

# Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

## ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

Convened at Woodham Mortimer & Hazeleigh Village Hall at 7:30pm

**In attendance:** Parish Councillors Pauline McDonald (PM), Kim McDonald (KM), Andrew Macmorland (AM), Stephen Pemberton (SP), Graham Harle (GH).

District Cllr Simon Morgan (SM)

Andrew Ritchings (AR) – Clerk to the Council recording proceedings

**The present Chairman Simon Brady was unable to attend and Vice Chairman Pauline McDonald presided.**

#### 48.22 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Although current Chairman Simon Brady elected in May 2021 was unable to attend he was the sole nominee for the role of Chairman as proposed by KM and seconded by AM, Cllr Brady had been asked prior to the meeting and accepted the position for another year.

#### 49.22 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr **Pauline McDonald** was the sole nominee for the role of Vice Chairman as proposed by AM and seconded by SP. PM accepted the position of Vice Chairman for the next Parish Council year.

#### 50.22 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Parish Cllr Richard Britton sent his apologies due to work commitments and Cllr Simon was unable to attend due to suspected Covid-19.

#### 51.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

SP declared pecuniary interests to planning items; Crematorium, and proposed solar farm, being the landowner of the applications. AM declared a non-pecuniary interest to the same aforementioned applications having business associations with the landowner.

#### 52.22 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### 53.22 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting 12 April 2022 as proposed by KM and seconded by GH were agreed as a true record of events by Cllrs at that meeting.

#### 54.22 APPOINTMENT OF VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr **Kim McDonald** was the sole nominee as proposed by AM and seconded by PM. KM accepted the position for the next Parish Council year

#### 55.22 APPOINTMENT OF FALKLANDS TRUST REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr **Stephen Pemberton** was the sole nominee as proposed by KM and seconded by AM. SP accepted the position for the next Parish Council year.

#### 56.22 APPOINTMENT OF CHURCH LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE

AM advised that parishioner **Sarah Macmorland** had expressed an interest to represent the Council as the Church Liaison Representative, Cllrs thought it would be a welcome change to have a member of the public involved with Council and Church liaison duties and as proposed by SP and seconded by KM it was understood that Sarah would be happy to accept the role.

## 57.22 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

AR advised there had been no notification from EALC of changes to the Model SO as approved by the Council on 19/05/2021, therefore the current Standing Orders as proposed by SP seconded by KM was agreed by all Cllrs present to be readopted.

## 58.22 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

AR advised there had been no notification from EALC of changes to the FR as approved by the Council on 19/05/2021, however AR advised that difficulties procuring recent equipment had arisen due to the current spend limitation on the Councils Lloyds debit card and given the current cost of living crises and substantial inflation increases it may be appropriate to increase the limit. As proposed by KM and seconded by SP it was agreed to increase the spend limit to a maximum of £500. AR will contact Lloyds and make arrangements for Cllrs to authorise. The FR were approved and adopted with the aforementioned Debit Card increase limit (item 6.18 of the document).

## 59.22 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF COUNCILS RISK ASSESSMENT

Cllrs agreed no changes to the RA were required and readopted the current RA unchanged as proposed by KM seconded by SP and agreed by all Cllrs present.

## 60.22 REVIEW OF COUNCILS ASSET LIST

AR advised the recently purchased projector with funds from the Locality Grant has been added to the asset list but as the projector screen had to be returned because it was defective this will be added once a new screen has been sourced. All other items remain unchanged and Cllrs endorsed the updated Asset List.

## 61.22 PLANNING

**21/01276/FUL - LAND OPPOSITE ST MARGARET'S CHURCH MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER** - *Erection of a crematorium with ceremony hall, memorial arboretum and associated use of land, restoration of Coopers Monument, vehicular access, parking, landscaping, pedestrian crossing and diversion of footpath (PROW 269\_17).* **DECISION TBA BY DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**21/01271 – THE COOPERS MONUMENT MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER**  
*Restoration of Coopers Monument/Obelisk.* **APPROVED**

**22/00261 – HALL FARM LAND HAZELEIGH HALL LANE HAZELEIGH** – *The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping.* **AWAITING DECISION BY LPA**

**21/00138 – LAND ADJACENT THE WILLOWS BRYANTS LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Proposed No. 1 dwelling with carport.* APPEAL No. APP/X1545/W/21/3283976. **AWAITING DECISION BY THE PLANNING INSPECTORATE**

**22/00443 – LAND REAR OF HILL BARN RECTORY LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Proposed conversion of existing equestrian/storage buildings to form 1No. new dwelling and associated development.* **AWAITING DECISION BY LPA**

**22/00454 – LIMBROOK PARK EAST LAND SOUTH OF WYCKE HILL AND LIMBROOK WAY MALDON** - *Development of the site to provide 42 residential dwellings (Class C3) together with associated infrastructure.* Cllrs resolved not to make any comments to the consultation.

**22/00468 – REDWOOD HOUSE POST OFFICE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER**  
*Single storey flat roof link extension.* It does not appear that the link extension will be visible from the frontage of the property and therefore Cllrs do not perceive there to be any detrimental effect to the street scene and recommend GRANTING permission.

## 22/00158 – BARN AT HATCH HOUSE FARM BURNHAM ROAD HAZELEIGH

Conversion of an agricultural storage building into two dwelling houses (Class C3.) Cllrs were not able to arrive at a definitive decision because as pointed out in the previous consultation to this property i.e. 21/00978; the consultation application stated “dwelling houses” but details appeared to support only one. This seems to be the case again though the description is more definitive stating “two dwelling houses” but again proposals within the application only appear to support one dwelling. Should any approval be granted Cllrs would like to see an agricultural occupancy restriction condition imposed.

**BRADWELL B POWER STATION** - no updates to report.

### 62.22 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Cllr Jane Flemming’s full May report was circulated which included the following topics: LOVE YOUR LIBRARY DAY JUBILEE SPECIAL, INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES WITH A CHILD/REN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS, ESSEX WELLBEING SERVICE - IN YOUR AREA, HOME IMPROVEMENTS - BEWARE OF RISING COSTS, POULTRY HOUSING MEASURES TO BE LIFTED, INK BINS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN ALL ESSEX LIBRARIES!, ESSEX LIBRARY OF THINGS, NEW FUND TO PROVIDE BOOST TO THE ECONOMY, BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY COACHING OPPORTUNITIES, THE BLUEPRINT CIRCULAR ECONOMY ROADSHOW, ESSEX+ REWARD SCHEME WEBINAR.

District Cllr Simon Morgan in attendance advised that Maldon District Council were reviewing the end of their municipal year, reserved matters for the large development in Heybridge were being studied and recent maintenance with the Planning Portal was causing some problems for people seeking to review application details. SM has been advised by the Local Highways Panel that although funds are available for some schemes there are currently no staff members available with the necessary technical skills to be able to take them forward.

### 63.22 HIGHWAY MATTERS

**Fambridge Road (Limebrook Way RAB to Royal Oak PH)** - Detailed design of footpath (LMAL142006 £7,000) (originally requested 22/04/2014) and (LMAL162099) - Walkable verge/footway. No updates to report.

Cllrs were frustratingly disappointed that the arranged site visit with Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport Cllr Scott had been cancelled by Essex Highways; therefore none of the below mentioned long standing issues were able to progress.

**A414 Pedestrian Crossing** – measures to aid crossing the hazardous A414 Maldon Road.

**Lodge Road – (adjacent to Old Mill House)** (enquiry Nos. 2525149 logged 15/07/2017) and 2705814 logged 01/03/2021) rotten verge reflector posts.

**Footway Defect A414** – Foliage/soil restricting width of footway/pavement between Runsell Green Danbury and Woodham Mortimer Church.

**Lodge Road (junction with A414 Maldon Road)** – earth deposits on verge (ref No. 2710764 logged 29/03/2021).

### 64.22 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Clerk advised account balances of: T1 Current Account £945.54, Instant Access Account £6548.09, Total funds on deposit = £7493.63

Cllrs have been advised by EALC that affiliation fees are based on the number of electorate by way of a fixed fee up to 500 plus an additional sum per electorate thereafter. The Council’s fees have been based on an electorate of 516. As proposed by KM and seconded by SP payments were authorised for the following:

EALC/NALC Affiliation Fees	£212.21
New email account for Cllr Harle	£8.42

**65.22 INFORMATION ONLY**

The following Planning Application consultation arrived after the May Agenda had been published and was not able to be included on the agenda - **22/00530 – KINVARA MANOR LODGE ROAD HAZELEIGH** - *Proposed new residential access to replace existing access onto Lodge Road.* The LPA deadline for comments is before the Councils next ordinary meeting and Cllrs wish to discuss the details in time for any representations to be considered by MDC Planning Officers, therefore an extraordinary (Planning) Meeting will be arranged and advertised accordingly for Friday 20 May at 6:30pm.

Parishioners had contacted the Council regarding difficulties using the stile on the public footpath between Post Office Road and Rectory Lane and asked if the Council would support replacing the stile with a more accessible gate. Cllrs will make further enquiries.

..... *Simon Brady*..... (Chairman to the Council) 14/06/2022