

Woodham Mortimer With Hazeleigh Parish Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES - TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2017

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

In attendance

Parish Councillors: Simon Brady (SB) Chairman, Pauline McDonald (PM), Kim McDonald (KM), Kim Broadhurst (KB), Andrew Macmorland (AM), Richard Britton (RB).

County Councillor Penny Channer (PC)

District Cllr Mark Durham (MD)

Andrew Ritchings (AR) Clerk to the Council recording proceedings

7 members of the public

146.17 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Cllr Stephen Pemberton sent apologies as he was on holiday

147.17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made

148.17 PUBLIC FORUM

Concerns were expressed to Planning Application *WTPO/MAL/17/01215 MANDALAY POST OFFICE ROAD* - the proposal being to remove various limbs of 2 protected Copper Beach trees in the property garden. The worry was that the proposed cutting would be too severe possibly causing irreversible damage to the trees also resulting in an unbalanced look affecting the current nature of the gardens.

The applicant of *HOUSE/MAL/17/01211 OAKLEA BURNHAM ROAD* attended the meeting to inform the Council the application had been updated in order to describe the proposed use of the outbuilding to be utilised as a garage/workshop.

A414 Maldon Road – traffic volume and vehicle speeding issues

Following data collected from the Automatic Traffic Count devices located in 3 separate locations along the A414 between the Royal Oak roundabout and Lodge Road, the results have shown there appears to be reasonable compliance to the current 60mph limit.

Residents in attendance and Cllrs agreed that although there may be good compliance all consider the limit requires reducing as per the 40mph section from the roundabout heading towards Bicknacre and action is required in order to provide safe crossing of the road considering the volume of traffic captured. The Local Highways Panel has suggested that a pedestrian vehicle conflict survey (PV2) now be carried out in order to collect more data and assess whether pedestrian crossing improvements are warranted. It was considered by all that the introduction of a reduced speed limit to 40mph and relevant pedestrian crossing improvements would help mitigate hazardous conditions and also reduce noise levels for nearby residents. The Council and residents will discuss again following results from the PV2 survey.

149.17 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk had not been able to provide a paper copy of the minutes which had been circulated to Cllrs electronically and they would be approved at the next meeting.

150.17 PLANNING

OUT/MAL/15/01327 – LAND NORTH AND WEST OF KNOWLES FARM WYCKE HILL MALDON – *C3 residential development (up to 320 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**

WOODHAM MORTIMER PLACE WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Reported unauthorised development.* MDC advise a breach of planning has occurred and are in communication with the landowner. No further information has been received.

ESS/35/MAL LAND AT ROYAL OAK QUARRY MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Continuation of use of land for mineral extraction through a revised phasing scheme without compliance with Conditions 20 (Soil Storage); 39 (Phasing Scheme) and 41 (Water Management) of planning permission ref no: ESS/19/14/MAL*

DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY

FUL/MAL/17/00599 CLAREMONT GARDEN CENTRE BRYANTS LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Extension to garden centre incorporating new coffee shop, external storage area and rationalisation of parking and outbuildings.*

DECISION TBA FROM PLANNING AUTHORITY

FUL/MAL/17/00937 CLAREMONT CHELMSFORD ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Removal of conditions 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/16/00581 (Replacement dwelling – single storey extension, re-roofing with rooms in roof and detached cart lodge)* **PERMISSION GRANTED**

HOUSE/MAL/16/01451 (APPEAL REF: APP/X1545/D/17/3177683) - THE ELMS, LODGE ROAD, WOODHAM MORTIMER

Conversion of double garage and erection of a link extension and dormers to form an annexe to the existing farmhouse **APPEAL ALLOWED**

FUL/MAL/17/00923 – LAND SOUTH WEST OF OAK ACRES MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *demolition of existing buildings and construction of 2no. chalet bungalow dwellings*

The Council understands that the land subject to the application was issued an Article 4 direction by the Planning Authority in order to restrict development. The land also resides outside of the local settlement boundary as protected by Policy S8 of the approved Local Development Plan 2014-2029. Substantial development is currently ongoing in the form of the South Maldon Garden Suburb which will add to the already stressed levels of traffic along the A414 and the introduction of further vehicle movements directly accessing the unrestricted highway is of concern to the Council. For the aforementioned reasons all Cllrs agree to recommend REFUSAL of the proposed development.

FUL/MAL/17/01128 – LAND EAST OF BRADWELL POWER STATION DOWNHALL BEACH BRADWELL-ON-SEA – *application to carry out preliminary ground investigations and associated works in connection with a potential new Nuclear Power Station at Bradwell-on-Sea, use existing building as core storage area and form site compound with associated parking area.* The Council have NO COMMENTS to make to the above mentioned application

WTPO/MAL/17/01215 – MANDALAY POST OFFICE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *T1. Beech – Remove 6 low limbs over garden and 2 sub laterals from first major limb on garden side. T2. Beech – remove lowest limb on south east side. Remove over extended limb to trunk on south side. Crown lift remaining crown on south side to balance (approx 4m)*

The Council understand that Tree Preservation Order No. 7/14 confirmed on 4/06/2015 was implemented in order to protect these 2 trees following the approved development dated 03/07/2015 at the adjacent property Lynfield. It is the Council's opinion the proposed removal of limbs and crowning is too severe and would result in the loss of amenity to the garden character and therefore recommend REFUSAL of the application.

FUL/MAL/17/01197 – E J TAYLOR AND SONS LTD MILL WORKS BURNHAM ROAD HAZELEIGH - *Addition of two extensions for office use to the existing cottage/office building, creating a total additional floor area of 962sqm, and the provision of further parking facilities*

Some Cllrs were concerned with the effect an extension of the business would have in such a rural location and the potential negative impact on immediately located residents. Concerns were also raised at the introduction of further light pollution as the current lighting can be seen from quite some distance. However the growing business is of significant benefit for local employment which Cllrs feel should be supported. It is understood the current premises is at its maximum staff limit and expansion is required in order to maintain business continuity, the business having exhausted other alternative remedies such as relocation to alternative locations without success. The proposals do not seem to adversely affect the existing street scene although sympathetic protection for adjoining residents should be considered. In general the Council support the development for the benefit of maintaining the business continuity provided controls are stipulated with respect to lighting conditions and screening protection for adjacent residents in order to mitigate any potential negative impact the extension and parking facilities would impose. Cllrs agreed to recommend GRANTING PERMISSION with conditions imposed for sympathetic downward lighting and appropriate screening in order to protect immediate residents

HOUSE/MAL/17/01211 – OAKLEA BURNHAM ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *New detached outbuilding*

Further to the applicant confirmation during the above mentioned public forum that the outbuilding is to be utilised as a garage/workshop which appears to be unobtrusive at the rear of the property the Council recommend GRANTING PERMISSION

Actions *Clerk to send recommendation of refusal for land south west of Oak Acres, & Mandalay and recommendation of granting permission for Mill Works & Oaklea*

151.17 CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

AR reminded Cllrs they had previously decided to resolve at the December 2017 meeting whether to agree to the Parochial Church Council request to grant a sum of £300.00 towards church yard maintenance costs in time for the precept demand. No responses had been received from Clerk's email of May 2017 to the Church Reverend and District Cllr Henry Bass seeking further information and comment from MDC should the responsibility be passed onto them. The Parish Council's Church Representative understands that maintenance duties are proving manageable due to kind volunteer efforts and the situation is likely to remain as this for the foreseeable future. Cllrs would wait until the December meeting when determining the precept demand which would be dependent on any forthcoming grant requests.

152.17 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Cllr Mark Durham reported that at a recent meeting Members of Maldon District Council voted to replace the Parish Trigger with an extended 'call in' process. The effect of this change means that should the Parish Council resolve to recommend refusal of a particular Planning Application, previously the application would automatically proceed to a relevant committee for members to vote, this will no longer occur unless the respective District Councillor 'calls' the application to Committee due to Parish Council or other concerns.

A new initiative has been launched to combat increasing speeding issues, the TRUCAM initiative run by the Maldon District Community Protection Team with give specially trained officers powers to issue speeding tickets to offenders caught by the modern hi-tech equipment. TRUCAM will be rolled out towards the end of November following a significantly successful test period in a Maldon District village. The Council would like to see the TRUCAM utilised at Fambridge Road and MD asked AR to forward the details to him for further investigation.

Cllrs noted that the sale of vehicles is again taking place in the layby on the A414, MD advised to contact Matt.leigh@maldon.gov.uk for enforcement action

PC briefly advised the Council of various news items which would be followed up with a detailed report that AR would circulate and upload to the Council's website

Actions *AR to forward MD Fambridge Road speed issues for TRUCAM location
AR to contact MDC to report car sales in layby*

153.17 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lodge Road - (enquiry No. 2438287 logged 28/12/2015) Continuous running water from the ditch at the junction with Hazeleigh Hall Lane - No activity to report

Lodge Road - (enquiry No. 2525149 logged 15/07/2017) rotten verge reflector posts - No activity to report

Footpath 22 Woodham Mortimer - (enquiry No.2426504) finger post to be installed within Diversion Order requirements by 11/01/2017. 2426504 No activity to report

Lodge Road 'unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles' signage (application 28/03/2016) – application has been added to the approved works programme for 2018/19 Rolling Programme ref: LMAL 162075, the panel will be meeting in December 2017 to finalise the works programme

Fambridge Road – vehicle speeding issues and proposed footway - no further activity, forward MD previous information regarding the issues for prospective use of TRUCAM (see item 152.17 above)

Community Speed Watch – volunteer response – further to the Council's request to the Community Speed Watch Coordinator seeking whether a smaller group could be utilised for village activities the response given was as follows, *"as we currently have a number of communities waiting to start up new groups we couldn't support such a small group in Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh at the moment. I have sent out emails to neighbouring groups to ask if any of them would consider working with you and will be back in touch if I receive any positive replies. Please let me know if you can attract any more volunteers as we would then be in a better position to support setting up a new group."* The Council would advise if more volunteers come forward.

A414 Maldon Road – traffic volume and vehicle speeding issues. Further to the above mentioned discussions during the public forum Cllrs agreed to seek the installation of pedestrian vehicle conflict survey devices in order to ascertain detailed crossing use of the A414 at various locations. It was agreed the most appropriate locations would be at the junction of Post Office Road and at Conduit Lane opposite Bryants Lane, the Council will also suggest it would like to see the extension of the 40mph limit currently existing in Southend Road (heading towards Bicknacre) to be introduced along the section of A414 from the Oak roundabout to the other side of Rectory Lane.

Lodge Road – Salt box condition at junction of Hazeleigh Hall Lane - no activity to report

Rectory Lane Hill Farm Bridge/Culvert No.2151 – road closure - no response had been received from EH to AR email of 30/10/2017 seeking latest situation

RB reported that large Hedingham buses were now using Lodge Road which does not seem appropriate considering the size of the vehicles and the narrow character of the lane resulting in damaged verges and passing difficulties for other vehicles. The buses are rarely occupied and it is understood the route should be via Post Office Lane due to the more residential nature of the area. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to ECC Passenger Transport department for advice.

Actions AR to forward PV2 location recommendations to Cllr Channer
AR to contact Passenger Transport re: Lodge Road buses

154.17 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

AM reported that many of the paths surveyed were in good condition and the damaged footbridge on Footpath 16 at its junction with Tom Tit Lane which had previously also been reported by Woodham Walter PC has now been repaired.

155.17 AGRICULTURAL AND LIVERY CRIME

AR advised the Council of the 'Fighting Rural Crime' event taking place at Stowe Maries Aerodrome on Thursday 16th November from 1 – 4 pm. The event is being organised by the Essex Rural Partnership where Essex Police will present their Rural Crime Strategy.

156.17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING SCHEME

No information to report

157.17 CORRESPONDENCE

DHGPC - notification of David Fisher OBE (president) funeral – SB expressed sadness and condolences to family and friends for the loss of the long-time serving member of the DHGPC.

Lodge Road and Goat House Lane – HGV usage issues - Local resident reported to the Council significant disturbance by HGV's, using the aforementioned junction to dangerously reverse large vehicles and causing restricted passing along both lanes. Cllrs recommend that any dangerous manoeuvres be reported to the police and damage to highway verges can be reported on the Essex Highways website for scheduled repairs. The Council will monitor the situation and should issues persist causing significant disturbance further enquiries would be made seeking remedies.

South Maldon Garden Suburb – invitation to Liaison Panel meeting 01/11/2017 – the Council were advised that due to lack of interest the aforementioned meeting had been cancelled.

Local hunt disturbance - parishioners had contacted the Council expressing their severe concerns at an uncontrollable pack of hounds dispersed in their private gardens during a weekend in October, causing damage and disturbance to property and private wildlife areas. The disturbance has been reported to Community Safety Partnership for further investigation. It is recommended that such uninvited incursions causing property damage should be reported to the police as soon as possible. Cllr PC had been in contact with residents and is seeking further information.

158.17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance of accounts: AR advised accounts balances of; Current Account £347.38, Deposit Account £3,753.13, Total funds on deposit = £4,100.51.

£53.46 is owed to the Lloyds Debit Card for printer ink and monthly fee

Authorisation of Payments: Parish Council Insurance (Zurich) £317.02, Poppy Wreath £17.00, Printer Ink £50.46

In order to cover the above payments from the current account Cllrs proposed to transfer £300.00 from the deposit account to the current account. Authorisation of the aforementioned payments were proposed by KM seconded by SB and agreed by all Cllrs present

159.17 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AMENDMENT

Cllrs approved the amendment to item 6.20 of the Councils Financial Regulations to reflect the use of the Clerk's debit card for Council business.

160.17 INFORMATION ONLY

AR advised the Council next month's meeting should discuss and agree budget proposals for the 2018/19 fiscal year so that the precept could be demanded from MDC

December is also the annual review of staff salaries.

AR advised the Council Transparency Fund claim was successful and a cheque for £216.52 had been received by the Clerk.

Date of next ordinary meeting 12 December 2017

..... *Simon Brady*..... (Chairman to the Council)

12 December 2017