

Present: Cllrs Barwick, Cook, Munson, Scott, Young

In the Chair: Cllr Smith

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also present: Five members of the public present

1. Chairman welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman took the opportunity to reflect on the sad passing of David Banks who was a Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Councillor and Chairman for a number of years. David was a good friend to the Parish.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared interests as follows:

- Non-pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 15, planning application, FUL/MAL/17/01079 PP-06381354, as he is neighbour and friend of the applicant.

4. District Councillors

There were apologies for absence from District Councillors Bamford and Thompson.

5. Public Forum

The applicant for application no. FUL/MAL/17/01079, advised that the site layout plan submitted with the planning application was incorrect. A copy of the correct layout had been submitted to Maldon District Council and a copy was presented to the Parish Council.

6. Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th September 2017

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 26th September 2017 be approved as a true account of the proceedings of the meeting subject to the following changes:

Item 7d to read:

d) Donation to the PFTPA

Resolved: to donate the remaining funds of £63.50 from the fund raising for the play equipment and to give a further donation of £36.50 to the PFTPA

Item 21c to read:

c) Highways Matters

Cllr Cook advised that the issues raised at the last meeting had been reported to Essex County Council.

Cllr Young stated that the parking in Kelvedon Road was dangerous and suggested that yellow lines were installed.

The Council did not feel that yellow lines were appropriate as the properties in Kelvedon Road already had very limited parking.

It was agreed there would be no further action by the Parish Council but should Cllr Young wish to pursue this further, she should make representation to Essex County Council as an individual.



Proposed Cllr Scott, seconded Cllr Young. Unanimously agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th October 2017

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 16th October 2017 be approved as a true account of the proceedings of the meeting subject to the following changes:

Also Present to read:
One member of the public present.

Proposed Cllr Barwick, seconded Cllr Munson. Unanimously agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

7. Finance

a) Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Report was received and noted.

The forecast working balance as at 30/10/17 was £33,672.03.

The Chairman signed the report.

It was agreed to write to Barclays Bank to request that the Current and Business Premium Accounts be closed and all funds transferred to the Unity Trust Bank.

Action: Clerk to send letter to Barclays.

b) Payments and Sign Cheques (Appendix A)

The items for payment totalling £1,146.73 were presented for approval.

Resolved: to approve payments. Unanimously agreed.

Resolved: at the request of Cllr Munson, to remove Cllr Munson as a signatory from the Unity Trust Bank account. It was agreed to make Cllr Young a signatory for the account.

c) e.on

Resolved: to pay all future bills for the electricity supply to the Pavilion by e.on by direct debit which would give a saving of approx. 7%.

8. Memorial Bench

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Bonz (Ref 4295) to move the memorial bench from outside the School to outside the Vicarage for £370.00.

The Chairman advised that it was also the intention to move the litter bin by the bench to the new position outside the Vicarage. Bonz has looked at the bin and suggested that a new bin was purchased as the existing one is rusting at the base.

Resolved: to purchase a new bin – the same style as recently purchased for the Recreation Ground – approx. £125 plus delivery and VAT.

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Bonz for £40.00 to install the new bin.

Proposed Cllr Munson, seconded Cllr Barwick. Unanimously agreed.

It was agreed to pay for the above from the earmarked fund – parish improvements.

Action: Clerk to ask Maldon District Council/Essex County Council when they would be cleaning the pavement and consider cutting back the trees near the rookery.

9. Maypole

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Bonz (Ref 4291) for £1,419 to carry out the repair works to the Maypole. Unanimously agreed.

It was agreed to pay for the above from the earmarked fund – parish improvements.

The Chairman advised the Clerk had emailed Tim Howson, Conservation Officer – Maldon District Council, who advised there would be no issue in reducing the height of the Maypole.

10. Henry Smith Fund

a) Update from Cllr Munson

Cllr Munson advised he had spoken to Amanda Bright, Bright and Son, regarding the distribution of the Henry Smith Fund. Cllr Munson advised that the purpose of the Charity was for “the prevention or relief of poverty”. The funds are to be used for people who are in need i.e. someone on pension credit or to pay towards a school trip for a child if the parents could not afford it. Amanda advised that the Parish Council should advertise that the funds are available and parishioners should submit an application to the Parish Council for consideration.

Councillors reaffirmed that they did not want to be put into a position of adjudicating claims.

b) Proposed letter to the Trustees

Resolved: to send the letter to the Trustees suggesting some options that the funds could be used for. Proposed Cllr Barwick, seconded Cllr Cook. All in favour with the exception of Cllr Munson.

11. Telephone Kiosk

Various suggestions were made for the use of the telephone kiosk, i.e. book swap, a second defibrillator.

Action: Clerk to contact Bickenacre Parish Council to see if the book swap has been a success.

Action: Councillors to email ideas to the Clerk for consideration at the next meeting.

12. Wi-Fi

The Clerk advised British Telecom had offered the following price for the installation of a Broadband line to the Village Hall:

Installation - £125.00 + VAT

Broadband Unlimited - £28.89 + VAT

Action: Cllr Barwick to look at alternative Broadband suppliers.

13. Village Hall

Resolved: to accept the revised quotation from the RCCE for £719.66 for the village consultation. The revised quotation includes printing of the surveys and distribution to each household in the Parish.

Action: Clerk to supply a list of addresses to the RCCE.

14. Police

Police Reports

The Police reports were received and noted.

15. Planning Applications and Decisions

Applications:

- TCA/MAL/17/01178

T1 Silver Burch – removal of lower limb from the west side of the tree

Tolleshunt D’Arcy C of E Primary School, Tollesbury Road, Tolleshunt D’Arcy

It was noted in the application that the works to the tree were carried out on 23rd October 2017.

- LBC/MAL/17/00770
Removal of 9" red brick buttressed privacy wall to front garden area
The Studio, Darcy House, 1 South Street, Tolleshunt D'Arcy

The full application for this site had already been approved by Maldon District Council.

- FUL/MAL/17/01079 PP-06381354
Proposed extension to existing outbuilding and change of use to ancillary annex
Stables Walden House, Tudwick Hall Road, Tolleshunt D'Arcy
Resolved: to recommend approval of this application.

Appeals:

- None received

The following decisions made by Maldon District Council were noted:

- HOUSE/MAL/17/00879 – Wayside, Station Road – Approved
- HOUSE/MAL/17/00998 – 21 Chapel Road – Refused
- HOUSE/MAL/17/00897 – The Studio, Darcy House, 1 South Street – Approved
- COUPA/MAL/17/00980 – Barn at Tolleshunt Farm, Maldon Road - Approved

There were no appeal decisions made by the Planning Inspectorate.

16. Correspondence

Maggie Smith – Tower Correspondent

Brian Sayer, Tower Captain, explained that inspections of the tower had been carried out by Nicholson Engineering Ltd and Nigel Taylor. The bell frame is moving which is creating cracks in the main tower. If repairs works are not carried out to the main tower, there will be no bells. The Church have been advised that they can ring the bells until the new year but will then have to limit ringing until Sunday service and weddings. Quotations for the work have been obtained and are between £50k and £80k. Some fundraising events have been held and funding sources are currently being considered.

The Parish Council support the works, in principle, and would be in a better position at the end of the financial year to consider what level of grant they would be able to give towards the repair works. The Parish Council would be happy to support with fundraising events.

Action: At the request of Cllr. Munson the clerk to seek confirmation that a grant can be given to the Christian faith.

Action: Cllr Cook to ask the fete committee to consider supporting the Bell Tower appeal next year.

17. Administration

Four T's Project – The Chairman advised the next event will be held on Saturday 25th November 2017 at St Nicholas Village Hall in Tolleshunt Major.

Coffee Morning

Action: Cllr Young and Chairman to meet to discuss organising a coffee mornings.

Newsletter – The Chairman advised that a newsletter had been suggested for The Four T's but at this stage has not been progressed.

18. Representative Reports

a) Burial Ground

The Clerk confirmed the maintenance works to the noticeboard and bench has been completed.

The Chairman suggested that a meeting was required to discuss the long-term plan for the Burial Ground.



b) Recreation Ground

It was reported that the grassed area, reported at the previous meeting, had not been cut back. The Clerk advised she had emailed Matt Wilson and was waiting for a response.

Cllr Young advised that the two dead trees on the left-hand side as you enter the Recreation Ground (car park entrance) had not be cleared. Cllr Munson reported that he had requested that Bonz removed the trees.

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from Maldon District Council regarding the alleged breach: tree/hedge works carried out without the relevant permission – Case 16/00314/TREE. Maldon District Council advised that their enquiries into the matter are now complete and having reviewed the matter, they will not be taking any further action and the case will now be closed.

Cllr Young reported that the fence alongside the Pavilion is bowed and needs replacing. The damage to the fence has been caused by people climbing over it to gain access to the school. If the Parish Council decides to replace the fence, the school would like to request that it is replaced with a higher fence.

Action: Cllr Munson to inspect the fence.

It was reported that Maldon District Council had carried out repairs to the play equipment following the recent damage by their machinery.

Action: Clerk to seek confirmation from Matt Wilson, Countryside and Coast Manager – Maldon District Council, when the work was carried out and that the structure is safe.

It was agreed to accept the Risk Assessment carried out by the Chairman.

c) Highways Matters

Cllr Cook advised that she had noted a number of the potholes around the village had red paint around them which indicates they would be repaired in the near future.

d) Website/Facebook Updates

The Clerk advised she continues to update the website and Facebook page.

19. Community Concerns

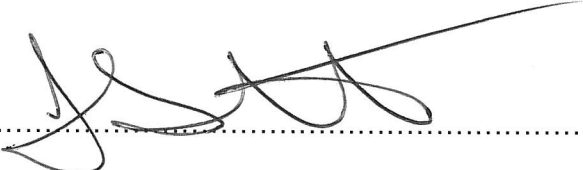
It was agreed the Chairman and the Clerk would prepare the budget for 2018/19 for consideration at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Action: Councillors to forward any views or ideas relating to the budget to the Parish Clerk within the next week so this can be taken into account when proposing the budget.

20. Date of the next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:
Monday 28th November 2017 - Full Council Meeting (7.30pm)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.04pm.

Signed.....


Date: 28 Nov 2017