

A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow on Monday 19th October 2015

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 19th October 2015** in The Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs C Shaw chaired the meeting.

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

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

426/15 Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

427/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

428/15 Declaration of Interests

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

429/15 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 13th October 2015

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th October 2015 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson, with the following amendment to the title: the word 'Monday' to be deleted and replaced by 'Tuesday'.

430/15 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

431/15 Clerk's Report

1. Bollards in the Recreation Ground/Noakes Place

Additional fluorescent tape has been purchased for the bollards in the Recreation Ground/Noakes Place and the remaining bollards will be completed.

2. Bringey Underpass Mural Project

The mural in the Bringey Underpass has been completed and unveiled. Photographs of the mural have been circulated to all councillors.

3. Working with Families Learning Opportunities

The Clerk has not yet spoken to Essex County Council about this matter.

4. Community Celebration

The Working Group has met and has agreed the date of the Community Celebration for Saturday 23rd April 2016.

5. EALC AGM

The Clerk attended the EALC AGM on 24th September 2015. A vote was taken on the matter of co-opted councillors being able to claim the allowance. The vote was carried, but not unanimously, with a number of councils voting against it and several abstaining. The EALC will now take up the matter with NALC.

6. Great Baddow Bowling Club

The Clerk has still to speak to the Bowling Club about the smoking ban but this will now be carried out as a matter of priority.

7. Meeting with the YMCA

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that following a meeting with the YMCA on 4th September 2015, to discuss the matter of alternative accommodation for the Drop In Centre once the redevelopment of Marrable House takes place, she had now received a reply from St Mary's Church. The church felt that their Bell Street hall would not be suitable for a youth group and there were no evenings available in the church centre. The YMCA have yet to approach the Community Association with regard to use of their premises, and to discuss the use of their car park once a week for the Essex County Council outreach youth bus. The YMCA also needs a driver for the bus.

432/15Correspondence

1. The Essex County Council (Footpath 27, 69, 97, Chelmsford, Footpath 60, Great Baddow and Footpath 41, Springfield) (Temporary Prohibition of Use) Order 2015 (TRAF/4768). Continuation of prohibition order whilst building works are in progress for the new viaduct over Baddow Meads. This was noted.
2. Letter from Mr Huntington via Cllr Jenny Chandler concerning the fence at the Foxholes Road entrance to Noakes Place. The Clerk had circulated an email from Chelmsford City Council prior to the meeting, outlining the history surrounding this matter and the discussions that had taken place over the past few years. The City Council has confirmed that there does not appear to be any fencing covenants that would require either the City or the Parish Council to maintain a fence, and there was no consensus amongst local residents as to the preferred type of fence. It was agreed that as the Parish Council does not currently have a Management Agreement with the City Council for the maintenance of Noakes Place, no action should be considered until this was in place.
3. Invitation to visit the new Meadgate Community Café. It was agreed that the Clerk should accept the invitation for Thursday 5th November or Tuesday 10th November. Cllrs A Sosin, Mrs C Shaw, Mrs S Young and K Liley will attend and any other councillors who are available on the agreed date are welcome to join the group.

433/15Reports of the Planning Committee 28th September and 12th October 2015

The reports of the Planning Committee of 28th September and 12th October 2015 were presented to the Council by Cllr A Sosin and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

434/15Report of the Bell Centre Sub Committee and Parish Hall Committee 28th September 2015

The reports of the Bell Centre Sub Committee and Parish Hall Committee of 28th September 2015 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky, proposed by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Miller.

435/15Report of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee 5th October 2015

The reports of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee of 5th October 2015 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs S Young, proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr K Ronaldson (for Allotments Sub Committee) and Cllr A Sosin (for Grounds Committee), with the following amendment to the Grounds Committee minutes: an additional

bullet point to be added to the list in Item 388/15 First Draft Budget for 2016/2017:

- 'Cllr A Sosin advocated that the AWSC income budget be reduced by £3500 and the cemetery income budget by £12000 and put forward for consideration at the next stage of the budget.'

436/15 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 12th October 2015

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 12th October 2015 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 409/15, No. 2, second paragraph, fourth line, the words 'subject to their agreement' to be added after 'phones while at work'; Item 410/15, No.1, last line, the word 'tale' to be deleted and replaced by 'take'.

437/15 WI Banner

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that the WI have obtained two quotations for conservation work to the banner and are currently pursuing a grant application to fund the work. Further discussions with regard to a suitable location to display the banner, will take place once the work has been commissioned.

438/15 Great Baddow Arts & Leisure Centre

The Clerk outlined the proposal by the Arts & Leisure Centre for a small storage extension at the rear of the Reading Rooms. Planning approval has already been secured, and the Arts Centre are now seeking the support of the Parish Council for their application to the City Council's Community Initiatives Fund. It was proposed by Cllr K Ronaldson and seconded by Cllr K Liley that the application should be supported, and this was agreed.

439/15 Essex County Council – Local Bus Service Network Review Consultation September 2015

Cllrs Mrs V Sadowsky and K Liley had viewed the consultation on line and outlined the changes that would affect Great Baddow. The Parish Council has already contacted First Bus to object to the change to the No.31 bus, which has been rerouted away from the centre of Great Baddow, and now travels down the Baddow bypass. It was also noted that the amalgamation of the Nos. 41 and 51 during evenings and weekends will be another loss of service for the residents of Great Baddow. The Clerk will forward these comments to the County Council.

440/15 Essex Police

Cllr Mrs C Shaw outlined the proposals for a combined Chelmsford and Maldon policing area. The following comments were made:

- There was strong condemnation of the lack of PCSOs at community level, and the impact this would have on dealing with low level anti-social behaviour.
- The proposed staffing levels in the area were felt to be inadequate to deal with a major incident in any of the large highly populated centres in the area, such as entertainment arenas or airports.
- A query was raised as to whether there would be a Police Constable for Great Baddow and Galleywood.

It was agreed that these comments should be sent in reply to the consultation. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Young.

441/15 Meeting Dates for 2016

The Clerk had circulated an amended list prior to the meeting and it was agreed that these should be accepted as the calendar of dates for 2016. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky.

442/15 Local Council Award Scheme

The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting confirming that it would not be possible to maintain an unbroken accreditation status as a number of items required to complete the process were not yet in place, and would not be available by the latest submission date of 1st November 2015. It was agreed that the unbroken accreditation record should not be pursued this year, but Foundation status should be applied for in Spring 2016, when the required criteria will be in place. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr K Liley.

443/15 Motion

Cllr A Sosin proposed a Motion relating to the problem of potholes in the roads surrounding the retail centre of Great Baddow, this was seconded by Cllr K Liley. Cllr A Sosin outlined the incident in Bell Street that had led to the drafting of the Motion and there was some discussion of the wording. A vote was taken and the Motion was lost, with eight votes against, three in favour and one abstention. The Clerk will report the pothole to Essex County Council.

444/15 Bell Centre Rebuilding/Refurbishment

Following the decision taken at the last Council meeting on 13th October 2015, where it was decided that the Parish Council would not proceed with the plans for the Bell Centre at this time, it was agreed that the Council's solicitor and architect, the planning authority and the YMCA should all be advised of the decision. A meeting of the Bell Centre Working Group will be convened to discuss how to proceed and the alternatives for youth provision. Cllr K Ronaldson informed the meeting that he had received an enquiry from a Bell Centre hirer about the future use of the building and had replied that the centre will remain open for the foreseeable future.

445/15 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that she had attended the RCCE AGM and had found it a very useful and informative day.
- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell informed the meeting that she had attended two councillor training days which were very useful.
- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that following the work carried out to the ponds in Noakes Place, there were continuing problems with the levels of duck weed and rubbish in the ponds. Also, some of the temporary covering placed on the path between the two lower ponds is being dispersed and falling into the ponds. The Clerk replied that Chelmsford City Council has advised that the path will be tarmaced, and in the meantime the problems will be reported to them.
- Cllr Mrs C Shaw informed the meeting that she had attended the Essex Playing Fields AGM and the Parish Council had been awarded two certificates of merit, a silver certificate for the playing field and a gold certificate for the play equipment. The Clerk will congratulate the grounds staff.

446/15 Private 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 C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Young.

447/15 Bell Centre Lease

It was agreed that Essex County Council should be informed that the Parish Council are now considering alternatives for the refurbishment of the Bell Centre, and the Parish Council's solicitor should be asked to contact the County Council. The Clerk will contact the Council's solicitor for advice on this matter.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.05 pm.

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