

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

In the Chair: Cllr Smith

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also present: District Councillor Thompson
1 member of the public

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

The Chairman reported that Cllrs Cook and Young would not be standing in May and thanked them both on behalf of the Parish for their hard work and commitment to the Parish Council over many years.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence, all Councillors were present.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Scott disclosed an interest as follows:

- Personal interest with regards to Agenda Item 12, as Lenny Aldridge who has submitted the quotation, stores his equipment on land owned by Cllr Scott.

4. District Councillors

There were no comments from the District Councillor.

5. Public Forum

There were no comments from the member of the Public.

6. Minutes

Minutes 9th April 2019

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th April 2019 be approved as a true record of the Meeting. The Chairman signed the Minutes. Unanimously agreed.

7. Accounts 2018/19

The Clerk presented the accounts for 2018/19.

Resolved: to approve the 2018/19 accounts. Unanimously agreed.

The Annual Return was completed as follows:

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement

Section 1 was completed and approved by the Council. This was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Section 2 – Account Statement

Section 2 was completed and signed by the Clerk, as the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman.

**8. Finance
Payments**

Items for payment totalling £2,784.46 were presented for approval.

The Clerk was instructed to withhold the payment to Wave for £243.22 for the water supply to the Pavilion. The bill was an estimated reading and was high considering the Pavilion had not been used for approx. 2 years.

Action: Clerk to look into further.

Resolved: to approve payments totalling £2,541.24. Unanimously agreed.

**9. Planning
Planning Applications and Decisions**

Applications

- None received.

Appeals:

- None received.

Planning Decisions received from Maldon District Council:

- HOUSE/MAL/19/00238 – 2 Grouts Farm Cottage, Kelvedon Road - Approved

Planning Decisions from the Planning Inspectorate:

- ENF/16/00445/01 (Appeal Refs: Appeal A: APP/X1545/C/18/3206168 & Appeal B:APP/X1545/C/18/3206169) – Appeal Dismissed

10. Training

There were no requests for training.

Action: Clerk to purchase copies of the Good Councillors Guide for the new Councillors who would be joining in May.

11. Defibrillator

Cllr Young advised that she had not submitted the funding application to the Lottery Fund and as she would no longer be a Parish Councillor had brought the documentation with her to pass onto a Councillor to take the project forward.

12. Quotation

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Lenny Aldridge for £400 to clear the area outside the school. Majority agreed – 1 abstention.

Resolved: to accept the quotation from Lenny Aldridge for £75 per month to maintain the areas outside the school, around the Maypole and outside the Village Shop. Majority agreed – 1 abstention.

13. Police

Police Reports

The Police Reports from Maldon District Council were received and noted.

The Clerk reported that the Chairman and herself would be meeting with a representative from Essex Police on 10th May 2019 to discuss Special Constables.

Cllr Young suggested that the Parish Council ask Essex Police if they could hold a 'Coffee with the Cops' event in Tolleshunt D'Arcy. These events are held in other Parishes and Tolleshunt D'Arcy is not included.

Action: Clerk to make further enquiries.

14. Administration

Land Registry – The Clerk reported following the last meeting, she had made enquiries on the Government Land Registry Website and it would cost approx. £50 to obtain a copy of The Title Deeds and Title Plans.

Action: Clerk to obtain a copy of the documents for the Recreation Ground and the Village Hall.

Cllr Munson requested an update on the decision made by Maldon District Council to remove the trees at Champions Lodge.

The Clerk reported she had made contact with Hayleigh Parker-Haines who advised that the decision was made by Maldon District Council based on the Tree Officers Report.

Councillors were not happy with the response and would like further information.

Action: Cllr Thompson to take up with Maldon District Council on behalf of the Parish Council.

15. Working Group Reports

15.1 Burial Ground

15.1.1 Cllr Henderson reported that the grass had been cut, however, the grass cuttings had not been removed. There is also debris near the hedging around the perimeter of the Burial Ground from when the hedge was cut. A number of weeds in the path also required removing.

Action: Clerk to contact Peter Clarke at Maldon District Council to bring to his attention the issues raised by Cllr Henderson.

Cllr Henderson reported that the scissors that had been taken had been returned.

15.2 **Recreation Ground**

15.2.1 **Monthly Inspection Report**

The Monthly Inspection Report dated 25/04/19 was received and noted.

Fencing – The Clerk reported she had emailed the resident to ask when the fencing which backs onto the Recreation Ground will be completed and was awaiting a reply.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

Horse Rider – The Clerk advised she had contacted Peter Clarke who is meeting Steve Krolzig, MDC, and would seek his advice as to where a replacement part could be sought.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

Patio – The Chairman reported that a slab on the patio outside the Pavilion had been damaged and needed replacing.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quotation.

Fencing – The Chairman reminded members that the fencing between the School and the Recreation Ground needed replacing. He had carried out temporary repairs.

The Clerk was in the process of obtaining quotations for replacement fencing.

15.2.2 **Use of the Pavilion**

Cllr Munson reiterated the points raised at the previous meeting that he felt the Pavilion was underused and suggested that a road and car park was provided in the Recreation Ground. Cllr Munson stated that at least 20 car parking spaces could be provided and estimated this would cost approx. £37k.

As discussed at the previous meetings, the Recreation Ground Working Party need to put together a business plan with at least indicative costings to present to the Full Council for consideration.

15.2.3 **Fencing between the Recreation Ground and Tolleshunt D'Arcy School**

To be deferred to the next Meeting of the Parish Council.

15.3 **Highway/Footpaths**

15.3.1 Cllr Cook advised that a Public Meeting was being held on 18th September 2019 in the Village Hall commencing at 10.00am to discuss the proposed Footpath Diversions.

Cllr Cook agreed to remind Councillors nearer the time.

Cllr Cook agreed to do a handover to the new Highways/Footpath Representative.



15.1.4 Website / Facebook Updates

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

16. Community Concerns – Information Exchange/Next Agenda Items

Cllr Munson reported the following:

- Parish Council Meetings – He felt that the Parish Council held too many meetings and suggested that the number of meetings were reduced.
Councillors considered the suggestion and agreed that there would be no change to the number of meetings.
- Village Hall – Cllr Munson suggested that going forward there is an item on the agenda for Village Hall Update.
Action: Cllr Barwick to provide an update to the Council of the progress of the Village Hall Project each month

Cllr Henderson reported the following:

- Harvesters – It had been brought to her attention that a number of residents were tipping their grass cuttings from their property onto the footpath.
Action: Clerk to write to residents to bring this to their attention.
- Dogs – A number of users of the footpath near the Harvesters are picking up after their dogs but are leaving the bags on the floor.
Action: Subject to Maldon District Council agreeing to empty a new bin, Clerk to purchase a new dog waste bin to be installed on the post near the Harvesters footpath.

Cllr Cook requested:

- Recreation Ground - That the grass was cut at the Recreation Ground and all clippings removed the week before the Fete which is being held on 1st June 2019.
Action: Clerk to submit request to Maldon District Council.

17. Date of the next Meeting

The Chairman reported that following the concerns expressed by Cllr Munson at the previous meeting regarding the date of the Annual Meeting, he had looked at the records. In past Mays following an election, Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council had met at the beginning of the month and held their normal monthly meeting at the end of the month. This is to avoid excessive long Annual Meetings and an extended period between meetings which would likely require a special meeting to be called to consider Planning Applications.

The Chairman proposed that the May meeting scheduled for the 14th was cancelled and meetings were held as follows:

- Wednesday 8th May 2019 – Annual Meeting – Following Election (8.00pm)
- Thursday 23rd May 2019 – Monthly Meeting (7.30pm)

Unanimously agreed to change the Meeting dates for May.

Action: Clerk to publicise.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.06pm

Signed.....

Date:.....8 May 2019