



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 February 2026, 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Gibson (Chair), G Minish (Vice Chair), J. Cobb, M. Lear, R Millett, J Sedge

015/2026 Apologies for Absence Cllr Alan Gardner, Kevin Money (Clerk)

016/2026 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Pecuniary, Registerable or non-Registerable Interest relating to items on the agenda: **None Declared**

017/2026 Minutes

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th. January 2026.

All agreed

018/2026 Public Participation Session with Respect to items on the agenda

A total maximum time of 15 minutes is allowed for all public participation sessions. Items covered elsewhere on the Agenda

019/2026 Village amenity update / Representative Reports

- a) **Greening of the village** – Cllr R. Millett any update since last meeting including Essex Wildlife Trust initiative. A “bug house” has been installed. The field is very waterlogged at this point in time making work difficult
- b) **Skatepark** – Cllrs M. Lear / J. Cobb any update since last meeting. Awaiting quotations.
- c) **Repair to Fence** at the NW area of jubilee field. Cllr Millett reported that the temporary repair appears to be holding and some nicely thorny shrubs are ready for planting as soon as conditions permit.
- d) **Football on recreation ground:** Replacement, entry level posts are approximately £600, sizes need to be confirmed as well as socket types before ordering. The old posts will need to be removed. The field needs to be dryer before work can be done on this.
- e) **Play equipment – Zip wire:** large swings to be considered – an additional quotation has been obtained and a further one will be sought. More detail is needed to determine the right solution
- f) **Rubbish bin in play area** requires replacing with a standard rubbish bin: A standard bin is about £100. The possibility of the old Frog bin being of use to Diddydots (minus the very rusty interior) was mentioned.
- g) **Salt bins in the village** at the Viewing platform & car park entrance: 400 litre bins are probably the right size and are under £200 each.
- h) **To establish a small working group** from the Council to look into options for the provision of a Post Office facility for the village: Agreed. Noted legal advice will be available on a pro bono basis
- i) **To consider the application** to site a mobile butchers’ van on the Jubilee Field car park for a maximum of 3 hours a week: Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Secret Butchers be offered a slot on either Monday or Tuesday mornings. The van would need to be sited in a similar position to that used by other commercial vans to avoid conflict with hall users and noting that the van cannot be sited at the entrance to the field as this must be kept clear for emergency access.

020/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response**FOR INFORMATION ONLY****25/01119/OUTM** - Land West of Hurndall Avenue North Fambridge Essex

Outline application with all matters reserved other than access for the erection of up to 198 dwellings, provision for non-residential uses comprising of uses within use class E, F1 or F2, with associated open space, allotments and infrastructure.

Following debate it was agreed unanimously that St Lawrence Parish Council oppose this proposed development. The impact on the infrastructure of a development of this size, in a village with no amenities and limited and dangerous access to the road network would be seriously detrimental to the whole of the Dengie peninsula

021/2026 Planning Decisions made by MDC affecting St. Lawrence**25/00581/HOUSE** - Moors End Moorhen Avenue St Lawrence Southminster

Demolition of five existing outbuildings and replacement with one Cart Lodge and one Garage. Re-surface existing driveway and extension of driveway to serve new cart lodge and garage.

APPROVE subject to conditions**25/00857/FUL** - Willowherb House 81 Mountview Crescent St Lawrence Southminster

S73A application for change of use of part of rear garden for cattery business; erection of 2 No. catteries measuring 6.4m x 3.9m (one cattery already constructed) **APPROVE** subject to conditions

022/2026 Finance

- a. To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2026

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2026

- b. To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026

- c. To approve the payment of Accounts for February 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to

meet the Parish Council financial requirements **All Agreed**

023/2026 Councillors to list any defective streetlights with location/s in the village

It was noted that the light by 34 Main Road has been repaired.

024/2026 Items for Next Agenda**025/2026 Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th. March 2026 at 7pm****026/2026 Meeting dates in 2026 - 22.04: 27.05: 24.06: 22.07: 23.09: 28.10: 25.11: 16.12.26****027/2026 Closure of the Meeting**

To close the Meeting having considered and determined all items of business.