

Margaret Roding Parish Council

MINUTES

Annual Meeting of Margaret Roding Parish Council

held on Tuesday 16th May 2017, following the Annual Village Meeting, at The Farmhouse, Reid Rooms

Present

Cllr Peter Briggs
 Cllr Lee Cooper (Chairman)
 Cllr Ian Crisp
 Cllr Simon Phillips
 Cllr Lorraine Player
 Clerk Allison Ward

Residents and Visitors 1 resident

	Election of Chairman	
1	Cllr Crisp proposed that Cllr Cooper be elected Chairman for the forthcoming year; this was accepted by Cllr Cooper before being seconded by Cllr Briggs. The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman; this will be held on file by the Clerk.	
	Election of Vice Chairman	
2	Cllr Briggs proposed that Cllr Crisp be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year; this was accepted by Cllr Crisp before being seconded by Cllr Cooper.	
	Apologies for absence	
3	Were received from Cllr Turner and accepted by the Parish Council.	
	Declaration of Interest for this meeting	
4	Cllr Player declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13.2 as an employee of St Clare Hospice.	
	Public Forum	
5	A resident spoke on behalf of the village quiz night committee and explained how funds raised by this event are distributed by the committee to St Margaret's church and national charities. The committee wish to understand why the Parish Council stopped distributing hampers to elderly residents and Easter eggs to the children. Cllr Crisp responded by confirming the Parish Council had not made these decisions lightly and had fully discussed and documented their decisions in previous meetings. Cllr Crisp went on to add that following these decisions, the Parish Council established a grant policy which is open to applications from any group or organisation who are able to demonstrate that funding will directly benefit all or some of the residents of Margaret Roding. It was suggested the village quiz committee would like to reintroduce the distribution of hampers to elderly residents, which they would organise and the Parish Council were asked if they would consider contributing to the cost.	

Signed
 Lee Cooper
 Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

Margaret Roding Parish Council

Minutes		
6	Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 21 st March 2017 were proposed by Cllr Phillips as a true record, seconded by Cllr Player with all in agreement; the Chairman signed the minutes.	
7	County and District Cllr Report	
	None	
8	Clerk's Progress Update and Correspondence	
8.1	Essex Police are contacting Parish Councils to seek support for Essex Police's Active Citizen Scheme which seeks to help improve community engagement in rural areas. They are looking for community volunteers to become Active Citizens, their role would be assisting to reduce crime and the fear of crime by interacting with the public on behalf of the Police and Community Safety Partners, including the District and Parish Councils. Further details are available on the Essex Police website	
8.2	The Clerk has been unable to speak to Thames Water re the viability of placing a village defibrillator on the pumping station; the Clerk will chase.	Clerk
8.3	Cllr Briggs circulated further history and property details for the village map. Cllrs were of the view further information could be available from the Essex Records Office and a visit will be arranged before confirming the final content.	Cllr Briggs & Clerk
9	Cllrs Reports	
9.1	Cllr Phillips reported on the broken solar panel on the light in The Gossetts car park; the light continues to work. The Clerk was asked to report to Uttlesford.	Clerk
9.2	Cllr Crisp asked if Cllrs individual responsibilities can be listed on future agendas to ensure any relevant items are picked up and recorded.	Clerk
10	Planning	
10.1	<p>Applications</p> <p>Application No UTT/17/0865/HHF Location 10 The Gossetts Development Single storey side extension</p> <p>Cllr Briggs proposed that the Parish Council supports this application, this was seconded by Cllr Crisp with all in agreement.</p> <p>Application No UTT/17/1021/CLP Location 2 Ongar Road Development Detached garage</p> <p>This application is for a certificate of lawfulness and therefore is not open to general comment.</p>	Clerk

Signed
Lee Cooper
Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

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10.2	<p>Decisions</p> <p>Application No UTT/17/0502/HHF Development Proposed demolition of existing garage and erection of double and single storey extension and replacement garage</p> <p>Location 1 Ongar Road Decision Conditional Approval</p>	
11	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Council Insurance</p> <p>Cllr Crisp proposed that the Parish Council continues its policy for small Parish Councils with Zurich for a 2017/18 premium of £206.08, this represents a 4% decrease on the previous year despite an increase in Insurance Premium Tax, this was seconded by Cllr Phillips with all in agreement.</p>	Clerk
12	<p style="text-align: center;">Battles Over – November 2018</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed Margaret Roding parish has been included on the list of parishes planning to take part. Information on suggested arrangements had been circulated to Cllrs. It was agreed to agenda for the December meeting to confirm the arrangements necessary.</p>	Clerk
13 13.1	<p style="text-align: center;">Grant Applications</p> <p>Further to the discussions in the public forum the Parish Council discussed the possibility of a grant for the village quiz committee which would be used to fund hampers for the elderly in the village, (to note the Parish Council does not have information on the age of residents and therefore who is eligible given an age criteria, this will be for any committee to determine). Cllr Briggs asked about the current financial arrangements for the quiz committee and whether there is a separate bank account. It was confirmed that monies are held in a personal bank account and cheques issued from here. The Parish Council suggested that if the committee is going to widen its brief beyond the quiz night that an appropriate name be discussed. Cllr Crisp concluded the discussions by proposing that the Parish Council provides a grant of 50% of the cost of the hampers up to a maximum sum of £300 on the assumption this can be paid into a community/charity account and not to a named individual. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips, with all in agreement. The resident was asked to confirm payee details to the Parish Council once the bank account had been established.</p>	
13.2	<p>Following a request from St Clare Hospice, Hastingwood, Cllr Cooper proposed that a grant of £100 be made, this was seconded by Cllr Briggs with all in agreement, (Cllr Player abstained from the vote).</p>	Clerk
14	<p style="text-align: center;">Approval of Annual Return</p>	
14.1	<p>Cllr Crisp proposed that the Parish Council approves the Annual Governance Statement (Section1 Annual Return) for the year 2016/17, this was seconded by Cllr Briggs with all in agreement.</p>	

Signed
Lee Cooper
Chairman Margaret Roding Parish Council

