A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 14th June 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton, W Cant (Vice-Chairman in Chair), C Quilter, M Scott, A Smith and K Young.

Also present were five members of the public.

**14. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from T Boem, Cllr I Grundy and P Savill.

**15. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**16. Democratic Time**

Martin Stevens reported to the Parish Council and showed some photographs following Gary Sharpes visit to the flood alleviation scheme at Halsted; he had also spoken to residents from the vicinity. There was to be a piece in the Essex Chronicle previous to the public meeting and leaflets had been distributed publicising the meeting. H Burton reported that there should be enough width in Swan Lane for a car and lorry to be able to pass. He also reported that he was requesting oak bollards to protect the green at Margaret ting Tie. H Burton reported that some of the top officials from The Environment Agency would be at the meeting and hopefully all the questions that the parish council had sent in would be answered. Two MPs had been contacted and would hopefully attend as well.

M Scott reported that he still hadn’t heard anything from A Bestwick concerning a site visit by councillors

**17. Membership of the Parish Council – Co-Option**

Mrs L Edwards was the only parishioner from those invited to attend the meeting, she confirmed that she had last been on the Parish Council in 2003 and had lived in the village for twenty five years. After she gave a brief outline of herself it was agreed that she be nominated this was done by M Scott and seconded by W Cant.

**18. Matters Arising**

a. Hand Rail by the Notice Board. H Blurton suggested a scaffold pole could be used, although it was agreed that this would look ugly. A Smith suggested elongating the slope. It was decided that **M Scott** was to go back to P Leech and find out how many parishioners had also wanted a rail to be put up. **H Blurton** to get a price for scaffold.

**19. Queens Diamond Jubilee**

The day had been a huge success. P Savill had already written to all those that helped on the day. H Blurton reported that there was likely to be a surplus of cash left over and he suggested replacing one of the oak benches with a new one with a commemorative plaque.

**20. Flood Alleviation Scheme**

**H Blurton** was to raise Swan Lane at the public meeting. It was agreed that the sent in questionnaire had covered all the important questions.

**21. Accounts**

Authority was given for payment of the following;

M D Landscapes £663.60

C Kochan £473.75

A Smith (Hog Roast/Jubilee) £600.00

BSW Marquees (Jubilee) £478.20

S Wood (Barbeque/Tea Party/Jubilee) £197.90

P Savill (Bouncy Castle/Magician/Barn Dance Musicians/Jubilee) £700.00

**22. Maldon Road Playing Field**

Play Area – C Quilter reported that he inspected the play area on 16th May and there were no problems. He noticed that the bin was almost full. **Clerk** to get him some black bin liners.

Allotments – K Young reported that there had been no problems. The water had been turned off. All the rent money for the allotments had been collected and handed to the clerk.

**23. Planning**

H Blurton explained that the parish council were notified of the following but not asked to comment

The Oaks 11/01122/AOD/1

Wells farm 12/00796/CLOUPD

The following decisions were reported;

Great Tressels - appeal dismissed

Elm Cottage Refused

1 Elm Cottage Granted

Durrents farm – Application Withdrawn

Berwyn, Maldon Road 12/00763/FUL PC’s comments; Inappropriate Development

H Blurton reported that he was liaising with Chelmsford Council about the willow tree at Margaret ting Tye which has a TPO on it. An application has been submitted so that H Blurton can manage the tree.

**24. Village Sites**

a. Repairs and Maintenance

H Blurton had a quote to treat the gate at the Maldon Road playing field (£190) The quote for work opposite the school was £725. Both quotes seemed excessive but other quotes were in hand. He was to add the hand rail by the notice board to the repair and maintenance list,

b. Grass Verges

H Blurton reported that he had not had a response from Highways to date.

c. Pond & Trees

It was reported that T Boem had the oak tree that had been donated for the jubilee and is going on the green in Maldon Road as a replacement.

**25. Village Projects**

(i) Parish Council Office – **H Blurton** to ask P Savill to go with him to Ingleton Wood to undo the tenders, it was agreed in P Savills absence that M Scott would go. P Savill and H Blurton could then start applying for grants for the project.

(ii) Whitesbridge Walkboards – H Blurton reported that he had spoken to A Bestwick, a meeting date was to be arranged and hopefully the work can be carried out as part of the alleviation scheme by the Environment Agency.

**26. Correspondence**

1. Essex Highways – Road closure and repairs to Ivy barn Lane – Clerk reported that this had already taken place.

2. Essex County Council – Street Materials Guide – Design and Good Practice – H Blurton to read

3. Letter from resident from Margaretting Tye – **Clerk** to respond as the Stock end of Swan Lane doesn’t get flooded.

4. ROSPA – Inspection Report for the play area – Clerk to file.

5. A sympathy card was signed for Penny and Roy Savill.

**27. Any Other Business**

a. A Smith reported that the hedge still needed cutting back by Tandridge and the Ash tree was still hanging down.

At this juncture W Cant closed the meeting 8.50 p.m.

b. A Smith reported that the damage caused by the railway workers was still unrepaired; he explained to W Henderson that it was the pipe under the road where the contractors have been using his site. **Clerk** to ask **P Savill** to re contact.

Meeting re opened at 8.56 p.m.

c. M Scott explained to C Quilter about horse riders using bridleways and footpaths.

d. H Blurton reported that he had a quote of just over £4,000 to do the work on the bus shelter opposite the Black Bull. He was waiting for another quote from a resident. It was agreed that **Bus Shelters** would be an agenda item for the July meeting to discuss the new shelter outside the Black Bull.

e. Little Tressels Farm/Environmental Health. H Blurton reported that there had been no change since they were given the 90 day notice to clear illegal rubbish. **Clerk** to contact P Savill’s contact.

f. **Clerk** to write to owner of the house opposite the black bull and request that the vegeatation growing under the two cherry trees that is leaning on the bus shelter be cut back.

g. M Scott reported that E Baldock and E Wood were willing to clear Kings Wood on a regular basis if someone could drop them off and pick them up. **Clerk** to contact them.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.11 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 12th July at 7.30 p.m.