



LITTLE MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Ann Harris, Parish Clerk, The Forge, Lucking Street, Great Maplestead, Essex CO9 2RE
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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON: Tuesday 10th October 2017

AT: School Farm Cottage, Little Maplestead

Present: Cllr Bishop, Cllr Piper, Cllr Holloway, Cllr Alton, Cllr Crudgington
In the Chair: Cllr Bishop
Clerk: Ann Harris

- 1. Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr D Finch and Dist Cllr J O'Reilly-Cicconi.
- 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of 25th July 2017 were approved as a correct record of events.
Proposed: Cllr Piper. Seconded: Cllr Holloway
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Bishop informed the meeting that she has assumed the voluntary role of Editor of the Parish Magazine with immediate effect.
- 4. County/District Matters:** Unfortunately no update on either County or District matters.
- 5. Councillors' Reports:**
 - Cllr Bishop:**
 - Transport:** Need an update on the performance of the new bus service/who is using it.
 - Broadband:** County Broadband will now cover the CO9 2RE area. Need reports from users about problems (eg speeds) which may then be reported to Superfast Essex.
 - Mobile Phones:** Cllr Holloway to investigate with owner of Gages Farm re possible installation of a mobile phone mast.
 - Mobile Library:** ECC are proposing changes to the service; responses by 6 November. Cllrs Bishop and Piper to attend the next scheduled library visit to Little Maplestead to assess village usage.
 - Website:** Cllr Bishop suggested that all Councillors should visit the web site (<https://littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk/>) in order to comment. Cllr Bishop intends to meet consultant Steven Harris to discuss further development plans.
 - Notice Board:** CIF application submitted to cover work to and re-siting of present notice board.
 - Defibrillator:** Cllr Bishop proposed that Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) should be asked to cost defibs at two locations in the village, one to be solar powered. CHT will also advise on setting up a Village Emergency Telephone Scheme (VETS).
 - Cllr Piper:**
 - Black Rock:** Since the Clerk is now the key contact on this Account, Cllr Piper asked her to report back on the procedure for moving the funds and closing the account.
 - Clerk Pay:** Suggested using the services of consultant Judith Fletcher at £12 per month to resolve outstanding issues. **Proposed: Cllr Bishop. Seconded: Cllr Holloway**
 - Cllr Holloway:**
 - Footpaths:** Parishioner has complained about the state of the footpath from the Church to Hampers which Cllr Holloway has reported to land owner Mr Nott.
 - Grants:** Cllr Holloway to attend the Funding Fair with Cllr Bishop and report back.
 - Cllrs Alton & Crudgington:**
 - Playing Field:** Cllrs reviewed the quotations submitted for the work to be covered by the £11,000 CIF grant. Cllrs Alton and Crudgington to submit a

proposal for consideration at the next Councillors Discussion Meeting (CDM) on Tuesday 24th October.

Verge Cutting: No second cut needed this year.

Proposed Cllr Piper. Seconded Cllr Holloway.

Open Spaces Plan: The Clerk to forward the Open Spaces Action Plan to Cllrs Alton and Crudginton for discussion at the next CDM. Cllr Alton to contact Braintree District Council for information about the Travellers' site on the A131. Cllr Piper confirmed that he has the relevant Land Registry documents.

6. Financial Report

6.1 Bank Balances:

Unity Bank Current Account: £5,857.17
 Unity Bank Deposit Account: £3,811.81
 Black Rock Investment Fund: £4,066.86

6.2 Noting of Sums Received:

24.07.17: BDC re Street Cleaning: £765.75
 07.09.17: ECC re Grass Cutting: £1,295.00

6.3 Ratification of Payments Made:

20.07: ROSPA: £92.40
 22.08: EALC: Chair Training: £80.00
 22.08: MDL: Grass Cutting: £156.00
 22.08: Roger Humphries: Internal Audit: £50.00
 22.08: Steve Harris: Web Site Consultant: 324.36
 Invoices awaiting Authorisation:
 J Doe: Verge Cutting: £604.08
 MDL: Grass Cut: £600.00

6.4 Other Financial Matters:

a. The Clerk submitted the Transparency Fund Allocation proposal and the Revised 2017/8 budget (previously distributed to Councillors by email) for approval.

Proposed: Cllr Bishop. Seconded Cllr Piper. Agreed Unanimously

b. Mrs Elizabeth Waters, the previous Clerk to be removed as the key contact on the Council's Unity Trust bank accounts to be replaced by the present Clerk Mrs Ann Harris.

Proposed: Cllr Bishop. Seconded: Cllr Piper. Agreed Unanimously

c. Subsequent to minute 6.4.b above, Cllr Bishop asked the Clerk to investigate alternative banking arrangements for the Parish Council's finance and to make a recommendation to the next Parish Council meeting.

d. The Clerk reported that the External Audit of last years' accounts is now complete and the relevant sections of the reports are posted on the notice board and the village web site.

7. Planning:

7.1 Application Decisions: None

7.2 Applications Received: None

7.3 Applications Pending: **FUL 017/01413/14** : Demolition and first floor extension

8. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

TUESDAY 28th November at 7.30pm at School Farm Cottage

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE: