

Present: Cllrs Bell, Goody, Lankester, Lowther, Nixon, O'Donnell

In the Chair: Cllr Plater

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also Present: District Councillor St Joseph

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies of absence from Cllrs Cole, Crees and Slodzik.

There were also apologies of absence from District Councillors Bamford and Thompson.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Cllr Chambers and due to personal commitments Cllr Chambers had resigned with immediate effect. Cllr Chambers has agreed to continue her work with the Youth Project 'The Hangout'.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lowther disclosed interests as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of agenda item 7, Planning Application FUL/MAL/19/00257, as he has a personal relationship with the owner of the adjacent business.

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

4. District Councillors

Cllr St Joseph reported the following:

- There is a Marine Watch open day at Tollesbury Marina at the end of April.
- Anglene Crowley had been in contact regarding the Gabion Project and a meeting has been suggested on either 29th or 30th April 2019.
- There is a consultation on Green Infrastructure. It is the Government's intention to look after the green infrastructure.

5. Minutes of the Meetings held on 19th March 2019

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th March 2019 be approved as a true record of the Meeting. Proposed Cllr Lowther, seconded Cllr Lankester. Unanimously agreed.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

6. Finance

Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Reports were presented to the Council.

Councillors received the following monthly financial reports:

Bank Reconciliation – Closing balance of £87,125.19 as at 31st March 2019.

Expenditure to date – Budget £112,573 – Actual £96,369

Income to date (including precept £41,734) – Budget £91,729 – Actual £119,337

Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance £34,058.81 – Net movement £11,894.57

Resolved: to approve the Finance Reports. Unanimously agreed. The Chairman signed the reports.

Councillors reviewed the budgets and unanimously **resolved** to carry forward the following budgets into 2019/20:

Play Equipment Upgrade - £2,000

Neighbourhood Plan - £2,000

Any other remaining surplus will move into the general fund.

7. Planning

Application and Decisions

Applications:

- FUL/MAL/19/00257

Change of Use from light industrial/office to an A3 restaurant /bar

Tollesbury Cuisine 5 Monometer Business Park Woodrolfe Road Tollesbury

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of this Application as follows:

- Inappropriate location for a restaurant and bar.
- Loss of employment land.
- In Flood Risk Zone 3 – The Applicant’s Flood Risk Assessment is inaccurate.
- Traffic is already an issue, and a restaurant/bar in that location will be reached by car causing further traffic congestion.
- There is no provision for parking.
- Concern regarding the opening hours.

- FUL/MAL/18/01395 PP-07261246

Proposal to improve and restore the habitat condition of the marshes for a wide range of internationally important wintering wildfowl and locally important breeding waders and other species. RSPB will create 7,200 square metres of new scrapes (seasonally flooded wetland features), create 3 new islands approximately 120 square metres in size, excavate 610 metres of new foot drains, re-profile 1035 metres of existing foot drain, create 500 metres of bunds across a semi-improved grassland field, and repair and renovate 12 historical but degraded crossing points found in the ancient marshes.

There is no change of use associated with this proposal, the site will be managed in the same way and for the same purpose after the proposed habitat improvements.

Old Hall Marshes Old Hall Lane Tollesbury

Resolved: to recommend approval of the application. Unanimously agreed.

Appeals:

- Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/18/3213901

Application Ref: COUPA/MAL/18/00266

Notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use from offices Class B1(c) to 7No. residential flats Class C3.

Woodrope Building Woodrolfe Road Tollesbury Essex

Planning decisions made by Maldon District Council:

- TCA/MAL/19/00164 – Ramsholt 3 Churchacre, Hall Road – Approved

Planning decisions made by the Planning Inspectorate:

- None received.

8. Woodrolfe Green

A quotation was received for the supply and installation of a 6inch timber post.

Councillors considered alternative options and it was agreed to use an old telegraph pole which Cllr Nixon already had.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quotation to cut a length of 2m off the post and install 1m into the ground.

Following the last meeting the Clerk had obtain a quotation for a sign to be installed at the entrance to the car park 'CARS ONLY'. The cost for the sign is £9.95 each plus delivery. Councillors were happy with the quotation but would prefer that the white text was reflective and were happy to pay additional costs for the change.

Action: Clerk to order two signs with reflective text.

9. Woodup Pool

The Weekly Safety Check Reports were received and noted.

10. Tollesbury Youth Project

The Clerk reported that the opening of 'The Hangout' had been delayed due to funding not being received. Vikki Chambers was chasing this up.

Action: Clerk to request a copy of all the policies prior to the opening of 'The Hangout'.

11. Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reported that following the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 27th March 2019, several Planning Consultants had been approached to progress the Tollesbury Neighbourhood Plan.

Quotations had been received and a meeting had been arranged for 3rd April with Planning Direct. A Neighbourhood Plan Committee had also been arranged for 3rd April 2019, with a view to appointing a Consultant.

12. Annual Assembly

The Council agreed the Agenda for the Annual Assembly which was being held on 17th April 2019.

13. Police

The police reports were received and noted.

The Clerk reported that it had been brought to her attention that youths were hanging around Hasler Green who were allegedly taking/dealing drugs. The youth were also being anti-social to residents whose properties backed onto Hasler Green.

Action: Clerk to report to PCSO Fleming and request that patrols of the area are carried out.

13. Administration

Recreation Ground Play Equipment Upgrade – The application for funding from Tesco had been successful. Users of the stores in Tiptree and West Mersea can vote for their preferred project between 1st May and 30th June 2019 with the winner being announced in July. The Clerk would publicise towards the end of the month.

The JustGiving Page had received donations towards the project of £200.

Recreation Ground Football Pitches – The Clerk reported she had received some complaints from the football team the previous weekend regarding the condition of the football pitch.

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Football Team, Contractor and Recreation Ground Committee to confirm the requirements for the pitches.

Tollesbury School – The Clerk reported the Headteacher of Tollesbury School would be happy for a Councillor to attend one of their assemblies to give a talk on the role of the Parish Council within the Village.

Action: Chairman to confirm date that he will be able to attend.

14. Community Concerns

Cllr Lankester reported:

- He had been in contact with the RSPB and spoke in relation to the copy of the letter sent to the RSPB regarding Climate Change. Cllr Lankester circulated the reply from the RSPB.
The RSPB would like to engage with Tollesbury Parish Council once they have had initial discussions with the relevant statutory bodies.
- He had been researching Electric Charging Points and found there is a government scheme where grants of £500 are awarded if the Electric Charing Point is installed on a commercial premise.
Action: Cllr Lankester to continue to investigate further.

Cllr Nixon reported:

- He had been contacted by some Mothers in the village who were interested in setting up a Woodland School/Play Area. They have been given approval for a piece of land near to the Recreation Ground and may wish to speak to the Parish Council regarding using the Pavilion. Cllr Nixon suggested that they put together a business plan and approach the Parish Council after the elections in May.

Cllr Lowther reported:

- A number of residents had expressed concern regarding the recent reports of Travellers in the District.
- Several residents had contacted him regarding the potential housing development to the rear of the properties in Mell Road.
- The service/signal from O2 had deteriorated.
Action: Clerk to write to O2 to express concern regarding the deteriorated service/signal now being received. O2 was previously the strongest signal in the Village as the mast is located in Mell Farm.
- Complaints regarding a silver Audi which is parking on the double yellow lines at the top of North Road which causes traffic congestion in the mornings.
Action: Clerk to report to the Community Protection Officers.

Cllr O'Donnell reported:

- It has been brought to his attention that the hedge on the corner of New Road/East Street is overgrown onto the pavement.
Action: Clerk to write to occupant to request that it is cut back.

Cllr St Joseph reported:

- Anglene Crowley had also requested copies of the Petition for the Gabion Project.
Action: Clerk to collate Petitions.

The Chairman reported:

- Following the last meeting he had spoken with FACT as they had previously advised that they would not be able to enter a 25-year lease for Tolfish Hump. Hopefully the Parish Council may be able to come to some agreement with FACT and Haf Morris - Magnox, regarding the lease.

15. Date of the next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council meeting will be held on:

Tuesday 16th April 2019 – Woodup Pool (6.30pm)
Tuesday 16th April 2019 – Full Council Meeting (7.30pm)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.11pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....