

Woodham Mortimer With Hazeleigh Parish Council
ORDINARY MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES - TUESDAY 09 FEBRUARY 2016

Convened at Woodham Mortimer Village Hall 7.30pm

In attendance

Parish Councillors: Simon Brady (Chairman(SB)), Pauline McDonald (PM), Kim McDonald (KM) Stephen Pemberton (SP), Andrew Macmorland (AM) Ian Spurr (IS), Kim Broadhurst (KB) Andrew Ritchings (AR: Clerk to the Council recording proceedings).
District Councillor Henry Bass (HB).
County Councillor Penny Channer (PC) (arrived during item 29.16).

22.16 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

District Cllr Mark Durham sent apologies via District Cllr HB

23.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

24.15 OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public in attendance.

25.16 PREVIOUS MINUTES

KM proposed and AM seconded that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 January 2016 and the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 29 January were a true record of events, this was agreed by all Cllrs present at those meetings and duly signed by the Chairman.

26.16 PLANNING

LAND OPPOSITE MILL COTTAGE – AR had been in contact with the Forestry Commission to seek clarification of the agreed re-stocking of the woodland area. A Minister from the Environment still needs to ratify the appeal decision before any replanting will take place which at present is not a priority task.

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

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** A decision has still not been made by the PA since the Parish Council's representation dated 17/04/2015.

ILLUMINATED SIGN AT A414 HAND CAR WASH – notification sent to MDC on 08/12/2015 – AR received response dated 19/01/2016 indicating the enquiry had been passed to an appropriate officer for investigation. Cllrs reported the siting of an additional non illuminated used car sale sign has appeared and would like clarification if the sign requires permission.

FUL/MAL/15/01099 Colts Pightle – *additional double garage and larger utility to previous application FUL/MAL/13/00100.* **APPROVED**

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

Proposed crossover. **DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY**

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

Councillors feel the change of character to this small existing property demonstrates a significant increase in scale and bulk detrimental to the current street scene. Concerns are raised that the loss of this type of affordable property will prevent future generations and family connections from being able to maintain a presence in the local area detrimental to the heart of such village communities. All Cllrs were in agreement to recommend refusal.

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.*

It does not appear to the Council the proposed changes would have a detrimental effect on the existing character of the street scene and all Cllrs were in agreement to support the application.

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.*

Having accepted and supported the application OUT/MAL/14/01103 for 1000 dwellings on the outskirts of Maldon town encroaching into the villages of Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh, Cllrs believe that a further development of an additional 370 new homes close to the aforementioned application is extreme overdevelopment resulting in a detrimental and negative impact on the rural nature and character of this area due to the sheer bulk and scale of the development. Cllrs again have severe concerns with respect to the associated infrastructure already deemed inadequate for the 1000 dwellings. The pressure imposed on the section of A414 from Danbury to Maldon will be exacerbated likely to result in extensive traffic chaos, bottle necks and protracted delays into and out of Chelmsford and the Dengie peninsular. For the above mentioned reasons all Cllrs agreed to recommend refusal.

Actions *AR to submit refusal recommendation to Hermes
AR to submit support of application to Green Gables
AR to submit refusal recommendation to Knowles Farm
AR to report further advertising signage at Car Wash*

27.16 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Cllr Henry Bass reported: increased activity with respect to young drivers causing disturbances and driving at excessive speeds at various locations has led to a new initiative to clamp down on the perpetrators, penalties have been issued and the sites of concern continue to be monitored.

The District Council is still waiting for an inspector to advise the decision of Maldon District Local Development Plan which is understood to be imminent.

New increased parking charges have been introduced in the Maldon District and Council tax charges have been raised by 2%.

The new waste contract has now been implemented and in operation and wheelie bins will be introduced in April 2016, information regarding the new service will be forthcoming.

County Cllr Penny Channer reported: Essex County Council has backed the newly unveiled plans for another Thames Crossing. Plans linking Tilbury in Essex with Gravesend in Kent appear as the preferred option C in the Government's consultation document, the scheme would run from the end of the M2 across east of Gravesend and Tilbury and join the M25 between Junctions 29 and 30 - the consultation ends on 24 March 2016.

A new campaign which seeks to attract teachers to Essex was launched in January, schools across the Eastern Region reporting that recruitment is increasingly challenging. Essex County Council is planning to spend about £200million over the next five years to meet the need for thousands of new school places.

ECC debated its budget plans at a Full Council Meeting on 09/02/2016, following unprecedented cuts to its government grants, the Council is set to lose £57M of funding in the next financial year, while a number of new national policies such as the National Living Wage will also have a significant impact. The Council is proposing an increase in Council Tax of 1.99% while also implementing the Government's new Social Care Tax, an additional 2%, this would mean a total increase of 84p per household per week for a Band D property.

Memory loss and dementia are being supported by Essex Libraries thanks to the launch of a new memory support library card which eliminates charges for overdue books, DVDs and CDs

28.16 HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

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 updates to report.

B1010 Oak Corner - missing signage - **Enquiry 2324291** (reported 28/01/2015) repair scheduled (28/01/2015). No updates to report.

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

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

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

Rectory Lane – manure deposits and highway disruption – No response from EA to emails dated 15/12/2015 & 08/02/2016

Lodge Road 'unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles' signage – Application to LHP to be made, AM to provide brief evidence of necessity.

Actions AM to forward AR reasons for Lodge Road sign to complete LHP application

29.16 VILLAGE HIGHWAY SIGNAGE

The Chairman informed the Council he had noticed 'drive though our village carefully' signs attached to various property items in other villages and sought opinions with respect to attaining some for Woodham Mortimer & Hazeleigh. The Clerk was requested to initially seek further procurement information from Woodham Ferrers & Bicnacre Parish Council.

Actions AR to contact Woodham Ferrers & Bicnacre PC

30.16 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING SCHEME

No updates to report

31.16 ASSOCIATED MEETING REPORTS

Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils

The Clerk attended the quarterly meeting of the DHGPC in January in which Alan Cook the police District Commander for Maldon & Chelmsford was in attendance taking questions. Mr Cook informed the meeting that the Dengie area will soon have two remaining fully manned stations, those being South Woodham Ferrers and Maldon with Maldon being the 24/7 response station and SWF mainly hosting the Casualty Reduction Unit, with Chelmsford providing support when required. There has been an increase in sergeants and constables since last year and from April 2016 there will be further neighbourhood officers and PCSO's. Current operation costs of the Maldon Police Station amount to approximately £35,000 per annum.

Parish Council members discussed the current consultation for the significant proposed changes to the Fire Service. Proposals will see SWF station become volunteer only leaving

two fully manned 24 hour stations at Rayleigh & Chelmsford. Members of the DHGPC encouraged member Councils to alert parishioners of the proposals and make representations to the consultation which can be viewed on the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service website.

The DHGPC has many outstanding highway issues and will be inviting the Essex County Councils Cabinet member for Highways to its next meeting.

Meeting with leader of MDC

The scheduled Chairman's meeting with the Leader of MDC has been rescheduled to the end of March due to the full capacity of recently invited dates.

South Maldon Garden Suburb Liaison Group Meeting

A new date of 26/02/2016 has been arranged of which SB would endeavour to attend.

32.16 CORRESPONDENCE

For Circulation: the following correspondence was put into circulation for Cllrs attention:
MDC T&CPA 1990 lists w/ending 15, 22, 29 January and 5 February 2016

MDC – Minutes & Report of Committees Dec 2015/Jan 2016

For Discussion:

TV Production – Channel 4 programme seeking the PC to promote its forthcoming new series about home owners seeking extra cash by opening B&B ventures. AR noted he had already advised the Parish Magazine contact details to the requestor and cllrs resolved that no further action would be necessary.

UK Power – street lighting liabilities – correspondence received from UK Power claiming they have no responsibility or ownership of any apparatus associated with the 5 street lights that the PC maintain and pay unmetered electricity cost. Cllrs did not agree with this claim insisting the poles carry UK Power electricity and therefore would be owned by them. HB advised that Wickham Bishops PC were involved in similar correspondence with UK Power and Cllrs requested AR to contact Wickham Bishops PC for advice.

Actions AR to contact WB PC for street lighting information

33.16 BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS

AR Reported balances of: Tailored Account £424.05, Tailored Deposit Account £2609.45, Alto Debit Card £85.51 – Total funds available £3119.01

34.16 TRANSPARENCY CODE FUNDING

In order to meet the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities practice guidelines as set out in The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 AR advised that funding was available via EALC in order to help smaller authorities meet the legislation requirements. Cllrs agreed to seek funding for a scanner/printer and costs associated with implementing the Parish Council website including cllr email provision. There was discussion with respect to whether claims for costs associated with broadband use at the Clerks home address could be requested and it was decided to seek advice from EALC of all funding available.

Actions AR to complete and dispatch Transparency Code funding form to EALC

35.16 AUTHOURISATION OF PAYMENTS

A & J Lighting Solutions (SO) December	13.80	(11.50 excl VAT)
E.ON non-metred electricity (DD) December	14.36	(13.68)

36.16 COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Due to Cllrs availability the previously scheduled community litter pick of 06 March will be rescheduled to 13 March 2016.

37.16 PRESS & MEDIA POLICY

The Press & Media Policy document emailed to Cllrs on 03 February 2016 was proposed by PM to be adopted, seconded by KB and agreed by all councillors the Chairman duly signing the document.

38.16 INFORMAITON ONLY

AR was requested to re-forward the email containing the link from the EALC bulletin providing information about the petition to give Parish Councils powers to appeal planning decisions.

AR advised notification had been received of an attempted postal delivery which had been sent to the Council with an incorrect postage cost. It was unknown who the dispatcher was and eventually the item would be returned to the originator and it was considered if important would be sent again with the correct postage.

Date of next ordinary meeting Tuesday 08 March 2016 at 7:30pm.

.....*Simon Brady*... (Chairman to the Council) 08 March 2016