

A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow on Monday 13th October 2015

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 13th October 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 and K Liley

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

417/15 Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

418/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs V Chiswell.

419/15 Declaration of Interests

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

420/15 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 21st September 2015

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 21st September 2015 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Young.

421/15 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

422/15 Bell Centre Rebuilding/Refurbishment

Cllr Mrs J Sosin outlined the discussions that had taken place to date on the proposed rebuilding/refurbishment of the Bell Centre. The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting showing some of the financial implications of a rebuilding/refurbishment project and setting out the current rates for borrowing.

It was agreed that as a precepting authority it would not be possible to apply for a significant grant from the lottery fund, and that it could be difficult to co-ordinate the use of a number of small grants which may need to be spent within a specific timescale. The availability of CIF funding was also discussed, and the Clerk confirmed that additional restrictions have now been placed on the use of these funds.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Essex Association of Local Councils and had been informed that before any application could be made to the Public Works Loan Board it would be necessary to carry out consultation on the project, in order to obtain borrowing approval. This could take the form of a Poll, public meeting, or exhibition, designed to gauge the support of the parishioners for the proposed undertaking.

There was a long discussion on the project, and any alternative schemes within the parish that should also be taken into account.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr G Jarvis:

It is proposed that at this time, the Parish Council does not proceed with the plans for the Bell Centre, including the submission of the Planning Application that is before them. The Bell Centre Working Group will be asked to look at alternatives for providing community and youth provision.

A vote was taken and this was agreed by a majority, with 7 votes in favour and 3 against, with 1 abstention.

The Clerk will arrange a meeting of the Working Group to discuss the available options for the continuation of community and youth provision in the area.

423/15Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

424/15Private 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 item. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Young.

425/15Bell Centre Lease

The Clerk informed the meeting that she had located a map that was provided at the time the original lease was taken out in 1994 and this showed that the triangle of land at the side of the Bell Centre was not included in the lease. However a subsequent map, prepared at the time of the lease renewal in 2001, does show the triangle as part of the lease arrangement. It was agreed that any action on this matter would be deferred for further discussion at the Council meeting on 19th October 2015.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.

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