A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 11th October 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also present were three members of the public.

**57. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from L Edwards, C Kochan (clerk) and P Savill.

In the absence of the clerk (Mrs C Kochan) Mrs S Blurton had been asked to take the minutes, and had agreed to do so.

**58. Declarations of interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**59. Democratic Time**

a. Mr and Mrs Albon gave a copy of a letter to the parish council regarding The Flood Alleviation Scheme which detailed how the works would affect Brook farm

b. H Blurton reported the current position of the Parish Council regarding the Flood Alleviation Scheme. He also reported on Ingatestone Parish Councils’ comments concerning the scheme.

**60. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting dated 13th September 2012 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record after the following amendment was made;

Minute 49 Planning – H Blurton reported that this was an outline of the application to read:

H Blurton outlined reasons to oppose this application.

**61. Matters Arising**

a. Hand Rail – It was agreed by the parish council not to pursue this item at present although permission from Highways is still awaited.

**62. Planning**

Strategic Flood Defence Scheme

M Scott requested that a quotation from The Village design Statement to be included in the Parish Councils response to the Planning Department.

12/01474/FUL Berwyn, Maldon Road PC to object

12/01493/FUL Dunedin, Maldon Road No objections

12/01471/FUL Great Tressells PC to object

Decisions

Furze Lodge 12/01242/FUL Granted

Bullfinches 12/01192/CLEUD Granted

**63. Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct was adopted. It was reported that the Declaration of Interest forms were to be held at Chelmsford City Council. Tim Boem, M Scott and A Smith were reminded to return their forms to the clerk.

**64. Village Projects**

a. Whitesbridge/meeting The meeting was agreed to be held on 22nd October at 2 pm. P Savill, H Blurton, M Scott and Mr & Mrs A Smith to attend.

**65. Village Sites**

a. Bus Shelter – It was reported that the Parish Council do not have the finances at present to proceed with this project.

b. Railings around the tree opposite the school – M Scott presented a quotation of £119.75, this excludes generator hire, paint costs and fuel costs to workshop at Whitechapel. Mr Smith to obtain a second quote from Brian Smith.

c. Clerk to chase up problems with debris over spilling onto the footpath outside Elm Cottage, Roman Road.

d. It was reported that a horse had slipped on the surface at Hopes Bridge, bridleway 23. C Quilter and M Scott are in contact with Highways over the incident.

e. Village Gateways – Nothing received from Highways to report.

f. It was reported that the hedge in Maldon Road opposite Parsonage Lane was reported and would be cut back in due course.

g. It was reported that the Spread Eagle sign had been removed and agreed that the post would remain.

h. The clerk to pass the new clean up kit onto Eva Wood and Edna Baldock.

**66. Pond and Trees**

**Trees** The dead tree at the pond had been removed the invoice for £300 from Blake Tree Services was presented for payment.

There were no objections for the old oak tree on the green in Maldon Road to be sculptured. It was agreed that investigations were to be made to determine the condition of the main trunk.

The oak tree outside Woodcroft in Maldon Road was reported to be diseased; regrettably it was down to the owners to remove.

T Boem reported that he had been asked if the oak outside 41 Maldon Road can be removed – H Blurton to check whether it has a TPO.

Approval was given to purchase two garden rings for trees at The Tye and Arthurs Tree.

**67 Maldon Road Recreation Ground**

**Play Area** K Young to speak to A Conway and agree the limitations at trimming back the hedge which was the responsibility of the Parish Council.

**68 Accounts**

Authorisation was given for payment of the following;

M D Landscapes £439.20

Blake Tree Services £300.00

**69 Correspondence**

1. Electoral Services/Chelmsford City Council – Police and Crime Commissioner Election Posters 15th November 2012 – M Scott and H Blurton to display on Notice Boards.
2. Notification of changes with the PAYE system – reported to Parish Council
3. EALC County Update No 110 – Passed onto L Edwards

**70. Any Other Business**

1. Lavender Bush – H Blurton to investigate the possibility of inserting a board to prevent soil and lavender spilling onto the footpath.

2. Village hall – H Blurton reported that an asbestos survey at the village hall had been carried out he detailed the findings. The Parish Council were to thank David Chappell in next Novembers newsletter for his generosity in the preparation of the report free of labour costs.

3. Clerk to report the pothole in Maldon Road outside Little Bridges.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 8th November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.