Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 8:00pm on Tuesday the 8th September 2026 in the Braxted Pavilion

Present:

Cllrs R Collins (Chair), C Knapman (Vice-Chair) and E Miles; L Townend (Clerk); and one member of the public.

26/46 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Davis and Holt.

26/47 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 14th July 2026 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

26/48 Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that they are required to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests which they know they might have in terms of business on the agenda. They were also reminded that they will need to repeat their declarations at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if required under the Code of Conduct which took effect in July 2022.

They were further reminded that any unforeseen interests must also be declared at the appropriate time.

No Declarations of Interests were made.

26/49 Maldon District Councillor Update

Cllr Siddall was unable to attend the meeting.

26/50 Public Participation Session

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the large number of rabbit holes on the cricket field affecting the condition and safe use of the field.

It was noted that repairs to the boundary fencing may assist in preventing further rabbit activity. Cllr Knapman agreed to contact Roger Clarke to establish the current position regarding the outstanding fence repairs.

The member of the public also suggested that the brambles and undergrowth along the edge of the field could be cleared and that the feasibility of installing rabbit-proof fencing to the existing fence posts be investigated.

Cllr Miles offered to donate wire to assist with temporarily repairing some of the rabbit holes.

The following actions were agreed:

- The Clerk to investigate whether grant funding may be available through Essex Cricket and Sport England towards rabbit-proof fencing or improvements to the cricket field.
- The Clerk to contact the Secretary of the Braxted Pavilion Management Committee for the contact details of a local gamekeeper to seek a quotation for rabbit control/removal, together with advice from other pest control providers.
- The Clerk to ask Sarah Mann to raise the condition of the cricket outfield with the cricket club and enquire whether the club would undertake any repairs and/or contribute towards the cost of rabbit-proof fencing, including a suitable roll of 19-gauge (or heavier) chicken wire.

26/51 Finance

26/51/1 Accounts for Payment

The Council approved the following payments:

Date	***Supplier***	***Item***	***Net***	***VAT***	***Total***
17/07/2026	Boards Direct	New notice board backing	95.90	19.18	115.08
17/07/2026	Cllr Knapman	Notice board expense reimbursement	31.98	-	31.98
22/07/2026	Sky Mobile	June phone bill - final	6.00	-	6.00
28/07/2026	Cllr Knapman	Gate repair hardware	27.85	-	27.85
28/07/2026	HMRC	July PAYE costs	72.00	-	72.00
28/07/2026	L Townend	July salary	288.14	-	288.14
31/07/2026	Unity Trust Bank	June service charge	7.00	-	7.00
03/08/2026	AE Glaziers	Notice board glass repair	270.00	54.00	324.00
10/08/2026	Cllr Knapman	Paint for notice board	9.99	-	9.99
19/08/2026	Maldon District Council	Q1 TruCam patrols	538.92	107.78	646.70
28/08/2026	L Townend	August salary	262.00	-	262.00
28/08/2026	HMRC	August PAYE costs	65.40	-	65.40
28/08/2026	L Townend	Jun-Sept expenses	87.96	-	87.96
31/08/2026	Unity Trust Bank	July service charge	7.00	-	7.00
05/09/2026	Waltons Tree Services	Playground hedge trimming	240.00	48.00	288.00
		TOTALS:	**2,010.14**	**228.96**	**2,239.10**

Resolved: That the accounts for payment listed above be approved for payment.

26/51/2 2026 National Joint Council's Pay Award

The Council noted the National Joint Council's 2026 pay agreement of 3.30% and approved the Clerk's backpay payment of £57.75.

26/52 Planning

26/52/1 To Consider Planning Applications submitted and published by Maldon District Council

There were no applications to consider.

26/52/2 To Note the Parish Council's Response to Planning Applications Made Outside of a Meeting

26/52/2/1 - 26/00328/HOUSE – relocation of oil tank with concrete base and retrospective relocation of oil boiler at the Village Farm House, Tiptree Road. **APPROVED**

26/52/2/2 – 26/00374 – single storey rear extension at The Old Forge, Tiptree Road. **APPROVED.**

26/52/2/3 – 26/00280 – claim for lawful development certificate for proposed change of use of residential Class C3(a) to children's residential home C(b) at Wood Lodge, Lea Lane. **APPROVED.**

26/52/2/4 - 26/00456 – construct single storey rear extension with flat roof over, 5 Granville Close. **APPROVED**

26/53 Livewell Grant

The Council considered whether to submit an application for funding through the Livewell Grant scheme. No further project suggestions were put forward and therefore it was agreed that the Council would not apply for a Livewell Grant at this time.

26/54 Environment

Members considered a quotation from Walton Tree Services for the installation of chestnut fencing along the length of the spiney. It was noted that the proposed fencing was primarily for aesthetic purposes and, in light of the current requirement to consider rabbit-proof fencing, Members agreed that the chestnut fencing should not proceed.

Resolved: That the Council would not proceed with the installation of chestnut fencing along the length of the spiney.

26/55 Items for Next Agenda

The following items will be added to the next Council meeting agenda:

1. 2027/28 budget considerations
2. Rabbit proof-fencing specification

26/56 Updates

Cllr Knapman advised that the notice board had now been repaired and the Parish Council's notices have been updated.

He requested that the notice relating to the church also be updated. The Clerk will contact the church to confirm that the information displayed is accurate. Cllr Knapman will provide the Clerk with the template to be used for the updated notice.

26/57 General Announcements

No general announcements were made.

26/58 Date of Next Meeting

The next council meeting will take place at 8:00pm on Tuesday 10th November 2026.

26/59 Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.47pm.

Signed:_____ Dated:_____