

A meeting of Margaretting Parish Council took place at The Village Hall, Wantz Road on Thursday 13th September 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: H Blurton (Chairman), L Kerry, T Paoli-Burke, C Quilter, P Savill, A Smith and A Wallace.

In attendance were six members of the public and Cllr I Grundy.

37. Apologies for absence were received from G Banks.

38. Declarations of Interest – There were no Declarations of Interest.

39. Democratic Time Mr & Mrs Cowig and Ms Watts attended the meeting to discuss the problems with parking outside Wantfield Cottages and the poor visibility for drivers driving out of the village hall. Previously a ‘protected junction’ had been discussed for this area. It was reported that in the past Essex Highways have said that they can see no reason to place parking restrictions in Wantz Road. After a discussion it was decided that Cllr I Grundy would arrange for an Inspector to visit the area and look at the parking as well as tracking the speed of the traffic to try and see what could be done. Cllr I Grundy took the petition that had been signed by residents and village hall users. H Blurton to notify residents when the inspector would be visiting. Another parishioner whose parents lived in Beech Lorne, Wantz Road attended the meeting to explain problems her parents were experiencing when leaving their property.

40. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting dated Thursday 12th July 2018 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record following several amendments.

41. Matters Arising no on the Agenda.

a. Flooding El-Rita. The Clerk reported that she had received a message from Highways confirming that enquiry 2233500 had been closed. The clerk to check that this was the correct case number for this site/problem.

b. Sign/Maldon Road Gate – A Wallace had a photo of the warning sign for people who didn’t clear up after their dogs. Clerk to contact the Dog Warden to find out if the parish council can have one for the gate. Dog poo bags are available from Tracey Nixon and Cheryl Blake in the mobile van when it visits the village. It was agreed to tie some bags onto the gate to encourage dog walkers to use them.

c. Whitesbridge/Maldon Road – Weight Restriction. H Blurton to take some photographs for the clerk to forward onto Jon Simmons for consideration as to whether some signs can be put up.

d. It was agreed that H Blurton purchase some ink cartridges for the printer and wallets from Amazon.

e. Shed/Three Mile Hill – All correspondence and paperwork had been forwarded to Cllr I Grundy. A Wallace to take some up-to-date photographs.

f. Allotments – It was reported that some produce had been stolen from the allotments. As the vacant ones were so overgrown it was agreed that they are covered up. C Quilter to obtain some

prices for material to cover them. Clerk to look into the agreements to look at the specification into keeping them tidy.

42. Accounts

Authority was given for payment of the following

M D Landscapes	£219.60
Village Hall – Electricity	£ 35.57
H Blurton (Van, diesel etc.)	£153.25

Clerk to forward vat information onto P Savill regarding last time a van was hired.

P Savill outlined the balance sheet.

43. Community Matters

a. C Quilter reported that a tree was down in the Maldon Road playing field; he submitted two quotes £110.00 (Essex Arboriculture) and £80.00 (Stephen Mayhew) the £80.00 quote was accepted. C Quilter to organise.

b. H Blurton reported three dead trees. Clerk to notify CHP about the dead cherry tree outside 7 Maldon Road and the Horse Chestnut on the verge by Whitesbridge Farm to Highways.

44. Tree Planting at redundant service station site.

P Savill reported that she had been approached by a neighbour to enquire whether some hedging could be planted in front of the fencing.

45. Village Hall

H Blurton reported that new doors had been ordered and new tanks have been installed. A local resident had been appointed to do the hall maintenance. He also reported that people that use the hall will be asked to sign new contracts and pay for the hours they use the hall.

46. Village Sites

1.Repairs & Maintenance Bus Shelter opposite The Red Lion – In hand.

2. Village Pond – H Blurton reported that he had received a message from G Banks who had looked at the pond and confirmed that it needed more oxygen in it. A Wallace suggested contacting a neighbour with a view to running a fountain. After a discussion it was agreed that Barley Straw would still be put in to see if it made any difference. C Quilter was in favour of having a structured plan to prioritise what should be done to the pond every year. Finally it was agreed to hold a meeting at the pond on Sunday 25th November at 10am, this is to be mentioned in the Newsletter so everyone in the village is invited to come along and it can be decided whether parishioners want the pond to be left alone or if they want anything else done to it.

47. Roads, Verges, Grass Verges, Footpaths and Rights of Way

a.Footpath Map – In hand

