested that she have her land modelled, something which hadn't been carried out in Margaretting. Mrs Bridle was to contact Ian Dodson and write an article for the newsletter. **H Blurton** to contact Mr Dodson also. M Scott outlined that the PC had been assured that the brook would not flood back and affect The Red Lion or Brookside Cottages.

### **122. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

### **123. Matters Arising**

- a. Whistle Boards – It was explained that Network Rail would not close off the whistle boards completely until the footpath was closed permanently. **H Blurton** to contact Essex County Council and find out if there was a specified date for this.
- b. Yellow Lines/Maldon Road – P Savill had reported that after visiting the area, the yellow lines were still clearly visible. It was agreed that Councillors would have a look.
- c. Review of Financial Regulations – The clause had been reworded and financial regulations circulated.
- d. Wheelie Bins – A piece had been put in the Newsletter requesting parishioners try not to block the footpaths when leaving their bins out at night.
- e. Parsonage Lane - **I Grundy** to follow up with CHP and CCC the problems with the green outside Glenside Cottages.
- f. Footpath signage - M Scott reported that following his footpath walk he had contacted P Torr who agreed to put a sign up saying 'keep to the footpath' on his land.
- g. Governance Committee – L Edwards outlined the role of the committee and explained that three parish councillors were allowed to sit on it. It was agreed that this would be an **Agenda Item** for the May meeting.

h. Writtle/Margaretting Road – It was reported that P Savill had contacted Writtle Parish Council about the new signs and their position. Writtle confirmed there had been no consultation about it and that it did not mark the boundary between the two villages. However, they had decided not to do anything about it. They had enquired about an update on the speed reduction request along the road and P Savill had replied that the Parish Council were still in favour and had contacted Jon Simmons (Highways panel) for an update.

#### **124. Margaretting 2015 – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May Update**

It was reported that the fancy dress costume theme would be sport. M Scott reported that he was waiting to hear back from Sue Keeble who hadn't realised that the event was only for three hours, so was unsure whether that was long enough to hold an art exhibition. H Blurton had offered storage space in the office for the artists. Bob Culliton to organise the sports events, Jordanne Wood and Penny Doyle were organising netball goals.

**125. Parish Assembly. Clerk** to confirm that Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May in The Chelmer Room is free with the Village Hall Booking Clerk. Assembly to be held at 7.30p.m.

#### **126. Accounts**

Authority was given for the following to be paid;

M D Landscapes	£439.20
EALC (Legal Book)	£ 60.00
Village Hall (Electric/Office)	£ 48.32

The Public Works Loan (£733.68) and BT (£74.41) had been paid during the month.

**H Blurton** to contact M D Landscapes to find out a price for cutting the cricket strip as the cricket club were going to pay for it separately.

#### **127. Maldon Road Recreation Field**

a. Allotments – Nothing to report.

#### b. Play Area

i) Skate Board Ramps – Nothing to report

ii) Youth Shelter Seats – Nothing to report

iii) Toddler Swings – L Edwards reported that Wicksteed had revised their quote. It was agreed that this would be carried over to the May meeting.

#### **128. Village Projects**

i) Parish Council Office. There was nothing to report on the planters, H Blurton to chase up if he doesn't hear within the next two weeks. A Wallace reported that his friend would sponsor and supply a lanton to the Parish Council programmed for our needs. The Parish Council welcomed this

cloud. It was agreed to discuss this at the May meeting along with a printer. **A Wallace** to ask about backing up the computer.

ii) Village Hall Road Sign - H Blurton explained that the original quote for this was £217.00 and it has taken 18 months to get approval and the cost has risen to £2,000. **I Grundy** suggested he speak to Jon Simmons or the other option would be to put it to the Highways Committee.

iii) Village Gateways – H Blurton was still waiting for a response from Highways.

iv) Whites bridge Walk Boards – Nothing new to report.

### **129. Village Sites**

a. Repairs & Maintenance – **H Blurton** to take the pond information sign home and clean it up. M Scott reported that the telephone box had been repaired. **L Edwards** to check the dialling tone. **Clerk** to report if it is not working.

b. Pond & Trees – T Boem reported that the tree had fallen into the pond; he was to get a quote from Grass Roots to remove it. **A Wallace** thought he had a contact that would lend T Boem a boat so as he could clear the ivy from the middle of the island.

c. Roads, Pavements, Grass Verges, Rights of Way and Bridleways – It was reported that the post at Green Lane had been removed again.

### **130. Correspondence**

a. Clerk reported that the audit was to be returned by 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

b. Notification of road closures.

c. Case references for the following Eastfield Farm, Main Road 15/00204/ENFB & the barn at Parsonage Lane 15/00205/ENFB.

d. Notification from Jon Simmons that Swan Lane (Quieter Lane status) ref LCHE 152005 had been passed to the LHP Scheme Validation team.

### **131. Any Other Business**

a. M Scott would not be standing for re-election however he would still monitor the footpaths and planned to do a full survey of them.

b. T Boem explained that parishioners were to be given a chance to grow the largest carrot or lettuce for the village show by receiving free seeds.

c. L Edwards explained the latest about the 351 bus service.

d. **H Blurton** to take some photographs of the mould for the village sign and send them off to see if it can be used.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.28 p.m.

Next meeting Parish Assembly Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 p.m. in the Chelmer Room.

AGM Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 p.m.