

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 8.00 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs C Adams.

Cllrs. C L Atkinson, R L Bass, J C Gegan, Mrs A V Heaviside, J V Keyes and Mrs E Parsons.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs. F A Delderfield and A J Gable.

126.14 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Cllr R L Bass declared a non-pecuniary interest in MAL/14/00814 [see Minute 137.14 below] and left the meeting from the point when it was discussed.

127.14 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Six members of the public were present. There was one question, asking about any progress on road safety at Walden House Road. [See Minute 131.14 below]

128.14 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 26 August 2014 were confirmed and signed.

129.14 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Bus Services: Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside explained further correspondence she had had with bus operator about this Council's concerns over the matter of a bus route along Walden House Road. Cllr R L Bass explained that although the County Council has discussions with the bus company, this particular service is run without subsidy so the County Council cannot specify changes. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Heaviside for her efforts.

Development North of Heybridge: Cllr R L Bass referred to this minute and the Chairman and Clerk explained further the localities giving concern.

Developer Consultation: It was suggested that a yes/no questionnaire might be included in the Parish magazine to gauge reaction to possible development near the Bull. Cllr Mrs A V Heaviside explained about placing an item in the Parish magazine and in particular the timing. It was thought sufficient that attention has been drawn to the developers intentions.

130.14 COMMUNITY POLICING

There were no reports.

131.14 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND NEWS FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

Cllr R L Bass advised that the County Council is actively considering improvements at Walden House Road including looking at volunteer services such as some form of reinstating a crossing patrol. A pilot scheme is being run at Tollesbury where a patrol is trained and equipped by the County Council but where it cannot formally recruit as the situation does not meet the national formula involving the road and number of children and so on. There are a number of places where the criteria is not quite met. There are additional measures that would need to be taken at Walden House Road.

132.14 FINANCE:

Burial Ground: The Clerk advised that he had not heard any further from Strutt and Parker, the landowners agents.

External Audit: The completed external auditors report was received confirming that the Council has met regulatory requirements. An "other matters drawn to the attention of the Council" said that the precept figure does not agree with that given to the auditors by the precepting authority as it includes Council Tax Support Grant and which should be shown as other receipts. However the precept remittance advice sent to the Council clearly denotes the whole amount as precept and the auditors will be advised accordingly.

133.14 AMENITIES

Report of the Chairman of the Committee: Cllr J V Keyes reported that he is not aware of any Amenities problems. The report was received and adopted.

Amenities Committee: It was agreed that the Amenities Committee would meet on 30 September at 7.30pm as the previously agreed date was unsuitable.

134.14 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Rangers Scheme: No further work was identified but it was noted that finger posts at Beacon hill and Five Corners are damaged again and may have to be replaced with a more robust type; and the Village Gateway sign at Totham Hill is faded.

Meeting with Wickham Bishops Parish Council: It was agreed to meet with members of Wickham Bishops Parish Council to discuss highways matters of mutual interest and to suggest improvements if necessary.

Road Closure Order Road closure orders at Lea lane, Great Braxted, and Chapel Road, Great Totham were noted. Cllr R L Bass advised that the system is changing so that in future undertakers will have to obtain a permit with conditions about over running and coordinating with other planned or necessary works.

135.14 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

Working group: It was agreed that the Group should meet on 4 November to examine the information and decide the way forward.

136.14 ANGLIAN WATER FLOODING ALLEVIATION WORKS

Anglian Water had sent details of a public meeting about works to alleviate flooding in the Roundbush Corner area. The Clerk had mentioned the water flowing from the land in Mountains Road and it was hoped that they appreciated the poor ground conditions encountered when excavating for sewers previously.

137.14 MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN

A batch of questionnaires were received from the Maldon District Council about the review of the Corporate Plan for 2015 – 19 and it was agreed that the best response is for Members to complete them as individuals if they choose to.

138.14 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included a letter from the Essex Air Ambulance asking if the Parish Council would consider making a grant to the Charity and an invitation to Heybridge Parish council's Christmas Drinks Reception. Also, received earlier in the day, was a letter from the Maldon District Council about the

submission of the Maldon District Community Infrastructure Draft Charging Schedule. The letter pointed to some on-line information and Cllr J C Gegan offered to look at it and prepare a note if possible for the next meeting.

139.14 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Certificate of Lawfulness - The Stables, Colchester Road: One of the actions following a complaint and meeting with the Chief Executive and Chief Planning Officer earlier in the year was that the District Council would seek a second legal opinion on the status of the mobile home on the site in the light of adding a conservatory and brick plinth. The Chief Planning Officer has sent this Council a copy of the second opinion dated 22 August.

Members noted that the District Council's legal advisor, in looking at the factors put forward as evidence that the caravan is no longer mobile, came to similar conclusions as this Council had put forward as a case for refusal of a certificate; and thought he would have been inclined to refuse a certificate on the balance of probabilities. He also questioned the evidence of a four year time period of existence of "permanence" as this Council did. It was agreed to ask the District Council for its further observations and intentions as a result of the second opinion.

Caravan off Maypole Road: The Chairman had been in contact with a new Enforcement Officer at Maldon District Council about a caravan located on land off Maypole Road. He hopes to give her an update by the end of the week.

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

Latest applications: The applications lodged with the Maldon District Council to week ending 19 September 2014 were considered and the Council's comments were as follows:

FUL/MAL/14/00769 The change of use of land to the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 2No. gypsy pitches together with the formation of hardstanding and utility/day-room ancillary to that use. Rose Stables Land South of Captains Wood Road – Withdrawn prior to meeting.

WTPO/MAL/14/00828 TPO 12/95 - T3(T1 on app) & T5(T2 on app) Oaks - Reduce all over by up to 1.5m max. The Oaks Mount Lodge Chase - The Council is guided by and supports the views of the Maldon District Council Tree Officer and recommends that these views are accepted.

FUL/MAL/14/00844 Replacement dwelling. Walden Cottage 58 Walden House Road – The Council objects to the proposed replacement dwelling which does not meet the criteria set out in the Local Development Plan for a replacement dwelling. Its design, scale and setting are inappropriate and would out of character with the nearby buildings, of a generally lower and less prominent level, and harmful to the street scene. Its size and setting would also be detrimental to the important open landscape appearance in this particular area which is outside of and provides a space between settlements. The Council therefore recommends refusal.

For information only_SCR/MAL/14/00870 Request for a Screening Opinion for residential development of up to 120 dwellings. Land North East Of The Bull Public House Maldon Road – Noted. The Council recommends that a

Transportation Assessment is also carried out.

For information only_SOR/MAL/14/00888 Request for Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinion for a proposed mixed use new neighbourhood. North Heybridge Garden Suburb Maypole Road Great Totham – Noted

HOUSE/MAL/14/00814 Cart lodge to front of property. Ballingdon Maypole Road – The Council has no objection to this proposal and recommends approval.

140.14 CONFIRMATION OF CHEQUES

Cheques were confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service
240.00	PKF Littlejohn	2013/14 Audit
273.00	C R Potter	Salary/allowance
500.00	Roger Clark	Carrying out various amenities works

141.14 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Standards Committee: In July the Council had put forward the name of Cllr J C Gegan as a parish representative on the Standards Committee at Maldon District Council. The EALC are administering the vacancy and have written explaining that there is a tie in the number of preferences with our nomination the equal candidate. After a further indication of preferences it was agreed that Cllr Gegan's name will be passed to the EALC as this Council's preference.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm