

Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2024

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)
Andrew Ritchings Clerk to the Council recording proceedings.

The Chairman opened the meeting by announcing the sad passing of Tony de Fraine. Tony resigned from the Parish Council a few years ago but had served for many years many of which were as the Chairman, The Council's condolences are sent out to his family and friends. Representatives from The Council will attend the forthcoming memorial service at St Margaret's Church Woodham Mortimer.

121.24 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Parish Cllrs Richard Britton was unable to attend due to holiday and Lorraine Cobb unable to attend due to family commitments. County Cllr Jane Fleming also sent apologies.

122.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

SP declared a pecuniary interest in the agenda item Solar Farm on Hall Farm Land being the freehold landowner.

123.24 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of public in attendance

124.24 PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 08 October 2024 were approved as a true record of events as proposed by KM and seconded by SP.

125.24 PLANNING

24/00262/VARM – HALL FARM LAND HAZELEIGH HALL LANE HAZELEIGH – *Variation of condition 27 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)) on approved planning application 22/00261/FUL (The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping.) Variation seeks: - Inclusion of a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan as an approved document. LPA Deadline 03/07/2024 TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA*

24/00776/LDP - FAIRWATER 39 CONDUIT LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Claim for lawful development certificate for proposed first floor front extension above existing garage. Changes to fenestration of front elevation LPA Deadline 29/11/2024* Cllrs have no comments to make in respect to the whether the proposals meet lawful planning consent.

24/00824/VAR – KINVARA MANOR LODGE ROAD HAZELEIGH – *Variation of Condition 2 on approved planning permission 24/00494/HOUSE (Erection of Carport and alterations to the existing driveway) LPA Deadline 27/12/2024.* Cllrs consider the change in materials would better suit the surrounding and adjacent buildings and recommend GRANTING the application.

24/00844 – GOLF DRIVING RANGE BURNHAM ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Reserved matters application for the approval of all matters on approved planning application 22/00482/OUT (Outline application with all matters reserved for up to 18 dwellings with a provision for affordable housing) LPA Deadline 28/01/2025.* Cllrs consider this amended application a much improved proposal to the previous which appears to be much more in keeping with the location setting and the surrounding environment. The character and

appearance of the properties along with the open space setting would introduce an appropriate development within the rural landscape as a replacement for the current driving range facility and Cllrs recommend GRANTING the application.

126.24 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Cllr Simon Morgan reported matters from the recent full District Council meeting; a new leisure contract for the facilities at Maldon and Burnham was discussed which should see the current leisure options able to continue for the foreseeable future. The new CEO is beginning to make improvements to working practices. There is an ongoing review of planning committees which may see the current three reduce to a single committee improving continuity needs and result in a more cost effective system. Devolution is again being suggested by the new government who will be producing new white paper by the end of November. An application for new medical centre and southern relief road has been received.

127.24 SOLAR FARM ON HALL FARM LAND HAZELEIGH HALL HAZELEIGH

The Council agreed to appoint a team of legal experts and approved an instruction brief for the legal executives to provide The Council with an opinion of the Community Benefit Agreement.

128.24 HIGHWAY MATTERS

A414 Pedestrian Crossing – *measures to aid crossing the hazardous A414 Maldon Road, LHP Scheme No. 6.* No activity.

Footway Defect A414 – *Foliage/soil restricting width of footway/pavement between Runsell Green Danbury and Woodham Mortimer Church. LHP Scheme No. 36.* Not activity.

Footpath 11 Hazeleigh (Dragons Path) – *gate restriction and return to previous character.* All adjacent landowners have now been contacted in the hope of aiding The Council to identify the legal freehold landowner.

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign A414 adj Oak Manor Chelmsford Road. – *VAS Installation.* No updates to report, further Working Group meeting to be arranged.

Chimney Lane – *'Unsuitable for HGV' signage. LHP Scheme No. 22.* No activity.

A414 30mph Speed limit – *between Oak Corner and Post Office Road.* No activity.

A414 40mph Speed limit – *between Post Office Road and Limebrook Farm.* No activity.

Post Office Road – *visibility concerns, both ends of the carriageway.* SB advised the hedge encroachment appears to be on Highway land and The Council asked the Clerk to Report the following encroachments via the EH Report It Tool website.....

- 1) corner of Post Office Road and the A414
- 2) A414 between Zara Restaurant and gravel pit.

129.24 BUS SHELTERS - Graffiti removal updates.

The Council are waiting for a response from the contractor in respect to a review of the invoices received and whether it will be possible to blast the graffiti off the bricks by a speciality contractor.

130.24 BUS STOP BENCHES – Potential installation of bus stop seating furniture via County Cllr Locality Fund. SB was not able to complete the application and license forms, AR to print and provide SB with paper copies.

131.24 ANNUAL REVIEW OF COUNCILS STANDING ORDERS – All Cllrs agreed to re-adopt the current Standing Orders document without amendment.

132.24 REVIEW OF NEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS - Having reviewed the new Financial Regulations document as provided by the National Association of Local Councils all Cllrs approved the document.

133.24 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance of Accounts

Unity Trust Instant Access Savings Account	£7126.50
Unity Trust T1 Current Account	£932.04
Total funds on deposit	£8058.54

Authorisation of payments

Street Lighting repair (Post Office Road/A414)	£124.80
Royal Mail 2 nd class stamps x8	£9.79
Ink and paper	£35.01
Transfer funds from Savings to Current Account	Not required this month

Transactions since the previous meeting

Lloyds Debit Card charge	-£3.00
VAT recovered	+£126.09
Annual Insurance premium	-£344.83
Annual Street Lighting Contract	-£180.00
Monthly account charges	-£5.40

The above balance of accounts and payment approvals were agreed by all Cllrs present as proposed by SB and seconded by KM.

The Council's current banking provider have advised that interest rates have reduced from 2.75% to 2.60%

134.24 INFORMATION ONLY

Next scheduled meeting is Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024.

..... *Simon Brady*..... (Chairman to the Council) 10/12/2024