



LITTLE MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Little Maplestead Parish Council held on **Wednesday 12th August 2020 at 7.00pm** at: **School Farm Cottage, Little Maplestead**

Present: Cllr Alton, Cllr Crudginton, Cllr Holloway, Cllr Piper
Absent: Cllr Bates
In the Chair: Cllr Piper
Clerk: Mrs Ann Harris
Members of the Public: None.

This meeting took place under the COVID 19 Social Distancing conditions imposed by HM Government. Accordingly there were no members of the press or the public present.

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence:** Cllr Bates due to family commitments.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 18th January were agreed as a true and accurate account of the proceedings of the meeting.
Proposed: Cllr Crudginton Seconded: Cllr Alton
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **County Matters:** No report to the meeting was received from the County Councillor
5. **District Matters:** The Clerk told to the meeting that D Cllr Schwier had reported to her by telephone as follows: the Manor Street project, Horizon 120, the electric car charging centre and the pedestrisation of Braintree high street are all proceeding well. The BDC offices are not yet re-opened but all information (especially relating to health issues) is being issued promptly. BDC is in a good financial state and D Cllr Schwier is attending 4 or 5 meetings on BDC related matters weekly.
6. **Clerk's Report:**
 - 6.1 Annual Governance and Accountability Return: The documents were approved and signed as detailed in Clerk's email to Councillors (with attachments) dated 26th July 2020.
 - 6.2 Parish Plan: Agreed that there are no changes to the 2019 plan to be submitted.
 - 6.3 Local Plan: Agreed that there are no changes to the 2019 plan to be submitted.
 - 6.4 Broken (again) Finger post sign: The Clerk will investigate the options with ECC and BDC and report to the next PC meeting.
 - 6.5 Repairs to the Playing Field Footpath: The Clerk will investigate funding options and report progress to the next PC meeting.
 - 6.6 Auditor's report: The Clerk will arrange for Mike Letch who acted as Auditor for the 2020 AGAR to be invited to the 16th September Parish Council meeting to discuss his comments on various aspects of the Audit.
 - 6.7 Waste Bins: It was noted that the Playing Field bins are very full and the Clerk was asked to check into the emptying schedule and advise the Councillors.

6.8 Hedge Cutting: The Chairman asked the Clerk to advise Councillors of the date of the next hedge cutting by MD Landscapes so that he may advise any parishioner who may be interested.

7. Progress Updates and Councillors' Reports:

- 7.1 Footpaths and Highways: Cllr Holloway reported that she had spoken to Highways about the visibility junction problem at Collins Road and was awaiting an update. Cllr Holloway will also investigate the "Lorry Watch" facility regarding overweight lorries on School Road.
- 7.2 Mobile Phone Mast: Cllr Piper reported that planning permission for the proposed mobile phone mast in Pebmarsh had been refused.
- 7.3 Parish Room: No progress to report.
- 7.4 Playing Field: The Inspector's report already circulated to Councillors noted that repairs to the footpath are advised (see item 6.5 above). Also the Clerk will contact Mortimers Tree Surgeons to arrange for an inspection of the safety of the trees in the Play Area as also suggested in this report.
- 7.5 Sudbury Road Land: Cllr Alton said there is no progress on the plans for this land to report. The Auditor will be asked to clarify his comments on notification of the Council's ownership of this land to the insurers.
- 7.6 Unauthorised Encampments: The Council agreed to adopt the policy document which the Clerk sent for consideration and this will now be posted on the LMPC web site.
- 7.7 VETS: Cllr Piper reported that he intends to arrange a refresher training session.
- 7.8 Website: Update from Cllr Bates at next meeting
- 7.9 Welcome Pack: The Clerk will ask Cllr Bates to reissue the draft document for discussion at the next meeting.
- 7.10 County Broadband: Cllr Piper reported that CB had advised him that 9 further subscribers are needed before the High Speed Broadband project can proceed in Little Maplestead.

8. **Public Forum:** No members of the public were present.

9. 2019/20 Proposed Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesdays: 16th September, 18th November.

10. Financial Report:

- 10.1 Bank Balance: As at 5th August 2020 the balance of funds held at Lloyds Bank, was **£8,704.84**
- 10.2 The schedule of Receipts and Payments since last reported entry on 16th December which was submitted to the meeting was approved.

11. Planning

11.1 Applications Received

19/02276/HH: Renewal of planning consent for the erection of a two story extension and porch. LMPC has no objection.

20/01213/HH: Two storey extension at 1 Cock Road. LMPC has no objection.

11.2 Application Appeal:

19/01845/OUT: Representations concerning the appeal against the rejection by the BDC. LMPC has already objected.

12. Next Meeting: Wednesday 16th September 2020 7.30pm at School Farm Cottage

SIGNED:

DATE:

CLLR BILL PIPER: CHAIRMAN

The Clerk, Mrs Ann Harris
The Forge, Lucking Street, Great Maplestead, Essex CO9 2RE
Telephone 01787 462 818 littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com