A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 14th February 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton, L Edwards, C Quilter, P Savill (Chairman), M Scott, and K Young.

Also present were two members of the public.

**110. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from W Cant, T Boem, A Smith, Cllr I Grundy and C Kochan (Clerk).

**111. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests.

**112. Democratic Time**

There were no issues raised.

**113. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2103 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**114. Matters Arising**

(i) Minute 99 Democratic Time

Blocked drains in Maldon Road: Nothing further to report. P Savill had not contacted Tim Savage (Environmental Services). It was agreed to check with the Clerk to see if she had reported the parish council’s concerns to Tim Savage. **ACTION: P Savill**

No 13 Maldon Road: CHP had informed Cllr Grundy that No 13 had already been allocated. CHP informed Cllr Grundy also that parish councils have no influence in the allocations of social housing save where they are consulted on new builds on a rural exception site.

 (ii) Minute 101 Matters Arising

Barns House: It was agreed to continue monitoring and report back to next meeting. **ACTION: All**

Railway: It was noted Network Rail’s contractors are due to vacate the Nun’s Crossing site on 31 March and that repairs to pot holes will be undertaken in April.

Street Lighting: L Edwards reported the concerns of some residents about the timing for the lights being switched off. It was noted that planned proposals for street lighting being switched off are due to start next month.

Salt: A Smith and the Clerk had contacted Chelmsford City Council and had been told there is no salt scheduled for delivery. The salt storage bags had disintegrated and there were no staff to re-bag the loose salt.

(iii) Minute 102 Community Engagement

There had been no response from the community. It was agreed to contact Vicar Jean to find out if she had received any response from the community. **ACTION: P Savill**

**115. Village Spring Clean**

This will take place on Saturday, 6 April. Volunteers to meet outside the Black Bull at 10am. **ACTION: All**

**116. Accounts – 2012/2013**

The following expenditure was agreed:

£50 Annual rent for Maldon Road Playing Field

£386.97 Parish Council’s contribution towards the Village Hall Insurance.

**117. Planning**

(i) Chelmsford Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS)

The planning meeting is scheduled to take place on 26th February at 7pm at Christ Church, 64 New London Road, Chelmsford. H Blurton explained the procedures and time limits for asking questions at the meeting. It was agreed the parish council would not participate in the time reserved for public questions. It was agreed also that the parish council had nothing further to add to its objections already submitted and repeating what has already been stated would only take up valuable and limited time set aside for members of the public. Instead, the parish council will request Cllr Ian Grundy, Ward Councillor for Stock and Margaretting, to voice an objection and to reinforce to the committee and those in attendance that Margaretting Parish Council does not support this scheme. **ACTION: P Savill**

H Blurton reported on a meeting held on 6 December with representatives from the FAS Project Team, Chelmsford City Council’s Planning Department and residents from the Tye. The aim of the meeting had been to discuss traffic management issues raised by the parish council and residents during the construction of the River Wid Storage Area. Issues discussed were: width of the proposed passing bays in Swan Lane; speed limits; restricted visibility; parking; lorry movements; protection of the village green and reinstatement of Swan Lane upon completion.

L Edwards drew the parish council’s attention to Martin Steven's most recent e-mail and his concerns about Ruth Mabbutt's internal e-mail dated 23 October 2012 requesting legal advice on a planning application for sheep barns to be sited directly in the path of the FAS. He was concerned that the e-mail predated the parish council’s and other registered objections to the FAS. P Savill reported she had checked the date the parish council’s objections had been sent to Chelmsford City Council’s Planning Department and confirmed these had been sent prior to the date of the internal e-mail.

(ii) Plannng Applications and Decisions

The following applications were received comment:

13/00096/FUL & 13/00097/LBC: Red Lion Public House. Single storey side extension to provide additional restaurant space and the creation of a disabled W.W.

Comments: No objections in principle but the parish council would wish to see the extension built in keeping with existing materials.

13/00126/FUL: Ging House, Wantz Road. Construction of integral garage; single storey rear extension; oak framed car shelter with tiled roof.

Comments: No objections.

The following decisions were noted:

12/01878/CLOPUD - Park Lodge Bungalow, Writtle Road. Single storey side and rear extensions and construction of a detached cart lodge. Planning Permission Granted

12/00668/FUL (Appeal Ref: APP/W1525/A/12/2180410): Fristling Hall, Swan Lane. Erect two sheep rearing barns with Shepherds Hut and extend access track. Planning Permission Granted

The following change of house name was noted: ‘Chywoone’ to be changed to ‘The Gables’.

**118. Village Projects**

(i) Whites Bridge Walk boards - Nothing further to report.

(ii) Village Gateways - Nothing further to report. It was noted it is still proving difficult to make contact with Highways staff. It was agreed to contact Cllr Grundy in his capacity as an Essex County Councillor about this lack of response. **ACTION: H Blurton**

(iii) Parish Council Office – Nothing further to report. P Savill is still waiting to hear whether or not the parish council is to receive a grant from MAZTEC.

**119. Village Sites**

(i) Repairs and Maintenance

Lavender Bank in Maldon Road: Two quotations have been received for the supply and installation of railway sleepers. A further two are expected. **ACTION: A Smith and T Boem**

(ii) Grass Verges, Footpaths and Bridleways

The Tye: Extensive damage has been caused to the green and verges in Swan Lane by Police cars. It was agreed to report this matter to Highways. **ACTION: P Savill**

Bridleway 43: Nothing further to report. C Quilter has not received any replies to e-mails sent to Highways. It was agreed to inform Cllr Grundy about this lack of response. **ACTION: H Blurton**

(iii) Pond and Trees

War memorial - ornamental weeping willow leafed pear trees: It was agreed to check with T Boem to see whether he had obtained estimates for pruning the two trees. It was noted the contractors would have to be on Chelmsford City Council’s approved list. **ACTION: H Blurton**

**120. Maldon Road Recreation Field**

(i) Allotments

One of the two vacant allotments has been let. The remaining allotment is to be offered to residents on the Ingatestone and Fryerning parish council’s allotment waiting list. RCCE is offering support to establish or expand orchards with public access. It was agreed to follow up this offer with the view to expand the existing orchard area in the allotments. **ACTION: K Young**

(II) Recreation Field and Play Area

The play area inspections continue to be carried out regularly. Appreciation was expressed to C Quilter for the time he gives to these inspections. There was one reported incident - a broken bottle left on the grass near the roundabout.

 K Young reported that the young people are still keen to see a skate board ramp installed in the playing field. It was agreed to pursue funding opportunities and noted that funding organisations would expect the young people to fund raise towards the costs. L Skinner expressed her support and stated she was willing to help fund raise. It was agreed also to ask the young people to write something for the newsletter about fund raising. **ACTION: K Young**

**121. Correspondence**

a. County Update No 113 - L Edwards to read

b. Clerks and Council’s Direct – H Blurton to read and return to the Clerk

122. Any Other Business

The following issues were raised:

a. Vehicle Thefts – Land rover stolen from a resident’s garage.

b. Parsonage Lane – Flooding caused by a ditch being filled in. This issue will be referred to Highways.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 14th March 2013 at 7.30p.m.