

7. Progress Updates and Councillors' Reports:

- 7.1 **Mobile Phone Mast:** No further developments. Cllr Piper reported that Pebmarsh PC has expressed concern about the siting the mast in their village and that County Cllr David Finch is involved in the process.
- 7.2 **Footpaths:** Cllr Holloway has submitted a list of footpaths requiring attention to ECC and now has a list of reference numbers from ECC relating to work to be undertaken and will update Councillors at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 7.3 **Parish Room:** There is still no decision from Braintree Planning Department regarding this planning application. (Noted that the "Determination Date" was 18th July 2019)
- 7.4 **Playing Field:** Cllr Crugington reported that the contractor commissioned to undertake the repair work on the footpath was unable to complete the work and so has agreed he will not be paid. Cllr Crugington proposed that since it now appears that the footpath requires quite extensive repair and replacement work (costed at £5,000 and not the £500 which the Council received from the 2018 CIF grant) all work on the footpath should be postponed until the Council can secure further funds (eg CIF 2020 grant) to cover the full £5,000 required. The Clerk will ensure that the £500 referred to above will be ring-fenced for this purpose.
Proposed: Cllr Crugington **Seconded:** Cllr Piper **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 7.5 **Sudbury Road Land:** Cllr Alton reported that he has submitted an application to BDC for this land to designated as building land, noting that it is outside the village envelope.
- 7.6 **Village Welcome Pack.**
A draft proposal has been received from the EALC and Cllr Bates will consider how to develop this for Little Maplestead.

8. Public Forum

The Council noted a request from parishioner Mrs Jenny Bishop concerning the timing of the cutting back of the hedgerows. Cllr Piper asked Cllr Bates to discuss this matter further with Mrs Bishop and report back to the next Parish Council meeting.

9. Clerk's Report

- 9.1 **CIF 2019:** Grant application submitted to the EALC; decision expected by the end of October.
- 9.2 **CCG 2019:** The Clerk will submit a proposal to the next LMPC meeting concerning possible items to be covered by an application for this grant.
- 9.3 **Internal Auditor:** The Clerk reported that, following the sad death of Roger Humphries, who had carried out the LMPC internal audit for many years, a suitably qualified auditor is now being sought as a replacement.
- 9.4 **VE Day and Parish Council 125th Anniversaries:** The Clerk will update Cllr Piper on local plans to mark these events.
- 9.5 **BDC Invoice:** Dist Cllr Schwier agreed to discuss the invoice from BDC re 2nd May Local Election (£60.29 "Returning Officer Fee") with the Democracy Manager at BDC.
- 9.6 **Council's Reserves Policy:** Document previously issued by the Clerk, dated 21st July 2019.
Proposed: Cllr Piper **Seconded** Cllr Crugington **Agreed** Unanimously

10. Future 2019/20 Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesdays: 20th November, 15th January, 18th March.

11. Financial Report

11.1 Bank Balances

As at 10th September 2019 the balance of funds held at Lloyds Bank, following Receipts and Payments noted below, was **£10,569.86**

11.2 Ratification of Payments made since 3rd July 2019

08 Jul: BACs Payment £312.00 Church and Playing Field Grass Cutting: MDL

18 Jul: Chq payment £604.80 re Verge Cutting: J Doe

23 Jul: BACs Payment of £84.00 re Playground Inspection: D Bracey

27 Aug: BACs Payment £312.00 Church and Playing Field Grass Cutting: MDL

11.3 Notification of Receipts since 7th May 2019

None.

12. Planning

12.1 Applications Received:

None

12.2 Application Decisions:

None.

13. Correspondence:

None

14. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 20th November 2019 at School Farm Cottage.

SIGNED:

CLLR BILL PIPER: CHAIRMAN

DATE: