

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9 OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillor Chairman: Cllr. F A Delderfield.

Councillors: Cllrs. Mrs C Adams, Mrs J M Bass, Mrs H R Dundon, Mrs A V Heaviside, and B S Marshall.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. C L Atkinson, T E Gregan, J.V Keyes, and District Council Members for the Ward; Councillors Jade Hughes and Richard Siddall.

108.23 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures.

109.23 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Three members of the public were present and objections were expressed to relocating the smaller children's swings to Bull Green. (Objections had also been expressed in e-mail messages). The Chairman and Cllr B S Marshall explained that the decision to re-locate them had been discussed over a long period of time as a result of the equipment at the Jubilee Recreation Ground being subject to frequent criminal damage.

Cllr B S Marshall went on to explain that Bull Green is used more by people generally as it is centrally placed and on a route to the shop and bus stops and as such more visible. It is also surrounded by hedging on two sides and a dry ditch on the third making it a safe location; and in any event the equipment is intended for young children who should be accompanied.

The swings had to be removed for major repairs and this provided an opportunity to re-locate them. The Jubilee Recreation Ground will continue to provide a location for playground equipment. Cllrs T E Gregan and J V Keyes had tried to contact members of the group who are working on funding for new equipment to update them and the Clerk will suggest some dates when a meeting could be arranged to update them.

110.23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4 September 2023 were confirmed and signed.

111.23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk reported that the new Speed Indicator Equipment is due to be delivered in early November and Cllr. T E Gregan has agreed to accept delivery at the Farm Shop. Arrangements can then be carried out to install them including the purchase of a suitable pole if not supplied with the equipment

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

County Councillor Mark Durham had sent a note about the work of the Essex County Council, including the possible devolution and the County Council's response to concerns about lightweight concrete materials installed in County Council buildings.

113.23 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

Infrastructure Levy: Replies from the Maldon District Council confirmed that the Levy made on large developments is not available to help fund new playground equipment.

Road Naming: It was agreed to support the naming of the new relief road linking Maypole and Broadstreet Green Roads as *Jubilee Way*.

114.23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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 6 October 2023 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.)

Confirmation of comments made following circulation to meet deadlines: Weeks Ending 8 & 15 September

<p>HOUSE/MAL/23/00750 Construction of side/rear first floor extension over existing flat roof and removal of garden shed. Infinity Cottage 8 Goat Lodge Road – The Council has no comment.</p>

<p>LBC/MAL/23/00769 Proposed extension to existing Almshouses to provide 2no 1 bedroom cottages in the rear gardens of the existing Almshouses forming a courtyard appearance off the return of the existing property via an arched linked wall. The proposals will result in some site clearance of some of the trees and bushes on the footprint of the proposals, but will retain the large majority around the site and woodland.</p>
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<p>There will be no alterations or demolition of the existing listed building, and extensive discussions have been held with the local listed building officer on the design of the proposed dwellings to maintain the same design creating the courtyard appearance.</p>

<p>The previous application was refused and referred to a number of conditions that have all been addressed in the design, enclosed Planning Statement, and additional reports relating to Ecology and Biodiversity Net Gains -</p>

<p>The Council supports the development to provide additional housing of the type proposed to further the Charity's work and believes that the development close to the boundary will not harm the setting or appearance of the listed building. The Council supports the development to provide additional housing of the type proposed to further the Charity's work and believes that the development close to the boundary will not harm the setting or appearance of the listed building.</p>
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<p>FUL/MAL/23/00803 Erection of a building to accommodate a virtual driving range and associated works. Forrester Park Golf And Tennis Club Beckingham Road – The Council has no comment.</p>
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<p>WTPO/MAL/23/00823 TPO 1/00) T6 Cedar – Fell. 1 The Chase Great Totham - We have no comment. The Council supports the views of the Tree Officer.</p>

WTPO/MAL/23/00895 (T1 on TPO 2/96) T6 - Oak – Fell Totham Hill House 1 Totham Hill Green - We have no comment. The Council supports the views of the Tree Officer.

Weeks Ending 22, 29 September and 6 October:

FUL/MAL/23/00780 Erection of 3no. Glamping Pods for overnight accommodation for golf club guests. Workshop Forrester Park Golf And Tennis Club Beckingham Road – The Council has no objection provided the maximum stay in the pods for any particular guests is limited to a maximum of two consecutive weeks.

HOUSE/MAL/23/00921 First floor front extension over garage. Two storey rear extension. Changes to fenestration. Changes to hardstanding to front drive & rear garden. 36 Prince Of Wales Road – Provided the development has no adverse effect on neighbouring properties

HRN/23/00928 Sections of 34 hedgerows to be removed in order to install a new water main. End of Langford Waterpipe Hatfield Road Langford – the Council has no objection provided the sections of hedges removed are re-planted where possible.

Amended Plan Consultation: **FUL/MAL/23/00698** Enlargement of existing northern menage. Land At Chasefield Farm 64 Walden House - The Council has no objection provided the development has no adverse effect on neighbouring properties

115.23 FINANCE

Confirmation of Payments: Payments were confirmed for:

Amount	Payee	Service
7078.73	Mallatite Ltd	Speed Display equipment
40.00	Toms Farm Shop	Timber for seat
50.00	The Royal British Legion	Donation for Poppy Wreath
40.06	Npower Commercial Gas	Bus shelter lighting 1 July – 30 Sept 2023
72.60	RCCE	Annual Subscription
1089.00	Maldon District Council	Grounds Maintenance Q2 2023-4
252.00	PKF	External Audit for year ending 31 March 2023
1107.02	C R Potter	Salary/allowance 820.00 Broadband 27 Jun – 26 Sep 278.22 Postage 8.80

Completion of Audit: PKF had carried out the external audit and signed off the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. Attention was drawn to the Council's inability to publish the Annual Return on a website as none was available at the time, although the information was published on Facebook and the public notice boards.

Finance Report: A finance report to date was received and noted and a copy is appended to these minutes. A preliminary consideration of the estimates will be made at the next Council meeting.

Cheque Signatories: It was agreed that Cllr. T E Gegan should become a signatory for cheques and other bank documents.

Playground Equipment Funding: The Council will put forward possible dates for a meeting with the Playground Group to discuss funding for new playground equipment. [Subsequently 25 or 30 October and 1, 2, 3 or 9 November were offered]. District Councillor Jade Hughes is currently looking at available grants.

116.23 AMENITIES

Oak tree at the Cricket Field: The oak tree at the Cricket Field has lost more branches in the high winds and the Clerk will examine the planning permission to see if it will cover the additional work required.

Erection of swings at Bull Green: This item is referred to under minute 109.23 above.

Provision of Allotments: A question by e-mail had asked if the parish had any allotments and if so are any available. The Clerk had replied that the Parish Council does not provide allotments and he had enquired of Wickham Bishops Parish Council who also do not provide any.

117.23 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Localism Rangers Work: No further work was identified.

Speed Indicator Displays: Cllr T.E Gegan has agreed to accept delivery of the Speed Equipment.

Parking in School Road: Cllr Atkinson had reported that parking in School Road appears to have become a problem.

Parking at Staplers Heath: A resident has explained problems of access at times to "Square" off Staplers Heath and the Clerk will make some enquiries.

118.23 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION

Community Protection Team Report: The latest report was noted. The main activity was carrying out speed checks and during September 74 drivers were caught speeding over checks totalling 3½ hours [or one driver every three minutes].

Speedwatch reports: Cllr C L Atkinson had advised that three checks have been carried out during the month with 31 drivers reported to the Police as driving over the speed limit. A traffic count of both directions in Maldon Road was held which noted 380 cars in one hour.

Speeding in Maldon Road: The Community Protection Officers will be asked to carry out speed checks in Maldon Road possibly using the Lay-By opposite Captains Wood Road.

Speed Limits: It was agreed to review some 40 mph speed limits and ask for 30mph restrictions to be put in place.

119.23 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.05pm