**Present:** Cllrs S Livermore, G Rowsell, L Clark & I McDonald

**In attendance:** Mrs S Sayer – Parish Clerk

**Members of Public:** 5

It was agreed by all members to discuss, decide and if agreed to sign the Clerk’s contract of employment item could be added to the agenda.

**Apologies**

1. There were no apologies.
2. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interests were made at this point of the meeting.

1. **The Minutes of the last meeting – 19th February 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman Cllr S Livermore as a true and accurate record.

1. **Public Comments** –.

* The amount of straw and mud on the roads was reported to be worse than ever, and there were huge amounts in the road by the bungalows on Stud Hill. The mud was being pushed onto peoples driveways by the traffic and the amount of accidents it was causing.
* It was reported that tractor/trailers leaving after midnight laden with bales of straw and leaving mud on the road.
* Residents would like to see a kerb installed through there to help stop the mud accumulating on the driveways. **Clerk to write to Stud Farm requesting that they clear the road of straw and mud.**
* Residents stated that if the new bridge does not have a weight limit on it the problems of HGV’s will be the same as before.
* Resident requested site of the map of the diversion which unfortunately had not been brought along to the meeting. Clerk said that ECC Engineers were supposed to sending an A3 copy that could be put on the notice and would chase.
* Fambridge Road to be closed for three whole days, which residents were not happy about as it means that anyone needing to access Maldon have to drive all the way around Purleigh, Hazeleigh and turn right at the Danbury round-a-about to get into Maldon.

1. **District Councillors report** – there were no District Councillors present.
2. **Election -2nd May**
   1. Members noted that the Election was uncontested and the candidates that were elected were Gavin Rowsell, Len Clark and Kerry-Jane Wylie.
   2. Members noted that co-option can take place without advertising and with this in mind, had already had a meeting with Richard Wilson prior to the meeting and it was agreed that he would join the Parish Council with effect from the May 2019 meeting.
3. **Transport**

It was reported that there unfortunately a passenger fell on the bus but was not badly hurt.

There is currently a review on ticketing options on Park & Ride, but no news yet in this regard, but they are considering type and cost.

There is a passenger Transport Forum on 12th June, the last one being in December 2018, and Cllr Clark believes that these meetings are not regular enough.

1. **The Furze**

It was reported that someone had widened the pathway next to the gate, wider enough for a quad to get through. Parish Council gave permission for this gap to be blocked off.

Also a lot of chocolate Easter Eggs had been found by a dog who had to be taken to the vet, but is OK now, no-one aware of where these eggs came from.

1. **Grass Cutting**

Cllr Livermore mentioned about not cutting the daffodils too soon this year and they had come up blind this year and it was felt that it was because they had been cut too low. Cllr Clark to have a word with the contractor, Mow My Lawn.

1. **Neighbour Hood Watch**

Cllr Macdonald stated that there had been two break-ins at New Hall Lane. A lock had been cut and they had gained entry.

1. **Woodside**
   1. Moat Housing had responded and was sending a representative around to have a look at the fencing around the green at Woodside. It was stated that someone from Moat had been seen looking.
   2. It was resolved not to go ahead with any of the quotes for fencing that had been obtained until such time Moat Housing had decided what they were going to do.
2. **Plume Educational Trust**
   1. Clerk to write to Mrs V Clark to ascertain if she is happy to continue with the Trust. Their AGM takes place on 15th June.
3. **Website (Mundon.org)**

Cllr Roswell stated that this was going well.

1. **Broadband**

**Report from Bill Hollis – Parish Broadband Champion –**

**Email: billhollis@btinternet.com**

**This was also sent to a number of residences in the Parish.**

*There are some wonderful opportunities for replacing your current, probably slow, broadband/Internet, with a very much faster more modern system.*

*Everyone will have seen open-reach’s work over the past few months installing new fibre broadband to our village. The fibre is now live.*

*Most of the village have Ultra-fast fibre to the premises brackets (F TTP); some others have (FTTC) which is fibre to the cabinet. To find out which you have you need to visit the Essex superfast broadband website, go to the map section and enter your postcode, tap on your house on the map and note the detail, but ignore the start date.*

*http://www.superfastessex.org/ check your property on the ROLL OUT map.*

*As far as I can tell the majority of the village in the main road/new hall lane/vicarage lane has FULL FIBRE ultra-fast broadband .The availability date is NOW. Book by phoning / or on line @ BT (some can and some not just yet)*

*Ultrafast (fttp) is ‘probably’ only available from BT for the first year. Then let’s say post April 2020 any provider such as sky or talk talk or tesco & many others can use the same lines offering all speeds.*

*The contract cost from BT is from about £30.00 for 36mbs to £50.00 for 150mbs. I’m not sure if BT will offer their 300mbs to households in this area quite yet. Business users ‘might’ get higher speeds offered.*

*If u are on the FTTC circuit, then most providers can immediately supply your faster 36mbs upwards speeds from about £22.00 ish. You may wish to use a price comparison site .*

**Another option is from County broadband co.uk, who made a presentation to some villagers a week or so ago. They want a commitment from 30% of the villages** *and only then will they install a network that will be extremely high speed. Up to 1000 GBS. So if they reach their target of 30%, they will start installation in about one years time. Their prices are about the same as BT.*

*If you have signed up for county Broadband and wish to reconsider then I believe county broadband are offering a cooling off period, so you may be able to cancel, or use BT/another for the first 18 months and switch IF county broadband go ahead next year. .*

*To put speed into perspective, most people in the village are currently sub 3mbs the BBC iplayer will work at around 2or3mbs. Thus an offer of 36mbs is already a significant upgrade. , good for gaming and downloading a film. A house full of heavy gamers or heavy users might want the 100 or 150mbs. The maximum currently available according to the BT website is 300mbs. I have no doubt in a few years time higher speeds will be delivered along the same lines.*

*Most packages will have a phone line with free calls for a nominal cost starting at a £1.00 or similar- depending on provider. Your current phone number is portable to fibre.*

*All prices are per month & approximate & check with your provider, but may include line rental. You may consider contracting 36mbs and upgrade if you feel the need & your provider will probably agree. All speeds now have to be guaranteed, with compensation for failure.*

*If you have any issues, your provider can’t answer, and then the Superfast Essex website have a question form*

*If all else fails, feel free to send me an email together with your post code and landline number & I will do my best to answer. Everything in this email has been sent in good faith & I urge you to check & establish all of the facts for yourself.*

1. **Planning** 
   1. Planning Applications:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Application No: | 19/00323/LDE |
| Proposal: | Claim for a lawful development certificate for the existing use of 2 garage outbuildings |
| Location: | Furzewood House The Furze Main Road Mundon |

Members had not further comments to made and concurred that the property had been there for the stated period.

* 1. **Planning Correspondence**

Members to noted receipt via email of the following:-

* + 1. List of Planning applications – 8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15
    2. List of Planning Decisions & Appeals – 8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15
  1. **Planning Decisions:**

None received at the time of writing.

1. **Highways**

**a)** The road closure in order for the works on the bridge commence was a bone of contention, it was blocked off for days before work even commenced. Clerk to write a letter to Lisa, copied to CC Cabinet member for Highways Kevin Bentley, ECC Highways and Maldon District Council, detailing that the whole scheme diversion had not been thought through properly, everything has been left until the last minute e.g. Bus routes, postal deliveries are continuing but they have closed up the post boxes but the logic being if they accessing the village to delivery why can they not collect also. Blind lane is full of pot holes and not up to the task of taking all the diversion traffic.

**b)** Members requested that the Clerk ascertain more details from the report send by the Community Protection Team in relation to the speed checks carried out.

c)Members noted the potential scheme listed for Mundon on the March 2019 LHP list and a spreadsheet was provided to members giving the details.

**17. Correspondence**

There was no additional correspondence other that than detailed as a separate agenda item.

1. **Finance**
2. Members approved the payments for March and April 2019, totalling £846.54.
3. Clerk informed members that accounts were still a work in progress for 18/19
4. Clerk again informed members that accounts were still being sorted for 17/18
5. It was agreed that Auditing Solutions be appointed to carry out the internal audits for 2017/18 and 2018/19 at £100 for each year plus VAT, if the other councils that the clerk works for do not chose the same internal auditors the price will increase to £130.00 plus VAT. The Clerk assured the members that having worked with this auditing firm for many years, that they would produce a very comprehensive report of measures that need to be put in place. This agenda item was proposed by Cllr Gavin Rowsell and seconded by Cllr Shaun Livermore.
6. Members noted that PKF Littlejohn had been appointed as the external auditors for this year.
7. Members reviewed and agreed to sign the bank mandate giving the Parish Clerk full access to online banking, i.e. ability to make bank transfers, make payments and print off data. The same mandate was to remove Cllr Bill Hollis and Cllr Shaun Livermore as signatories on the account.
8. **External Meetings**
9. Members noted that Cllr Rowsell had attended the Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils meeting held on 20th March and the report that he subsequently sent to them via email.
10. **Items for Next Agenda**

No further times were raised.

1. **Date of the next meeting** **–** Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7.00 p.m. which is the Annual General Meeting of the Parish and will be followed by the Annual Parish Assembly at 8 p.m.