

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

In the Chair: Cllr Plater

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also Present: One member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Chambers and C Slodzik.

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

The Chairman reported that Cllr Byatt had resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Symes declared an interest as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of item 15, planning application HOUSE/MAL/18/00009, as he has a personal relationship with the applicant.

Cllr O'Donnell declared an interest as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of item 15, planning application HOUSE/MAL/18/00009, as he has a personal relationship with the applicant.

3. Public Forum

The member of the public raised the following items:

- The Secretary of State notes that section 25 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 enables Natural England to give a direction excluding the application of new coastal access rights over salt marsh or mud flats if it is satisfied that this is necessary because the land is unsuitable for public access. He notes that the proposed exclusion will not prevent or affect any other use people already make of the land locally by formal agreement with the landowner, or by informal permission or traditional toleration. Natural England expect current use of the intertidal areas by boat users and wildfowlers (and other) to continue unaffected.
- He would hopefully be attending a conference on Natural Capital Investment. The conference is a unique opportunity to learn about new forms of finance that will support the restoration of the natural environment while delivering returns to investors and benefits to society. The cost to attend the conference is £180 and Heybridge Parish Council are considering paying half towards the cost.
- There had been reports of dogs dying from paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP). Earlier in the month a Siberian Husky died after eating a shore crab at Felixstowe and similar findings in relation to a Golden Retriever eating fish on the beach at Cley in North Norfolk.

Action: Clerk to raise awareness via the Parish Council Facebook page and website.

4. District Councillors

There were no District Councillors present.

5. Minutes of the Meetings held on 16th January 2018

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2018 be approved as a true account of the proceedings of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr S Slodzik, seconded Cllr Goody.

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 £81,959.24 as at 31st January 2018.

Expenditure to date – Budget £88,624 – Actual £74,960

Income to date (including precept £81,524) – Budget £88,624 – Actual £104,460

Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance £25,711.09 – Net movement £9,578.43

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

7. Committees

Woodup Pool Committee

Cllr Bell, Chairman of the Woodup Pool Committee, presented the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2018.

The Clerk reported that the Audit and Risk Assessment for Woodup Pool and Woodrolfe Hard would be carried out on Thursday 8th February 2018.

8. Woodup Pool

The Inspection Report dated 27th January 2018 was received and noted. There were no issues to report.

9. Recreation Ground

a) Community Initiatives Fund

The Clerk was pleased to report that Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund had offered a grant of £12,500 towards the cost of the play equipment upgrade project.

Members of the Council thanked the Clerk for her effort in obtaining a grant of this magnitude.

b) Annual Safety Inspection

The Clerk advised the annual inspection of the play area was due in April. Maldon District Council is arranging for an independent qualified inspector to carry out the checks on the sites, the cost is £56.00 plus VAT per site.

Resolved: to have the inspection carried out under the Maldon District Council scheme.

c) Banners

Resolved: to purchase two banners reminding dog owners clean up after their dog. The cost would be approx. £85.00.

10. Tollesbury Community Association – The Centre

The request for a donation from The Centre was received.

Resolved: to give a donation of £500 towards the redecoration works at The Centre.

The Parish Council recognised the hard work carried out by the TCA and the benefit of the facility to the community.

11. Local Highways Panel

The minutes from the Local Highways Panel meeting held on 15/12/2017 had been distributed to members.

The following was noted:

Minutes

Page 8, Item 38 - LMAL 1162093 – Parish Rooms, Church Street, Tollesbury,

Pedestrian Access Improvements – It was agreed that this scheme would remain on the Rolling Programme.

Appendix Potential Schemes List

Page 4, Item 15 – East Street/High Street junction with Station Road, parking improvements – scheme – A scheme which is against policy or where there is no appropriate engineering solution.

Appendix Approved Works Programme 2017/18

Page 5, Item 37 – Church Street - Dropped kerbs to improve access to bus stop. 2018/19 Priority Scheme.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Durham, Essex County Council, to request that the Parish Council see the scheme proposal as soon as they become available.

Page 5, Item 38 – Parish Rooms, Church Street – Pedestrian access improvements - Panel decision required to fund these schemes for delivery in the 2018/19 financial year.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Durham, Essex County Council, to find out when this scheme would be delivered given that it has been outstanding for a number of years.

12. Flooding

Cllr Nixon advised that he had spoken with Shirley Hall, Maldon District Council, who had advised that there had been very little response from the residents of Woodrolfe Park following the letters sent to them by Essex County Council in relation to flooding.

Cllr Nixon reported that he had suggested an alternative way to address the flooding issues and Shirley Hall has suggested that he give a presentation to Anglian Water and the Environment Agency with the proposal. The proposed dates for the presentation are 13th, 15th or 20th March 2018.

13. Projector

Resolved: to purchase a new Epson EB-2155W projector costing £973.99 + VAT. The Clerk was instructed to extend the warranty of the equipment to 5 years if possible.

Action: Clerk to write to Maldon District Council to ask for a donation to the new equipment as the reason for purchasing the equipment is due to them no longer providing paper copies of planning applications.

14. Police

The police report was received. It was noted there were 3 reports of thefts from vehicles on 18/01/18.

Action: Clerk to invite Essex Police to attend the Annual Assembly to give residents the opportunity to raise their concerns.

15. Planning

Applications:

- HOUSE/MAL/18/00009 PP-06638460
Demolition of existing single and two storey projections at rear and erection of replacement single and two storey extension at rear
37 Woodrolfe Road - Mr & Mrs Martins

Resolved: to recommend refusal on the following:

- Overlooking neighbouring properties.

- HOUSE/MAL/18/00046 PP-06664327
Demolition of existing rear projection and erection of single storey rear extension and first floor rear/side extension
51 North Road – Mr P Buist
Resolved: to recommend approval of the application.
- FUL/MAL/18/00053
Vary condition 1 of approved application FUL/MAL/16/00312 (Temporary container in rear car park for storing furniture during an extended period of refurbishment. (Retrospective)).
Tollesbury Masonic Hall, Masonic Lodge, Old School, East Street – Mr R Stone
Resolved: to recommend approval of the application subject to the following:
 - Limited timescale to two years
 - The container is screened off

Cllr Crees left the meeting at 8.50pm.

- FUL/MAL/18/00084 PP-06678149
Demolition of existing residential garage and the erection of a two storey dwelling with two bedrooms and ancillary parking
Land Adjacent 113A Mell Rad – Mr & Mrs Stevenson
Resolved: to recommend approval of the application.

Appeals – None received

Planning decisions from Maldon District Council:

- Tree Preservation Order was confirmed by the Council for the tree in Tollesbury Surgery, High Street.

Appeal decisions made by the Planning Inspectorate – None received.

16. Correspondence

Cllr Durham – Library Service

The response from Cllr Durham was received and noted that the service was to continue fortnightly visits.

It had since been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that in the minutes of the Essex County Council Cabinet meeting in January that it was recommended that the service should be three weekly rather the two weekly as currently.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Durham to ask for further clarification.

17. Administration

Transportation Representative Meeting – The Clerk advised the next meeting in Maldon would be held on 19th March 2018. Cllr Bell had agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Tollesbury Sailing Club – The Clerk reported a meeting had been arranged for 7th March 2018 at 8pm.

Actions outstanding from the last meeting:

Woodup Pool – Still waiting for a response from the EALC regarding changes to byelaws.

Action: Clerk to report back at the next meeting.

Taylor's Charity – Meetings arranged for Friday 9th February 2018.

Insurance – Streetlighting – still awaiting response from Came & Company.

Action: to report back at the next meeting.

18. Community Concerns – Information Exchange/Next Agenda Items

Cllr Symes reported:

- The area near Pages Lane as you exit the village is very wet and would be dangerous if it was icy.

The Clerk advised this had been raised at a previous meeting and Cllr St Joseph had reported to her that Essex County Council were looking into this matter.

Action: to monitor.

Cllr Bell reported:

- A resident had brought to his attention that since the resurfacing in Elysian Gardens, there is an area (towards the corner, Church Street end) that surface water is just sitting. This had been reported to Essex County Council.

The Chairman reported:

- David Hillyer and himself would be attending a Neighbourhood Plan policy writing workshop at the end of February.

Next agenda – Tree – Car Park Recreation Ground.

19. Date of the next Meeting

Tuesday 20th February 2018 – Recreation Ground Committee – 7.00pm

Tuesday 20th February 2018 – Full Council Meeting – 8.00pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Signed..... \ Date