



LITTLE MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Little Maplestead Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.00pm at School Farm Cottage.

Present: Cllr Crudginton, Cllr Holloway, Cllr Piper, Cllr Went
In the Chair: Cllr Piper
Apologies: None
Clerk: Mrs Ann Harris
Members of the Public: Three. Ms Mullineaux and Mr & Mrs Crack.

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence:** None
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate account of proceedings.
Proposed: Cllr Crudginton **Seconded:** Cllr Went **Agreed:** Unanimously
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **County and District Matters:** Cllr Schwier did not attend
5. **Public Forum:** Two members of the public who are local residents, Mr and Mrs Crack, attended the meeting. Both are extremely concerned about the number and speed of heavy lorries using Oak Road to reach Maplestead Hall, which it is understood is now operating a rice storage and distribution business. This is causing road surface degradation and is having a negative impact on the local environment and community. In the light of this concern, it was agreed that Cllrs Piper and Holloway will make enquiries with BDC concerning the planning permission for this possible change of business use of Maplestead Hall and will also visit the owner, Andrew Knott, to communicate the above concerns. Cllr Piper will also contact District Councillor Peter Schwier to request that he also looks into this matter. On the general matter of traffic speeding in the village Cllr Piper will arrange for a notice advising concern about this to be published in the Parish Magazine.
Mr Crack thanked Cllr Holloway for her work in contacting Essex Highways for action to repair potholes.
6. **Councillor Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Additional Equipment for Playing Field: HW.** Cllr Went is awaiting information from a contact in order to estimate costs and will report to the next Parish Council Meeting.
 - 6.2 **Casual Vacancy:** Cllr Piper introduced Claire Mullineaux to the meeting who, as a Little Maplestead resident, would like to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council.
 - 6.3 **Civility and Respect Pledge:** Cllr Piper stated that he is opposed to the Council being asked to sign up to this since LMPC already observed these principles.
 - 6.4 **Clerk Vacancy:** The advert for the position has been agreed and will be posted on Facebook, the Parish Council Website and also published in the Parish Magazine.
 - 6.5 **Cock Road Planning Development Proposal:** The Clerk was asked to advise the developers that LMPC will consider this when the planning application is published.

- 6.6 Village Coronation Celebrations:** Cllr Went is arranging the "Mac'n'Cheese" food for the event and will also organise the local Dog Show, which will be judged by Cllr Holloway.
- 6.7 Insurance:** The brokers will arrange for quotations to be supplied to LMPC for cover from June 2023.
- 6.8 Local Footpath Map:** Cllr Went will distribute to the Council the details supplied to her by the Clerk.
- 6.9 Local Highways Scheme:** Cllr Piper will contact Dist Cllr Schwier for progress on the A131 Speed Limit and the Collins Road proposals already sent to him for passing on to Essex Highways.
- 6.10 Risk Assessment:** Cllr Crudgington advised the Council that he has undertaken this for the Playing Field.
- 6.11 Street Cleaning Agreement 2023/4 with BDC:** Cllr Piper will handle this.
- 6.12 Sudbury Road land/Oswicks:** Cllr Crudgington reported on his meeting with Oswicks. He had told Oswicks that LMPAC was not happy with the service Oswicks had provided and after a review Oswicks agreed to reduce their fee, to be confirmed in writing/email by Oswicks.
- 6.13 Verge Cutting:** It was agreed that J Doe would continue to provide this service to LMPC as suggested by Cllr Holloway.

7. Planning Consultations:

There were no Planning Consultations for consideration at this meeting.

8. Financial Report:

- 8.1 Bank Balance:** On 13th March 2023: **£6,982.29**
- 8.2 Payments since 9th January 2023:**
6th February 2023: Colne Contracts: £60.00
- 8.3 Receipts since 4th October**
Nil

- 9. Items for next Meeting Agenda:** LGA 1972 Section 12 10(2) (b) states that all Council business must be specified on the Meeting Agenda and therefore Councillors cannot lawfully raise any other matter for decision.

10. The remaining 2023 Parish Council meeting dates are as follows:

16th May 2023 (APM and APCM)
18th July 2023
19th September 2023
21st November 2023

- 11. Date of Next Meeting:** The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 7pm at The Round Church.

SIGNED:

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: BILL PIPER

The Clerk, Mrs Ann Harris
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