A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 12th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present; H Blurton, C Quilter, P Savill and A Wallace.

In attendance was one member of the public

**77. Apologies for absence** were received from T Paoli-Burke, Cllr I Grundy and A Smith

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

**79. Democratic Time**

**a.** Marion Downie outlined her concerns about a tree at the top of the hill by Peacocks that had a split in it and was overhanging the road – **Clerk** to report.

b. **Clerk** to report missing bollard by the school to Highways

c. **Clerk** to write to the school Headmistress Máire O’Regan and enquire whether any progress had been made with Highways concerning the Penny’s Lane junction. A Wallace volunteered to meet with her, clerk to include his contact details.

**80. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting dated 8th December 2016 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**81. Matters Arising**

**a. Level Crossing** - H Blurton reported that he was waiting to hear from Claire MacFarlane after contacting her.

**b. Environment Agency** – an acknowledgement had been received following the Parish Council’s letter. A full response will be received by 4th February.

**c. Tree Stumps** – Clerk reported that she was waiting to hear from Anne Hooper.

**d. Sewage in Penny’s Lane** Clerk reported that following her report to the Environment Department she had received a telephone call to say an officer was to visit the area.

**e. Bollards at War Memorial**  A Wallace confirmed payment for the bollards had taken place.

**81. Accounts**

P Savill outlined the balances in the bank and the reserves. £600 had been allocated for tree maintenance and cutting back the hedge at the Maldon Road playing field and £1337 had been earmarked for the village sign by the pond.

Authority was given for payment of the following;

B.T. £1.00 adoption of the telephone kiosk at Margaretting Tye, H Blurton to read the contract before signing and sending payment.

£44.00 B.T. Telephone/Broadband

**82. Community Matters**

**a. Maldon Road Playing Field** A Wallace explained that two quotes were in hand for cutting back the hedge alongside the allotments, another quote was to be obtained. **H Blurton** to find out when the work can be carried out so as not to interfere with nesting birds.

**b. Youth Shelter** C Quilter reported that there had been a barbeque in the bin at the youth shelter, he had put it back together again although the paint from around the bin had been burnt.

**83. Village Sites**

a. Repairs & Maintenance. It was agreed that the gate at the Maldon Road playing field and benches around the village would be treated; several names of local tradesmen were suggested.

b. Pond & Trees **Clerk** to ask Tim Boem if he still considers himself to be the tree warden.

c. Roads, Pavements, Grass Verges, Rights of Way & Bridleways.  **Clerk** to re-report the missing bollard on Bridleway number 43, the damaged handrail and damaged fencing all caused following a burglary.

**84. Planning**

Decisions

4 Whitesbridge Cottages 16/01812/FUL and 16/01813/LBC Granted

25 Orton Close 16/01930/FUL Granted

Church Lane 16/01839/FUL Refused

Guestling, Maldon Road 16/01888/FUL Granted

Four Oaks – H Blurton reported that a post box had been erected at the new site Jamie Stubbs was sending a planning officer to the site.

**85. Correspondence**

The Parish Council had received the accounts for Margaretting Relief in Need which was to be circulated.

**86. Any Other Business**

Parish Council Surgery dates and councillors who were to hold the surgery for the first three months were agreed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.27 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 9th February 2017 at 7.30 p.m.