MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2019 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman: Cllr. F A Delderfield.
Cllrs. Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, J C Gregan, Mrs A V Heaviside, J V Keyes and B S Marshall.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. R L Bass and A J Gable.

001.19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2018 were confirmed and signed.

002.19 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST
The Chairman reminded Members that, in common with other local authorities, this item is placed high on the agenda to give Members the earliest opportunity to declare known interests in items set out for later discussion; notwithstanding that they should also declare interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting. There were no disclosures

Members were also reminded to review and update if necessary their interests recorded in the Register of Interests and which they are required to declare under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct.

003. 19 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK
No members of the public were present.

004.19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS OF OTHER BODIES AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.
A newsletter was received from the RCCE and a further newsletter about the proposed nuclear power station at Bradwell on Sea; Information about a workshop on Devolution was received from the EALC and a briefing on the Local Service Fund. Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside reported on a footpath matter which is recorded under Highways and Transportation.

005.19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
There were none.

006.19 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group: The notes of the Steering Group meeting of 8 January were received and noted. No land allocations are suggested at this stage.
Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire: A summary of results prepared by the Steering Group had been circulated by e-mail. It was noted that the general shape of the results echoed the survey carried out in 2015 for the MDC survey to feed into housing allocations. Both surveys included some general questions and speeding vehicles are still an issue highlighted by many responses.
Green Infrastructure Strategy: The Maldon District Council is asking for comments on a draft Green Infrastructure Strategy and Members felt that no response is necessary.

007.19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Planning Decisions: The Clerk reported on the latest planning decisions.
Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 11 January 2019 were as follows:

HOUSE/MAL/18/01452 Single storey rear extension and a new carport. 63 Mill Road – The application appears is in accordance with the Local Plan and recommends approval.

HOUSE/MAL/18/01229 Single storey rear extension and change in elevational materials. 34 Maldon Road – No additional comments

OUT/MAL/19/00004 Outline application for an erection of one detached dwelling. Land Adjacent 24 Catchpole Lane – The proposed development is outside of the settlement development limits and is for back-land development which would overlook the neighbouring properties. The Council recommends refusal.

008.19 FINANCE:
Confirmation of Payments: Payments were confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service
140.53	The Bull at Great Totham	Chairman's Christmas Reception
22.04	E-On	Bus shelter lighting 1 Oct 18 to 31 Dec 18
40.00	Essex Wildlife Trust	Annual subscription
344.20	Maldon District Council	Community Protection Team Oct – Dec 2019
614.97	C R Potter	Salary/allowance £444.00 Broadband 27 Dec – 26 Mar £170.97

Finance update 2018/19 and Estimates 2019/20:
The financial report and forecast outturn at the end of December was noted. The first draft estimates had been considered at the December meeting of the Council and these were now further reviewed and agreed. The estimates for 2019/20 maintain the Council tax at the same rate as in the current year of £15.36 for a Band D household. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Precept for 2019/20
It was then **resolved** to levy a precept of £19,449 resulting in a Parish Council tax of £15.36 for a band D household.

009.19 AMENITIES
Report of the Chairman of the Amenities Committee: Cllr C L Atkinson reported that the roundabout at Totham Hill recreation Ground will need to be removed, and the spindle post covered, for repairs to be carried out by Cllr. Cllr B S Marshall. He will carry out a repair to the seat at the end of Braxted Lane and look at constructing a boarded pad at the base of the seat at Beacon Hill to deal with erosion. The report was received and adopted.
Jubilee Recreation Ground Access A resident had reported an injury incident at the School Road entrance to the Jubilee Recreation ground which had become eroded and slippery at times. It was agreed to fence it off completely for safety.
Banner on Greens: A request from Wickham Bishops Drama Group to place temporary banners on Greens was discussed. The Council recognised the good work of the Group but felt unable to give permission due to the effect on the land, visibility and street scene. It would also set a precedent.

Best Kept Village Competition: It was decided not to enter the Best Kept Village Competition.

010.19 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
Localism Rangers Work: No further work was identified.
Maldon Road Footway: The land owners have relayed the Council's concerns to the owners of the parked taxis and have offered to enter into a permissive path agreement to allow pedestrian access. It was decided to first check the position on completing the walkable verged over this section.
Bus Service Consultation. There was no response.
Overgrown Public Right of Way: Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside reported on an overgrown footpath and has responded to the complainant.

011.19 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION
Speedwatch Report: Cllr C L Atkinson gave a report on the latest Speedwatch activity. The Little Totham Group are borrowing the same Speedgun.
Community Protection Team Report: The latest Community Protection Officers report was received and noted. The trial work of the Team was reviewed and it was agreed to continue using the service. An increase in the budget allows for the service to be increased from three to five hours a month. Cllr Atkinson and the Clerk are to meet with the Team. A summary of the work is attached.
Control of Dogs: A report of the Maldon District Council on dog control under public open space orders was noted but it is unclear about its extent over the District. Cllr J V Keyes, who sits on the relevant Committee, thought that a decision on the order had not been made. If it does cover the whole District it would make the Parish Council's byelaws redundant. The Clerk will make enquiries and notices can be prepared. Members made it clear that they have no objection to dogs on the Council's land so long as they are kept on a lead and any fouling is cleared up immediately.
Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner: Fire & Rescue Plan 2019: The survey was noted and there was no specific response.
Jubilee Recreation Ground: Further to the complaint of offensive behaviour discussed at the last meeting a draft response to the complainant's solicitor was agreed. A copy is appended to these minutes.

012.19 ESSEX FUTURE LIBRARY SERVICES STRATEGY 2019
It was felt that the Council could not support a library continuing if it is not used, although some library buildings may have future community use. Members noted an e-mail from Wickham Bishops Parish Council. Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside will put an item in the Parish Magazine to encourage the public to respond to the survey.

013.19 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2019/20: The Clerk is preparing a draft schedule for consideration and approval at the next meeting.

014.19 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside will publicise the Clean-Up Day on Sunday 7 April.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Community Protection Team
Activity September to December 2018

Trucam results

Date	Time	Duration (Mins)	No. of Captures	Minutes/ Capture	Location
3 September	13.50 – 15.30	100	26	3.8	Not stated
6 September	15.20 – 16.00	40	3	13.3	Not stated
25 September	11.00 – 11.20	20	6	3.3	Maldon Road
17 October	09.30 – 10.30	60	5	12.0	Maldon Road
23 October	14.20 – 15.05	45	8	5.6	Prince of Wales Road
31 October	10.00 – 11.00	60	13	4.6	Not stated
5 November	08.20 – 09.00	40	10	4.0	Not stated
12/13 December	Not stated	120	11	10.9	Not stated
Totals		485	82	5.9	All

It can be seen that the checks were held in various parts of the Parish at different times. Over the checking period the results showed an average rate of almost one offender every six minutes, ranging from a low of one every thirteen minutes to a peak of one every three minutes between 11.00 and 11.20 at Maldon Road on 25 September.

Vehicles Moved On & Penalty Charge Notices

Date	Time	Duration (Mins)		Vehicles moved on	Penalty Charge Notices
7 September	14.00 – 14.20	20	Check Rec. Ground		
9 October	15.0 – 15.00	15	Dog Fouling Patrol		
7 November	14.30 – 15.30	60	School Parking Patrol	7	6
20 November	08.35 – 9.10	35	School Parking Patrol	3	1
20 November	15.00 – 15.45	45	School Parking Patrol	7	4
14 December	Not stated	60	Car parking & Dog Fouling Patrol		
Totals		235		17	11

Results & Costs:

MDC Charges: September, October, November, December 3 hours/month @ £31.87/hour = £382.44

Offenders: Speeding Captures (82), Vehicle Moved (17), Penalty Charge Notices (11)

Cost per Offender: £382.44/110 = £3.47

GREAT TOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

C R Potter, Clerk to the Council
19 Mill Road, Great Totham, Maldon, Essex, CM9 8DH

Telephone: Maldon (01621) 891474 **Email: greattothamparishcouncil@btinternet.com**
Website www.essexinfo.net/great-totham-parish-council

Date: 15 January 2019 **Your Ref:** JRE\NK\408635.0001

Dear Gepp Solicitors,

Jubilee Recreation Ground

I refer to your letter of 14 December on behalf of the owner of ( ) School Road complaining of a nuisance at the Jubilee Recreation Ground, Maldon Road, Great Totham, which the Council has discussed.

In summary, the Council is not minded to move any playground equipment. As you point out, living adjacent to the Recreation Ground is not an issue for Mr Lane and he does not have any objection to people using the equipment; but the problems arise because of the behaviour of some of the users. The Council agrees and believes that addressing this behaviour is the solution to the problem. Offensive language in a public place, using banned substances, generating unreasonable noise and dropping litter are matters which are unacceptable and need to be addressed by the appropriate bodies. There is no mention of your client reporting the first two to the police.

Following an earlier Freedom of Information request from Mr ( ) I set out details of the history and how the Jubilee Recreation Ground developed and explained that the last refit of playground equipment was in the summer of 2009. We must make it clear that no equipment has been added or moved since then.

We must also make it clear that the 2009 installation did not place equipment nearer to the boundary with the old school house site; on the contrary, if your client looks up the planning application for the old school house site, FUL/MAL/07/00971, at the Maldon District Council and checks the location plan, dated 4 September 2007, he will see marked out close to the boundary the base of the see-saw which was part of the old equipment removed. The see-saw was the nearest item of equipment but was not replaced by any other item of equipment.

Gepp Solicitors
58 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0PA

I also explained that the playground equipment has been located in the same place since the 1960's. It allows the reorientation of the football pitch according to wear. The Local Plan designates the recreation ground as such and the 2009 installation continued a long established use of the land so planning permission was not required.

The behaviour described by your client is unacceptable and some of it may be criminal; we would urge him to report future offences, especially swearing, and using illegal substances to the police. I understand that the Chelmsford and Maldon Police Division has set up a new Community Policing Team and I will send copies of this correspondence to them and the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner who is responsible for providing resources.

Locally, the Police are holding informal *Coffee with Cops* events with the nearest one at The Bakery, Homefield House, Witham Road, Little Braxted CM8 3ET on 5 February 10am to 11am. Mr ( ) might like to go along and speak with them.

The Parish Council is undertaking a trial run of using the services of the Community Protection Team at Maldon District Council. At a Council meeting last night it was agreed to continue with this service and, from 1 April 2019, fund extra time for officers attending the Parish.
Although they are focussing, at our request, on speeding, illegal parking and dog fouling at present they do already patrol the recreation grounds and open spaces from time to time. I will also send them a copy of this correspondence and will be arranging a meeting to discuss our further needs including this issue at the Jubilee Recreation Ground.

The Council hopes these actions will lead to a resolution of your clients concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Clive Potter
Clerk to the Council