A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 10th January 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present; H Blurton, T Boem, L Edwards, C Quilter, P Savill (Chairman), M Scott, A Smith and K Young.

Also present was Cllr I Grundy and four members of the public.

**97. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from W Cant

**98. Declarations of Interest**

P Savill reported that she had an interest in planning application 12/01833/CLEUD as she had right of way through the yard.

**99. Democratic Time**

(a) W Henderson reported blocked drains in Maldon Road. **P Savill & Clerk** to contact Tim Savage (Environmental Services).

(b) R Elliott attended the meeting to ask if the Parish Council would support his application for a housing transfer into the village. His daughter attended the village school, his parents lived in the village and he grew up in the village. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support him. **P Savill** to contact Chelmer Housing.

**100. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th December 2012 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record after the following amendments were made;

 Minute 89 - Building Regulations Consultation to read: Planning Regulations Consultation.

 Minute 93 – Bridleway 43 to read: C Quilter reported that he had covered the wire himself and therefore made safe.

 Minute 93 – Mayor’s Tree to read: two prices were given for the metal railings around the tree opposite the school, it was agreed to accept the lowest, Brian Smiths quote of £50 - £60 (materials)

**101. Matters Arising**

a. Elm Cottage It was reported that the area had been fenced and tidied.

b. Barns House Premises was reported as tidied, although it was agreed that councillors would monitor.

c. Pot Holes Some of the potholes had been repaired.

d. Railway P Savill reported that she had been in contact with Network Rail, who had confirmed that the repairs were only temporary.

e. Street Lighting P Savill reported that it was too late to comment, consultation finished in November.

f. Salt It was reported that the salt hadn’t been delivered yet. **Clerk** to follow up.

**102. Community Engagement** – Chelmsford Diocese and ECC Initiative

Councillors thought that this was a good idea. T Boem suggested getting a list of volunteers ready for when a project comes up. **P Savill** to put something into the newsletter.

**103. Accounts**

Authority was given for payment of the following;

Active Signs £140.00

**104. Planning**

Chelmsford Alleviation Scheme It was reported that this item was going to committee on March 4th for consideration.

Applications

Wells Farm, Ivy Barn Lane Appeal

12/00072/S195 Detatched garage and Cart Lodge

Park Lodge Bungalow, Writtle Road

12/0188878/CLOPUD Single storey and rear extensions and construction of a detached Cart Lodge

Whites Yard, Main Road

12/01833/CLEUD The storage and repair of motor vehicles

It was agreed that the parish Council acknowledge the application, although a comment cannot be made it was to be mentioned that there are no toilet facilities or running water on site. The lease for the premises had also run out. Nearby residents were to be urged to notify the city council that they have a right of way across the area.

**105. Village Projects**

(i) Whites Bridge and Whites Bridge Walkboards

P Savill reported on a meeting with the landscape architect, which was also attended by H Blurton, M Scott, A Smith & A R Smith, where different ideas were discussed and it was felt that the project should be like for like - hardwood walkboards, concrete posts and metal handrails. They had also discussed having a sign incorporated to act as a village gateway and to include some of the children’s art work on posts on the end of the walkboard railings. H Blurton reported that if the project goes ahead maintenance and upkeep of the walkboards would be the responsibility of the Parish Council.

At this juncture the meeting was closed (8.28 p.m.)

Mrs A Smith explained that she couldn’t visualise the Margaretting sign being on the bend and preferred it to go on the island which seemed more prominent. She also thought the date of refurbishment should be recorded on one of the posts.

The meeting re opened at 8.40 p.m.

It was agreed that there would be a site meeting when needed to discuss where the signs would go and whether the railings should be painted white.

(ii) Village Gateways **H Blurton** has a contact name and will contact.

(iii) Parish Council Office – P Savill reported that the Parish Council were not successful in obtaining a grant from Chelmsford City Council. She reported that she was waiting to hear from Maztec.

**106. VILLAGE SITES**

a. Repairs and Maintenance Nothing to report

b. Grass Verges/Footpaths/Bridleways Nothing to report

c. Pond and Trees T Boem reported that we have the plaque and tree rings which will be put in place in the Spring. The pond needed clearing but he hadn’t had chance to cut anything back yet.

It was agreed that **T Boem** would get two quotes for work to be carried out on the Willow leaved Pear Trees at the War Memorial and for work to the Willow Tree at The Tye. **T Boem** also to get a quote for installing the sleepers at the lavender bank.

**107. MALDON ROAD RECREATION FIELD**

**Allotments** K Young reported that he had contacted someone who was interested in an allotment.

**Play Area** No problems were reported.

**108. CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Voluntary Update – L Edwards to read

b. Oyster Magazine – L Edwards to read

**109. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a. M Scott requested that the Spring Clean-up be an agenda item for February.

b. H Blurton reported that Little Tressels Farm had failed to sell at the recent auction.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

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