

Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2023

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

In attendance: Parish Cllrs: Simon Brady (SB Presiding), Kim McDonald (KM), Pauline McDonald (PM), Graham Harle (GH), Stephen Pemberton (SP), Lorraine Cobb (LC).

District Cllr Simon Morgan

Andrew Ritchings (AR) Clerk to the Council recording proceedings

127.23 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Parish Councillor Richard Britton was unable to attend. County Councillor Jane Flemming sent her apologies.

128.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

SP declared a pecuniary interest to planning item solar farm on land north of Maldon Road being the landowner of the proposed site, SB declared a non-pecuniary interest to planning item Southlands being a resident of Bryants Lane.

129.23 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public in attendance.

130.23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of ordinary Parish Council Meeting 12 September 2023 as proposed by KM and seconded by LC were agreed as a true record of events by all Cllrs at that meeting.

131.23 PLANNING

23/00556/RESM – GOLF DRIVING RANGE BURNHAM ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Reserved matters following outline approval 22/00482/OUT (Outline application with all matters reserved for up to 18 dwellings with a provision for affordable housing.) LPA Deadline 04/10/2023. REFUSED 04/10/2023*

23/00738/LDE – THE FARM OFFICE RESIDENCY TYNDALES FARM SOUTHEND ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Claim for lawful development certificate for the retention of an existing dwellinghouse. LPA Deadline 27/09/2023. THE LPA DEEMED THE DEVELOPMENT LAWFUL ON 27/09/2023*

23/00792/HOUSE – KESTRELS COTTAGE LODGE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Single storey front/side extension, loft extension and external alterations. LPA Deadline 05/10/2023. APPROVED BY LPA 05/10/2023*

23/00799/HOUSE – BRELADES BURNHAM ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Proposed front extension, porch, insertion of dormers to front elevation. LPA Deadline 16/10/2023 TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA*

23/00810/FUL – LAND AT SOUTHLANDS BRYANTS LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Change of use from paddock to equestrian manège, construction of manège and associated fencing and muck clamp. LPA Deadline 10/10/2023. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA.*

SOLAR FARM ON LAND NORTH OF MALDON ROAD – SB attended a pre-application meeting at Maldon Community Centre and raised questions about A414 speed limits and Community Benefit payments. The Parish Council will discuss the details and comment once the formal development application is received via the Local Planning Authority.

132.23 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

District Cllr Simon Morgan reported there was a full council meeting on 14/09/2023 to discuss the Local Development Plan review, the Working Group set up previously had compiled a report that proposed various growth options for the Committee to consider which will be decided at a future meeting once all the information has been analysed. The proposals for authority devolution was discussed and it seems likely there will be no changes to District Councils within Essex, Thurrock and Southend Councils to combine as an administration authority. Significant savings continue to be required as the authority is heading for a 2.5million deficit by 2028.

133.23 SOLAR FARM ON HALL FARM LAND HAZELEIGH HALL HAZELEIGH

AR is still waiting for developer to respond to request for the benefit payment sum to be noted in the legal agreement document.

Cllrs agreed that Parish Councillor Richard Britton's Application for Community Funds document should be adopted without amendment as proposed by KM and seconded by SP.

134.23 LOCALITY FUND

Nothing to report.

135.23 HIGHWAY MATTERS

A414 Pedestrian Crossing – *measures to aid crossing the hazardous A414 Maldon Road. Scheduled for early 2023 feasibility study. No activity.*

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). Added to LHP list and Footway Clearance Scheme by County Cllr Flemming - June 2023. No activity.*

Footpath 11 Hazeleigh – *width and gate restrictions. Awaiting information from Essex Highways.*

Burnham Road Hazeleigh gateway structure – *sightline restrictions. No activity to report. Parish Council have received communication from a neighbouring Parish Council seeking advice about Village Gateway apparatus. AR to write to County Cllr Flemming suggesting the apparatus sited on the B1010 that's causing resident concerns to be removed and offered to the enquiring Parish Council.*

136.23 BUS SHELTERS – MAINTENANCE

Parish Council are waiting response from County Cllr Flemming to advise if ECC will accept bus shelters ownership transfer.

AR has now received the Police Crime Reference No. and is awaiting estimate to remove the graffiti damage before sending the claim form to insurance provider.

Foliage clearance cost has been approved and contractor should be carrying out the work shortly.

137.23 LITTER/DOG BINS

Parish Council have been advised the initial 1st year emptying of the proposed new litter bins, which is acceptable, following the 1st year the bins will then be emptied at no further cost to the Parish Council. SB is now waiting to hear from County Councillor Flemming if the application for the bins via the Locality Fund has been successful. SB to seek clarification if bins are going to be owned by Maldon District Council or Parish Council as this will determine if they will be needed to be added to the Council's insurance.

No dog poo bins have been requested and the item will be removed from the agenda.

138.23 MALDON & HEYBRIDGE TRANSPORT & BUS USERS' GROUP

SB now resides on the MHTBUG and will be able to act as a voice seeking to maintain and provide essential routes for parishioners.

139.23 FINANCIAL MATTERS

2nd Quarter review of Accounts (July – September) – the 2nd quarter summary review was approved by all Cllrs which raised no matters of concern. KM scrutinised bank statements July-September 2023 and all appeared in order.

Balance of Accounts:

Unity Trust T1 Current Account	931.08
Unity Trust Instant Access Savings Account	5917.49
Total funds on deposit	6848.57

Authorisation of payments:

Insurance renewal	£340.12
Bus shelters x2 foliage clearance	£144.00
Domain Registry renewal	£78.00
Remembrance Day poppy wreath donation	£30.00
Street lighting annual maintenance renewal	£180.00
Transfer from current to savings	£500.00

The above 2nd quarter review, balance of accounts and authorisation of payments as proposed by SP and seconded by GH were agreed by all Cllrs.

140.23 INFORMATION ONLY

AR informed Cllrs he has completed the Pensions Regulator Re-declaration which is due to be submitted every 3 years. The declaration advised there are no staff to enrol in a pension scheme.

SB's letter drafted to the NHS in response to the closure of services at St Peters Hospital will be circulated to Cllrs for comment and approval at the Councils next meeting.

A response from the resident raising concerns over hay/stray deposits left by farm vehicles has been received following the Councils explanation email, it will be circulated for comment at the November meeting.

SB requested to be advised of the current Local Government National Salary Award rates. AR will contact EALC.

Date of next scheduled Ordinary Meeting 14/11/2023

Simon Brady (Chairman to the Council) 14/11/2023