

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13TH APRIL 2026 AT CHAPPEL & WAKES COLNE VILLAGE HALL, AT 7.00 P.M.

In the Chair: Cllr. S. Chamley
Present: Cllrs. A. Cox, P. Dent, N. Ingram, N. Lippiatt, P. Neubauer
Clerk: Mrs. H. Cook
Also Present Three members of the public

26/068	<u>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.02pm.
26/069	<u>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u> No declarations of interest were declared.
26/070	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST</u> A resident spoke about the proposed development in Wakes Colne and their concern regarding the solution from the developer regarding Station Road. The knock-on effect on Spring Gardens Road were raised. A resident raised the question on whether the houses were actually needed. The Vice-Chair of Wakes Colne spoke about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Exhibition regarding the proposed 200 houses in Wakes Colne which was held on the 25th March. ❖ Early design stage. ❖ Deadline to pass on comments to the developer is the 15th April. ❖ Wakes Colne Parish Council happy to receive comments from residents at any time, dialogue is taking place with the developer as the project progresses. ❖ Details on Wakes Colne Parish Council website. <p>Cllr Neubauer asked whether the housing needs survey could be feed back to the developer, in particular regarding the types of housing and design.</p> <p>Cllr Chamley confirmed to a resident that the Parish Council were attending meetings with linked Parish Councils to respond to Colchester City Council regarding the increases in housing numbers. They are also having discussions with other Parish Councils regarding Braintree emerging Local Plan as this will also have an impact on Chappel.</p> <p>7.06pm Cllr Lippiatt arrived.</p>
26/071	<u>WARD & COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT</u> <i>WARD COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SUNNUCKS / COUNTY COUNCILLOR LEWIS BARBER</i> Cllrs Sunnucks and Barber were not present.
26/072 26034	<u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u> RESOLVED that the minutes from Monday 9th March 2026 were a true record of the meeting. Cllr Cox abstained due to not being present at the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes.
26/073	<u>UPDATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u> PLANNING APPLICATION: 252401. LAND EAST OF CHAPPEL HILL, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER. (DECEMBER 2025) – NO DECISION.
26/074	<u>COLCHESTER LOCAL PLAN</u>

	<p>1) It was noted that the Local Plan Meeting took place on the 16th March.</p> <p>Discussions took place regarding the speculative planning application for 250 houses in Aldham, bordering Eight Ash Green had been approved prior even though it was not in the current Local Plan.</p> <p>2) The Wakes Colne Exhibition had been well attended and comments had been collected by the developer, the consultation is open till the 15th April.</p> <p>3) A meeting was held with Colchester City Council and the seven Parish Councils (Chappel, Wakes Colne, Eight Ash Green, Aldham, Copford, Marks Tey, Great Tey) on the 1st April. Discussions were had regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Housing numbers for the proposed plan and possible additional numbers. ❖ Housing numbers for Halstead and Braintree. ❖ Joined up thinking for all housing allocation and impact to the Parishes. ❖ Infrastructure. ❖ Highways negative response to lowering the speed limit on Chappel Hill. ❖ Concern on Spring Gardens Road if restrictions on Station Road are implemented.
26/075	<p><u>SIX PARISH MEETING</u></p> <p>Cllr Dent & Cllr Lippiatt attended the meeting on the 11th March and gave an update on the following that was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Concern over the Braintree Local Plan, with no linked approach with Colchester. ❖ Impact on the whole area, more collaboration needed. ❖ Group response and individual responses from each Parish Council agreed for the Braintree Local Plan Consultation. ❖ Negative feedback from Essex Highways on issues in individual parishes. ❖ Halstead is receiving two million pounds of funding for a community centre at the Theatre Empire. They are looking for professionals to volunteer their time. ❖ Next meeting on the 10th April. <p>26035 RESOLVED to respond to the Braintree Local Plan Consultation.</p>
26/076	<p><u>VEHICLE SPEED THROUGH THE VILLAGE</u></p> <p>1) Cllr Dent confirmed that he had circulated his report. More volunteers were needed.</p> <p>2) The data from the SID on Swan Street had been circulated and put on the website. It was worth noting the increase in traffic on Swan Street due to the A1124 being closed in Earls Colne.</p>
26/077	<p><u>PUBLIC CONSULTATION – DRAFT ESSEX SPEEDS STRATEGY</u></p> <p>The closing date for the public consultation was noted as the 26th April, residents were encouraged to respond. Details were on the Parish Council Facebook page and website.</p>
26/078	<p><u>20'S PLENTY</u></p> <p>Cllr Dent confirmed that he would attend the next meeting and report back.</p>
26/079	<p><u>PLAY AREA – FUNDING</u></p> <p>1) The Clerk confirmed that the Enover funding application had been submitted and a response should be received by the 21st April. The Clerk confirmed that they had been successful in securing £8,285.15 from Essex County Council CIF funding.</p> <p>2) The recent maintenance works had been carried out and further non urgent work had been identified. Some questions were raised regarding the quote so would be brought back to the May meeting.</p> <p>3) Cllr Ingram showed Cllrs galvanised covers to protect the wooden posts, no quote had yet been received. This would be brought back to the May meeting.</p>
26/080	<p><u>VILLAGES IN BLOOM</u></p>

	<p>Cllr Lippiatt gave an update on obtaining the licences from Highways. The contract confirmed that all frontage properties must be consulted, Cllr Lippiatt confirmed that this had been carried out. Three concerns were raised, but after further correspondence no further communication had been received. Village in Bloom had their own insurance a copy would be sent to the Clerk. The Parish Council had £10 million cover in public liability insurance as required by Essex. Cllr Lippiatt would contact the permit team on installation. As per the resolution made in March the legal document would be signed.</p>
26/081	<p><u>TRACK</u> This item would be brought back to the May meeting when a quote had been received.</p>
26/082	<p><u>INSURANCE</u> The Clerk confirmed that the quote received from Zurich had been increased. Further quotes were being looked at and would be brought to the May meeting.</p>
26/083	<p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>1) VAT CLAIM</p> <p>26036 RESOLVED that a VAT Claim from 1st October 2025 till 31st March 2026 would be made for a total of £495.79.</p> <p>2) BIN EMPTYING CONTRACT</p> <p>26037 RESOLVED to agree to the per bin increase of £6.</p> <p>3) FINANCIAL STATEMENT.</p> <p>The fourteen invoices including the Clerks’ Salary and Pension were circulated to vet and agree. As per appendix A.</p> <p>26038 RESOLVED that after further consideration the fourteen payments detailed on the schedule be authorised for payment.</p> <p>It was noted that the Clerk was in conversations with Goldstart the telephone provider over an invoice that didn’t match the Direct Debit.</p> <p>4) MONTHLY BUDGET INFORMATION</p> <p>No items raised.</p>
26/084	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u> All correspondence had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the Clerk had been in contact with the school regarding the duck race and they were in conversations with the Village Hall and EARM regarding additional parking.</p>
26/085	<p><u>CHAIRMAN & CLERK’S REPORT</u> No items raised.</p>
26/086	<p><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS</u> Track Play Area Insurance Water on the A1124</p>
26/087	<p><u>CO-OPTION</u> It was noted that one vacancy remains, no applications have been received.</p>
26/088	<p>26039 <u>MOTION</u> RESOLVED to exclude the public and press due to discussing personal data in item 26/089.</p>
26/089	<p><u>ALLOTMENT PLOT</u> Discussions took place upon receiving a response from the tenant of plot 9 & 10. It was agreed after seeking advice</p>

26033	from EALC & SLCC that many allowances and extension of times had been made but now the situation must be drawn to a conclusion.
26040	RESOLVED to write to the tenant of plot 9 & 10 confirming the final deadline of 14th May 2026.
26/090	<u>MOTION</u>
26041	RESOLVED to exclude the public and press due to discussing personal data in item 26/091.
26/067	<u>PLAY AREA</u>
	The Clerk confirmed that an accident had been reported to the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that a site visit had taken place and Zurich had been informed.
	Cllr Chamley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.47pm.
	The next meeting will be on Monday 11 th May 2026, at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.
	Signed:.....
	Chairman of the Parish Council Date: 11th May 2026.

MRS HELEN COOK
 CLERK TO CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL
 E-MAIL: parishclerk@chappel.org
 TELEPHONE: 01206 589095

Appendix A

Date	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
09/03/2026	Goldstar	Telephone	£ 14.83	£ 2.97	£ 17.80
01/04/2025	A & J Lighting	Replacement LED	£ 369.00	£ 73.80	£ 442.80
12/04/2026	TBS Hygiene Ltd	Bin Collection	£ 48.00	£ 9.60	£ 57.60
12/04/2026	Scribe	Accounts package	£ 372.00	£ 74.40	£ 446.40
12/04/2026	N Ingram	Reimburse refreshment	£ 18.10	£ -	£ 18.10
12/04/2026	Colchester City Council	Electric Street Light	£ 280.49	£ 56.10	£ 336.59
12/04/2026	Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall	Meeting Hall Hire	£ 33.00	£ -	£ 33.00
12/04/2026	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£ 217.24	£ 43.45	£ 260.69
12/04/2026	HMRC	PAYE	£ 21.07	£ -	£ 21.07
12/04/2026	Employee	Expenses	£ 28.78	£ -	£ 28.78
15/04/2026	A & J Lighting	Qtr Maintenance	£ 84.99	£ 17.00	£ 101.99
30/04/2026	Goldstar	Telephone	£ 16.03	£ 3.21	£ 19.24
30/04/2025	Employee	Salary	£ 526.83	£ -	£ 526.83
30/04/2025	Essex Pension Fund	Pension	£ 163.34	£ -	£ 163.34