

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Pavilion on 2nd November 2017

Present. Mr K Hornett (Chairman), Mr G Elder, Mr I Armstrong, Mrs W Roderick & Mrs B Spensley.

In Attendance. Cllr J Keyes.

1. Apologies. None.

2. Declarations of Interest. None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2017. Confirmed and signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Village Pump. Since the last meeting Mr Les Peck had volunteered to do the work and this was accepted. Mr I Armstrong would purchase the Oak costing £180 +VAT.

4.2 Village sign. Mr Hewitt had repainted the surround but was unable to complete the job at the moment owing to his wife's health.

5. Police/Neighbourhood Watch Report. Residents were reminded to keep a look out for suspicious vehicles. Lt Braxted had reports of unwelcome visitors. Information about Neighbourhood Watch 'Pop Up' stalls in Maldon Library have been displayed on the noticeboard.

6. Finance.

6.1. Council agreed payment of £95.60p for Clerk's salary & expenses for Sept/Oct.

6.2 Council agreed payment of £198.00p to Elliotts Printing for Aug/Sept. Bulletin

6.3 Council agreed payment of £99.00p to Elliotts Printing for October Bulletin.

6.4 Council agreed payment of £84.14p to Miss S Mann for daffodil/crocus bulbs

6.5 Council agreed payment of £35.80p to HMRC for Clerk's PAYE.

6.6 Council agreed payment of £33.60p to Autela for Payroll Services.

6.7 Bulletin Finances were discussed as £39 had been collected from residents and very few advertisers had paid up. The Clerk drew to the attention of the Councillors to the increased costs of printing the Bulletin and the finances were in danger of becoming too time consuming for the Council. It was suggested that the advertisers commit for a 6-month period from January. The next meeting in January will be considering next year's budget and Precept and this matter would be on the Agenda.

7. Planning. There were no new applications.

8. Highways. Information regarding road closures in the village for resurfacing had been received but no specific dates were given. From the floor Mr Grainger informed members of

his correspondence with Essex Highways regarding drainage problems in Tiptree Road. Photographic evidence would be beneficial and Mr Elder agreed to assist.

9. Correspondence. Remembrance Sunday. Mr Armstrong would attend and represent the village at the War Memorial Service. The Clerk at Gt Totham Parish Council had written regarding the commemorations in 2018. As this would be the Centenary of the end of the First World War there would be special events taking place including lighting the Beacon. It was envisaged that all the 4 villages would have a joint programme which members supported.

10. Village Improvements. Fitness Equipment. It was suggested that outdoor fitness equipment in the playground would be beneficial. It was decided to look at costings and seek views from residents. This would be raised at the Pavilion Management Committee meeting and discussed at the January PC meeting.

11. AOB.

11.1 Daffodil/crocus bulbs have been planted around the village and it was suggested that 4 barrels for summer planting be purchased to tidy up the playground entrance. It was noted that the village looked untidy with cars parked everywhere and rubbish outside properties.

11.2 Mr Hornett updated members of the recent developments at Colemans Farm Gravel Pit. It was noted that Colemans Bridge had now been repaired so lorries no longer needed to use Braxted Park Rd.

12. Date of Next Meeting 11th January 2018