

A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow on Monday 13th January 2014

The Council met at 7.35 pm on **Monday 13th January 2014** in The Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs J Sosin chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors Mrs J Sosin, A Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, G Jarvis, T Miller, Mrs M Miller, K Liley, Mrs S Young, K Ronaldson, Mrs D Ronaldson and Mrs V Sadowsky

In Attendance: The Clerk of the Council and the Assistant Clerk
Cllr Mrs Jenny Chandler, Essex County Council
Cllr Bob Villa, Chelmsford City Council
Mr Jonathan Fuller – for Item 560/13

555/13Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

556/13Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Hatcher.

557/13Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Registered Non Pecuniary Interests.

558/13Minutes of the Council Meeting – 9th December 2013

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th December 2013 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky entered the meeting at 7.36pm.

559/13Public Question Time

Although members of the public were present, no questions were raised.

560/13Co-option

Cllr Mrs J Sosin welcomed Mr Jonathan Fuller to the meeting and invited him to address the members in support of his letter of application that had been previously circulated to all councillors. Mr Fuller was then asked to leave the room to enable a short discussion to take place. Mr Fuller was called back and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Young that he should be co-opted to the Council. Mrs J Sosin welcomed him to the Parish Council and the Clerk provided the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for signature. Cllr A Sosin proposed that initially Cllr J Fuller should fill the vacancies on the Allotments and Grounds Committees, the Highways Committee and the Parish Hall and Bell Centre Committees.

561/13Clerk's Report

1. Exchange Visits

The Clerk has yet to contact the schools and request a piece in the Great Baddow Times. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs S Young would provide a draft for the magazine and forward this to the Clerk.

2. Informal Consultation about Greenland Gardens

A reply was sent to Essex County Council with the Council's comments and information was received about the current status of Greenland Gardens. This has been circulated to all councillors.

3. Westbourne Grove

Cllr A Sosin contacted the City Council about the problems on the verges in Westbourne Grove and a reply was received about the action that they intend to take. A copy of this and the reply from Mr Pridmore, who initially raised the problem, has recently been circulated to all councillors.

4. Remembrance Day Service

The Clerk has yet to approach the Church about the formal attendance of a representative from the Parish Council at the Remembrance Day Service.

5. Chelmsford City Council – “Visit Chelmsford” App

Cllr Mrs C Shaw informed the meeting that she had placed a link to the App on the Parish Council website. The Clerk will check whether this information has also been sent to the editor of the Great Baddow Times.

6. Chelmsford City Council CCTV Control Centre

Cllr A Sosin confirmed that he had sent an email to Spencer Clark at the City Council concerning the monitoring of some CCTV links.

562/13 Correspondence

1. Essex County Council – request for information on Footpath 5 Sandon and Footpath 69 Great Baddow. Cllr A Sosin outlined the issues relating to Footpaths 5 and 69 and believed that the route shown on the map is incorrect. In addition, the route shown as Footpath 24/25 may also have been altered to run alongside the roadway, as indicated by a footpath sign at the entrance to the waste site. It was agreed that the Clerk would submit these comments to the County Council and that Cllr A Sosin would send a further email to clarify the situation following a site inspection.
2. Essex Highways – notice of the (Various Roads, Great Baddow) 20MPH Zone and Waiting, Loading and Parking Consolidation Orders 2013. This was noted.
3. Chelmsford City Fairtrade Campaign – request for the Parish Council to consider becoming a supporter/organising an activity/joining the Campaign. The Clerk informed the meeting that the office does use the local Co-operative store for its supplies wherever possible although some events may require the use of a larger store. It was agreed that the Parish Council should support the Campaign and the Clerk will reply that in future for business meetings and office use the Council will buy fair-trade products where practical. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Community Association for their consideration.

563/13 Reports of the Planning Committee 16th December 2013 and 6th January 2014

The reports of the Planning Committee of 16th December 2013 and 6th January 2014 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

**564/13 Report of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee
16th December 2013**

The reports of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee of 16th December 2013 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs S Young, proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr A Sosin (for Allotments Sub Committee) and Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson (for Grounds Committee), with the following amendment to the first line of the Grounds Committee minutes, the date '23rd September 2013' to be deleted and replaced by '16th December 2013'.

Cllr Mrs S Young reminded the meeting that comments on the revised allotment tenancy agreement should be submitted to the Clerk by mid February.

Cllr A Sosin enquired whether the surfer had been repaired and returned to the Recreation Ground. The Clerk replied that it had, and was installed on 17th December 2014, the day after the last Grounds Committee meeting.

565/13 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 6th January 2014

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 6th January 2014 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin, with the following amendments: Item 545/13, No. 1, second line, the word 'currents' to be deleted and replaced by 'current'; Item 486/13 to be renumbered 554/13.

Cllr Mrs C Shaw thanked the Clerk for negotiating a waiver of the proposed 5% price increase on the purchase of the new roller, agreed at the last meeting.

566/13 Precept

Further information had been received from Chelmsford City Council confirming that there had been no change to the Support Grant. It had also been confirmed that the legislation relating to referenda has not been extended to parish councils. It was proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr T Miller that the proposed precept figure approved at the Council meeting on 9th December 2013 and recommended by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 6th January 2014, should be confirmed. The Clerk explained that whilst this represents an increase for the Parish Council of 1.97% on the previous year's figure, this will be shown as a higher percentage on the Council tax bills due to alterations in the tax base. Cllr Mrs J Sosin signed the Precept form to be sent to Chelmsford City Council.

567/13 Great Baddow Art Project

Cllr Mrs S Young reported on a meeting that had recently been held with Chelmsford City Council and Writtle College to discuss plans for the Great Baddow Art Project. The aim was to produce a piece of public art, which requires minimal maintenance and could be achieved with the help of community involvement. It was proposed that a film or video on the subject of Great Baddow should be compiled, with the help of community and youth groups, and using previous work undertaken by the Village Design Statement team as a base. Cllrs Mrs S Young, Mrs V Sadowsky and Mrs J Sosin will continue to develop a framework for the project and work with Chelmsford City Council, and bring back the final proposals from the artists to full Council for approval. The next stage is to develop a

framework for the artists in conjunction with Chelmsford City Council, so that firm proposals can be brought back for final approval. The target date for completion of the scheme is Summer 2014.

Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson suggested that the working group should contact David Emery, who had undertaken some research into the history of the village. Cllr Mrs C Shaw reminded the meeting that Alan Buckroyd had also produced an oral history of the village that could provide useful information. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw that the project should proceed as outlined above.

568/13Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson reported that the tree at the junction of Harrow Way and Barrington Close needed attention as high sided vehicles are breaking off some of the branches when turning the corner. This will be reported to Essex County Council.
- Cllr K Ronaldson noted that information had been published in the Essex Chronicle concerning the redevelopment of the Jewson's site on the Army and Navy roundabout, and requested that the City Council Planning Department should be reminded of the cycle route requirements in that area as part of their planning consideration.
- Cllr A Sosin queried the timings of the training courses run by the Essex Association of Local Councils. The Clerk replied that where a course is shown as a half day this is usually held on a morning, but further enquiries can be made about any specific courses.
- Cllr Mrs J Sosin reported that she had circulated copies of notes taken at the recent meeting with the Community Association. Cllr Mrs M Miller circulated a leaflet that had been distributed in the Weekly News, promoting the Community Association and setting out its facilities.

Cllr Mrs J Chandler and Cllr B Villa left the meeting at 8.30pm.

It was resolved that the meeting would be closed to the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in the following item

569/13Bell Centre Lease

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that a meeting will be held on Thursday 16th January 2014 with the Essex County Council Property Department to discuss the future lease of the Bell Centre. Cllrs Mrs J Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, T Miller and the Clerk will attend. The Clerk had not received a reply from Elwell Taylor with regard to a valuation and this matter will now be postponed until after the meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.35pm.

Signed.....Chairman.....Date