

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11 JULY 2022 AT 8.00 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillor F A Delderfield (Chairman)

Councillors: Cllr. Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, Mrs H R Dundon, J C Gregan, B S Marshall and District Councillor R Siddall.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A J Gable, Mrs A V Heaviside and J V Keyes

The Chairman welcomed Nikki Smith to the meeting. Nikki is Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer at Witham Town Council and is attending as part of her studies for the Community Governance Degree through the Society of Local Council Clerks.

087.22 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures.

088.22 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Five Members of the public were present. Mrs Pipe, advised that her husband, who is known to several members as a former Maldon District Council Member, is in hospital following a heart attack. Members wished him well. A Captains Wood Road resident spoke about traffic issues affecting the road about which he was concerned. He had also written and the matters were to be discussed later on the agenda. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council is also concerned but can only make representations.

089.22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13 June 2022 were confirmed and signed.

090.22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

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

Code of Conduct: The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on Code of Conduct training at Maldon District Council.

Essex Association of Local Councils: The Annual general Meeting will take place on 22 September.

Maldon District Council Report: Councillor Richard Siddall reported that the Council has had very successful events on the prom and the plan is to hold more in the future and throughout the year. As part of the district now being classified as level 1 of the government levelling up fund, we have applied for funding to develop the Hythe Quay and to construct a heritage centre

The structure of the planning department, is being examined to enable it to become more effective; The LDP review will now be finished at a later date, due to the resources at the council being used for the levelling up application. The Council does have a full enforcement team, and they are getting to grips with all the orders

At the last meeting with the leadership team, he raised the poor direct response from officers to parish councils, when the contact they council. If there are incidents where this happens then we should let him know. There is more availability now to speak to officers now and the reception desk is staffed.

There are now 57 Ukraine / Refugees in the District, the largest number are in Wickham Bishops.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Siddall for his report.

092.22 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

Neighbourhood Plan: The Maldon District Council had confirmed the “making” of the Great Totham Neighbourhood Plan at its meeting on 5 July. The Clerk will pass on the thanks of the Council to Leonie Alpin at the Maldon District Council who was very helpful during the process. The Parish Council can now refer to it in making comments on planning applications and the Maldon District Council can now use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide on planning applications.

093.22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeal: Notice of appeal was received in respect of LDE/MAL/21/01004 Claim for lawful development certificate for existing use of building as office purposes. Building at the Old Dairy, Broad Street Green Road.

MAL/22/00646 Land adjacent to Oaklands, Kelvedon Road: Wickham Bishops Parish Council concurred with this Council's views on this application which is close to the parish boundary.

Planning Decisions: The Clerk reported on the latest planning decisions of the Maldon District Council.

Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 8 July 2022 were as follows:

(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.)

VAR/MAL/22/00624 Removal of condition 2 (Occupation worker's dwelling) on approved planning permission MAL/892/85 (Erection of one dwelling). Withs Farm House Beckingham Road – The Council has no objection since the dwelling is no longer occupied in connection with the business or agriculture.

HOUSE/MAL/22/00700 Proposed first-floor rear extension, garage conversion, internal alterations and fenestration changes. 21 The Paddocks – The Council has no objection provided adequate parking arrangements remain.

094.22 FINANCE

Confirmation of Payments: Payments were confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service
6.94	E-on	Bus shelter lighting
25.00	Great Totham PCC	Magazine item for Jubilee Celebrations item

646.92	Maldon District Council	Community Engagement Team Services April, May, June 2022
1082.99	C R Potter	Salary/allowance £820.00 Broadband 27 Jun – 26 Sep £262.99

Extension to Burial Ground – Mr Tarpey is consulting with the diocese and Cllr. Siddall has passed on a request for an informal opinion on the likely outcome of a planning application.

095.22 AMENITIES

Report of the Chairman of the Amenities Committee: Cllr Atkinson reported that he and Cllr. B S Marshall are continuing to work on items from the playground inspections. Work at Totham Hill Recreation Ground is complete. The climbing bar base at the Jubilee Recreation Ground needs to be lifted out and may need hire of external help. His report was received and adopted.

096.22 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Localism Rangers Work: It was noted that the footway in Colchester Road between the Compasses and Mill Road is overgrown.

Road works and closures: Further messages from Gigaclear were received and notices from the County Council about closures for repairs.

Captains Wood Road: A copy of a message to Cllr. Mark Durham from a Captains Wood Road resident was received about several highway issues relating to the road. Some suggestions may be processed through the Highways Panel and Cllr. Siddall will investigate.

Highway Reinstatements: A comment was received about the quality of Gigaclear reinstatement work following cable laying operations.

Speed Indicator Signs: The Clerk is having a problem in completing the application to the Essex County Council to install new speed indicator equipment and will meet with Councillor Atkinson to clarify the details.

Salt Bag Partnership for 2022/23: Cllr J C Gegan is willing to continue with the present arrangements.

097.22 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION

Rural Engagement Team Report: The latest report was noted and showed a further 132 speeding offences. Other checks in the report were noted. The Team usually patrols the area near the School during term time and as the School holidays have started Captains Wood Road could become an area to patrol.

Speedwatch: No further checks were carried since the last meeting as it has not been possible to have people trained.

98.22 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on their recent attendance at a training session on the new code of conduct. The disclosure process is similar but there are further definitions of types of interest. It was agreed to note the changes and to consider adopting the new code in future.

99.22 FIRE A HEYBRIDGE WOOD

Members noted a fire at Heybridge Wood for information. It was not clear how the fire started.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm