

Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023

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

In attendance: Parish Councillors: Simon Brady (SB presiding), Kim McDonald (KM), Pauline McDonald (PM), Richard Britton (RB), Stephen Pemberton (SP), Andrew Macmorland (AM).

County Councillor Jane Flemming (JF).

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

1.23 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Parish Councillor Graham Harle was unable to attend due to business commitments.

2.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

SP declared a registerable pecuniary interest in respect to Planning item land opposite St Margaret's Church, being the landowner of the site subject to the application, also a registerable non-pecuniary interest in item 06.23. AM declared non pecuniary interest in planning items land opposite St Margarets Church and solar farm having conducted business with the landowner.

3.23 PUBLIC FORUM

Two members of the public attended the meeting in order to discuss agenda item Footpath 11 Hazeleigh. Concerns were raised that the Public Footpath has been moved onto the top of the ditch which has now been infilled. It was understood that public rights exist across the whole width of the 'green lane'. It was also noted the area of land subject to public rights that has been enclosed by gates and fencing is unregistered and concerns were raised that if such land has no ownership whether anyone had a right to carry out such extensive foliage clearance and obstruct public user rights.

4.23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting 13 December 2022 were agreed by all Cllrs present at that meeting to be a true record of events.

5.23 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).* **AWAITING DECISION FROM LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY**

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 FROM PLANNING INSPECTORATE**

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

Conversion of an agricultural storage building into two dwelling houses (Class C3.) AR reported that this application is still not showing on the Planning Authority website and JF is seeking clarification that the development has been automatically approved due to the LPA not being able to determine the application within the legal deadline.

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 APPEAL NO. APP/X1545/W/22/3303806. **AWAITING DECISION FROM PLANNING INSPECTORATE**

22/00530 – KINVARA MANOR LODGE ROAD HAZELEIGH - *Proposed new residential access to replace existing access onto Lodge Road.* (REFUSED BY LPA 13/07/2022). The LPA have advised the Council it will be investigating a reported planning breach.

6.23 SOLAR FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Cllrs resolved to accept the lump sum Community Benefit payment and will be considering various village and community projects over the next few months to be decided at the April 2023 meeting. As proposed by RB seconded by AM and agreed by all Cllrs present. AR to advise Low Carbon and find out when payment is due.

7.23 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Flexible plastics collection Trial (Flexcollect); Voter ID; Energy shortage; RideLondon – Essex Route update; ECC Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Team; Donate unwanted appliances at you Local Recycling Centre; Are you passionate about Nature and the Environment?; Employability Focus Groups; Do you or someone you care for have a disability?; We've all got opinions, we want yours; Beaulieu Park Station update; Enabling works continue ahead of planned new bypass; Apprentice levy gifting; First Essex Climate Action annual report launched; Climate action in Essex rated top notch; Essex Forest initiative announces new tree planting dates; Boost your green career with free retrofit training. JF advised that Essex County Council Cabinet will be meeting soon to discuss budgets, indicating some difficult decisions are required during these challenging times.

8.23 HIGHWAY MATTERS

A414 Pedestrian Crossing – *measures to aid crossing the hazardous A414 Maldon Road. Scheduled for early 2023 feasibility study.*

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

Footway Defect A414 – *Foliage/soil restricting width of footway/pavement between Runsell Green Danbury and Woodham Mortimer Church. (First logged by Essex Highways at site meeting with SB 14/09/2018. Logged again by AR as a defect on 06/12/2022 Ref: 2808413).*

County Cllr Flemming continues to work with the Council to seek a solution to this long standing issue and will advise when the issue was first reported and who by, and if available the relevant Enquiry No. via Member Enquiries.

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

Footpath 11 Hazeleigh – *width restriction* – The Council have been advised the Highway Authority are checking records to clarify the exact extent of public rights across the area of land that has now been extensively cleared of wildlife habitat foliage and been obstructed by fencing and gates.

Footpath 16 Woodham Mortimer – *hedge cutting, erection of gates and fencing installation* – The Council have been advised by the respective landowner that fencing has been installed along the line of Footpath 16 so that it is now enclosed. Concern was raised to the width of the path in certain places and the whole length is topped with barbed wire which is a safety concern particularly for families walking with young children. Concern was also raised that due

to the narrow nature of the enclosed path once the hedge begins to grow again the path will soon become impassable.

9.23 BUS SHELTERS/STOP SIGNS

Having received reports from Essex County Council that the bus shelter on the A414 Maldon Road near Post Office Road is damaged The Council has assessed that removal of graffiti, foliage and litter clearance around the shelter is required as well as foliage overgrowth around the bus stop sign adjacent to Post Office Road. The Council have approached ECC Highway Rangers and the Community Pay Back Team who carry out such work but both have declined to undertake the work due to the speed of traffic traveling along the Maldon Road. Cllrs will seek to continue to find a solution. SB suggested advice be included in the next Parish Magazine notes for landowners to review potential foliage overgrowth onto any highway structures and clear where necessary. Cllrs asked AR to seek land registry details for land adjacent to the obstructed bus stop sign and also to contact Essex Highways for further advice to resolve the bus shelter issues.

10.23 FINANCIAL

Balance of Accounts:

T1 Current Account	£474.47
Instant Access Savings Account	£3,674.50

3rd Quarter Review of Council finances October to December 2022 - Cllrs reviewed and approved its 3rd Quarter financial activities from October to December 2022 which raised no matters of concern.

Authorisation of payments:

Zoho Email accounts annual fees	£80.64

The above balance of accounts, 3rd quarter review and authorisation of payment as proposed by KM and seconded by SP were approved by all Cllrs present.

11.23 INFORMATION ONLY

22/00482 Golf Driving Range – decision still noted as pending on MDC Planning Portal with no decision notice documents. AR to follow up with District Cllr Simon Morgan.

22/01256/RESM LAND SOUTH OF WYCKE HILL AND LIMBROOK WAY MALDON –

Reserved matters application for the approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of Phase 3 of the Western Parcel (comprising 78 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), new public open space and car parking) of approved planning application 22/00393/VARM (Variation of condition 35 (details of employment land) on approved planning permission 20/00074/FUL (Variation of condition 10 (speed review strategy) and 20 (pedestrian/cycle crossing of Limebrook Way) on approved application 19/01134/FUL (Removal of condition 11 (details of 'Access Link Strategy') on approved planning application FUL/MAL/18/00071 (Variation of conditions 5,13,21,25,43,53,55,61,63,67, 68,69,74,81,84 on approved application OUT/MAL/14/01103 (Outline application for up to 1000 dwellings, an employment area of 3.4 hectares (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8 uses), a local centre (Use Classes A1-A5, B1a, C2, C3, D1 and D2 uses), a primary school, two early years and childcare facilities, general amenity areas and formal open space including allotments, sports playing fields, landscaping, sustainable drainage measures including landscaped storage basins and SuDs features, vehicle accesses onto the existing highway network and associated infrastructure.)) **LPA Deadline 10/04/2023**

22/01264/FUL TYNDALES FARM SOUTHEND ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – Section 73A application for Change of use of land and agricultural buildings to mixed Class E(g)/B8 Use. LPA Deadline 03/03/2023

The above mentioned new Planning Applications were received after the January Agenda was published and SB will advise if an extraordinary (planning) meeting is required to be convened before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

Date of next scheduled ordinary meeting is 14/02/2023.

Simon Brady (Chairman to the Council) 14/02/2023