MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10 JANUARY 2022 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman: Cllr. F A Delderfield
Councillors: Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, Mrs H R Dundon, A J Gable, J C Gregan, J V Keyes and B S Marshall.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs A V Heaviside and, following the meeting, District Councillor R Siddall.

001.22 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS
There were no disclosures.

002.22 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK
One member of the public were present. There were no questions.

003.22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13 December 2021 were confirmed and signed.

004.22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
Hedge Cutting: It was noted the hedges remain uncut and the Clerk was asked to approach them again to set a date for the work to be carried out and if not another contractor would be sought.
Community Broadband: A letter from County Broadband, carried over from the last meeting, explained a Community Broadband project starting in the Parish. The letter was noted.

005.22 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS OF OTHER BODIES AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.
There were no items to report.

006.21 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:
Neighbourhood Plan: The Inspector appointed to carry out the examination of the Draft Plan has started and may contact the Council or the Steering Group with any questions which, if so, will be shared. A copy of the consultation from Gladman Developers, and the Council's reply, has been posted on the Neighbourhood Plan website.
Maldon District Local Development Plan: Consultation on the update to the Maldon District Plan has started and a request for information about housing allocations will be sent to parish council's

007.21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Planning Decisions: The Clerk reported on the latest planning decisions of the Maldon District Council.
Note for Clarification of Roles: It has become noticeable in correspondence, conversation and on social media that some members of the public are not always aware of the Parish Council's role in the planning application process. Our agenda item says "To comment" but the following note will be added to agendas:
[**Note:** The Parish Council receives notification of and may give its views on planning applications, in accordance with planning legislation, policy and local plans. The Maldon District Council is responsible for making decisions on them.]

Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 7 January 2022 were as follows:

HOUSE/MAL/21/01313 External alterations to outbuilding. 30 Walden House Road – The Council has no objection provided that conditions are applied limiting the use as solely in connection with that of the main house and not used as a separate dwelling.
HOUSE/MAL/21/01316 Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of two storey rear extension. 78 Staplers Heath – The Council has no comments.
21/00752/RES Reserved matters application for the approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale for the construction of 160 residential units with associated access, parking, servicing and landscaping (Phase 1 only) on approved application 15/00419/OUT (Part outline/part detailed (hybrid) application for mixed use development including: (i) Residential development (Use Class C3) for up to 1138 dwellings including 30% as affordable housing (Outline) (ii) Residential Care for up to 120 beds (Use Class C2) (Outline) (iii) "Neighbourhood" uses which may include retail, commercial, and community uses (Use Classes A1 and/or A2 and/or A3 and/or A4 and/or A5 and/or D1a and/or D1b) (Outline) (iv) Primary school and early years childcare facility (Use Class D1c) (Outline) (v) A relief road between Broad Street Green Road and Langford Road (Detailed element) (vi) Formal and informal open space (including any associated sports pavilion/clubhouse) (Use Class D2e) (Outline); (vii) Construction of initial gas and electricity sub-stations (Detailed); and (Viii) All associated amenity space, landscaping, parking, servicing, utilities (other than as listed in item (vii) above), footpath and cycle links, on-site drainage, and infrastructure works (Outline).) Land At Broad Street Green Road And Langford Road And Maypole Road Great Totham Essex – The Council has no comments.
FUL/MAL/21/01253 Replacement dwelling with detached garage, landscaping and extension of garden land. Walden Cottage 58 Walden House Road – The Council has no objection provided the siting of the dwelling further back from the front (road side) of the site.
SCR/MAL/21/01302 Request for screening opinion to determine if the proposal (Outline planning application for 200 dwellings, open space, landscaping, SUDS and vehicular access. All matters reserved except for access) requires an EIA. Land South of Howells Farm Cottages Maypole Road – The Council objects to the development taking place so the application for a screening opinion is unnecessary. In responding to this screening opinion application the Parish Council has considered the principle of the development proposal itself and in doing so is mindful of the current large scale development of “North-Heybridge” being carried out nearby. The extent of that development will extend to and be flanked to the north by the planned “northern Relief Road” which will clearly make a statement defining the end of the developed urban area and the start of open countryside.

The proposed development of a further 200 dwellings outside of this area would fundamentally alter the wide open character of the southern part of Great Totham Parish between Broad Street Green Road and Maypole Road and the area to the west towards Langford Parish. The additional traffic generated would be harmful to and unsustainable by the road network both locally and over a wider area. The proposal is therefore, contrary to policies S1, S8, D1 and H4 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan and the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework and contrary to the policies set out, following public consultation, of the Draft Great Totham Neighbourhood Plan now in its examination stage.

Note: Members thought that the information in the application is scant. The only information available being a friendly letter from an architect to the Lead Specialist Place Officer which identifies the Maldon District Council as the client.

008.22 FINANCE
Confirmation of Payments: Payment was confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service
264.22	The Bull at Great Totham	Chairman's Reception for Members and Volunteers.
15.54	Npower Commercial Gas Ltd.	Bus shelter lighting 1 Oct 19 to 31 Dec 19
40.00	Essex Wildlife Trust	Annual subscription
1610.40	Harry Stebbing Workshop	Notice Board
793.59	C R Potter	Salary/allowance £570.00 Broadband 27 Dec – 26 Mar £223.59

Estimates: The third quarter finance update for 2021/22 was received and noted and the Draft Estimates for 2022/23 were discussed and agreed and the levels of income and proposed expenditure would result in no increase in the precept. The report is attached.
Precept for 2022/23: It was therefore **resolved** to levy a precept of £17,054 resulting in a Parish Council tax of £13.36 for a band D household.

009.22 AMENITIES
Report of the Chairman of the Amenities Committee: Cllr C L Atkinson reported that one of the seats at the Green near the Compasses has been fixed with bolt supplied by Toms Farm Shop and the other seat may need attention. Two new swing cradle seats are needed at the Jubilee Recreation Ground and the Clerk will order them from Playdale. The report was received and adopted.

010.22 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
Localism Rangers Work: No further work was identified.

011.22 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION
Community Protection Team Report: The latest report had been circulated.
Speedwatch: Cllr Atkinson reported that no checks had taken place since last month, which included the Christmas holidays.

012.22 HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE
It was agreed that the next Special Assembly will be held on 14 February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall if available.

013.22 SOCIAL MEDIA
Cllr. Mrs Hannah Dundon had offered to set up an additional channel of communication for the Council with the use of Social Media. Accordingly a Facebook page has been initiated for the Council which she will administer. Members thanked Cllr Mrs Dundon for the offer.

014.22 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.
There were no items. The meeting closed at 8.30pm