

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman: Cllr. F A Delderfield

Councillors: Mrs C Adams, C L Atkinson, Mrs H R Dundon, A J Gable, J C Gegan, J V Keyes and B S Marshall.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs A V Heaviside and, following the meeting, District Councillor R Siddall.

124.21 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures.

125.21 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Eight members of the public were present. No questions were asked.

126.21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 November 2021 were confirmed and signed.

127.21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Maldon District Council Meeting: Further to question asked by the Vice-Chairman at the last meeting of Cllr. Richard Siddall, a news release with a statement about hate crime and that *the abuse and harassment of staff and elected members of this authority has to stop. An Enough is Enough* campaign has been launched and we replied *We received a copy of your open letter this morning about the deplorable behaviour of a few Members of Maldon District Council and the determination of the majority who are standing together to stamp it out. The behaviour of the few is totally disrespectful to those Members who wish to represent their communities in a fair and equitable way; and the staff charged with carrying out their roles in providing our services. We would like you, your fellow members, and staff to be aware that we in Great Totham fully agree that enough is enough and support your actions. We hope that the situation can now be quickly resolved.*

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

County Councillor Report: A report was received from County Councillor Mark Durham updating on Essex County Council work. He explained the present working and meeting arrangements in response to the Omicron Covid variant. He advised that he has allocated almost all of his Locality Budget although £150,000 of the Local Highways panel remains unspent and may be carried forward.

129.21 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

Neighbourhood Plan: The public consultation on the Plan has just ended and an Inspector appointed by the Maldon District Council will start the examination on 4 January.

Developers Consultation Request: A consultation request prior to an intended application was received from Gladman Retirement Living Limited for proposed residential development for 80 houses on land off Maldon Road. The following response was agreed:

Proposed Residential off Maldon Road, Great Totham

Thank for your letter about your intention to submit a planning application in respect of land in Great Totham situated off Maldon Road, and near the Bull Public House.

The Council does not usually engage in pre-application consultations but on this occasion we would like to point you in the direction of four sources of information for your guidance. The first three can be found by looking on the Maldon District Council's website under planning applications where you can search for your previous application OUT/MAL/14/00936 for the same area of land. Here you will find:

- 1. Our consultation response to the application*
- 2. The Maldon District Council's decision on your previous application*
- 3. The inspectors report dismissing your subsequent appeal*

The fourth source is our draft Village Plan which is widely accepted and on which you have already commented. You will see that the plan does not include for development the area of land upon which you are now consulting.

All of these sources would be material considerations in forming a response to any subsequent planning application

130.21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Planning Committee: The minutes of the Committee of 22 November were received and adopted. Comments on applications are reproduced here for completeness:

MAL/21/01080/VAR Variation of conditions 2, 3 & 14 on approved planning application 20/00678/FUL (Demolition of existing outbuildings and construction of 2no. detached residential dwellings with associated landscaping and vehicle parking). Agricultural Barns Adjacent 31 Plains Road – No comment
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MAL/21/01162/HOUSE Single storey side extension and side/rear extension on the main dwelling house. A link extension joining dwelling to outbuilding. Garage door added to carport and a new carport added to side of existing carport. Ballingdon Maypole Road – No comment

MAL/21/01071/OUT Application for outline planning permission for one detached 3-bedroom dwelling with all matters reserved. Land North Of Poplar Grove Chase. – The Council objects as the application is for residential purposes on back-land outside of the development boundary
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Application previously omitted:

FUL/MAL/21/00788 Formation of temporary access points for construction traffic from Maypole Road and Broad Street Green Road. Land at Broad Street Green Road, Maypole Road and Langford Road, Heybridge, Essex. - The Council has no objection but wishes to comment that the permission should be time limited and have conditions applied to prevent any temporary road becoming a substitute for the proposed relief road.
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Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 10 December 2021 were as follows:

MAL/20/00625/OUT Outline planning application (with all matters except for means of access to the site reserved) for a residential development of 28 dwellings and provision of new car park for Great Totham Primary School Land At Manor Farm Walden House Road, Great Totham –

The proposed development would fundamentally alter the open character of the western side of the Great Totham South settlement and would have a harmful impact on the character and appearance of the area, which is open countryside in nature providing a defining gap before reaching the settlement of Wickham Bishops. The proposal is therefore, contrary to policies S1, S8, D1 and H4 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan and the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework and contrary to the policies set out, following public consultation, of the Draft Great Totham Neighbourhood Plan now starting its examination stage.

The application is also for School Parking would give the Parish Council cause for concern if it were allowed in this location. Although Walden House Road is classified as a local road it acts as a key route for traffic between Great Totham and Wickham Bishops and beyond, in addition to traffic associated with the School. The area is very busy and there is congestion along Walden House Road at the beginning and end of the school day due to dropping off and collecting children, school transport, residents' access to their properties, household deliveries as well as passing traffic.

At present parking, dropping off and picking up takes place on the north-west side of the road (the School side), employing a voluntary one-way system, which is relatively safe for the children and those dropping them off. The proposed development opposite the School would be counter-productive to the present position by introducing new and additional traffic movement hazards. These would arise from the access, egress and turning generated from extra housing with the access opposite the School. There would be conflict with pedestrians (including those of primary school age) arising from crossing from and to a car park located on the opposite side of the carriageway from the School; the car park itself generating even more traffic movements, including vehicles turning; and pedestrians crossing the carriageway.

The Council recommends refusal.

[Post-meeting note:] We understand that the Great Totham Primary School was not formally consulted prior to the application and, now being made aware of it, has lodged its objections.

MAL/21/01162/HOUSE Single storey side extension and side/rear extension on the main dwelling house. A link extension joining dwelling to outbuilding. Ballingdon Maypole Road (Amendment) – The Council has no comment.

131.21 FINANCE

Confirmation of Payments: Payment was confirmed for:

Amount (£)	Payee	Service
33.20	Tom's Farm Shop	Seat Slats and Bolts
20.74	E-On	Bus shelter lighting 1 October – 30 November 2021
112.00	Society of Local Council Clerks	Clerk's annual membership fee
43.00	Silicon Alley	Printer toner and paper
580.20	C R Potter	Salary/allowance 570.00 Postage Stamps 10.20

132.21 AMENITIES

Report of the Chairman of the Amenities Committee: It was noted that the hedges have not yet been cut and the Clerk advised that he has spoken to the contractor who intended cutting them later in the week.

133.21 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Localism Rangers Work: Further cutting work on the walkable verge was identified.

Essex County Council: A copy of Highways Highlights was received.

134.21 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION

Community Protection Team Report: The report is delayed.

Speedwatch: Cllr Atkinson reported that one check had taken place this month. The 40mph reporting threshold had reverted to 36mph. The Body cameras have been in use and are satisfactory.

One potential volunteer had responded to the advert in the Parish Magazine. The Clerk will ask for it to also be included in the next edition.

Vehicle Activated Signs: Cllr C L Atkinson had obtained a quotation for vehicle activated signs to be placed near the entries to the 30mph section of the B1022 road at Totham South. The equipment cost will be just under £6,000 and allowance will be made in the estimates. The Clerk will contact Essex Highways about installing them.

135.21 HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

The report of the Special Assembly held on 22 November was received and noted. A further Assembly will be arranged in late January.

136.21 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

There were no items

The Meeting closed at 8.11 pm and the Chairman, Members and Clerk met with volunteers at the Bull.