

**A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great
Baddow on Monday 9th January 2017**

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 9th January 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, Mrs V Sadowsky, J Fuller, G Jarvis and Mrs V Chiswell

In Attendance: The Clerk of the Council and the Deputy Clerk
Chelmsford City Councillor S Scott
Mr and Mrs Roscoe
3 members of the public

605/16 Public Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Cllr S Scott and the members of the public and read out a statement with regard to the recording and filming of council meetings.

606/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs D Ronaldson, K Ronaldson and Mrs S Young. Cllr Mrs V Chiswell would be late because she was attending a training course.

The meeting offered its best wishes to Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson, and for health reasons unanimously agreed to accept the apologies of Cllrs Mrs D Ronaldson and K Ronaldson for the foreseeable future, regardless of notification.

607/16 Declaration of Interests

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

608/16 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 12th December 2016


The minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th December 2016 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Sosin and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw. This was agreed unanimously.

609/16 Public Question Time

The Chairman invited the members of the public to speak to the meeting. Cllr S Scott informed the meeting that she, and her fellow City councillors for Great Baddow East, had been contacted by the Longmead Management Group regarding the felling of a tree in the conservation area. Cllr S Scott had contacted Lynn Cameron at the City Council and this matter is now being dealt with. It was noted that the Parish Council had not been able to recruit a tree warden for some time, and Cllr S Scott informed the meeting that Chelmsford City Council would be running an introduction to the tree warden scheme on 17th January 2017.

Mr Roscoe outlined some of the hazards he had encountered as a user of an electric mobility scooter, when travelling around Great Baddow, due to the width and camber of some pavements, and the small number of drop kerbs. In particular, problems had been encountered trying to reach the bus stop on Galleywood Road, opposite Friars Close, due to the shortage of



dropped kerbs, and also in negotiating the entry step from the pavement on to the church path in Church Street. Cllr J Fuller confirmed that it had not yet been possible to recruit a crossing patrol officer for Baddow Hall Infant and Junior School and advertisements had been placed on the Parish Council notice boards. Cllr J Fuller asked that it be noted that the posts has not been withdrawn. 

The Chairman agreed to bring forward two related items of Correspondence:

Correspondence Agenda Item 7.2

Mrs R Roscoe – email regarding access to services and speeding traffic. Cllr A Sosin provided the meeting with some background information on this matter. Prior to the Local Highways Panels being set up, Essex County Council would ask the Parish Councils for their top three highways priority projects. For Great Baddow Parish Council, the top priority was a safe refuge in the Causeway, but this was rejected by highways officers as it would reduce available parking in the Causeway and would be rejected by the commercial premises in the Vineyards. The second priority was for a pedestrian crossing in Maldon Road between the Vineyards car park and the Parish Hall. This proposal was rejected as the location was considered too dangerous due to inadequate sight lines. The third priority was traffic calming in Dorset Avenue close to the primary school.

A safe refuge in Galleywood Road, to facilitate crossing the road outside the White Horse PH, was included for S106 funding from the developer of the Estric Field, but this was rejected by Essex County Council Highways due to problems with utilities in the area.

Any proposals for new dropped kerbs would require further research including visits, photographs and establishment of land ownership. Cllr K Liley confirmed that there are two dropped kerbs on Galleywood Road, close to the White Horse PH, but Cllr Mrs C Shaw drew attention to the need for a refuge at that point to ensure safe crossing.

Cllr Mrs J Sosin stressed that the Parish Council was not unaware of the Highways problems but had been unable to gain sufficient priority for them to enable implementation. Cllr A Sosin reported that the proposal for a safe refuge in Galleywood Road, near Pertwee Drive, was moving forward, but the availability of funding for a project in itself did not provide any guarantees that it would be able to proceed.

Cllr A Sosin proposed that the Parish Council should now compile a new list of schemes, for consideration at the Highways Committee meeting on 20th February 2017, and this could include dropped kerbs in the following locations:

1. Opposite the carpet centre in the High Street
2. Around Galleywood Road/Vicarage Lane junction
3. Entry to Church Path from Church Street. The Clerk informed the meeting that this path is a Public Right of Way and would require referral to Essex County Council Highways. Cllr Mrs C Shaw felt that the scheme would receive support from church users and this would strengthen the application. Cllr J Fuller agreed to make a site visit.



Cllr S Scott informed the meeting that Chelmsford City Council has now given permission to the South Essex Parking Partnership for the repainting of the yellow lines around the Causeway. This was especially welcomed by the Council as today during a councillor walkabout they witnessed a serious accident being only narrowly avoided on the road, between a vehicle and pedestrian. Cllr Mrs C Shaw confirmed that regular enforcement is needed to prevent dangerous and illegal parking in this area.

The Parish Council welcomed the assistance of City Cllr S Scott, and confirmed their support for any initiatives that could be implemented to improve the mobility for disabled people in Great Baddow. It was agreed that the Highways Committee on 20th February 2017 should give further consideration to these matters and construct a new schedule of proposed schemes.

Correspondence Agenda Item 7.6

Longmead Management Group – Letter regarding the dissemination of information relating to the Conservation Area.

Cllr Mrs C Shaw outlined the issues raised in the letter regarding the permissions required for activities within the Conservation Area. There was some concern that residents living in this area may not have sufficient information on this matter, and it was agreed to contact the Chelmsford City Council Conservation Officer to request a statement of principles for living in a Conservation Area. This information can also be displayed on the Parish Council website and in the Great Baddow Times. Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky suggested that this matter could be discussed at the Village Conference and that the Conservation Officer should be invited to attend and provide a short presentation.

Cllr S Scott, Mr Roscoe, Mrs Roscoe and three members of the public left the meeting at 8.20pm.

610/16 Clerk's Report

1. Recreation Ground

The Clerk still needs to contact Chelmsford City Council about the special collection removal of rubbish from the Recreation Ground and the Lawn Cemetery sites. A discussion also needs to take place as to whether a skip would be a better option. It was noted at an earlier meeting that a bicycle that had been found, was stolen before Christmas. During the theft, damage was caused to the weld mesh fencing at the AWSC. Both these issues are due to be discussed by the Clerk with the Grounds Supervisor on 10th January 2017. Cllr A Sosin raised the matter of the compost area at the back of the Lawn Cemetery which has become very overgrown. The Clerk informed the meeting that she is aware of this problem but as it is not possible to remove consecrated soil from the cemetery site, it will be necessary to deal with the rubbish before the soil can be redistributed.

2. Cycle Route

The Clerk has not heard from the last meeting of the Chelmsford City Local Highways Panel on 14th December 2016, and the minutes are not yet available on the website.

3. Marrable House

No update report was received last month from Les Broughton of Weston Homes about the redevelopment of Marrable House, and despite the Deputy Clerk emailing him again, nothing has been received this month.

4. **Work to be carried out by Goodgym**
The Clerk has not heard from the representative of Goodgym since November 2016, despite sending two emails in December. It was agreed to await a response.
5. **Luxfield**
The Clerk has spoken to the Parish Council's insurers about the burning of the arisings from the clearance work on Luxfield. The insurers have suggested a number of actions that should be implemented before the burning takes place, and so Cllr K Ronaldson's suggestion that a chipping machine could be used to reduce the debris will be investigated before proceeding any further. This will be discussed with the Grounds Supervisor on 10th January 2017. Cllr Mrs J Sosin reminded the meeting that the Council must be mindful of wildlife before the burning of the arisings can take place.
6. **Office Opening Hours**
The website has now been updated with the office opening hours.
7. **Neighbourhood Watch meeting**
Cllr A Sosin reported that he and Cllr Mrs C Shaw had attended the Neighbourhood Watch meeting on 14th December 2016, which had been addressed by the Chairman of Chelmsford Neighbourhood Watch.

611/16Correspondence

1. 26th Chelmsford (Great Baddow) Scout Group – Invitation to the Trading Post evening on 31st January 2017 between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. Cllrs A Sosin and Mrs J Sosin will attend, and Cllr K Liley will do so if available.
2. Essex County Council – survey circulated through EALC regarding Shaping the Future of Essex. Cllr Mrs C Shaw informed the meeting that the survey was very wide ranging, and it would be difficult to compile a Parish Council response. It was agreed that councillors wishing to make a response should reply individually, using the online form.
3. Essex County Council – email regarding the planned Highways works in Jeffrey Road and Crescent Road from 3rd January 2017. It was noted that Jeffrey Road was closed today for the commencement of the highways works. Cllr A Sosin proposed that the Clerk should reply to say that the Parish Council is pleased to see the work proceeding after a number of years, and a copy should be sent to Cllr Jenny Chandler at Essex County Council.
4. Essex Success Regime – email from Andy Vowles, Programme Director, in response to the comments submitted to the consultation. This was noted.

Cllr Mrs V Chiswell entered the meeting at 8.45pm

612/16Report of the Planning Committee 3rd January 2017

The report of the Planning Committee of 3rd January 2017 was presented to the Council by Cllr A Sosin and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.



613/16 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 3rd January 2017

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

614/16 Reports of the Allotments Subcommittee and Grounds Committee 19th December 2016

The reports of the Allotments Subcommittee and Grounds Committee of 19th December 2016 were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr K Liley.

Cllr A Sosin enquired whether the potential charges for the use of the Open Spaces, which was discussed at the meeting on 19th December 2016, should be referred to Council for approval, and the Clerk replied that this will be on the agenda for the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on Monday 6th February 2017.

615/16 Open Spaces and the Flying of Drones

Cllr K Ronaldson had provided some information prior to the meeting about the flying of drones in open spaces. Cllr A Sosin proposed that the meeting should accept the Clerk's recommendation and obtain information from the City Council with regard to their policy on this matter, before any decision is made on whether to ban the flying of drones on Parish Council owned and managed property. This was agreed.

616/16 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs V Chiswell reported that she had spoken to a resident of Roberts Court who was concerned about ice forming on the bend of the access road, where flooding has occurred. The Clerk replied that she is aware of the problem and investigations are taking place to determine whether the problem is due to a water leak or a blocked drain. Anglian Water are due to visit the site tomorrow to inspect the drain.
- Cllr K Liley informed the meeting that repairs to the footpath in Tyrells Way have been postponed and will not now be progressed until the new financial year.
- Cllr Mrs J Sosin informed the meeting that to date it had not been possible to find a new editor for the Great Baddow Times. In order to prepare the March edition, Cllr Mrs J Sosin will collate the editorial information, and the office will deal with the advertisers.

617/16 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 Chiswell.

618/16 Bowling Club Lease

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Parish Council's solicitor has now been contacted by the Bowling Club's solicitor about the lease. A number of issues have been raised, and the Clerk will seek clarification and further information on these matters, to enable the correspondence to be discussed at the next Council meeting on 13th February 2017.



619/16 Bell Centre Lease

The Clerk reported that following the decision made in December 2016, she has instructed the Parish Council's solicitor to start negotiations for an Agreement to Lease for the Bell Centre. It was noted that the Clerk has been contacted by Essex County Council for an update.

620/16 Staffing

The Clerk informed the meeting that the new Administrative Assistant, Mrs Mylène Linwood had started work in the office today. The nine-month contract will run from 9th January to 8th October 2017, and will be on the part time basis of 22 hours per week on SCP 19.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.07 pm

Signed..........Chairman.....*17th February 2017*.....Date