

# LITTLE MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Little Maplestead Parish Council held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm at: School Farm Cottage, Little Maplestead

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

- 1. Apologies and reasons for absence: None
- Minutes of the previous meeting: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate account of the proceedings of the meeting. Proposed: Cllr Crudgington
  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: No report to the meeting was received from the District Councillor
- 6. Progress Updates and Councillors' (initials indicated) Reports:
- 6.1 Footpaths: **GH**: Cllr Holloway told the meeting that although she had reported to her contact at Braintree District Council a number of drains and ditches that she considered needed to be cleared she has been told by BDC that these are not a priorty at this time.
- 6.2 Highways: GH: Nothing to report to this meeting
- 6.3 Mobile Phone Mast: **BP**: No update has been received from Pebmarsh Parish Council on this matter
- 6.4 Parish Room: **TB**: BDC has now granted Planning Permission. The next stage is for the PCC to obtain permission from the relevant Church authority.
- 6.5 Playing Field: **TC**: The Clerk reported that LMPC has been awarded a CIF grant of £1,000 to cover the cost of equipment maintenance and also the pruning of certain trees as recommended by the play ground Safety Inspector. Cllr Crudgington will arrange this in accordance with the quotations received and report to the March meeting of the LMPC.
- 6.6 Sudbury Road Land: **DA**: Cllr Alton reported that he will invite Jan Stobbart, the Community Engagement Officer for Essex County Council to the LMPC meeting in March to discuss possible uses for this land.
- 6.7 Unauthorised Encampments: DA: Cllr Alton will attend the EALC/Essex police briefing on this matter to be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.
- 6.8 VETS: **BP**: Great Maplestead Parish Council has suggested working with LMPC on a joint VETS operation. The LMPC Clerk, Mrs Harris will contact the Parish Clerk at GMPC to suggest a meeting to consider this suggestion.
- 6.9 Website: **TB**: Cllr Bates has agreed to take on responsibility for liaison with the LMPC web site consultant, Mr Steven Harris.

- 6.10 Welcome Pack: **TB**: Cllr Bates will circulate a draft to all Councillors for discussion at the next LMPC meeting.
- 7. Public Forum: No members of the public were present.

### 8. Clerk's Report:

- 8.1 Oak Road/Church Road: Fingerpost sign repair: Repairs have now been carried out by BDC.
- 8.2 PC Wheeler: The Clerk will advise PC Wheeler of the dates of the LMPC meetings during 2020 in order that he may advise which one he is able to attend to give his report on Policing matters.
- 8.3 Community Cohesion: BDC Survey: Dist Councillor Schweir has reported to BDC on this matter.
- 8.4 Review into Leisure Provision: BDC Survey: Dist Councillor Schweir has reported to BDC on this matter.

### 9. Grants:

- 9.1 2019 CIF: Application/Decision. LMPC has been awarded £1,000 for equipment maintenance and tree pruning. The meeting agreed unanaimously that the Clerk should accept this award
- 9.2 2018 CIF: Report to Funder
- 9.3 2019 CCG: Report to Funder
- 9.4 Tescos Grant: Report to Funder The Clerk will draft these three reports as and when the time is available.
- 10. 2019/20 Proposed Parish Council Meeting Dates: Wednesdays: 18<sup>th</sup> March, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 18<sup>th</sup> November.
- 11. Financial Report:
- 11.1 2020/21 Draft Budget: The Draft Budget for the 2020/2021 financial year of  $\pounds$ 7,252.69 was submitted by the Clerk.

Proposed: Cllr Piper Seconded: Cllr Crudgington. Passed Unanimously.

11.2 2020/21 Precept Proposal: Following discussion of various options, the Councillors unanimously decided upon a precept of £4,342 which is an increase of 16.42% over the previous financial year. It was noted that this increase will not provide full cover of the above mentioned budget. However in order to keep the increase payable by the Parishioners to a minimum it was proposed to release some funds (£765) from Reserves which together with the other income (Street Cleaning and Grass Cutting payments) should provide full cover for the draft budget, as detailed in the email from the Clerk to the Councillors on this subject dated 11<sup>th</sup> January. The Clerk will issue a full statement of Reserves to Councillors before the next Parish Council meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Piper Seconded: Cllr Crudgington Passed Unanimously

11.3 Bank Balances

As at  $4^{\rm th}$  January 2020 the balance of funds held at Lloyds Bank, following Receipts and Payments noted below  $\pounds6,778.61$ 

Ratification of payments made:

02 Dec: BACs payment £156.00 re Church and Playing Field Grass Cutting: MDL 10 Dec: Cheque payment £604.00 re Verge Cutting: John Doe

16 Dec BACs payment of £150.00  $\,$  re Website maintenance: Steve Harris  $\,$ 

- 11.4 Notification of Receipts since 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019
  - Nil

### 12. Planning

#### 12.1 Applications Received

19/02276/HH: Erection of two story extension and porch. Renewal of planning consent 17/00007FUL.

The Council made no objection to this Application.

### 12.2 Application Decisions: Summary of BDC Planning Decisions since March 2019 forwarded from the Clerk to Councillors by email.

#### 13. Items for next Meeting Agenda

Note that no decisions can be lawfully made: LGA 1972 Section 12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified, so Councillors cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

## 14. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 7.30pm at School Farm Cottage

SIGNED:

CLLR BILL PIPER: CHAIRMAN

DATE: