



LITTLE MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Little Maplestead Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.00pm at School Farm Cottage

Present: Cllr Crudgington, Cllr Holloway, Cllr Piper, Cllr Went, C/Cllr Schweir
Absent: Cllr Alton
In the Chair: Cllr Piper
Clerk: Mrs Ann Harris
Members of the Public: Two: Mrs Nadine Scurr and Mr Steven Harris.

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence:** Cllr Alton: Family illness.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th July 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate account of proceedings.
Proposed: Cllr Crudgington **Seconded:** Cllr Holloway
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **County Matters:** C/Cllr Schweir reported that the ECC is assisting incoming Afghan families who are suffering from a "close war experience" and accomodating them in hotels in Colchester, Harlow and Basildon. He also reported that a video is available on the ECC web site of the achievements of the first 100 days of the new Council. The Council is planning to take a longer term view of the annual budget as a result of which there may be Council Tax rises in the future. He mentioned the proposed Highways Devolution which the ECC has now sent out for consideration by Parish Councils.
5. **District Matters:** D/Cllr Schweir described some of the strategies being pursued by Braintree District Council which include encouraging more people cycle and also the linking up of public rights of way. In response to a query from Cllr Crudgington, Cllr Schweir also described a plan being developed by the NHS to set up a new medical practise to cover Sible Hedingham, Castle Hedingham and Great Yeldham to include a treatment centre, pharmacy and Doctors' surgeries. In response to a query from Cllr Piper, Cllr Schweir also said that BDC recognise the need for private cars in rural areas and that consideration is being given to reducing the top permitted speed limit from 60mph to 50mph.
6. **Progress Updates and Councillors' (initials indicated) Reports:**
 - 6.1 Mobile Phone Mast **BP:** BDC Planning decision should be known by 26th September.
 - 6.2 A131 Land **DA:** No report since Cllr Alton did not attend the meeting. The Clerk will arrange for Jan Stobbard the BDC Community Engagement Officer to attend the November LMPC meeting to review the Neighbourhood Plan which will include discussion of the above-mentioned land.
 - 6.3 A131/Collins Road junction **GH:** Cllr Holloway reported no action or progress from Highways on this issue. Cllr Piper will write to Highways as a member of the public about the dangers of this junction.
 - 6.4 Footpaths and Highways **GH:** Cllr Holloway has a list of all Little Maplestead footpaths which she will bring to the next meeting to help develop the Village Footpath Map with Cllr Went.

6.5 Playing Field Information Board **HW**: Cllr Went and parishioner Nadine Scurr reported on their discussions with The Public Art Company and recommended that, on the basis of both the creative approach and also cost, LMPC should commission this company. A grant for £500 has been secured from the CCG and £1,000 has been applied for from the EALC/CIF fund: this commission is subject to receiving this grant.

Proposed: Cllr Went

Seconded: Cllr Piper

6.6 Adult Gym Trail **HW**: For further discussion at the November Council meeting.

6.7 Play Ground Risk Assessment Review **TC**: Cllr Crudgington reported a generally positive assessment by the Playground Inspector with the exception of some unevenness that he noted on the playground footpath. Cllr Crudgington will deal with this matter and report back to the November meeting on this and Risk Assessment considerations. He asked that the Clerk should arrange for the playing field hedge should be cut by MD Landscapes.

6.8 LMPC Facebook page **HW**: Now set up.

6.9 Welcome Pack **HW**: This is now complete and has been posted on the Parish Council web site. Well done Cllr Went.

6.10 **County Broadband**: Cllr Piper asked the clerk to obtain confirmation from CBB that the Church will be connected free of charge.

7. **Public Forum**: No issues were raised by the members of the public

8. **Planning:**

8.1 APPLICATION NO: 21/02542/LBC

DESCRIPTION: Demolition of internal wall dividing kitchen and dining room and blocking up of doorway.

LOCATION: Ivy Cottage, School Road, Little Maplestead, Essex

8.2 APPLICATION NO: 21/02732/FUL

DESCRIPTION: Change of use of land for the storage and parking of motor caravans and vehicles.

LOCATION: Pullingers Motor Home Centre, Sudbury Road, Little Maplestead, Essex

It was agreed that the Council has no objection to either of the above consultations and the Clerk will advise BDC Planning accordingly.

9. **Financial Report:**

9.1 Bank Balance: As at 14th September 2021 the balance of LMPC funds held at Lloyds Bank, following the Receipts and Payments noted below was **£8,544.59**

9.2 Payments since 13th July 2021:

17th Aug: MD Landscapes: £312.00

7th Sep: MD Landscapes: £312.00

7th Sept: David Bracey: £96.00

9.3 Receipts since 13th July 2021:

Nil

10. **2021 Parish Council Meeting Dates**: These dates are usually the third Tuesday of alternative months and the next one is scheduled for **16th November**.

11. **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 matters for decision.

12. **Date of Next Meeting**: Tuesday 16th November 2021 7.00pm at School Farm Cottage

SIGNED:

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: BILL PIPER

The Clerk, Mrs Ann Harris
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