A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 13th September 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also present were six members of the public and Cllr I Grundy

**44. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Mrs P Savill

**45. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**46. Democratic Time**

a. Martin Stevens reported that planning permission had been applied for (Flood Alleviation Scheme) there was only a 21 day period to respond; he suggested that the Parish Council apply for a longer response period of 6 – 10 weeks. Members of the public only had information published on the website to go by; whereas H Blurton explained the Parish Council had a disc which contained much more information. H Blurton outlined documentation to date including questions asked in 2009 which the Parish Council had answers for.

**47. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting dated 12th July 2012 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

**48. Matters Arising**

a. Hand Rail – Maldon Road **M Scott** reported he knew someone who could construct the rail.

b. 351 Bus Service – L Edwards reported that she was monitoring the service.

**49. Planning**

12/1320/EIA Strategic flood defence scheme to create temporary flood storage area consisting of the following – 500 m embankment including sluice gates across River Wid valley – Diversion of River Wid through embankment – reshaping of valley to provide material for embankment – fencing, lighting and landscaping treatment to embankment – provision of telemetry systems to monitor and record water levels (including visual monitoring) – control building with hard standing – service diversions and provision of new services to sluice gates and control building – embankment with landscaping, surface water drainage and floodwall to residential properties Brook Farm and Tyelands – Flood wall adjacent to railway line – Permanent access tracks to embankments and fields, including amendments to existing tracks – temporary access track to railway embankment – Realignment of Margaretting Brook, including the construction of a new ford crossing – Highways works, including passing places to Swan Lane – Creation of an environmental enhancement area and restoration works

H Blurton outlined reasons to oppose this application. There was nothing in the planning act which can be used to object. The Wid Valley was a ‘special landscape area’ - A special landscape area is a non-statuary area – this could have been put on by CBC or Essex County Council to protect green belt from development. H Blurton reported on the passing places in Swan Lane which were not marked by scale or size, but it would be impossible for two lorries to pass without pulling out hedges, he reported that he had been unable to arrange a meeting with Chris Turnball to discuss the traffic management plan in Swan lane. M Scott reported that some of the pictures in the application were of an outlook in fifteen years. He also read an extract from the Design Guide which was supported by the Parish Council stating ‘ the clear lines of the valley slopes are an important feature and care should be taken to maintain their character by resisting any further intrusions of buildings, telecommunication radio masts or other construction. At this juncture there was a vote on whether the parish council should support or object to the application. Vote 9 – 0 unanimous against the application. It was agreed that firstly **H Blurton** would request an extension on the period of time to comment to 6 – 10 weeks, Cllr **I Grundy** was also to request this, if agreed a public meeting would be organised whereby the CD disc for the application could be shown and explained. If there was no extension to the application H Blurton would comment on behalf of the Parish Council accordingly.

12/05605/cat Sycamore Cottage Roman Road

Conifer x 1 rear garden close to boundary with Rosemount Cottage – reduce by four metres

12/01274/ful Fristling Hall, Swan Lane Parish Council supports

12/01307/Ful Paddocks, Roman Road Amendment of permission 11/01855/Ful

Decisions

12/01170/FUL 1 Elm Cottage Granted

12/01242/FUL Furze Lodge Granted

12/01192/CLEUD Bullfinches Granted

H Blurton reported that an enforcement notice had been served on The Oaks, Wantz Road, it had gone to appeal and would be heard on 9th October, nearby residents had been notified of date so as they can attend.

H Blurton reported that the appeal for Great Tressels had been refused. Four Oaks is being monitored for residency at present the site seems to be empty.

**50. Village Projects.**

a. Whitesbridge. It was reported that a meeting with A Bestwick and a landscape designer had taken place. Another meeting to be arranged when the drawings can be discussed; this is to be arranged for October.

b. Village Gateways. Notification from Highways Department to confirm that they have all the documentation.

c. Parish Council Office. H Blurton had instructed Ingleton Wood to write to the lowest contractors and confirm that the project is going ahead following the application of grants and confirmation of V festival donation.

**51. Village Sites**

a. Bus Shelter – H Blurton reported on a third quote from a local carpenter of £5874.00. He reported that there was a cheaper quote and it was agreed to discuss this item further and make a discussion at the October meeting.

b. Railings around tree opposite the school – M Scott reported his neighbour was interested in carrying out the work and had suggested cutting the bottom of the railings away and putting in a new bottom rail. Brian Smith also to be asked for a quote.

c. Clerk to pass on litter pick bundle to Eva Wood and Edna Baldock who kindly pick litter around the village and were to include Kings Wood.

d. Clerk to request that the hedge opposite Parsonage Lane is trimmed back by CHP Partnership.

e. Spread Eagle Sign – Clerk to contact Shepherd & Neame regarding the sign.

**52. Pond & Trees**

Trees T Boem reported that a new resident to the village Simon Blake had offered to supply and plant some trees. K Young suggested some fruit and walnut trees onto the unused allotment at the far end of the plots; he was to make sure that the allotment wasn’t wanted anymore. A Smith suggested that some trees could be replaced in Maldon Road as they look diseased. K Young suggested the old oak tree in Maldon Road could be carved into something rather than taken to the ground. **T Boem** to ask Simon Blake if he would be interested in doing this. Cllrs thought it was a good idea and may slow traffic. It was agreed to cut the dead tree down at the pond, the cost being £300. It was also reported that the conifers at the playing field needed cutting back.

T Boem explained that Highways were dealing with Canterbury Cottages where there had been subsidence reported.

It was reported that there was still £51.82 in the kitty for bulbs **K Young** to ask what sort of bulbs were needed for the lavender bank. T Boem to organise bulbs.

Pond It was reported that there were goldfish in the pond. M Scott reported he had put some lilies in.

**53. Maldon Road Recreation Field**

Play Area No reported problems. A few holes were being made by a mole.

Allotments It was reported that there were two vacant allotments and agreed that they be let to a resident of Ingatestone if not taken up by a parishioner. The water leak had been repaired. **K Young** to speak to the resident whose hedge runs alongside the pathway into the field to ask him to cut it back.

**54. Accounts**

The following were agreed

M D Landscapes £825.60

Audit Commission £162.00

Ingleton Wood £1793.81

H M Revenue & Customs £ 42.62

C Kochan £434.11

H M Revenue & Customs £146.30

**55. Correspondence**

a. Margaretting Relief in Need Accounts for year ended December 2011 – A Smith to read

b. Margaretting Relief in Need – Clerk to respond no objections to M Wright carrying on.

c. Chelmsford CVS update – L Edwards to read.

d. Bus Passenger News August/September – L Edwards to read

e. Confirmation of Auditor – Littlejohn LLP – Clerk to file.

f. County Update No 108 / Special Edition Update – L Edwards to read

g. Posters – Mayors fun run & Statement of Community Involvement First Review Draft

h. Essex County Council road salt Scheme – Clerk to return

**56. Any Other Business**

a. It was reported that some cutting back of vegetation had taken place. Clerk to request that some of the hedges also be cut back.

b. **Cllr I Grundy** to look at the road patching in Swan lane.

c. L Edwards reported the dangerous parking in Wantz Road by the village hall.

d. H Blurton reported an enforcement notice had been issued to Longcroft, Maldon Road as a mobile home was being occupied.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.21 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday 11th October 2012 at 7.30 p.m.