

A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow on Monday 16th November 2015

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 16th November 2015** in The Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs J Sosin chaired the meeting.

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

In Attendance: The Clerk of the Council and the Assistant Clerk

507/15 Public Announcements

Cllr Mrs J Sosin proposed that an additional item should be added to the agenda, as Item 512/15A, following the recent violent crimes that have taken place in Great Baddow. This was agreed.

508/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Fuller.

509/15 Declaration of Interests

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

510/15 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 19th October 2015

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th October 2015 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Chiswell.

511/15 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

512/15 Clerk's Report

1. Bollards in the Recreation Ground/Noakes Place

The Clerk informed the meeting that additional fluorescent tape had been purchased for the bollards in the Recreation Ground/Noakes Place and Cllrs Mrs S Young confirmed that the job had now been completed.

2. Bringey Underpass Mural Project

The new mural in the Bringey Underpass was defaced by graffiti in late October/early November. The City Council has circulated a short article requesting vigilance in the area, and asking for any information regarding vandalism to be reported. The Clerk will forward the article to Cllr Mrs C Shaw for display on the Parish Council's website and this may also be included in the next edition of the Great Baddow Times in the New Year.

3. Working with Families Learning Opportunities

The Clerk has contacted Essex County Council and is awaiting a reply.

4. Great Baddow Bowling Club

The Clerk has written to the Great Baddow Bowling Club to inform them of the Council's decision on the smoking ban.

5. Meadgate Community Cafe

The Clerk has written to the church to fix a further date for councillors to visit the café and a reply is awaited. The Clerk will forward the information to councillors once it is received.

6. WI Banner

Cllr Mrs J Sosin informed the meeting that the WI had secured a grant of £500.00 towards the cost of preserving and framing the banner. Further discussions concerning a location for display of the banner will take place once the work has been commissioned. A copy of the letter will be given to the office.

7. Great Baddow Art and Leisure Centre

The Clerk has written to Mr Saddington, indicating the Parish Council's support for the CIF grant that the Centre has applied for.

8. Centenary Award Committee

Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson reported that the Committee had reached a unanimous decision on the winner of the award and that a further applicant had been referred for consideration by the Burgess Award Committee. It was agreed to introduce a later closing date for receipt of applications, as the award is presented at the Community Celebration which now takes place in spring rather than winter. The closing date for next year's award will be 31st December 2016.

512/15AMotion

The following Motion, concerning the recent violent crimes in Great Baddow, was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Chiswell:

Following the recent violent crimes in Great Baddow, this Council will request an urgent meeting with Essex Police for Essex Police to advise on the actions they will be taking to allay the fears of local residents regarding their personal safety and to discuss how Great Baddow Parish Council can support Essex Police with these actions.

This was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will send a copy of the Motion to the Chief Constable, the Divisional Inspector for the Chelmsford area, the Police & Crime Commissioner, Simon Burns MP and Ian Grundy the Chelmsford City Council member for Safer Communities.

513/15Correspondence

1. Gary Porter – request by email for the Council to consider the keeping of bees on the allotments. Cllr Mrs S Young proposed that this matter should be discussed at the next meeting of the Allotments Sub Committee. The Clerk informed the meeting that the City Council does not allow bees to be kept on their allotments. The Clerk will inform Mr Porter of the referral to the Allotments Sub Committee meeting on 7th December 2015.
2. Jeffrey Turner – email regarding football nuisance on an area adjacent to Reader's Court. It was agreed that the Clerk will forward the email to the Chelmer Housing Partnership as the Parish Council has no jurisdiction over this area.
3. Mike Humphrey (YMCA) – request to use the Bell Centre for an additional evening for youth work and an invitation to an open evening on 24th November 2015. Cllr Mrs C Shaw confirmed that the Parish Council was originally given permission to use the Bell Centre on two evenings a week for youth work, although currently only one evening was being used. It was agreed that permission should be given for a second evening subject to appropriate supervision being in place and a suitable evening being available. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky.

Cllrs Mrs J Sosin, A Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, Mrs D Ronaldson, K Ronaldson, Mrs V Sadowsky and Mrs V Chiswell indicated that they wished to attend the open evening on 24th November 2015.

514/15 Reports of the Planning Committee 26th October and 9th November 2015

The reports of the Planning Committee of 26th October and 9th November 2015 were presented to the Council by Cllr A Sosin and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

515/15 Report of the Highways and Amenities Committee 26th October 2015

The report of the Highways and Amenities Committee of 26th October 2015 was presented to the Council by Cllr K Liley, proposed by Cllr K Liley and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

Cllr A Sosin informed the meeting that the matter of signage for Baddow Hospital had been raised at the City Council Highways and Parking briefing and would now be investigated.

516/15 Report of the Organisation Methods & Personnel Committee 2nd November 2015

The report of the Organisation Methods & Personnel Committee of 2nd November 2015 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs S Young, proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr A Sosin, with the following amendments: Item 480/15, final sentence, the words 'The Clerk was asked to look at the budget provision figure before' to be deleted and replaced by 'The Committee recommended extra budget provision to'; Item 480/15, the following sentence to be added at the end of the item: 'Councillor training was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would circulate details of the modules that can be delivered at the Parish Hall'.

517/15 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 9th November 2015

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 9th November 2015 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that there will be meeting with the Community Association on 18th November 2015 and the Clerk agreed to check the terms of the lease with regard to the responsibility for roof repairs, prior to the meeting.

518/15 Essex County Council – Joint Replacement Waste Local Plan

It was agreed that this additional consultation was not relevant to Great Baddow and no comments would be made.

519/15 NHS Services – Consultation on Proposed Changes to Healthcare

Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky outlined the four areas where proposed changes to healthcare in mid Essex could be made. These are prescriptions for gluten-free foods, hearing aids for mild hearing loss, vasectomy and female sterilisation and GP accessed physiotherapy. It was agreed that this reduction in services raises issues of equity and affordability and lessens the complete range of services required from the NHS, which should be available regardless of the ability to pay. In particular, many instances were noted where social problems can arise from hearing loss, with specific problems for the growth of language and communication in children.

Similarly any reduction in therapy services will have a longer term effect on the health of the community if treatment cannot be accessed at the time of need. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward these comments as the Parish Council's reply to the consultation and that Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky would be given a draft for comment prior to the submission. It was also agreed that the Clerk should write to Simon Burns MP regarding the shortage of funding for the mid Essex area.

520/15Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell requested an update on matters relating to the ponds in Noakes Place. Cllr Mrs S Young replied that the City Council has now tarmaced the paths and this is a great improvement. There are continuing problems with the levels of duck weed but this is difficult to control in a pond that has no source of fresh, running water.
- The Clerk informed the meeting that she would be on leave next week, from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th November 2015.

521/15Private and Confidential

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 items. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson.

522/15Bell Centre Lease

The Clerk informed the meeting that she had not received any further correspondence from the Parish Council's solicitor about the lease on the Bell Centre but will contact him as soon as possible. Cllr Mrs C Shaw reminded the meeting that the Bell Centre Working Group has yet to meet to look at alternatives for providing community and youth provision, following the decision not to proceed with plans for the rebuilding/refurbishment of the Bell Centre. A date will be fixed as soon as possible.

523/15Bowling Club Lease

The Clerk had circulated an email from the Bowling Club's solicitor prior to the meeting. It was noted that it contained a number of inaccuracies and statements that the Parish Council would wish to dispute. It was agreed that the Clerk would write a report for the Grounds Committee meeting on 7th December 2015 outlining the issues to be addressed and would also arrange a meeting with the Bowling Club, if this was advised by the Council's solicitor.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm.

SignedChairman.....Date