

Woodham Mortimer With Hazeleigh  
ORDINARY MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
**MINUTES - TUESDAY 08 MARCH 2016**  
Convened at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall 7.30pm

**In attendance**

Parish Councillors: Simon Brady (Chairman(SB)), Pauline McDonald (PM), Kim McDonald (KM), Ian Spurr (IS), Kim Broadhurst (KB)  
Andrew Ritchings (AR: Clerk to the Council recording proceedings).

**39.16 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

Cllr Andrew Macmorland (on holiday), Cllr Stephen Pemberton (unable to attend).  
County Cllr Penny Channer, District Cllrs Mark Durham & Henry Bass.

**40.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest to agenda items were made.

**41.15 OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**42.16 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

KM proposed and KB seconded that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 09 February 2016 were a true record of events, this was agreed by all Cllrs present at that meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

**43.16 PLANNING**

**LAND OPPOSITE MILL COTTAGE** – No activity to report.

**OUT/MAL/14/01103 – LAND SOUTH OF WYCKE HILL AND LIMEBROOK WAY**

**MALDON** – *Outline application for up to 1,000 dwellings, employment area, primary school, open space, allotments sports playing field, landscaping, vehicle access onto existing highway network and associated infrastructure, including footway link from Royal Oak PH and provision of Public Rights of Way linking Maldon to Purleigh.* **DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY** – There was some confusion regarding this application as Cllrs who attended the open meeting in Maldon were under the impression the application had been approved, AR advised that no decision notice has been posted on the PA website and is waiting for MDC to confirm the status.

**FUL/MAL/15/00146 – LAND NORTH EAST OF WOODHAM MORTIMER LODGE,**

**LODGE ROAD, WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Brick pier and metal entrance gates to barn site. Alterations to internal arrangement including foaling box and alterations to fenestration (retrospective).* **DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY** The Parish Council had originally raised concerns with respect to breach of planning in December 2014 which consequently provided the aforementioned application which is still to be resolved. Cllrs feel this is clearly unacceptable that no action/activity has been seen given the original concerns raised 15 months ago. AR was requested to contact the PA seeking reasons for the protracted decision.

**ILLUMINATED SIGN AT A414 HAND CAR WASH** – following the Councils enquiry dated 08/12/2015 with respect to the lawfulness of an illuminated sign at the car wash business close to the Royal Oak roundabout acknowledgment has now been received that an investigation has commenced.

**HOUSE/MAL/15/01277 – HAZELEIGH GRANGE BURNHAM ROAD** –

*Proposed crossover.* **REFUSED**

**FUL/MAL/16/00013 – HERMES BURNHAM ROAD** – *Demolition of current dilapidated bungalow and construction of 2 storey house plus double garage.* **DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**HOUSE/MAL/16/00037 – GREEN GABLES 26 CONDUIT LANE** – *Proposed single storey rear extension from larger dormer and new pitched roof over small dormer at rear.*

**DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**OUT/MAL/15/01327 – LAND NORTH AND WEST OF KNOWLES FARM WYCKE HILL MALDON** – *C3 residential development (up to 370 homes) of mixed form, size and tenure, small scale B1 employment development (up to 2,000sqm), C2/D1 community uses, a new relief road to the north of A414, strategic landscaping, pedestrian and cycle linkages, estate roads, open space, drainage and sewerage (including SUDS) and other associated development.* **DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**AGR/MAL/16/00182 – SOUTHLANDS BRYANTS LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER** – Agricultural Barn for the storage of arable crops and associated machinery.

Councillors have concerns with respect to frequent activity to and from the lane by vehicles indicated to be carrying trade chemicals and seek conditions that hazardous chemicals will not be stored at the proposed new barn. An item arising from the previous refused appeal by the Planning Inspectorate involved the adverse effect on the adjacent footpath and the Council would like the Planning Authority to consider the impact on this Public Footpath by this new application.

**Actions**     *AR to seek confirmation of Land south of Wyke Hill  
AR to seek status of Land NE of Woodham Mortimer Lodge  
AR to forward Council concerns re: Southlands*

#### **44.16 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Mark Durham sent the following report: The main issue at the moment is the LDP and an imminent decision is expected. This is vitally important for the authority as until a Development Plan is implemented risk from inappropriate planning applications across the district continues.

The planning consultation with Parish Councils is being looked at and part of this will be a change to the response form that Parish Councils have to use. An additional box will be added to allow councils to provide additional local information without committing to a support or refuse the recommendation. This will not activate the parish trigger but is less restricting than the previous two boxes on the form. The parish trigger is also being debated to potentially change in cases where the officers recommend refusal but the parish support. This will maintain the status quo, but concern is raised at the dilution of the parishes involvement in the planning process.

The new waste collection contract started on February 1st with Suez taking over from Amey Enterprise. The early indications are good and the team now have brand new vehicles and uniforms etc. The current collection methods are remaining until June when it will change to alternate weekly collections. All households will receive a new wheelie bin which will be used for residual rubbish. Food waste will be collected every week as well as green waste. Recycling will be put into clear bags that are to be provided and this will be collected every two weeks. This will alternate with the residual waste in the wheelie bin. The collections will be on a four day week with no Monday working. This means that the collection day will not need to be changed when there is a bank holiday.

All local authorities have suffered from the recent government settlement with massive reductions to funding over the next three years. Our grant will be cut by 52% in 2019/20 which is on top of a 40% cut between 2010 and now. The government have announced that councils will be totally funded by council tax and business rate retention within three years. However to date we have not had any details about how this will be administered. I'm afraid that this is fairly typical of central government!

Local government devolution is another current issue with a bid submitted for a combined Essex authority. It seems however that government is now seeking bigger deals that include elected mayors. Although the Essex bid promised a £60b economy, the biggest outside London it may still not be big enough. This may mean that the bid could be withdrawn, but it may be changed in line with the guidelines.

#### 45.16 HIGHWAY MATTERS

**Lodge Road** - verge defects - from its junction with the A414 to Hazeleigh Hall Lane - **Enquiry 2319066** - (HA assessed 06/11/2014). No activity updates to report.

**Bryants Lane** - verge defects - from outside Claremont Nursery to the first house on the left hand side – **Enquiry 2319059** - (HA assessed 07/11/2014) – Scheduled road repairs seem to have mitigated the damaged verge defects and Cllrs consider this enquiry completed and will be removed from future agendas.

**Footpath 11 Hazeleigh** - flooding issues southern side of nature reserve reported by local resident **Enquiry 2391077** (reported 12/03/2015 assessed 03/07/2015). No activity updates to report.

**B1010 Oak Corner** - missing signage - **Enquiry 2324291** (reported 28/01/2015) repair scheduled (28/01/2015). Cllrs report that new signs have been installed.

**Lodge Road** - excess surface water issues – **Enquiry 2438287** logged 28/12/2015. No activity updates to report.

**Footpath 13 Hazeleigh** – missing fingerpost - **Enquiry 2426505** HA to investigate within 28 days (06/10/2015). No activity updates to report.

**Footpath 22 Woodham Mortimer** – missing fingerpost - **Enquiry 2426504** HA to investigate within 28 days (06/10/2015). No activity updates to report.

**Rectory Lane** – manure deposits and highway disruption – various emails sent to the EA have not been responded to. Cllrs request AR to contact District & County Cllrs for advice.

**Lodge Road** ‘unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles’ signage – AR advised the completed application to the LHP had been sent to the appropriate officer.

**ECC Proposed Diversion Order of Footpath 22 Woodham Mortimer** – Cllrs considered the informal consultation sent by ECC with respect to a proposal to divert part of Footpath 22 Woodham Mortimer from across the old Dell Nurseries area to a path at the curtilage edge of the property. The Council supports the application as it does not alter the existing exit opposite Rectory Lane. Questions were raised with respect to the motives behind the application and requested AR to seek clarification from ECC.

**Actions**     AR to seek advise from District Cllrs re: Rectory Lane  
                  AR to respond to ECC re: Diversion of FP22 Woodham Mortimer

#### 46.16 VILLAGE HIGHWAY SIGNAGE

AR reported an email had been sent to Woodham Ferrers & Bichacre PC seeking procurement information with respect to ‘drive carefully through our village’ notices in their parishes. A read receipt has been received but no further communication has been established as the time of this meeting.

#### 47.16 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING SCHEME

No further matters to report.

#### 48.16 ASSOCIATED MEETING REPORTS

**Chairman’s meeting with Leader of MDC** – The Chairman attended a meeting with leaders of Maldon District Council on 08/03/2016 which proved to be a valuable communication exercise. Planning matters was an item of particular concern to member Councils who raised many complaints. Concern was also raised with respect to inadequate infrastructure lacking from the Local Development Plan.

**South Maldon Garden Suburb Liaison Group Meeting** – The Chairman was unable to attend the scheduled meeting.

#### 49.16 CORRESPONDENCE

**For Circulation** - the following correspondence was put into circulation for Cllrs attention: MDC T&CPA 1990 lists w/ending 12, 19, 26 February, 04 March 2016; Tower Mint Ltd – Commemorative medal offer; The Dengie De D-Caf – World Rock Against Dementia flyer; ECC & Southend BC – joint replacement waste local plan – public engagement; ECC Temporary Prohibition of Traffic – various local roads; Strelley Barn – MDC notice of appeal.

**For Discussion:**

**UK Power** – street lighting liabilities – Correspondence with Wickham Bishops PC has confirmed that they too incurred similar issues seeking to ascertain ownership of street lighting in their village and have advised that they fully insure the street lighting furniture. Cllrs still believe the poles that carry UK Power cables should be the responsibility of the utility company and AR is requested to pursue this claim with UK Power.

**Purleigh PC** – A request from Purleigh PC is seeking information with respect to how many hours Clerks work and the amount of hours Clerks are actually remunerated for. Prior to divulging this information Cllrs would like to understand the reasons for the enquiry.

**North Fambridge PC** – A request has been received via the DHGPC to discuss a campaign by a local resident of North Fambridge to improve the Southminster branch line Sunday service. Cllrs did not feel local parishioners likely to be affected by the service and resolved to make no comment.

**DHGPC** – meeting 23/03/216 Burnham 19:30 – Cllrs are unable to attend.

**EALC** – Information had been disseminated by EALC with respect to a national petition gaining momentum to give Parish Councils powers to appeal Planning Decisions – Cllrs agreed to support this petition and request AR to add the PC to the names on the petition.

**Priti Patel** – the office of PP MP requested notification of PC meetings and Cllrs agreed to provide the dates and send an open invite to any of the PC meetings.

**Actions**     *AR to pursue lighting ownership with UK Power*  
                  *AR to seek motives Clerk hours request from Purleigh PC*  
                  *AR to add PC support towards appeal of Planning Decisions*  
                  *AR to advise the office of PP MP its future meeting dates*

**50.16 BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS**

AR advised: Tailored Deposit Account £2609.45, Tailored Account £395.85, Alto Debit Card £85.51. Total funds on deposit = £3090.81

**51.16 AUTHOURISATION OF PAYMENTS**

|  |        |                  |
|--|--------|------------------|
| A & J Lighting Solutions (SO) March    | 13.80  | (11.50 excl VAT) |
| E.ON non-metred electricity (DD) March | 13.44  | (12.80 )         |
| Clerks quarterly salary (Gross)        | 541.74 |                  |
| Clerks work from home allowance        | 52.00  |                  |

As there would not be enough funds in the Tailored Account to cover the above payments Cllrs resolved to transfer £600 from the Tailored Deposit Account.

The above payments proposed by KM and seconded by IS were agreed by all present.

**52.16 PARISH COUNCILS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

This is the next policy to be progressed by AR to be adopted by The Council and an update would be provided at the April meeting.

**53.16 INFORMAITON ONLY**

AR advised that the Annual Parish meeting is usually held in April and Cllrs agreed to convene the meeting prior to the Ordinary Parish Council April meeting on 12 April 2016.

AR advised that an appeal has been lodged by the applicants of the refused planning consent at Strelley Barn Post Office Road (15/00477).

AR advised that an email sent to MDC on 29/12/2015 with respect to a street cleaning schedule is still waiting response. Cllrs requested AR to follow up, include DC's.

IS reported a defect highway issue outside Keepers Cottage in Hazeleigh Hall Lane – photographic evidence would be provided by IS so that AR could log the details on the ECC highways reporting website.

**Actions**     *AR to follow up street cleaning schedule*

**Date of next ordinary meeting** Tuesday 12 April 2016 at 7:30pm.

.....*Simon Brady*..... (Simon Brady Chairman to the Council) 12 April 2016