MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 8.00 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman Cllr. J C Gregan.
Cllrs. Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, R L Bass, F A Delderfield, A J Gable and Mrs A V Heaviside.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. J V Keyes and B S Marshall.

117.16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22 August 2016 were amended to clarify that the last sentence in Minute 115.16 refers to other parishes, and confirmed and signed.

118.16 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.

119.16 PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Adjournment)
Two members of the public were present. There were no questions.

120.16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS OF OTHER BODIES AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.
The Chairman advised that he had recently attended parish council meetings at Heybridge and Little Totham. A speed limit in Plains Road had been discussed. Cllr R L Bass explained the policy on introducing speed limits which involves locations meeting a specified criteria including existing 85% percentile speeds. The 30mph speed limit is being extended in the Village itself. It was noticed that Speedwatch is appreciated.

The Chairman referred to AGM of the Essex Association of Local Councils to be held on 22 September at Dunmow and to which members are invited including two voting delegates; the Clerk referred a Maldon District Council press release about paying council tax by telephone.

121.16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
Flooding from Sewage in Hall Road: The Clerk has asked Anglian Water about the latest position and if they have a longer term solution to the volume problem.
Lay by in Walden House Road: It was noted that this scheme is scheduled to start in January 2017.

122.16 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:
Consistency of Planning Appeals: A copy letter was received from the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services at Maldon District Council to the Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate. The letter set out concerns about the Development Plan and accuracy and consistency of planning appeal decisions being provided by the Inspectorate. The letter and associated papers were noted.
Consultation on Traveller Sites: A recent press article announced a consultation on traveller site provision for the Maldon District LDP but an interested resident had contacted the District Council who advised that the impending consultation is

cancelled due to withdrawal of offers by landowners. It is not known when the consultation will resume. This Council is concerned about any concentration in and around Great Totham.

Neighbourhood Plan:
Prior to the Parish Council meeting Michelle Gardiner from the RCCE had discussed informally with Members and the Clerk Neighbourhood planning processes, and how we might proceed. A steering group would needed to be set up and an action plan worked up. The Maldon District Council and RCCE will provide support.
Neighbourhood Plan Boundary: Members had discussed the boundary for a Great Totham Neighbourhood Plan at the last meeting and the public consultation on the proposal has just started and ends on 7 November.
Steering Group: It was agreed that a Steering Group would be formed of Members of the Parish Council (to be determined) and volunteer parishioners of whom a number had said they would be interested in helping through the household questionnaire conducted last October. An early task is to build up an action plan.
Communication: Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside will write an item for the Parish Magazine informing the Parish of what has been agreed and asking for volunteers. The Clerk will do a similar item for the website and also contact those who wished to be kept up to date and those who have already volunteered.

Changes to LDP: A consultation on proposed changes to the LDP had arrived too late for the agenda. The document is lengthy and it was agreed that those members available would meet informally to study the documents and make initial suggestions for a response. A formal response will be agreed at the next meeting in time for the closing date on 27 October.

123.16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Tree Preservation Order: An order (No. 3/16) was confirmed without modification in respect of trees at South Wood, Broad Street Green Road was received.
Planning Appeals: It was noted that a written appeal in respect of FUL/MAL/15/00946 proposed ten dwellings and associated works at rear of 60 to 68 Colchester Road has now become a hearing; and notice of appeal was received in respect of FUL/MAL/16/00330 Retrospective - Erection of shed at Mackmurdos Beacon Hill.
Application Withdrawn: It was noted that FUL/MAL/16/00810, Erection of one house, driveway and garage following outline permission granted: OUT/MAL/15/00416. Land Adjacent to 6 Captains Wood Road, is withdrawn.
Bradwell Nuclear Power Station: At the previous meeting Cllr C L Atkinson queried why we had not been consulted on a planning application to import nuclear waste to Bradwell on Sea. The Clerk provided details of the application to temporarily suspend a condition to allow importing waste. The Application is a County one which not sent to all parishes but is actually advertised for comment.
Planning Decisions: The Clerk reported on the latest planning decisions of the District Council.
Additional Information: Additional information was received on OUT/MAL/15/00419 (Great Totham, Heybridge, Langford & Ulting Parishes) Part outline/part detailed (hybrid) application for mixed use development [etc]: Land at Broad Street Green Road, Maypole Road and Langford Road Great Totham/Heybridge.

Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 16 September 2016 were as follows:

HOUSE/MAL/16/00938 Single storey side extension. Spring House 2 Prince Of Wales Close. The Council recommends approval. The form, bulk and general design of the proposed extension is in keeping with the size of the plot and would not have a detrimental impact on the surroundings and landscape.

FUL/MAL/16/00892 Erection of detached dwelling and associated garage. Land At Rainbow Cottage Kelvedon Road. The Council recommends refusal. The proposed dwelling is alien to the site as it is of an inappropriate bulk, size and scale for the plot and locality. This would result in substantial harm to the site and detrimental to the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

FUL/MAL/16/00947 Replacement dwelling. Barradoura 16 Beacon Hill. The Council recommends refusal. The proposed replacement dwelling is of an inappropriate bulk, size and scale for the plot and locality and would result in substantial harm to the site and detrimental to the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

HOUSE/MAL/16/00970 & LBC/MAL/16/00971 Two storey flank extension. 78 Maldon Road. The Council recommends approval. It is considered that the proposed development would not have an adverse impact on the surroundings or listed building.

HOUSE/MAL/16/01037 Two storey side extension to dwelling incorporating existing single story element. 32 Broad Street Green Road. Support.

FUL/MAL/16/01016 Stable block and menage for domestic purposes. Great Totham Hall, Hall Road. The Council recommends refusal. The scale of the development cannot reasonably be considered as consistent with domestic use. The proposed siting, on open farmland, is be such that it would be visually detrimental to and spoil the character of the surrounding open landscape and existing landscape features.

124.16 FINANCE:
External Audit: PKF Littlejohn had completed the external audit for 2015/16 and reported that the Council has met legislative and regulatory requirements and there are no other matters to draw to the attention of the Council. The Clerk has placed the completion of audit notices.
Grant Requests: A request from the Essex Air Ambulance for a grant was received but it was agreed that no grant funds are available. A grant request was also received from the Great Totham Cricket Club for a specific purpose and it was agreed to respond that the Council remains supportive of the Club and Members appreciate what it is doing for the community, and notes its success. Unfortunately the budget this year is fully committed so the Council is unable to provide grant support.

Bank Accounts: The Council has a community account which is supplied without charge and is limited to three signatories of which two sign cheques. One of the signatories is no longer a member of the Council and needs replacing. The Bank is encouraging those having community accounts to move to electronic banking accounts where cheques would still be used and more than one signatory would have to approve any on-line payment. The Clerk would remain the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and have administrative access which would aid financial control. It was agreed change to an on-line account.

Confirmation of cheques: Cheques were confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Details
240.00	PKF Littlejohn	2015/16 Audit
444.00	C R Potter	Salary/allowance £444.00

125.16 AMENITIES

Report of the Chairman of the Committee: Cllr C L Atkinson reported that he has asked Mr Clark to repair detached boards, he believes kicked off, from the play area at the Jubilee Recreation Ground and the Clerk was asked to arrange for hedge/shrub cutting inside the Jubilee Recreation Ground, particularly to remove growth from over the ramp; and to obtain new dog fouling notices. Cllr B S Marshall is to renovate the "car" at Totham Hill Recreation Ground. The hedges have been cut and Cllr Mrs C Adams has checked mowing against the schedule and found it to be satisfactory. The report was received and adopted.

Playdale Playgrounds: Playdale have not replied to the Council's query on the supply of cushionfall but again the Company's Accounts Department has asked when they will be paid and the Clerk has again referred them to the person looking into the problem.

126.16 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Rangers Scheme: No further work was identified.

Road Markings in Walden House Road: Following re-surfacing in Hall Road the white lines which were placed in front of property entrances to discourage parking were not replaced and a resident has complained to the County Council to be told that as the white lines are not enforceable they will not be replaced. Cllr R L Bass said he would try to sort this out.

Parking in School Road: Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside advised that parking occurs in School road which frequently obstruct the entrances. It was suggested that the Willie Almhouses Trustees consider putting up advisory notices.

Colchester Road Collisions: The Chairman referred to recent road traffic collisions in the vicinity of the bend near Rookery Lane and suggested they are due to vehicles losing grip on the road surface as a result of diesel fuel spillage from vehicles leaving Rookery Lane, according to a witness. It was thought that if this is the case the witness should report the incidents to the police. On the other hand if it is not driver error it could be some other highway fault and Cllr R L Bass said he would ask the appropriate people to look at it.

127.16 COMMUNITY POLICING

Speedwatch Update: Cllr C L Atkinson reported that checks are ongoing.

128.16 ANY URGENT BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no items raised

The meeting closed at 9.54 pm.