

A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall on Thursday 11th December 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present; H Blurton, L Edwards, C Quilter, P Savill (Chairman), M Scott, P Slade, A Smith and A Wallace.

In attendance; Cllr I Grundy, Cllr Whitehead and three members of the public.

71. Apologies for absence were received from T Boem.

72. Democratic Time Cllr Whitehead attended the meeting to discuss the Flood Alleviation Scheme. Councillors and members of the public asked questions, in response Cllr Whitehead confirmed that:

- There had been a court hearing
- Money from the Council that had been set aside was still set aside. There were no more funds available.
- £1.6 Million had been spent so far.
- Government Grant money had been used by the council.
- Margaretting is affected by the scheme but won't benefit from it.
- The Environment Agency believes that the scheme will benefit the City of Chelmsford.
- No land is being released because of the scheme to allow future development.
- Residents and the City Council are 'being left in the dark'; the scheme will either be done or scrapped.
- The City Council is looking into the legal side of what would happen if the City Council refused to allocate any more money to the scheme or withdrew and whether they would be legally liable.
- The Environment Agency is keen to see the scheme finished.
- The City Council want confirmation that the Environment Agency has sufficient funds for the scheme and a schedule of when the scheme is going to re-commence.

73. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2014 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

74. Matters Arising

a. Three Mile Hill – P Savill reported that the documentation requesting a speed check had been submitted to the Chelmsford City Local Highways Panel.

75. Accounts

Authority was given for payment of the following;

C Kochan £473.75 Salary & Expenses

P Savill £ 50.00 Chairman's Expenses

PCC £475.00 Contribution to Church for upkeep of churchyard

P Savill outlined the balances in the bank and reserves. Councillors then set the precept which is to remain the same as the previous year (£12,422.00) after agreeing to keep details of the amount it costs to run the new office for a year for reference next year.

76. Maldon Road Playing Field

(a) Play Area – C Quilter reported that there were no problems to report.

(b) Skateboard Ramps – A Wallace explained that the installers were happy to come out and give a quote and although the youngsters were raising money he was waiting for them to get in touch with him before proceeding any further.

(c) P Savill reported the PC should receive some money from the Local Open Space Scheme for the toddler swings now that the houses had been built on the Spreadeagle site.

77. Village Projects

a. Office – H Blurton reported that he was waiting for an assessment of the rates. It was agreed that the heating would be left on a low setting during the winter. The telephone was to be re-set. P Savill to look at a printer and computer with H Blurton. H Blurton to look at planters in the New Year.

b. Village Hall Sign – H Blurton read out a letter from Highways which stated the PC's request to install additional road signage had been added to the potential scheme list for the Chelmsford City Local Highways Panel to consider for funding. A letter had previously been sent to Highways confirming the PC was willing to pay for a sign – it just wanted permission to install a sign. Cllr Whitehead explained that the Highways system is to be changed and simplified and offered to look into the signage request.

c. Walkboards at Whitesbridge – P Slade reported that he had rescued some of the boards.

78. Village Sites

a. Pond. It was reported that the Conservation Team came out and looked at the pond. The fee is £200 and it was thought that it would only take a day to clear. Work could not be carried out until later in 2015.

b. C Quilter reported that the bollard on footpath 43 had been put back.

c. It was reported that the gate keeps being left open on bridleway 22.

d. Footpath by the notice board in Maldon Road was to be re-inspected.

e. Flooding in Maldon Road – P Savill reported that senior managers in Highways had been informed about the problem but haven't reported what they intended to do about it.

79. Planning

14/01952/FUL Elm Farm, London Road

No Comments

Front & rear single storey extension

- 1 – Use of part of building A for livery stables: 2 – Use of rear of building A for offices and storage in conjunction with extended storage and part of building B for goods/materials for building firms:
3 – Use of part of building B for domestic storage

14/01955/FUL

Hawthorns, Wantz Road

Retrospective application for the retention of hay barn/tack room

Decisions

14/01642/CLOPUD Park Lodge Bungalow

Planning Permission Granted

14/01709/FUL Ging House, Wantz Road

Planning Permission Granted

80. Parish Council Surgeries and Police Street Meets

P Savill reported dates when Jemma Carr would be using the office – 17th January, 14th February and 14th March. The clerk would be doing the surgery on 17th January 2015.

81. Correspondence

- a. Notification of Highway improvements on the A12 junctions 11-12.
- b. Community Games – It was agreed to get a programme together and apply for a grant. The football team were interested. **P Savill** to arrange a date in spring, possibly in May when the cricket team were not using the field. L Edwards, A Wallace, P Slade, M Scott to help and hopefully get the school involved.

82. Any Other Business

1. L Edwards explained that she had been unable to attend any of the transport meetings due to work commitments but was however still monitoring the 351 bus service and would send her report to the next transport meeting.
2. A Wallace explained that there were still problems with parking at the school at dropping off/picking up time with parents parking on the zig zags. The teachers are trying to police it; he was to contact Jemma Carr.
3. Cllr Whitehead explained that Friday 13th March was to be the Community Evening. The Mayors Civic Dinner had been scrapped.
4. Cllr Grundy reported on the recent police findings during a purge on the A12.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.44p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 8th January 2015 at 7.30 p.m.