

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2019 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman: Cllr. F A Delderfield.

Cllrs. C L Atkinson, R L Bass, A J Gable, J C Gregan, Mrs A V Heaviside, J V Keyes and B S Marshall. In attendance: Maldon District Cllr R H Siddall.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs C Adams.

Election of Parish Councillors for Great Totham: The following persons were duly elected on 2 May 2019 and have made declarations of Acceptance of Office:

Christine Adams	Colin Leonard Atkinson	Rodney Lister Bass
Frank Alan Delderfield	Albert John Gable	Jim Gregan
Vicky Heaviside	John Vernon Keyes	Brian Stanley Marshall

052.19 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Chairman, Cllr. F A Delderfield, asked for nominations for Chairman and Cllr. Mrs C Adams proposed that Cllr. F A Delderfield be re-elected and this was seconded by Cllr. A J Gable. The proposal was met with approval and there were no other nominations. Accordingly Cllr. F A Delderfield was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

053.19 CHAIRMAN'S STATUTORY DECLARATION

Cllr F A Delderfield made a Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members and the Clerk for their support.

054.19 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed by Cllr. A J Gable that Cllr. Mrs C Adams be appointed Vice-Chairman and this was duly seconded. There were no other nominations and Cllr. Mrs Adams was duly appointed.

055.19 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER POSITIONS

It was agreed that the Committees, Working Groups and Representatives will comprise the following Members:

Amenities Committee: Cllrs. Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, F A Delderfield (ex-officio), J C Gregan, B S Marshall and Mrs A V Heaviside.

Planning Committee: All members of the Council

Working Groups: Members form Finance Working Groups from time to time to advise the Council, usually when drawing up the estimates and finalising the accounts. Members of the Finance Working Group are: Cllrs. Mrs C Adams, F A Delderfield (ex-officio), A J Gable and J C Gregan. Other Working Groups are formed as and when required.

Essex County Council:

Public Rights of Way Contacts: Cllrs. R L Bass and Mrs A V Heaviside

Public Transport Contact: Cllr. Mrs A V Heaviside.

Winter Salt-bag Organiser: Cllr J C Gregan.

Maldon District Council:

Emergency Planning Contacts: Cllrs. Mrs C Adams and A J Gable

Essex Police:

Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator: Cllr C L Atkinson.

Great Totham Village Hall:

Representative on Village Hall Council: Cllr. Mrs C Adams

(A list of Members' responsibilities is published under the Transparency Code)
The Chairman congratulated members of the Parish Council on their re-election and Councillors J V Keyes and R H Siddall on their election as Members of the Maldon District Council for the Great Totham Ward. It was agreed that Cllr. Siddall should have a standing invitation to join the Parish Council at the table and speak but not vote. (Cllr Keyes is a Member in his own right).

056.19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 April 2019 were confirmed and signed.

057.19 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. Cllr J V Keyes declared a pecuniary interest in planning application MAL/19/00384 and a non-pecuniary interest in planning applications MAL/19/00467, 468 & 471.

Members were also reminded to review and update 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.

058.19 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Iain MacGregor from Wickham Bishops Parish Council and Liane Rowland, the Clerk, to express their support for an application to the Local highways Panel for significant measures, including possible re-alignment, to improve safety and traffic calming measures at and around the Five-corners junction which has been the site of several recent accidents. Planned development in the area will only increase the problem. Members agreed in principle and the Clerk will prepare an application. Cllr R L Bass advised that should any nearby land in his ownership be requested he will declare an interest. A displaced sign in Maypole Road was also raised and this will be reported as a highway fault.

059.19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS OF OTHER BODIES AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from Dr James Bettley, the High Sheriff of Essex, thanked the Council for its letter of good wishes; and a letter from Bruno Peek advised on VE Day 75, the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on 8 May 2020. It was thought that our involvement should be considered later on.

060.19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was noted that Cllr Bates from Wickham Bishops Parish Council is leading on the response to the County Council to close the Library at Wickham bishops.

061.19 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group: It was noted that the Public Consultation Event for the proposed plan will be held on Sat/Sun 7 & 8 September 2019 at the Village Hall.

062.19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Notice of Appeal: Notice was received in respect of work to a Cherry tree at Pond House, Maldon road under MAL/19/00104.

Appeal Decision: Notice was received of an appeal decision for MAL/18/00952, land adjacent to 18 Totham Hill Green, which was allowed. A question arose about the District Council providing “insufficient evidence to....” as quoted by the Inspector. It was understood that this does not mean that no evidence at all was submitted but that which was does not support or lead the Inspector to a particular conclusion and who make take a different view.

Planning Decisions: The Clerk reported on the latest planning decisions.

Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 10 May 2019 were as follows:

AGR/MAL/19/00451 Prior notification for a new agricultural grain store. Sheepcoates Farm Sheepcoates Lane – No comments.

FUL/MAL/19/00384 Removal of condition 4 (occupation condition) on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/72/00235 (erection of detached bungalow and garage for agricultural use). Brick Kiln Lodge 32 Rookery Lane – No comments. (Cllr J V Keyes left the room for discussion of this item)

FUL/MAL/19/00395 Conversion of a former agricultural building into a two bed dwelling incorporating minor alterations to scheme as approved and implemented under permission COUPA/17/00981 as allowed on appeal. Barn At Great Mountains Farm Colchester Road – No comments.

HOUSE/MAL/19/00461 Proposed single storey rear extension. Willowcroft Kelvedon Road Great Totham – The Council has no objections.

COUPA/MAL/19/00467 Notification for prior approval for the change of use of building 1, 2 and 3 from a storage and distribution buildings (Class B8) to 5No. dwellinghouses (Class C3). Agricultural Barns 1, 2 & 3 Adjacent 31 Plains Road –

The Council objects to the application and recommends refusal. The site is in a sensitive rural location outside of the defined settlement boundary for Great Totham where policies of restraint apply. The Council can demonstrate a five year housing land supply to accord with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. The site has not been identified by the Council for development to meet future needs for the District and does not fall within either a Garden Suburb or Strategic Allocation for growth identified within the Local Development Plan to meet the objectively assessed needs for housing in the District.

Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it. Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it.

The development would have an unacceptably intrusive urbanising effect upon the site adversely affecting the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. As such the proposal does not represent sustainable development and the adverse impacts of the development would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the scheme contrary to policies S1, S2, S8, T1 and D1 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan and the guidance and provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular Paragraphs 7, 14 & 216. It appears also that the ground may be contaminated.

COUPA/MAL/19/00468 Notification for a prior approval for the change of use of buildings 5 and 6, storage and distribution buildings (Class B8) to 5No. dwellinghouses. Agricultural Barns 5 & 6 Adjacent 31 Plains Road –

The Council objects to the application and recommends refusal. The site is in a sensitive rural location outside of the defined settlement boundary for Great Totham where policies of restraint apply. The Council can demonstrate a five year housing land supply to accord with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. The site has not been identified by the Council for development to meet future needs for the District and does not fall within either a Garden Suburb or Strategic Allocation for growth identified within the Local Development Plan to meet the objectively assessed needs for housing in the District.

Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it. Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it.

The development would have an unacceptably intrusive urbanising effect upon the site adversely affecting the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. As such the proposal does not represent sustainable development and the adverse impacts of the development would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the scheme contrary to policies S1, S2, S8, T1 and D1 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan and the guidance and provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular Paragraphs 7, 14 & 216. It appears also that the ground may be contaminated.

COUPA/MAL/19/00471 Notification for prior approval for the change of use of barns 4 and 7 from a storage and distribution buildings (Class B8) to 6No. dwellinghouses Agricultural Barns 4 & 7 Adjacent 31 Plains Road. –

The Council objects to the application and recommends refusal. The site is in a sensitive rural location outside of the defined settlement boundary for Great Totham where policies of restraint apply. The Council can demonstrate a five year housing land supply to accord with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. The site has not been identified by the Council for development to meet future needs for the District and does not fall within either a Garden Suburb or Strategic Allocation for growth identified within the Local Development Plan to meet the objectively assessed needs for housing in the District.

Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it. Further, the development would adversely affect the infrastructure capacity necessary to bring forward the proposed locally planned growth in terms of both the necessary highway infrastructure and secondary education capacity to support it.

The development would have an unacceptably intrusive urbanising effect upon the site adversely affecting the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. As such the proposal does not represent sustainable development and the adverse impacts of the development would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the scheme contrary to policies S1, S2, S8, T1 and D1 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan and the guidance and provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular Paragraphs 7, 14 & 216. It appears also that the ground may be contaminated.

HOUSE/MAL/19/00448 Erection of a first floor extension Warren Cottage Maypole Road – The Council has no objections.

FUL/MAL/19/00472 Extension to workshop. Workshop At Walden House Farm Walden House Road Great Totham – The Council has no objections.

HOUSE/MAL/19/00479 Single storey rear extension and change in elevation materials. 34 Maldon Road – The Council has no objections.

063.19 FINANCE:

Confirmation of Payments: Payments were confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service	
341.78	Maldon District Council	Grass Cutting 3 rd Quarter 2018/19	
17.00	NALC	Local Council Review	
577.86	C R Potter	Salary/allowance	£570.00
		Postage Stamps	£7.86

Accounts and Financial Statement: The Councils Accounts and Financial Statements for 2018/19 were agreed and a copy of each is appended to these minutes.

064.19 AMENITIES

Report of the Chairman of the Amenities Committee: Cllr C L Atkinson reported a gap in the hedge at Bull Green; monitoring of the cycle track in Heybridge; additional slabs laid at the south side of the War Memorial Bus Shelter; and planned work to the seat at Beacon Hill. His report was received and adopted.

Playground Inspections: The inspections have reported several minor matters to be dealt with.

Jubilee Recreation Ground Access: The improvement to the Hall Road access will start on 26 May.

Noise complaint at Jubilee Recreation Ground: The Chairman or Cllr Atkinson will meet, depending on the day, with a Community Protection Officer and Environmental Health Officer about a noise complaint from the swing.

Skatepark: A letter from a young Wickham Bishops resident was received requesting a Skatepark to be provided at the Jubilee Recreation Ground. It was agreed that this would not be a project possible for the Council.

Defective tree at the Cricket Ground: A defective tree at the Cricket Ground has been dealt with by Cllr B S Marshall.

065.19 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Localism Rangers Work: An overgrown footway at Colchester Road between Rookery Lane and Mill Road will be reported; and a displaced sign in Maypole Road.

Five Corners Junction: See Minute 58.19 above.

Road Traffic Regulation Orders: Notice was received of a regulation order for part of Church Road and Sheepcoates Lane at present in force.

Consultation on Essex Park and Ride use of Concessionary Bus Pass: It was agreed to object to the introduction of charges.

Speed Limits: It was thought that lower speed limits should be considered during school travel times in selected roads such as Mill Road, Catchpole lane and Maldon Road.

Public Right of Way Diversion: It was agreed to object to the diversion of Footpath 25, Great Totham, near Anghams, Beckingham Road. The track over which this section runs is part of an ancient route and right of way linking Totham Hill to Great Totham Church and Hall. The section of existing path is direct, runs on a straight line and is clearly defined; such a diversion is unnecessary.

066.19 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION

Speedwatch Report: Cllr C L Atkinson reported on the latest Speedwatch activity: Checks in the past month led to 27 cars being reported.

Community Protection Team Report: The latest Community Protection Officers report was received and noted. Fifteen Tru-Cam captures were made and dog fouling patrols were carried out at Bull Green.

Tru-Cam checks will be requested in Walden House Road when building works are completed.

067.19 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no urgent business.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm