

A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 12th February 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton, T Boem, C Quilter, P Savill (Chairman), M Scott, P Slade, A Smith and A Wallace.

94. Apologies for absence were received from L Edwards and Cllr I Grundy.

95. Margaretting 2015 16th May

P Savill reported that the form for funding had been submitted. She had not heard from Bob Culliton (Football team) **M Scott** was to contact him to see if he had any dates in mind for a meeting. M Scott reported that the display boards had been found. Some of S Keeble's students had expressed an interest in exhibiting their art work.

96. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2015 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

97. Matters Arising

a) H Blurton explained how to control the heating in the office. A Wallace confirmed he was to open the office for the next surgery on 14th February, and P Slade was to do the March surgery.

b) A Wallace outlined the quote for the bollards at the War Memorial. **Clerk** to forward them onto Moody's insurance company.

98. Accounts

P Savill outlined the accounts; the audit fee had been more than estimated due to the office payments.

99. Maldon Road Recreation Field

a. Play Area – C Quilter reported that there were no problems.

b. Youth Shelter – on hold until the spring.

c. Skate Ramps – Nothing to report. A Wallace was waiting to hear from the youngsters.

100. Village Projects

a. Planters for Office – It was agreed that **H Blurton** order the planters in black.

b. Village Hall Sign – H Blurton reported that I Grundy had spoken to someone at the City Council who was to contact H Blurton.

c. Village Gateways – H Blurton reported that the plastic gates from Glasdon were what Highways were offering for 2017. The PC were not in favour of these. Therefore, it was agreed that **H Blurton** contact Highways to enquire: whether the new guidance had come through yet; whether the plastic gates could be planted up and if the guidance hadn't come through why couldn't we have our original design made of wood?

d. Whitesbridge Walkboards – Nothing to report. Negotiations were still ongoing with the landowner.

101. Village Sites

a) It was reported that there was a loose bollard at the War Memorial. **M Scott & H Blurton** to rebed it.

b) Pond & Trees

Trees – It was agreed that **T Boem** contact James McCarthy and suggest the row of Hornbeams at the rear of the houses in Orton Close and bordering Larmar’s field have TPOs. T Boem reported that he had already suggested applying for a TPO to the resident of 32 Orton Close. P Savill reported that she had forwarded the initial email onto L Cameron for advice. It was reported that replacement oak trees had been planted on the green in Maldon Road. There were still two oak trees at P Savill’s house which were to be mentioned in the newsletter for suggestions of where to plant them. If there were no suggestions it was agreed the trees would be offered to P Torr to be planted on his land which has public access.

Pond – T Boem reported that he was waiting for the costings from BT to disconnect and reconnect the phone line at Pond Cottage before any work can take place to the dead tree. It was reported that there were ducks on the pond.

102. Roads, Pavements, Grass verges, Rights of Way & Bridleways

a. Network Rail – P Savill reported that Network Rail had inspected the area and its contractors would be carrying out work to solve the flooding problems. This included: sluice out existing road drain to ensure it is running smoothly; remove vegetation from the area around the pipe in the ditch; regrade the slope at the access gate to the yard to direct run off straight to the existing pipe in the ditch.

b. Kerb defects – the kerbs outside 1a & 1b Maldon Road had been reported and were waiting to be repaired.

c. Footpaths – the bollard for footpath 43 had been put back but as reported previously not satisfactory. M Scott reported that it was ten years since he surveyed the footpaths around the village and he was anticipating doing a new survey.

d. Pot Holes – P Slade reported that all the pot holes in Penny’s Lane except one had been filled in. **Clerk** to report potholes outside Martins Farm at Margaretting Tye.

e. Quieter Lanes – H Blurton reported on the quieter lane initiative and requested that Swan Lane be nominated to be turned into ‘Quieter Lanes’. Consideration was given to Ivy Barn Lane being nominated also.

f. Street Clean – **Clerk** to complete and return the form with the following requests: Litter Picking in Private Road; the hedge behind the bus shelter opposite The Black Bull to be cut back; the footpaths and hedging in Main Road between The Saddlery and Church Lane to be cleared and cut back.

103 Planning

Montrose, Roman Road 15/00106/FUL

No Objections

Single storey rear extension and garage conversion from garage to bedroom.

Glencar, Maldon Road

H Blurton reported that new plans had been submitted although the extension in the roof still had the same height increase.

PC to object: Whilst it is appreciated that the plans have been changed there is still concern with the height of the roof which contravenes the Village Design Statement.

M Scott reported his concern about the number of lorries parking up the driveway of the house opposite The Black Bull.

Clerk to report that there is a lot of activity going in and out of the agricultural site next to Baskervilles.

Clerk to write to Ingatestone Parish Council and raise their awareness to the number of mobile homes on the site opposite Church Lane.

104 Correspondence

a. Best Kept Village Competition - **M Scott** to complete.

b. Bus & Train Maps – **Clerk** to pass onto L Edwards

105 Any Other Business

1. Fibre Optic Interest – It was agreed to write something in the Newsletter. **P Savill** to explore Countybroadband.

2. Three Mile Hill – A Wallace had nothing to report regarding the request for a reduction in the speed limit on three mile hill although I Grundy had attended the Highways Panel meeting and may have something to report at the next meeting.

3. Cannabis Farm – H Blurton reported on the Van Dykes court case.

4. Footpath 21 – It was reported that the railway side of the footpath closure request had finished and it had now been passed on to the City Council for finalisation.

5. Touring Theatre – M Scott reported on the play by Eastern Angles on Tuesday 31st March in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

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