A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 10th December 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton, L Edwards (Chairman), T Paoli-Burke, C Quilter, P Slade, A Smith and A Wallace. There were two members of the public and Cllr I Grundy.

**82. Declarations of Interest**  There were no Declarations of Interest.

**83. Democratic Time.**

(a) Mr & Mrs Albon explained that there were residents living in the Tyelands now and that the newly erected gate had been moved to Tyelands. H Blurton outlined the position with Margaretting Hall regarding the ownership.

**84. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th November 2015 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**85. Matters Arising**

**a.** The clerk reported that Benjamin Firth was the case officer for reference 15/00726/ENB regarding a possible tent at the Three Mile Hill intersection 4.

**b.** The clerk reported that the replacement dog bin at the village hall would cost £270 plus vat to supply and fit.

**c. Yellow Lines/Maldon Road** L Edwards reported that no one has been parking on the yellow lines.

**d. Bench/G White**  It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

**86**. **Accounts/Precept**

P Savill had prepared an estimated out turn for the 2016/17 audit. L Edwards outlined the figures which were agreed and the audit was set at £12,432, clerk to return all the paperwork.

Authority was given for payment of the following;

 Clerks Salary £473.75

 Margaretting PCC £475.00

It was agreed that a further three cheques could be signed when the new cheque book arrived.

**87. Community Matters**

a. Orton Close – L Edwards reported that she had received confirmation that the top area of Orton Close would be tarmacked, white lined, drainage and flower beds would all be done hopefully before the end of March. It was agreed that the area would look better.

b. M Wright suggested that a presentation to Edna Baldock and Eva Watts for recognition to all the voluntary litter picking would be appropriate. P Slade had already purchased chocolates which would be presented at the charity bingo.

c. Community Transport – L Edwards reported that she had been in contact with Chris Johnson, who had outlined the costs of an individual membership of £12 per year then £4 each way. This seemed very costly to the Parish Council for a service used by the elderly. Mrs Paoli-Burke to speak to Age Concern and find out a price for a dial a ride service.

**88. Village Projects**

a. Nothing to report on the office access.

**89. Village Sites**

a. Bus Shelter opposite Red Lion H Blurton reported that the re-treatment of the bus shelter would take place in the spring.

b. Interpretation Board/Pond H Blurton reported that Marine Ply was required for the post and board, which when repaired would have a drainage gap to release the water, a new frame was estimated to cost £60, it was agreed that H Blurton proceed.

c. Lavender Bank It was reported that T Boem had recommended that Wayne Lincoln submit a quote which he was waiting to receive.

d. Pond & Trees P Slade reported that a resident in Maldon Road was unhappy with the planting on the green as they hadn’t been consulted. L Cameron or the Parish Council didn’t know who had planted the trees but it would be at least 70 years before they would be fully grown.

e. Roads, Pavements & Grass Verges L Edwards reported that pavements and verges get reported for repair regularly, but repairs seem to take a long time or get lost in the system.

**90. Queens Celebration**

L Edwards outlined P Savill’s notes; seven parishioners attended the meeting, with two apologies for absence. The Village Hall had been booked for 12th June 2016. It had been agreed that a street style celebration party for children and adults would take place between 3-9pm. The theme would be Royal and 1920s (hopefully people would dress in the party theme). Different entertainment ideas were discussed at the meeting and ways of raising funds. It had been confirmed at the meeting that £145 was set aside in the Parish Council budget for this item. The next scheduled meeting was 12th January 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

**91. Transparency Code**

L Edwards outlined P Savill’s notes following the briefing she had attended. New audit arrangements and the inclusion of the accounts onto the Parish Council website every month. There were to be timescales for the agenda and minutes to be uploaded too. Planning meetings would also have to be advertised in the same format. Funds could be applied for through the EALC of £350 towards a computer and £90 towards a scanner, closing date for this is 15th February 2016.

**92. Planning**

H Blurton reported that there were no planning applications for discussion and only one decision

15/01381/FUL Barr House, Writtle Road Refused

 Demolition and re-build of property

H Blurton outlined the Chelmsford Local Plan Consultation Document which does not involve or mention Margaretting. The Council were protecting the Metropolitan Green Belt. The term ‘Service Settlement’ as mentioned in the document means that a primary school is in the village. It was agreed that the plan would be kept in the office.

**93. Correspondence**

1. L Edwards reported that she had attended the Helen Rollason Christmas Celebration on behalf of the Parish Council.

**94. Any Other Business**

a. Light – Clerk to report the light out on the corner of Parsonage Lane.

b. Paper Towels for Office – It was agreed that H Blurton could purchase these at £9.00 plus vat.

 It was also agreed that H Blurton find some quotations for a printer .

c. The schedule for the Parish Council surgery for 2016 was circulated and filled in.

d. Office – It was agreed that all councillors would have a key for the filing cabinet.

 The value of contents would be worked out by H Blurton and the clerk before approaching P Doyle.

e. Footpaths – P Slade reported that he had given a lot of the footpath walk brochures out.

f. 351 Bus Service – L Edwards reported more issues with the 351 Bus Service and that she would be attending a Transport Meeting on 22nd February 2016.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 14th January 2016 at 7.30 p.m.