

**A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great
Baddow on Monday 10th April 2017**

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 10th April 2017** in The Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs J Sosin chaired the meeting.

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

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

024/17Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

025/17Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson.

026/17Declaration of Interests

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

027/17Minutes of the Council Meeting – 13th March 2017

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th March 2017 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

028/17Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

029/17Clerk's Report

1. Lawn Cemetery

A large skip was hired at the end of March 2017 and much of the rubbish from the rear of the cemetery was taken away. Another skip will be needed as the large skip could not accommodate everything and this will be discussed with the Grounds Supervisor after Easter, once rubbish from the Towerfield allotment site has been taken up to the collection point at the rear of the cemetery.

2. Luxfield

The Clerk has spoken to the Grounds Supervisor about the hire of a chipping machine and it has been agreed to approach The Environmental Group to see if they can help the Council's staff with the chipping of the arisings.

3. Recreation Ground Water Leak

Nothing further has been heard from Essex & Suffolk Water about the invoice for the water used over the last six months. Arrangements were made with Northumbrian Water Ltd about the reinstatement of the access road into the Recreation Ground and the work has been carried out. An invoice for the repair is awaited.

4. Highways Schemes – Dropped Kerbs

The matter of the dropped kerbs will be referred to Essex Highways as a matter of priority. There was some discussion as to whether a submission had already been made and the Clerk will make enquiries before referring the information.

5. **Information Board – St Mary’s Church**
The Clerk will circulate the amended wording to councillors before confirming the Council’s agreement in principle to the wording for an information board near St Mary’s Church wall.
6. **Former Beehive PH Site**
It has been noted that no work appears to have been carried out at the former Beehive PH site and the fence is still leaning on the Council’s bus shelter. The prescribed period for the work to be carried out has not yet ended and the Clerk was asked to chase the matter if the work has not been done at the end of the period.
7. **BP Petrol Station Licensing Appeal**
Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that she and Cllr A Sosin had attended the appeal hearing on 27th March 2017. BP had advised the hearing that they already have a 24hour food policy and that sales would be through a night window. There had been no other adverse comments submitted and the application was granted. The BP Regional Manager had confirmed that they have not encountered any problems elsewhere, but the licence can be reviewed should any incidents occur and reports of problems can be made to the Regional Manager. The Clerk confirmed that minutes of the hearing had been circulated to all councillors as part of the paperwork for the Regulatory Committee. The Chairman thanked Cllrs A Sosin and Mrs V Chiswell for attending the hearing on behalf of the Council.
8. **Work to the Bar Area in the Parish Hall**
Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that work to seal the damp patches in the outside wall of the bar area had been completed. The Clerk confirmed that an invoice had not yet been received and Cllr Mrs V Chiswell will chase this.

030/17Correspondence

1. Carrie Smith from BIU Group – request to site a textile recycling bank on the Community Centre car park. Cllr Mrs S Young expressed concern about who would be responsible for the clearance of any items left around the bank, and for reporting when it is full. In addition it was not known where it was proposed to site the bank and whether it would take up an existing parking space, or could be placed next to the trade waste bins. The Clerk will contact the Community Association to obtain their views on the application.
2. Diane Wheele from the U3A Bridge Group – request to use the car park at the Bell Centre for parking for group members during their hire of the Reading Rooms. It was agreed that this request should be refused as it would cause problems for any future hirer of the Bell Centre, where parking is already limited to three cars. Proposed by Cllr Mrs V Chiswell and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Miller.
3. Stephanie Holt – request for support for an application that has been submitted to the Chelmsford Local Highways Panel. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support this application, but it was also noted that the number of requests for support had increased recently, and these would have to be considered alongside any Parish Council projects. Proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.
4. Asa Pamphilon – request for permission to place a geocache on Parish Council property. It was agreed that permission would be given. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky.
5. Geoff Tyler – request for seating in the bus shelter in Dorset Avenue. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Highways &

Amenities Committee on 19th June 2017 to decide whether funding can be allocated for work to the shelter and the Clerk will investigate whether it is possible to add a seat to the existing shelter. It had also been reported that the timetabling board on this shelter was not working properly and this will be reported to First Bus.

6. Home Instead – Invitation to a Dementia Friends Awareness Session on Thursday 18th May 2017. This was noted and no councillors were immediately available to attend.

031/17 Reports of the Planning Committee 20th March and 3rd April 2017

The reports of the Planning Committee of 20th March and 3rd April 2017 were presented to the Council by Cllr A Sosin and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

Cllr A Sosin confirmed that the public meeting proposed for 21st April 2017 to discuss the consultation on the Local Plan, had now been arranged. The parishes of Little Baddow and Sandon had decided not to take part in a joint meeting. Cllr Mrs C Shaw will place a notice on the Parish Council website and notices will also be put up in the Council's noticeboards.

032/17 Report of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee 27th March 2017

The reports of the Allotments Sub Committee and Grounds Committee of 27th March 2017 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs S Young, proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Miller (for Allotments Sub Committee) and Cllr Mrs C Shaw (for Grounds Committee).

033/17 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 3rd April 2017

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 3rd April 2017 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

034/17 Audit Arrangements for the Exercise of Public Rights

It was agreed that the dates recommended by the External Auditor for the Exercise of Public Rights should be accepted. These will be from Monday 5th June 2017 to Friday 14th July 2017. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

035/17 Great Baddow Times

Two applications have been received for the post of Editor of the Great Baddow Times and details were circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that both candidates should be invited to meet the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, and the Clerk. Cllr A Sosin proposed that the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 2nd May 2017 should review the honorarium for this position.

036/17 Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that the consultation on A Local Case for Change was one of two documents available online, as the Crime Plan had also been provided for comment. Cllr Mrs J Sosin commented that the availability of two documents had led to some confusion. Following some discussion it was agreed to make the following comments:

- A Local Case for Change: The Parish Council does not support any of the three proposed options, and would prefer to see maintenance

of the current arrangements, although it would fully support co-operation between the agencies.

- Crime Plan: The Plan is supported in principle but the Parish Council would question whether there are adequate resources for implementation.

Proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Chiswell.

037/17 Bell Centre

The Clerk circulated a report detailing the actions that had been taken following a report on the Bell Centre roof by Elwell Taylor. The report was noted and the Clerk was commended for commissioning the report and taking appropriate actions as advised by Elwell Taylor.

038/17 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs C Shaw informed the meeting that she had been contacted by Terri Cochrane from Chelmer Housing Partnership with regard to the provision of football sessions in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk confirmed that similar sessions had been organised by NACRO in the past, but these were no longer running. Cllr Mrs C Shaw will ask Terri Cochrane to provide further information on the proposal to the Clerk.
- Cllr Mrs C Shaw informed the meeting of current problems with parking enforcement in the Causeway. It was noted that the yellow lines had faded, the area in front of the dropped kerbs was often blocked, and there were few patrols by enforcement officers. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs C Shaw will report this matter on the Highways Department website, or directly to Nick Binder at Chelmsford City Council.
- Cllr K Ronaldson noted the invitation that had been extended to all councillors, by Weston Homes, to attend an open day at the new development on the old site of Marrable House. Cllrs Mrs J Sosin and A Sosin confirmed that they would not be able to attend, but the majority of councillors indicated that they would be available. The matter of funding for community projects was raised as a possible topic for discussion.
- Cllr Mrs J Sosin reminded all councillors that they should contact her as soon as possible to confirm their committee memberships for the following year, prior to the Annual meeting next month.

039/17 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 J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky.

040/17 Bowling Club Lease

The Clerk reported that she has spoken to the Parish Council's solicitor and progress on the lease has been delayed due to a number of suggested additions by the Bowling Club that require further consideration. The Clerk will discuss this matter further with the new solicitor at Tees who will be taking over the Parish Council's account.

041/17 Bell Centre Lease

Cllr Mrs J Sosin provided a brief history of the discussions that have taken place to date with regard to a proposed lease of the Bell Centre.

The following Motion was proposed by Cllr K Ronaldson and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Chiswell:

That Great Baddow Parish Council will not proceed to enter into the proposed 99 year lease for the Bell Centre, but to consult the Council's solicitor on how the current negotiations should be terminated in a timely, economical and considerate manner.

Cllr K Ronaldson introduced the Motion and there was much discussion by the meeting. A vote was taken with the result of 7 for, 4 against and 1 abstention. The motion was therefore carried.

The following Motion was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw:

This Council proposes to demonstrate its ongoing support for youth services within the Parish by earmarking funds at least equal to the current level of financial contribution to the work of the YMCA. It will, over the coming months explore ways in which services can continue to be delivered.

Cllr Mrs S Young introduced the Motion and there was discussion by the meeting. A vote was taken with the result of 11 for and 1 against. The motion was therefore carried.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.33 pm

Signed.....*CM Shaw*.....Chairman.....*8/5/17*.....Date