

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

In the Chair: Cllr Plater

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also present District Councillors Bamford and St Joseph
Mr R Pomery – Planning Consultant, Mr N Helsby, Mr D Legerton and Mr R Tinson

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Byatt.

There were also apologies for absence from District Councillor Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Nixon declared interests as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of agenda item 14, proposal for Servowatch Building, as his properties are next to the Servowatch Building.
- Personal interest in respect of agenda item 18, planning application FUL/MAL/16/01430 PP-05679832, as he has a personal arrangement with Wilkins to use the horse track.

Cllr Symes declared interests as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of agenda item 18, planning application FUL/MAL/16/01430 PP-05679832, as his property in Mallard Close is adjacent to the proposed development.

The Chairman declared interests as follows:

- Personal interest in respect of agenda item 14, proposal for Servowatch Building, as Mr Pomery and himself are professional colleagues within the construction industry. The Chairman confirmed he was not connected with the proposal being put forward.

3. Public Forum

Mr Helsby stated that he had not received the Housing Needs Survey.

Action: Clerk to ensure a copy of the survey is delivered to Mr Helsby.

4. District Councillors

Cllr Bamford reported:

- The hearing on the Local Development Plan is currently taking place and should be completed by the end of the week. The Inspector will decide if the plan is sound and recommendations will be sent to the Secretary of State.
- Rural Allocation - At the public hearing, it was stated that all site of 10 or more properties that have already been granted planning permission, which totals 320, would go against the total of the rural allocation of 420. Maldon District Council has suggested that the remaining 100 houses will go through via the Neighbourhood Plan process.

Cllr St Joseph reported:

- Coastal Trail – Maldon District Council have expressed concern as it does not feel safe and meet the environmental conditions.
- The tidal surge the previous week peaked at 1.8m high at low water. If this had been at high water, it would have been a further 0.5m higher.
- A copy of the Economic Impact of Tourism was presented to the Clerk for distribution to members.

5. Minutes of the Meetings held on 20th December 2016

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th December 2016 be approved as a true account of the proceedings of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr S Slodzik, seconded Cllr Witney.

6. Finance

a) Monthly Financial Report

Councillors received the following monthly financial reports:

Bank Reconciliation – Closing balance of £83,819.16 as at 31st December 2016.

Committees Budget (I&E) – Total Payments to Date £79,849.13 – Total Receipts to Date £106,823.43

Sub Committees Budget (R&P) – Total Payments to Date £77,693.87 – Total Receipts to Date £15,517.16

Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance £32,562.51

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

b) Payments and Sign Cheques

The items for payment totalling £12,500.32 were presented for approval.

Resolved: to approve payments.

c) Guaranteed Investment Bond

The 6 month bond was no longer available from the Co-operative Bank and funds could only be invested for 12 months.

Resolved: to withdraw the funds from GIB (2) for £10,395.54 and request they are paid into the current account. Proposed Cllr Symes, seconded Cllr Crees.

Resolved: to review future investments so they mature every 4 months.

It was agreed to move to item 14 next on the agenda.

14. Servowatch Building

Mr Pomery had attended a meeting with members prior to the start of the Council meeting and presented the proposal for the Servowatch Building, Woodrolfe Road. Mr Pomery had explained that at this stage, they were seeking the views of the Parish Council before progressing with the scheme any further. It was hoped that the Parish Council would support the scheme in principle, before they had any discussion with Maldon District Council.

Members had a lengthy discussion regarding the proposal and were given the opportunity to raise any concerns.

Cllr Nixon highlighted there were issues with a risk of flooding, surface water and drainage on the site.

The Chairman sought the views of individual members on the proposal and a majority felt in favour of the proposal in principle.

7. Recreation Ground

Monthly Inspection Report

The Monthly Inspection Report dated 01/01/17 was received and noted.

It was reported:

- Zip wire still waiting repair.

The Clerk reported that it had come to her attention that the Tollegion Sunday Football Team had folded in November.

8. Parking/Car Park Recreation Ground

To be deferred to the meeting to be held on 21st February 2017.

9. Fencing

a) Fencing Sample

Members received the fencing sample from Gamart Engineering. It was requested that some there was some additional welding on the top bar to seal the holes to prevent water getting in.

Action: Clerk to request that all vertical struts are welded on the top of metal bar to prevent water getting in.

b) Revised Quotation

Due to price increases in the industry, the price for the fencing had increased by approx. £420. Cllrs Goody and Nixon had met with Gary from Gamart Engineering and it was suggested an additional gate was installed making a total of 3 self-close gate and 1 double contractor gate. The cost for the additional gate would be £550. The revised price for the fencing with additional gate would be £10,070.

Resolved: to accept the revised quotation and include an additional gate.

10. Woodup Pool

It was reported Mr and Mrs Green would not be filling/emptying Woodup Pool for the 2017 season. Mr Green would no longer be launching boats from Woodrolfe Hard.

The Clerk reported she had thanked Mr and Mrs Green for their help over the years.

It was suggested either FACT or Paul Frost could fill/empty the pool. Cllr Nixon advised he had spoken with Paul Frost who would be happy to negotiate.

Action: Chairman to speak to FACT.

11. The Leavings

The email from Mr Green was received and noted.

Action: Clerk to write to Phil Sturges of Natural England to advise them that the Leavings is not owned by FACT and is a community asset used by individuals, groups, organisations and visitors. Copy of letter to be sent to Mr Green.

12. England Coastal Path

The update on the England Coast Path was received and noted. The Report for public consultation is expected in Spring 2017.

Cllr Bell explained that information had been received from Jack Ellum on the Tollesbury Hub interpretation board. The information identifies Woodup Pool as a Lido, which is incorrect. It should be identified as an Amenity Pool.

Action: Clerk to feedback to Jack Ellum.

13. Bus Service

a) Letter from Mr Lankester

The email from Mr Lankester was received and noted.

Action: Clerk was instructed to forward the letter from Mr Lankester to Passenger Transport, Essex County Council.

b) Letter from Mrs Brown

The email from Mrs Brown was received and noted.

Action: Clerk to write to Mrs Brown to advise that any complaints regarding the buses had been forwarded to Passenger Transport for their information/action. As a result of our complaints to Essex County Council and then taking them up with Hedinghams, the article was published in the Parish Magazine to notify residents they are able to claim compensation should they need.

It was reported there had been no recent complaints regarding the bus service.

The turning of buses in The Square/High Street continues to be an issue.

Action: Clerk to request a meeting with representatives from the bus companies and Passenger Transport.

The Clerk advised that it had been brought to her attention that some buses were speeding into the village. The resident had reported this to Heddinghams and there had since been an improvement.

15. Police

The Neighbourhood Watch Data reports dated 12/12/16 – 04/01/17 were received and noted. There were no incidents reported for Tollesbury.

16. Scheme Delegation – Maldon District Council

The recent revisions to the Council's Scheme of Delegation was received and noted.

The revisions include:

“One of the agreed changes affects the parish trigger; it is now only when officers are recommending approval but the Town or Parish Council are objecting that the parish trigger will come into effect. Otherwise, the decisions will be dealt with under delegated authority.”

17. Dog Fouling

Dog fouling continues to be an issue in the village especially at the Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that the football teams have to clear the pitches of dog poo before they can play the games.

Members agreed this was unacceptable and agreed that we should give notice to the village that the Parish Council will consider putting in place a Public Space Protection Order, which could ban dogs on the Recreation Ground.

Action: Clerk to include an article in the Parish Magazine.

18. Planning Applications and Decisions

Applications:

- HOUSE/MAL/16/01382 PP-05666985
Single storey rear extension to include new kitchen, lounge and bedroom
Danesmead, 43 Wycke Lane – Mr M Porter
Resolved: to recommend approval of the application
- FUL/MAL/16/01430 PP-05679832
Erect 5 No. dwellings, internal access road, associated car parking and landscaping
Land West of Great Downs Farm, Station Road – Mr Newenham – Wilkins & Son Ltd
Resolved: to recommend refusal on the following grounds:
 - Outside village development boundary
 - Not in keeping with other properties in the village
 - Visual impact on the coastal zone
 - Traffic – additional impact on an already congested area
- HOUSE/MAL/16/01319 PP-05637815
Retrospective – Erection of outbuilding
Fairwind, 14 Waterworks Road – Mr D Walsh
Resolved: to recommend refusal on the following grounds:
 - Over-development of the site

Appeals:

- None received.

The following decisions made by Maldon District Council were noted:

- HOUSE/MAL/16/01330 – 8 Orchard Close - Refused
- HOUSE/MAL/16/01325 – 5 The Chase - Refused

There following appeal decision made by the Planning Inspectorate:

- OUT/MAL/15/01234 (Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/16/3154530) – Bouchiers Lodge Farm, Back Road – Appeal Dismissed

19. Administration

Woodrolfe Hard/Tolfish Hump – The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by ITV who would like to use Woodrolfe Hard/Tolfish Hump for filming of an ITV drama 'Liar'. They would need to remove a section of the fencing and would reinstate it. The Clerk advised she had spoken to FACT as Tolfish Hump was their land and they are happy for filming to take place and the fencing to be removed. The filming would take place between 30th January and 3rd February and ITV would make a donation to the Parish Council.

Members were happy for the filming to take place on Woodrolfe Hard/Tolfish Hump.

Cemetery – The Clerk advised an angel monument had been taken from one of the grave spaces. The family of the deceased had been notified.

Action: Clerk to report to the police.

Youth Council – The Clerk advised Vikki Chambers sent her apologies for the lack of communication with the Parish Council. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 6th February 2017 commencing at 7.00pm. Cllr C Slodzik agreed to attend.

20. Community Concerns – Information Exchange/Next Agenda Items

Cllr Nixon reported:

- He had met with members of the Tollesbury Activity Centre Committee to discuss the proposed works to the car park at Woodrolfe Green. The Committee requested that if it's decided to proceed with phase 1 and not phase 2, they would like to keep the path. If it is decided to proceed with phase 2, it was suggested some form of barrier between the parking area and the grass.

Cllr O'Donnell reported:

- There was a number of small gas canisters found at Woodrolfe Green.
Action: Clerk to report to the police.
- The footpath post on the bend of North Road had fallen over.
Action: Clerk to report to Essex County Council Highways.

Cllr Bell reported:

- The blue Volkswagen that was previously reported on East Street has now been parked further up East Street near to High Street.
Action: Clerk to see if vehicle has current tax/MOT and report as necessary.

The Chairman reported:

- He had written to the Fairways Committee regarding the survey of the creeks.
- He had also written to the Wildfowlers to ask if they would like be part of the discussions regarding the Tollesbury Harbour Project.

21. Date of the next Meeting

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on:

Thursday 19th January 2017 – Woodrolfe Hard and Marine Assets Committee – 7.30pm

Tuesday 7th February 2017 – Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm

Tuesday 7th February 2017 – Environment & Amenity Committee – After main meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....