

A Meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place in The Meeting Room at Margaretting Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 13th February 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

Present; H Blurton, T Paoli-Burke, C Quilter, D Smith, A Wallace (Chairman) and S Upton. In attendance Cllr G Bonnett.

83. Declarations of Interest. A Wallace reported that he had a Declaration of Interest in item 7f of the agenda. Grass Cutting maintenance.

84. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2025 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

85. Matters Arising.

a. Parking at Hylands Park. Cllr G Bonnett reported that she had learned that the car parking at Hylands Park had generated £358,500 in the 2023/24 year.

b. Brown Bins. Cllr G Bonnett reported on how much money had been raised by subscriptions to empty the brown bins.

c. Margaretting School. H Blurton reported that the school came under Academy Status.

86. Accounts.

The balance sheet was discussed. S Upton had paid the £5080.16 off of the Public Works Loan Boards account and authority was given for payment of this.

87. Planning.

H Blurton reported on the following decisions.

24/01698/FUL	Webbs Cottage, Main Road	Application Approved
24/01709/FUL	Longcroft, Maldon Road	Application Approved
24/01714/FUL	Linden, Maldon Road	Application Refused

88. Community Matters.

a. Maldon Road Playing Field. A Wallace reported that he had noticed a gap between the safety surfacing by the climbing frame. He was to drop some top soil off for Darren Cannon to fill in when he has time. There was a discussion about the tree work that had been carried out at Broadoaks and it was agreed that in future any tree work will only be carried out through the parish councils appointed tree surgeon and no access will be allowed.

b. Allotments. The condition of the allotments was discussed. Cllr Bonnett explained that at her local allotments the cost of the water had gone up by £50 a month.

c. Bollards opposite Bishops Court. Clerk to contact Olive Porter at Highways with some photos of the bollards at Barr House as they were preferred by the parish council.

d. Refurbishment of The War Memorial. H Blurton reported that the pre-grant application had been sent and acknowledgment for its receipt had been received. Clerk to contact the War Memorial Trust to enquire whether it would be allowed to put a plaque at the base of the war memorial saying 'To anyone else who fell from the village' It was agreed that the unnamed soldier silhouette would remain in position at the War Memorial. T Paoli-Burke to contact P Wood about collecting the flags and becoming Flag master.

e. Pylons. S Upton reported that the protest group were still pushing to get the scheme out to sea.

f. Grass Cutting Maintenance. Clerk to contact M D Landscapes for confirmation of the village areas that are cut. There were three contractors who would be approached for quotations.

89. Village Hall Report.

D Smith reported on the recent dance event which had taken place and was successful another one was planned for Christmas time. Next event was the coffee morning on the 22nd there was to be a cake sale and a few stalls, if it goes well the groups that use the hall will be invited next time to have a stall and promote their activity in the hall.

89. Village Sites.

a. Trees. Clerk to re-report the tree on Bridleway 22/23 where the overhanging branch is becoming dangerous. (Ref; 2967399)

b. Roads, Pavements, Grass Verges, Rights of Way & Bridleways. Nothing to report.

90. Correspondence.

Clerk reported that Ingatestone Parish Council were trying to increase the number of 351 buses. The Parish Council supported this.

91. Any Other Business.

Clerk to contact the city council to find out how often the dog waste bins are meant to be emptied.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.27 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 13th March 2025 at 7.30 p.m. in The Meeting Room at The Village Hall.