

The Annual Parish Assembly of Margaretting Parish Council took place in The Meeting Room at Margaretting Village Hall on Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.00 p.m.

Present; H Blurton, C Quilter, D Smith and A Wallace (Chairman). In attendance Cllr I Grundy and M Scott.

Chairmans Report

A Wallace reported that the parish council were constantly trying to go forward with projects around the village. The past year had been unusual as T Paoli-Burke had stepped down as Chairman through illness and he thanked councillors for pulling together following this. S Upton was heavily involved with the pylons that will make a big impact on the village if the scheme goes ahead. All councillors have a role to play; H Blurton with the Planning aspect, C Quilter with Maldon Road playing field including allotments and footpaths around the village and D Smith with the Village Hall.

M Scott was concerned that the publicity for the Parish Assembly seemed poor as it was a public meeting and he seemed to be the only villager in attendance. However, he praised the Parish Council for the WhatsApp group which had 128 members on it.

It was agreed that the clerk contact EALC to enquire what happens if the parish council doesn't have enough councillors at any point and the city council took over.

The Parish Assembly closed at 7.16 p.m.

The AGM of Margaretting Parish Council commenced at 7.20 p.m.

101. Apologies for absence were received from T Paoli-Burke and S Upton.

The clerk opened the meeting.

Election of Officers

Chairman. A Wallace. Proposed by H Blurton, seconded by D Smith

Vice-Chairman. C Quilter. Proposed by A Wallace, seconded by D Smith.

Allotments – C Quilter

Community Health – T Paoli-Burke

Emergency Planning – H Blurton

EALC – S Upton

Maldon Road Recreation Field – C Quilter

Finance – P Savill & C Kochan

Planning – H Blurton

Press – A Wallace

Rights of Way – C Quilter & S Upton

Transport – T Paoli-Burke

Tree Warden – L Cameron & S Upton

Village Furniture – H Blurton

VHMC – D Smith

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.34 p.m.

A Wallace welcomed Cllr I Grundy and five parishioners.

1. Declarations of Interest. There were no Declarations of Interest.

2. Democratic Time.

- a. Pylons. Residents in attendance raised their concern about the pylons and the parish council's response/objection during the consultation period. A Wallace explained that there was to be a meeting the following week where the objections to the pylons and response was to be drawn up. Essex County Council were in favour of an off shore scheme.
- b. Clerk to contact Bishop regarding the overgrown hedge and ash trees on the corner of Pennys Lane at The Vicarage.

3. Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2024 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

4. Accounts.

Authority was given for payment of the following;

M D Landscapes	£535.20
Bartlett Trees	£1788.00
EALC Subs	£219.74

Clerk reported that the vat of £1446.27 had been reclaimed.

5. Community Matters.

- a. Maldon Road Playing Field. C Quilter reported that someone had tried to set light to the youth shelter and bin and a motorized vehicle had also been on site. The new notice board for the playing field was agreed on. H Blurton to send the details to the clerk so she can order it.
- b. Allotments. Nothing new to report.
- c. Bollards. In hand.
- d. Pylons. As reported, there was to be a small meeting where all the objections can be gathered before a response is drawn up.

6. Village Hall Report.

D Smith reported that there were six people at the AGM. D Smith was still the Chairman and all other representatives held their positions. The repair of the ceiling in the meeting room was in hand.

Bookings were slowly increasing, but so were overall costs so it had been agreed that the village hall hire would increase slightly.

There didn't seem enough interest in the village to do an event to raise any money at the present time.

7. Village Sites.

a. Trees. H Blurton reported that the Copper Beech tree by the pond had been removed. A suitable Hornbeam would be chosen at the right time for planting near to where the Copper Beech was sited.

b. Roads, Pavements, Grass Verges & Rights of Way. D Smith reported that D Hodgson had cut down the hanging branch from footpath 22. A Wallace to look at the grass around the War Memorial to see if the parish council can cut the area themselves.

8. Planning.

Applications;

24/00633/FUL 2 Ottley Place, Main Road

Erection of a detached timber outbuilding

24/00561/FUL Tanners, Pennys Lane

Replacement detached new build dwelling

Decisions;

24/00321/FUL Park Lodge Cottage, Writtle Road. Application Granted

9. Any Other Business

- a. H Burton explained that a student living in Van Dykes, Swan Lane was interested in converting the telephone box into a library with a shelf and notice board as part of a school project, she would be responsible for the up keep of it and cleaning it. The parish council agreed that they would contribute towards the shelf and notice board.
- b. I Grundy reminded councillors that Ride London was due to take place at the end of the month, there had been no problems with this previously.
- c. Vehicles at crossroads – clerk to re-report to parking warden.
- d. It was reported that the construction at the front of Speedwell Garage was to be removed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.43 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 13th June 2024 at 7.30p.m. in The Meeting Room.