

6. Clerk's Report:

- 6.1 Finger post on School Road: ECC has inspected but advised it is not a priority for them to repair.
- 6.2 Open Spaces Plan: It was agreed that the Clerk will advise BDC of three additional items for the Little Maplestead section of the 2021 Plan. These are repair and maintenance of the Playing Field footpath, a Parish Information Board for the Playing field and an adult gym trail also for the Playing Field

7. Finance:

- 7.1 2021/2022 LMPC Spending Plan. The Clerk submitted a draft plan for comment. This was agreed subject to the deletion of the two donations shown in the draft.. The Clerk will issue an updated plan to the Councillors to reflect this.
- 7.2 2021/2022 Precept: LMPC's requirement has to be advised to BDC by the end of January. By a majority decision, in order to replenish Reserves and to avoid operating at a budget deficit, the Council decided to require a precept of £5,645 which represents an increase of 30% on the 2020/2021 period.

8. Progress Updates and Councillors' (initials indicated) Reports:

- 8.1 Collins Road Land: Cllr Schweir said that ECC Legal Services will normally take action about encroachment on land that they own so the Chairman asked Cllr Holloway to write to ECC Legal Services on this issue copying Cllr Finch and also Essex Highways. **GH**
- 8.2 Playing Field Footpath Repair (£4,640 plus VAT) and Tree Maintenance (£300) expenditure approved. **TC**
- 8.3 Sudbury Road Land: Cllr Alton will put forward a proposal for the next LMPC meeting to consider concerning the development of this land. **DA**
- 8.4 VETS: Cllr Piper reported that he intends to arrange a refresher training session as and when COVID19 restrictions allow. **BP**
- 8.5 Website: Increase in the amount of traffic noted.
- 8.6 Welcome Pack: Awaiting comments from Councillors; also need an introduction piece from the Chairman; deferred to next LMPC meeting
- 8.7 County Broadband: Noted that the project is scheduled to go live in March 2021.
- 8.8 Flooding in School Road: Expecting an update on this matter by the time of the next LMPC meeting.
- 8.9 Verge Cutting: Cllr Schweir advised that it is expected that ECC will reduce the number of annual verge cuts to one, to take place in the late Spring. LMPC will do the same for 2021 and so Cllr Holloway will advise Johnathn Doe of this. **GH**
- 8.10 Footpath Map: There is a map of footpaths in Little Maplestead on the LMPC Web site but this does not indicate who owns the land and therefore is responsible for the upkeep. For further discussion at the next Council meeting.

9 Public Forum: No members of the public were present.

10. Financial Report:

- 10.1 Bank Balance; As at 18th January 2021 the balance of funds held at Lloyds Bank was **£11,616.40**
- 10.2 There are no Receipts or Payments to report since the schedule issued to and approved by the Councillors along with the draft 2021/2022 spending plan.

11. Planning

11.1 The Chairman proposed that in future the Clerk will on behalf of the LMPC reply to every planning application received from BDC indicating whether or not the Council has any objection to the proposal.

Proposed: Cllr Piper

Seconded: Cllr Crudgington

11.2 Applications Received:

a. Application Number: 20/02189/HH & 20/02190/LBC

Description: Extension to existing office and accommodation to provide anannexe for care of parents as well as office space.

Location: School Farm, Gestingthorpe Road, Little Maplestead, EssexCO9 2SN

b. Application number: 20/02094/HH & 20/02095/LBC

Description: Demolition of modern single-storey lean-to addition to barn.

Location: Wooderton's Farm, Gestingthorpe Road, Little Maplestead, Essex CO9 2SN

The Council has no objection to either of the above and the Clerk will reply to BDC accordingly.

12. Items for next Meeting Agenda

LGA 1972 Section 12 10(2) (b) states that Council business must be specified on the Meeting Agenda and therefore Councillors cannot lawfully raise any other matters for decision.

13. Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th March 2021 7.30pm. The Clerk will advise whether the meeting is to be held in person or by Zoom.

SIGNED:

DATE:

CLLR BILL PIPER: CHAIRMAN