

A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road, Margaretting on Thursday 8th March 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present; H Blurton (Chairman), L Kerry, T Paoli-Burke, P Savill, A Smith, C Quilter and A Wallace. Also present were four members of the public.

91. Apologies for Absence were received from G Banks and Cllr I Grundy.

92. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

93. Democratic Time

a. The whistle boards were still making a noise; H Blurton explained that the government hadn't approved the closure of the footpath therefore the whistles will still be going.

b. Four Oaks – David Frost spoke about the site which was on the flood plain and in the metropolitan green belt, he was concerned about enforcement there were additional gateways, a post box and the footpath seemed to be shut off. He explained to the parish council that he was to try and get the footpath reopened. H Blurton outlined the situation with the High Court and suggested that he forward all information onto him. It was agreed that the site needed to be regulated. A Wallace suggested arranging for a principle planning officer to visit the site and meet with Mr & Mrs Brindle along with a couple of Parish Councillors. Clerk to contact Jamie Stubbs and explain that it is understood that two families are living on site.

c. Mr & Mrs Albon reported aeroplanes flying over regularly; it was thought that this was probably due to the clear skies and photographs being taken.

d. H Blurton outlined the land registry information from 2013 regarding the road from the railway bridge in Parsonage Lane to Tyelands. The latest map doesn't show who owns the road so it was possibly owned by the railway.

94. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2018 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

95. Matters Arising

a. **Footpath Map** – T Paoli-Burke reported that she was waiting for someone to get in touch with her and would chase them up.

b. **Dog Poo Bag Dispensers** – H Blurton outlined the cost for the dispensers; C Quilter reported that he visits the park most weekends and had never really found this a problem. It was agreed to put this item on hold for the time being. T Paoli-Burke to come up with the wording for a new sign for the gate.

c. **Salt Bin at the crossroads** – H Blurton outlined the cost of a salt bin. The Parish Council would have to get permission to put the salt bin in position, it was therefore agreed to put this item on hold.

d. **Eastern Angles** – Flyers were available, A Wallace suggested doing a countdown of how many tickets were left in the newsletter.

e. **Village Hall.** H Blurton outlined repairs that needed carrying out at the Village Hall. A Wallace suggested making a charitable donation as a Parish Council, it was agreed that councillors think about this between meetings.

f. **Bus Shelter repair** - In hand.

g. **Advertising Board at the old Petrol Filling Station** – Clerk to report the advertising Board to Jamie Stubbs.

96. Accounts

P Savill outlined the accounts and balances in the bank.

Authority was given for payment of the following;

Clerks salary & expenses	£ 473.75
PWLB	£ 733.68
Office Outlet	£ 14.96
B.T.	£ 45.36.

H Blurton outlined the cost for hiring a van to take the sign and drop off and to collect it. Councillors agreed to the cost of the van from Enterprise of £91.25, H Blurton to organise. A Wallace to help with the signs removal.

97. Community Matters

Maldon Road Playing Field P Savill reported that Allotments 1,2 and 3 had been taken on by the resident of 6 Orton Close. Someone else was interested in allotment 6 or 8; the clerk was to meet with them at the allotments. C Quilter reported that quote to cut the hedge from Stephen Mayhew was £350, this was agreed. C Quilter to inform Mr Mayhew.

98. Village Spring Clean

The Date for the Spring Clean was arranged for 14th April meeting at the Black Bull at 10.30 am.

99. Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders

It was agreed that all of these would be photocopied and given to councillors; the information pack also needed updating.

100. Village Sites

a. Repairs & Maintenance – It was agreed that the timber treatment and brush would be brought for T Paoli-Burke for when the weather changes.

b. Pond & Trees – H Blurton to get a quote for the two weeping pear trees by the war memorial as work is usually carried out every other year. H Blurton to speak to the tree officer about the crab apple tree by the pond.

c. Roads, Pavements, Grass Verges, Rights of Way and Bridleways – It was explained that the grass verge on the hill down to the school gets cut twice a year. Bridleway 44 C Quilter reported that the area had been tidied the fencing had been cleared and the post had been reinstated. H Blurton reported that the gateways in Main Road/Wantz Road were due to be done on 26th March.

101. Planning

Applications

Umtali, Maldon Road		No Comments
18/00381/FUL	Replacement Garage	

Decisions

Telephone Exchange, Main Road		Refused
17/01778/FUL	Change of Use of vacant telephone exchange building to a storage centre (Class B8)	
Dunedin, Maldon Road		Granted
17/02192/FUL	Single storey front porch and detached outbuilding	

H Blurton outlined the Planning Forum attended by himself and A Wallace. In the spring they are expecting instructions for the planning rules to be relaxed. They will be encouraging neighbourhood planning. The 2021 – 2036 Local Plan will not affect Margarettown, 900 new homes a year are to be built and the nearest site will be in Writtle. Traveller Sites (Travelling Show People Plots) H Blurton outlined the different number of plots in four different sites.

102. Any Other Business

- a. T Paoli-Burke to record the number plates of speeding tractors using Maldon Road and report complaints to the police.
- b. Clerk to write to CHP regarding the car parked in front of the third garage down from the top at the top of Orton Close.
- c. H Blurton reported that he had taken over representing the parish council on the village hall committee.
- d. The Parish Assembly was arranged for 8th May and AGM would take place on 10th May before the usual Parish council meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

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