

**A Meeting of the Parish Council incorporating the Finance and  
General Purposes Committee at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow  
on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 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 Ronaldson, Mrs D Ronaldson, T Miller, Mrs M Miller, Mrs V Sadowsky, G Jarvis, Mrs V Chiswell and K Liley.

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

**239/17 Public Announcements**

The Chairman informed the meeting of the accident that had taken place last Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017, when a low loader lorry carrying a construction vehicle had crashed into the front wall of the Parish Hall. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council's insurers had been informed straight away and that the matter is being progressed.

**240/17 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Fuller and Mrs S Young.

**241/17 Declaration of Interests**

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

**242/17 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw. This was agreed unanimously.

**243/17 Public Question Time**

There were no members of the public present.

**244/17 Clerk's Report**

**1. Luxfield**

The Clerk has still to contact the Environmental Group about communications between the Group and the Council.

**2. Information Board – St Mary's Church**

The Clerk still needs to send the amended wording to Chelmsford City Council.

**3. Textile Recycling Bank in Community Centre car park**

The person who requested the textile recycling bank has been informed that the Parish Council has refused its permission to site a bank in the car park attached to the Community Association.

**4. Parish Hall**

The engineers from Geze came to site on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and replaced the automatic mechanism on the inside door. The engineers had to be called back a week later because the door was catching. The lock mechanism on the non-automatic door was disabled and the automatic door now appears to be functioning correctly.



5. **Open Space at Greenland Gardens**  
Cllr A Sosin reported that he had received a reply from Chelmsford City Council to confirm that there had been no breach of planning conditions with regard to the open space at Greenland Gardens, and that currently maintenance work, by contractors, is only scheduled to be carried out once a year.
6. **Speed Checks in Church Street**  
Cllr Mrs C Shaw enquired whether any progress had been made with Essex Police regarding the possibility of carrying out speed checks in Church Street. The Clerk replied that she had both telephoned and emailed the Police, but to date had not received a reply.
7. **Electoral Registers for Emergency Planning**  
Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that she had not yet received a reply on this matter from the City Council.
8. **Traffic in Church Street**  
Cllr K Ronaldson reported that he had witnessed a near miss on the slip road to Church Street, where two cars had narrowly avoided a head-on collision.
9. **Hargrave House League of Friends**  
Cllr Mrs M Miller provided an update on Hargrave House and reported that she was in discussion with the charity commissioner.
10. **Art of the Possible Festival**  
Cllr Mrs J Sosin reported that she had looked into the organisation of the event and it would not be possible to take part unless an item could be proposed by the Parish Council for inclusion in the Festival.
11. **Information Board – St Mary's Church**  
Cllr Mrs C Shaw queried whether the information on the Parish Council's website may need amending once the content of the new Information Board has been seen.

#### 245/17 Correspondence

1. U3A Bridge Group – request to use the Bell Centre car park on Thursday afternoons. It was agreed that this request should be refused as the Hall may be hired at that time and the Clerk confirmed that this is now the case.
2. Meadgate Youth Church – letter of thanks for the 2017/2018 grant. This was noted.
3. L Hack – request for regulations relating to dogs in the Recreation Ground. There was some discussion of action that could be taken, and changes that could be made to existing Byelaws that state all dogs should be kept under control. The Clerk reminded the meeting that it would be Chelmsford City Council Enforcement Officers that would be responsible for enforcing any changes, and it was agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries of the City Council about action that could be taken. Cllr A Sosin proposed that the matter should be referred to the Grounds Committee when further information is available. This was agreed.
4. J Simpson – complaint about the opening times of the tennis courts in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk confirmed that due to the current staffing levels it was not possible to have a member of staff available every weekend to open the courts. The option of leaving the courts open had previously been considered, but had not been implemented due to concerns about vandalism. It was agreed that in the current circumstances, the hard tennis courts should now be left open for use at



all times. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin. This was agreed unanimously.

5. EALC – advance notice of motions for the AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017. There were no Motions to be forwarded to the EALC. Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky will attend the AGM.
6. Chelmsford Museum – invitation to the Parish Council to put on a small display in the museum. It was agreed that the invitation should be accepted and the Clerk will await further details about the nature and extent of the material required.
7. Essex County Council – Notice of a Variation to the Waiting, Loading and Parking Consolidation Order in Molrams Lane. It was agreed that the Parish Council has no objection to the Notice of Variation, but does have concerns about the speed of the traffic travelling from the bypass into Molrams Lane and would suggest that the 30mph restriction is brought forward.
8. NWG – correspondence about the invoice for water use in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk outlined the discussions that have taken place with NWG concerning the large water rates bill that was received, following the leak in the entrance road to the Recreation Ground. An offer to reduce the invoice has been received from NWG, and it was agreed that this should be accepted as it was unlikely that any further reduction could be negotiated.

#### **246/17 Report of the Planning Committee 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

The report of the Planning Committee of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 was presented to the Council by Cllr A Sosin and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

#### **247/17 Financial Transactions**

1. The amended Expenditure for July 2017 is **£44694.23** (£42321.74 Net).
2. The Income for July 2017 is **£14473.54** (£14359.28 Net).
3. The July/August 2017 Expenditure to be paid from the Unity Trust current account in August 2017 is **£35298.76** (£33469.70 Net).

The Clerk told the meeting about the following items:

- Wicksteed Leisure Ltd will be contacted regarding their policy about a minimum purchase on orders, which has been notified to the Council for the first time on the current order.
- In reply to a query raised by the Chairman, the Clerk said that she had spoken to the Great Baddow Times Editor and she had confirmed that there were no expenses involved in the production of the recent edition of the magazine.

The above items were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky and were agreed unanimously.

The following cheques were issued to cover expenditure of over £500.

Date	Number	PAYEE	Amount	VAT	TOTAL
7/8/2017	301255	P H Coote Ltd – Electrical Inspections and repair work	913.02	182.60	1095.62

7/8/2017	301256	Elm Horticulture Ltd – Sports Contract July 2017	1000.00	200.00	1200.00
7/8/2017	301258	Geze Ltd – Installation of automatic gear to PH inside door	3365.50	673.10	4038.60
7/8/2017	301262	NWG Business – Water Rates	1876.30	-	1876.30
7/8/2017	301264	J W Steele & Sons – PH front door replacement	1821.00	364.20	2185.20
7/8/2017	301273	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd – Outdoor Gym parts for repairs	1099.28	219.86	1319.14

#### 248/17 Financial Review

The Clerk circulated a copy of the summary income and expenditure and reported that to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017, the total expenditure stands at 30.2% and the total income at 51.3% of budget. The income from the cemetery fees and Parish Hall hire fees are above budget and the sports income is still quite low. The report was noted.

#### 249/17 Grants

The Clerk had circulated details prior to the meeting of an application by the Great Baddow United Reformed Church, for a grant of £500.00 from the 2017/2018 financial year to help to meet the costs of repairing the church roof. A further application may be made for the 2018/2019 financial year. It was agreed that a grant of £500.00 should be awarded from the remaining funds in the 2017/2018 budget. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson. This was agreed unanimously. Cllr A Sosin queried the level of fees being charged for the hire of the URC hall, and suggested that the URC should consider reviewing these as a way to increase income.

#### 250/17 Community Celebration

It was agreed that the date for the Community Celebration in 2018 should be 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and a meeting of the Working Group will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 10.30am to discuss the arrangements. Cllr Mrs V Chiswell agreed to join the Working Group, as Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson may be unable to attend the meeting.

#### 251/17 Matters for Information

- Cllr K Liley had visited a stall being run by Highways England in Chelmsford High Street and had spoken about the upgrading of the A12. This will be starting at Junction 19, and it is expected to include Junction 18 in the next phase in 2020
- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell informed the meeting that the Community Association are intending to install a defibrillator on the wall of their building and suggested that the Parish Council should reconsider the installation of a defibrillator close to the village centre. The Clerk confirmed that since the Parish Council had last considered this matter, a change had been made to the regulations, making it no longer necessary to recruit first responders. Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson advised the meeting that both the Red Cross and St. Johns Ambulance can provide talks on this matter.

- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that the public telephone box at the Vineyards Shopping Centre is in very bad condition and has out of date posters stuck to it. The Clerk will inform Clem Dobson, the managing agents of the Vineyards.
- Cllr Mrs M Miller informed the meeting that the lamp posts in Foxholes Road are currently being replaced with new metal ones.
- Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky reported that the proposed reconfiguration of A & E Services in mid and south Essex is now being reconsidered.
- Cllr Mrs C Shaw proposed that the Parish Council should approach Spencer Clarke, Public Protection Manager at Chelmsford City Council, to request that a Multi-Agency Group meeting is arranged to provide some official information to reassure the community, and dispel concerns, following the shooting in Great Baddow last Saturday.
- The Clerk informed the meeting that she has spoken to the loss adjustor appointed by the Council's insurers following the accident last Thursday, and also to the insurers of the convenience store alongside the Parish Hall. The owners of the store have indicated that they wish to use their own builders to carry out the repairs required to their property and the party wall, and have suggested that the Parish Council could use the same company. Quotations are being prepared and the Clerk has reminded the insurers that the building is in a conservation area.
- The Clerk reported that the bus shelter on Maldon Road, opposite the entrance to Molrams Lane, is now unsafe and will be demolished as soon as possible.

**252/17 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 item. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

**253/17 Bowling Club Lease**

The Clerk reported that there had been no progress on the Bowling Club lease.

**254/17 Bell Centre Lease**

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Lambert Smith Hampton and a date was being arranged for a meeting about the Bell Centre lease.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.25 pm.

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