A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 14th January 2016 at 7.30p.m.

Present; H Blurton(Vice Chairman in Chair), C Quilter, P Savill, P Slade, A Smith and A Wallace. There were two members of the public present.

**95. Apologies for absence** were received from T Paoli-Burke, L Edwards and Cllr I Grundy.

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

**97. Democratic Time**

a. Parish Office. W Henderson asked about the ramp at the office and informed the meeting about his contact with a disability centre. H Blurton explained that there had been no further response from the City Council and the office is now complete and had been signed off by building control. There will be fixed planters between each bollard and a handrail both sides of the door fixed to the building costing (£925 plus vat).

b. Nunns Crossing/Water. P Savill to pass all contact information onto P Slade who will follow up.

c. Fencing in Maldon Road. B Keeble attended the meeting and explained that a new fence and gate had been erected in Maldon Road. After a discussion it was suggested that this was to do with the Saddlery. After a discussion it was agreed that A Wallace go to the Saddlery and enquire about it.

d. Flood Alleviation. There was nothing to report on the flood alleviation although Mr & Mrs Albon had reported that Tyelands was up for sale.

**98. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th December 2015 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**99. Matters Arising**

**a.** The City Council had confirmed that there were no signs of occupancy at the area of land at three mile hill.

**b.** Dog Bin/Village Hall – the clerk reported that the new dog bin was in hand.

**c.** Parking in Maldon Road – nothing to report

**d.** Mrs White had not responded to the parish council’s letter regarding having a bench at the allotments in her husband’s memory. Clerk to write to Mrs White and confirm that this had now been agreed by the council.

**e.** Clerk reported that she had contacted AON for a quote for the contents of the office valued at £6,000.

**100. Accounts**

P Savill outlined the balances in the bank. Authority was given for payment of the following;

P Slade £ 29.05 (Chocolates for Mrs Wood & Mrs Baldock)

H Blurton £ 11.37 (Office Supplies)

L Edwards £ 50.00 (Chairman’s Expenses)

Conservation Volunteers £240.00 Pond work

**101. Community Matters**

a. Orton Close – It was reported that CHP were obtaining quotes for the tarmac and drainage work

b. Community Transport –T Paoli-Burke to report at February meeting. Clerk to write Chris Seaman (Essex County Council) regarding the review.

**102. Village Projects** a. H Blurton reported on a printer/scanner which he had researched for the office. It was agreed that he forward the information to P Savill so that the grant can be applied for.

b. H Blurton reported that all the snagging at the office had been completed so the final invoice would be due before the February meeting.

**103. Village Sites**

a. Oak Trees/ Maldon Road. P Slade to encourage B Stone to speak to L Cameron regarding the oak trees. P Slade to remove the ivy growing round a cherry tree opposite the Black Bull.

**104. Roads/Pavements/Verges**

a. Gateways – Jon Simmons had responded to H Blurton’s enquiry which was going to committee on 23rd March after which the Parish Council will know if they have been included in the 2016/17 budget for the gateway.

The meeting closed at 8.28 whilst Village Gateways were explained to B Keeble; the meeting resumed at 8.30.

b. Three Mile Hill – P Savill reported that she had been in touch with Jon Simmons regarding the survey at three mile hill following the recent serious accident.

c. The Tye – It was reported that the bollard at the Tye installed by Highways will be replaced.

d. Pot Holes – P Slade had forwarded a police email onto L Edwards.

**105 Queen’s Celebration**

P Savill reported on the recent meeting which she was unable to attend and A Wallace and P Slade had also sent their apologies. So far a Magician, Singer and Hog Roast had been booked and the event was to run from 3-8pm. Local businesses are to be approached for financial support and children are to be asked to do the scarecrows.

**106**  **Planning**

The following application was received for comment.

4 Brookside Cottages, Main Road 16/00025/FUL

Demolition of existing conservatory and sun lounge and construction of single storey side and rear extension. There were no objections although it would be hoped that consideration would be given to neighbours comments.

The following decision was noted.

Tindal House, Maldon Road 15/01784/FUL Approved

P Savill enquired about Eweland Hall Lodge – H Blurton to look at the file.

**107 Any Other Business**

1. P Savill reported that there was to be a musical performance at the church on 28th February between 4-6. Tickets were £5.

2. Eastern Angles were to perform at The Village Hall on Tuesday 12th April.

3. A Wallace reported that the Headmaster was leaving the school at the end of the term.

4. A Wallace reported that he was to arrange to have the bollards at the war memorial painted to match the new ones and that there is now a mould should any need replacing in the future.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.47 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 11th February at 7.30p.m.