

Present: Cllrs Bell, Byatt, Crees, Nixon, O'Donnell, C Slodzik, S Slodzik, Symes

In the Chair: Cllr Plater

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also present Nik Bradbrook – Woodup Pool Event
Two members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Goody and Witney.

There were also apologies for absence from District Councillors Bamford, St Joseph and Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Crees declared interests as follows:

- personal in respect of item 12a, Tollesbury Sailing Club, as he is a member of Tollesbury Sailing club.

Cllr Nixon declared interest as follows:

- personal in respect of item 16, Neighbourhood Plan, as the draft Marine Policies relate to land he owns within the industrial area.

3. Public Forum

Nik Bradbrook provided an update on the Woodup Pool Event. Nik presented a costings sheet to the Parish Council and projected a profit of approx. £1,300. Nik advised that Tollesbury Sailing Club had agreed to provide the bar on the day and would make a minimum donation of £400. Nik thanked Cllr Slodzik and the Clerk for their help with the event and expressed thanks to Alex Stone and his team who had taken on a number of jobs including providing PA systems, refrigeration units and printing of programmes etc.

There is a strong enthusiastic team but any help on the day would be appreciated.

Issues were raised regarding parking and it was agreed that a sign would be displayed indicating parking was available at Woodrolfe Green. Cllr Nixon would also be happy to assist with parking and agreed to discuss this with Nik.

The Chairman thanked Nik and his team on behalf of the Parish Council for organising the event.

A member of the public advised that he had attended a conference – Outcome Measures for flood and coastal risk management – fit for the future? The handout from the conference was given to the Clerk.

The same member of public stated he noted in the minutes from the last meeting, that it mentioned that a further meeting would be arranged with stakeholders and dredging would be discussed. If dredging is in Woodrolfe Creek, who will notify the oysterman. What does the Tollesbury Harbour Project comprise of? Do we need to set up a Tollesbury Harbour Trust?

The Chairman stated the Tollesbury Harbour Project is the umbrella term for concerns being expressed which primarily are the silting up and navigation. The term dredging is incorrect and the issue being dealt with is the silting of the mud and not deepening the channels. The

current stakeholders involved are Tollesbury Marina, Fellowship Afloat, Tollesbury Sailing Club (approached but not responded), Wildfowlers and the Fairways Committee. The Parish Council has been given the opportunity from Bradwell Marina for them to try their new kit on a very small area of Woodrolfe Creek. The kit is designed to blast the silt away and not dredge.

Overall the project is estimated to cost between £70k - £80k with the aim to keep the approach and channels open.

Cllr Crees stated it is targeting areas to improve the flow direction. As the Harbour Project is a Parish Council, sub-committee members are invited to attend should they so wish.

The Chairman advised the option to become a Trust is being investigated.

4. District Councillors

There were no District Councillors present at the meeting.

5. Minutes of the Meetings held on 20th June 2017

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th June 2017 be approved as a true account of the proceedings of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

Proposed Cllr S Slodzik, seconded Cllr Nixon.

6. Finance

a) Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Reports from the new RBS software were presented to the Council.

Councillors received the following monthly financial reports:

Bank Reconciliation – Closing balance of £72,048.45 as at 30th June 2017.

Expenditure to date – Budget £88,624 – Actual £20,355

Income to date – Budget £88,624 – Actual £41,300

Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance £27,643.76 – Net movement £11,511

Resolved: to approve the finance report. The Chairman signed the reports.

Action: Clerk to continue to produce the report showing projected income and expenditure.

7. Recreation Ground

Monthly Inspection Report

The Monthly Inspection Report dated 17/06/17 was received. There were no issues to report.

Cllr O'Donnell reported that it had been brought to his attention that there were holes in the skate park which required attention.

Cllr Nixon advised this had been raised in the Annual Inspection Report and was being addressed by the Recreation Ground Committee.

8. Committees

Recreation Ground Committee

a) Minutes 21st June 2017

Cllr C Slodzik, Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee, presented the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2017.

Cllr Slodzik reported the focus of the meeting was to discuss the Annual Inspection Report from the Independent Inspector.

b) Repairs/Quotations

Surfacing - Cllr Nixon advised that on most items it was reported that the rubber mats are silted up and the soil is compacted which may have an effect on the impact absorbing properties of the surface. A quotation had been received from Bonz to lift and relay the matting.

Action: Clerk to contact Inspector to seek his advice of what can be used to fill the gaps in the rubber mats.

Action: Clerk to obtain an additional quotation.

Roundabout – Cllr Nixon advised that the bearing for the roundabout needs replacing and an estimate had been received for £840. A modern traditional roundabout would cost approx. £5,700. Cheaper options were being considered to keep the equipment operating for a few more years, which is a view to replacing.

Skate Park – The Clerk had obtained quotation from K Hobden to treat the rust and paint the surface of the quarter pipe on the platform and to the sides and back,

Resolved: to accept the quotation from K Hobden for £120 to treat and repair the quarter pipe – Parish Council to supply the paint.

Action: Clerk to order paint from Maverick Industries.

Cllr Nixon stated overall there are several pieces of play equipment which needed attention and suggested that due to the age of the equipment, it would be better to replace the items. It was agreed that there would be a project for new equipment.

Action: To be discussed further by the Recreation Ground Committee.

Cllr Nixon stated that he felt the Parish Council did not have the knowledge to tackle some of the issues regarding the play equipment and suggested that further advice was sought.

Action: Clerk to request a meeting with the Maldon District Council Parks team.

9. British Telecom

Following the last meeting the Clerk had contacted British Telecoms with the questions raised by the Parish Council and BT has confirmed the following:

- There be no charge for business rates unless the Parish Council intend to use the kiosk for commercial use.
- If the Parish Council wanted the power disconnected, this would be at the expense of BT.
- Once adopted, the Parish Council are free to relocate the kiosk.

Councillors reaffirmed that they would adopt both kiosks.

Action: Clerk to ask British Telecom, if they would paint and replace the broken glass panels of the kiosk outside the Hope Development.

10. Maldon District Council

Woodrolfe Green

Resolved: to grant permission to Maldon District Council to carry out some improvements works to the area around the public conveniences.

11. Where Does Water Go? Project

Cllr Nixon reported following the last meeting, he had been contact by Essex County Council regarding the issues to the rear of the sewerage plant on the area owned by Anglian Water. Cllr Nixon advised a meeting had been arranged with Anglian Water on 15th July 2017.

It was agreed to participate in the Where Does Water Go? Project.

Action: Clerk to advertise for volunteers to participate in the programme and undertake training.

12. Woodrolfe Hard

a) Tollesbury Sailing Club

The Chairman advised that he had spoken with Lynn Highfield, Vice-Commodore – Tollesbury Sailing Club (TSC), and it was indicated that TSC are keen to rebuild the relationship with the Parish Council. The Chairman advised that the outstanding fees were discussed and it was suggested that the overdue fees totalling £780 (incl. VAT) could be repaid in instalments. The Vice-Commodore would discuss this at the next Committee meeting of TSC.

Cllr Crees suggested that rather than paying an annual fee an alternative approach for the future could be considered i.e. TSC could assist with maintaining the Hard throughout the season. This could be trialled.

The Chairman advised the TSC Committee would be meeting shortly and it was suggested that the Parish Council wait to hear from the Vice-Commodore before making a decision on moving forward.

b) Paul Frost

Cllr Nixon advised that he had spoken with Paul Frost who has agreed to pay the £200 fees for launching on Woodrolfe Hard.

Action: Clerk to send an invoice to Paul Frost.

Cllr Nixon reported that Paul Frost would be happy to carry out the safety inspection of Woodrolfe Hard.

Action: Clerk to supply Paul Frost with the inspection forms.

13. Pavilion

Action: Chairman to contact Maldon District Council regarding the building regulations for the Pavilion.

14. Parish Rooms

The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken with ABCO and they advised that the quotation was to replace existing lights on the Parish Rooms with new LED lights which would be connected to a time delayed switch.

Resolved: to proceed with the quotation.

15. Bus Shelter

a) Meeting with Jon Simmons, Essex County Council, and District Councillors

The Chairman reported a meeting was held earlier in the day with Jon Simmons, Highways, and Catherine Underdown, Passenger Transport, to discuss the issues with the bus shelter. Also present at the meeting were District Councillors Bamford and Thompson, Councillors Bell, Goody and Nixon and the Clerk.

The meeting gave the Parish Council the opportunity to explain the issues that were being experienced in the Square following the closure of the bus depot in New Road.

Jon Simmons explained that works had been agreed for 2018/19 to improve disabled access to the bus shelter.

The Chairman explained since the original request to upgrade the bus shelter to allow disabled access, things had significantly changed due to the closure of the bus depot and the scheme needs to be changed accordingly.

Jon Simmons advised that the existing scheme could not be changed as this had been approved and any new scheme would require a new assessment.

Jon Simmons suggested in the short term the bus cage which currently had white lines could be upgraded to yellow and would then become enforceable.

Action: Clerk to write to County Councillor Durham to request a meeting at the bus shelter to discuss further.

Cllr Bell reported that during the meeting, the landlord of the Kings Head approached Jon Simmons and the Parish council regarding issues he was experiencing with large vehicles

hitting the side of the pub and not stopping. Jon Simmons suggested that the Parish Council include these issues when considering improvements for the Square.

b) User Group

Cllr Bell advised he had approached a number of people and organisations regarding a proposed user group.

Action: Cllr Bell to continue soliciting the views of bus users and report back to the Council in September.

16. Neighbourhood Plan

The draft Marine policies had been distributed to Councillors.

The Chairman advised at the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 28th June, the Committee had discussed Schools and Doctors. Three draft policies were agreed; two for the school and one for the doctors.

It was reported on 30th June that the Inspector's Report on the Maldon District Council Local Development Plan was published on the Council's website. The Inspector has found the Plan with the modifications in September 2016 and March 2017 to be Sound. The Report will now be considered by the Secretary of State who will make the final decision on the Local Development Plan's approval.

17. Police

There were no updates from the Police and no issues to report.

18. Planning

Applications:

- FUL/MAL/17/00620 PP-05804847

The demolition of all structures and the development of 10, 2 and 3 bedroom houses with landscaping and associated works including access to the site
The Go Ahead Group – 62 New Road

Resolved: to recommend approval of the application providing there is no major change to the housing mix as the current mix meets the needs identified in the Housing Needs Survey (April 2017).

Appeals:

- HOUSE/MAL/17/00084
Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/D/17/3176627
Extension and garage conversion to form granny annex
Gransden, 1 Churchacre, Hall Road – Mr B Lawrence
Received and noted.

Planning decisions from Maldon District Council:

- HOUSE/MAL/17/00483 – 49 Thurstable Road – Approved
- HOUSE/MAL/17/00438 – Fairwind, 14 Waterworks Road – Approved
- HOUSE/MAL/17/00117 – 68 New Road – Approved

Appeal decisions made by the Planning Inspectorate:

- FUL/MAL/16/01430 – Land West of Great Downs Farm, Station Road – Dismissed

19. Correspondence

a) Mrs Church – Allotments

This would be looked at by the Environment & Amenity Committee during the sites visits early September.

b) Tiptree Parish Council – Resources in Tiptree

It was agreed to join the forum proposed by Tiptree Parish Council.

20. Administration

Essex Air Ambulance – An email was received from a resident of Hasler Green to advise that the Essex Air Ambulance seemed to have difficulty landing on 29th June due to the overgrown trees on Hasler Green.

The Clerk had contacted Essex Air Ambulance who confirmed that there was no report of a call out that day and the new Helicopter was in the area as part of their tour of the County.

Action: Clerk to write to notify resident that the helicopter was not trying to make an emergency landing as suggested.

RSPB – The proposed dates for a site visit are 12th, 17th or 31st July.

Action: Clerk to send out a doodle.

Hasler Green – The Clerk advised following a discussion with Rob from Bonz, it was reported that the willow tree was hollow and Rob felt that it is unsafe.

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Bonz (Ref 4953) to remove the willow tree for £150.

21. Community Concerns – Information Exchange/Next Agenda Items

Cllr O'Donnell report:

- There is an issue with vehicles speeding in East Street.

Action: Clerk to report to the Police.

Cllr Bell reported:

- There are a number of potholes in New Road.
The Clerk advised these had been reported to Essex County Council but they did not meet the criteria for repair.
- The recent water tests at Woodup Pool, following a very hot weekend, had come back unsatisfactory as there were traces of E.coli in the water. The pool has since been emptied, refilled and the water has been retested. Currently waiting for the test results from Maldon District Council.
- A working party will be held on Wednesday 19th July 2017 at 6.30pm to tidy the pool before the school holiday. Any help would be appreciated.
- Following the meeting at the bus shelter Cllr Bell took the opportunity to discuss the improvement works to the area outside the Parish Rooms with Jon Simmons. The extension of the parking area requested will not be taken forward as due to the position of the telegraph pole, this would possibly only create an additional two spaces and there is plenty of parking available in the Recreation Ground car park. Jon Simmons view was that it would not be cost effective.
- The verge opposite the Parish Room is overgrown and Jon Simmons advised that this could be cut back by the Highways Rangers. Jon Simmons to forward contact details to the Clerk.
- Cllr Bell visited the pool the previous Sunday and engaged with a number of the users. Most users were from outside the village travelling from Dagenham, Tiptree, Coggeshall and Colchester.
The Clerk advised the Rangers had carried out a patrol on the Saturday and there were no issues to report.

Cllr Crees suggested:

- Additional signage was installed around the Hard area to notify people of the parking restrictions in place.

Action: Clerk to ask Rangers if signage in place is adequate.

22. Date of the next Meeting

Tuesday 18th July 2017 – Full Council Meeting (8.00pm)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.27pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....