

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 OCTOBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Vice/Chairman: Mrs C Adams.

Councillors: F A Delderfield, Mrs H R Dundon, T E Gegan, Mrs A V Heaviside, J.V Keyes, and N J Snelling.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C L Atkinson and B S Marshall

122.24 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures

123.24 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

No members of the public were present.

124.24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9 September 2024 were confirmed and signed.

125.24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

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

There were no reports

127.24 PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGY:

There were no policy matters to consider

128.24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Latest Applications: Comments on planning applications received up to week ending 11 October 2024 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/24/00689 Variation of condition 2 on approved planning permission 23/00229/FUL (Construction of stable block). Land North of Poplar Grove Chase – Noted, no comment.

WTPO/MAL/24/00707 (TPO 06/15) T1 on TPO - Oak - Fell. Mackmurdos Beacon Hill Wickham Bishops Witham - The Council supports the views of the specialist Tree Officer
--

FUL/MAL/24/00717 Erection of two storey detached part garage, part annex outbuilding. Land At Cherry Barn 56B Walden House Road – The Council has no objection provided conditions are applied to the effect that the extension is used as part of the main dwelling and not a separate dwelling.
--

HOUSE/MAL/24/00761 Single storey rear extension. 9 Prince Of Wales Road
Great Totham Maldon Essex – No comment

WTPO/24/00782 (TPO 07/76) A7 (Mixed trees) - Crown lift to 5.5m, lateral reduction the basal and epicormic growth growing through the fence (located along Goat Lodge Road & Staplers Heath). Willow - Fell (located along Goat Lodge Road). Ash - Remove dead wood (located along Goat Lodge Road). Land At Goat Lodge - The Council supports the views of the specialist Tree Officer

WTPO24/00798 T1 on TPO 02/09 Ash - Height reduction by 2.5m , lateral reduction by 2.5m and thin crown by 20%. Remove deadwood. Ravello Maypole Road - The Council supports the views of the specialist Tree Officer

129.24 FINANCE

Confirmation of Payments: Payments were confirmed for:

Amount	Payee	Service
900.00	London Hearts	Defibrillator equipment
252.00	PKF	External Audit for year ending 31 March 2024
51.21	Npower Commercial Gas	Bus shelter lighting 1 July – 30 Sept 2023
264.00	Hallwood Associates	Visual assessment and written recommendations for work to oak tree at Cricket Ground
764.46	Maldon District Council	Community Engagement Services Jul Sept 2024
50.00	The Royal British Legion	Donation for Poppy Wreath
1300.18	C R Potter	Salary/allowance 1000.00 Broadband 27 Jun – 26 Sep 300.18

Estimates Update: The Clerk is working on updating the estimates and will give a finance update at the next meeting

Completion of Audit: PKF, the external auditors, has completed and signed off the audit of accounts for the financial year of 2023/24. There were no matters to raise or bring to the attention of the Council.

Banking and bank signatories: The present payment arrangements are by cheque with two Member signatories (the clerk also makes small payments by cash and is reimbursed). All payments are formally agreed and made by cheque at meetings of the Council, but some are made between meetings to meet supplier conditions or for urgent purchases and confirmed at the following meeting.

Most receipts are paid directly into the Council's bank account through the banking system and occasional cheques are deposited at a bank counter using a deposit slip

or at a Post Office. Whilst there is a Post Office in the Village the Nearest Bank branches are at Chelmsford, Colchester or Braintree. Paper statements are received monthly.

The Clerk is to check the latest payment legislation and rules for parish councils and investigate banking on-line for Parish Councils, which would make transactions easier to manage

130.24 AMENITIES

Report of Chairman of Amenities Committee:

Hedges: Cllr. T E Gegan reported that he has arranged a contractor to cut back overgrown vegetation in several places at Totham Hill Recreation Ground.

Grants for Playground Equipment: He is arranging a demonstration of possible equipment for the Bull green play area. He is also looking at the possibility of grants from the National Lottery.

Bull Green playground equipment. Cllr B S Marshall has removed further equipment for smaller children from the Jubilee Recreation Ground for refurbishment prior to it being relocated into the fenced safety area at Bull Green. The extent of use of the equipment there will be noted by Members as they pass by.

Seat at Beacon Hill: A new seat has been provide at Beacon Hill by Cllr. T E Gegan and Members expressed appreciation at his generous gesture.

The report was received and adopted.

Hedge Cutting

It was noted that the hedges to the Councils properties are becoming overgrown. An order has been placed with the contractors and the Clerk will check to enquire about whether they can do the work. If not the Chairman of the Amenities Committee knows of an alternative contractor.

Oak Tree at Cricket field: The Vice-Chairman is to seek further estimates to carry out additional work to the tree which became apparent earlier in the year as the tree came into leaf. The tree is listed and permission is in place to carry out essential work of which this is part.

131.24 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Localism Rangers work: No further work was identified

Footway at Totham North: A resident has complained about vegetation overgrowing the footway between Rookery Lane and the Compasses. The Clerk has submitted Highway Fault reports.

Bull Green Layby: A further complaint was made about the lay-bay.

132.24 COMMUNITY POLICING, SAFETY AND REGULATION

Community Protection Team Report: The latest report was noted

Speed Indicator Devices: The Chairman is investigating further the accuracy of the Speed Indicator devices (SID)

133.24 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Annual Remembrance Service will take place in St Peters Church at 10.45 on 10 November 2024. All Members are invited and the Council takes an active role and which is shown below in the sequence of the Order of Service, and lays a wreath.

Parish Council Roles:

Clerk to the Great Totham Parish Council – Clive Potter (stand at plaques)

First Reading (Micah 4:1-5)

Vice-Chairman of the Great Totham Parish Council – Councillor Mrs Chris Adams.

Second Reading (Matthew 5:1-12)

Member of the Great Totham Parish Council – Councillor Frank Delderfield

Laying of the wreath

Vice-Chairman of the Great Totham Parish Council – Councillor Mrs Chris Adams.

The Kohima Epitaph: Councillor Mrs Vicki Heaviside will recite:

134.24 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

There was no other business and the meeting closed 8.35 pm.