

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT CHAPPEL & WAKES COLNE VILLAGE HALL, AT 6.00 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

26/170	<u>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm. Apologies were received from Cllr Neubauer who would be late to the meeting due to work commitments.
26/171	<u>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u> Cllr Lippiatt declared an interest in item 26/178 & 26/181 due to managing Villages in Bloom. Cllr Lippiatt declared an interest in item 26/179 due to being on the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Cox declared an interest in 26/177 due to family members using the school bus service.
26/172	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST</u> No members of the public wished to raise any items.
26/173	<u>WARD & COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT</u> <i>WARD COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SUNNUCKS / COUNTY COUNCILLOR SARA NAYLOR</i> Cllrs Sunnucks & Naylor were not present.
26/174 26091	<u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u> RESOLVED that the minutes from Friday 17th July 2026 were a true record of the meeting. Cllrs Cox & Lippiatt abstained due to not being present at the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes.
26/175	<u>UPDATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u> 1) PLANNING APPLICATION: 261212. KNIGHTS FARM, SWAN STREET, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER, CO6 2EE. (JULY 2026) – NO DECISION. 2) PLANNING APPLICATION: 261215. HAZELDELL, COLCHESTER ROAD, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER, CO6 2DE. (JULY 2026) – NO DECISION. 3) PLANNING APPLICATION: 260957. VERNONS, GROOMS HOUSE, VERNONS ROAD, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER, CO6 2AG (JUNE 2026) – REFUSED. 4) PLANNING APPLICATION: 261030. 11 COLCHESTER ROAD, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER, CO6 2DE (JUNE 2026) – CONDITIONAL APPROVAL. 5) PLANNING APPLICATION: 260657. LAND AT EARLS COLNE ROAD, GREAT TEY. (MAY 2026) – NO DECISION. 6) PLANNING APPLICATION: 252401. LAND EAST OF CHAPPEL HILL, CHAPPEL, COLCHESTER. (DECEMBER 2025) – EXTENSION OF TIME X 3 - NO DECISION.
26/176 26092	<u>COLCHESTER LOCAL PLAN</u> It was noted that the seven Parishes would be meeting on the 22nd September where a joint response would be discussed. RESOLVED that the Parish Council previous comments stand alongside adding the Village Envelope to remain and that the Housing Needs Survey results are sent to Colchester City Council Local Planning Team. A brief discussion was had regarding S106 with regard to planning application 252401 – Land East of Chappel Hill. It was noted that the Village Hall had been contacted with supplying quotes for potential funding if the application

	was approved and went ahead. The land owner confirmed that discussions were taking place with Colchester City Council regards providing funding for school transport. S106 needed to be proportional and mitigate the harmful effects of a development, this must be clearly demonstrated. Issues were still ongoing with regards to the link footpath from the proposed development and Swan Grove. 2) The joint statement from the Seven Parishes to the Local Plan Committee which was held on the 26th August was noted. Cllr Dent declared that he would be joining Wakes Colne Parish Council in October.
26/177	<u>SCHOOL BUS SERVICE</u> Cllr Cox gave an update on the changes in cost to the school bus service to Honeywood School, raising from £800 to £999 with no advance notice. The additional change is that if you want to pay on a monthly basis this will then charge you in total of £1,430 instead of £999, therefore disadvantaging families who are unable to pay upfront. Cllr Cox confirmed that she had written to MP's, City Councillors and County Councillors and would keep the Parish Council updated on any changes or discussions.
26/178 26093	<u>S106 WISH LIST</u> RESOLVED to update the S106 wish list and submit this to Colchester City S106 team, including the updated list from the Villages in Bloom.
26/179	<u>LOCAL LISTING – VILLAGE HALL</u> Cllr Lippiatt gave an update from the Village Hall Committee wanting to secure the future of the current Village Hall Building and its history. Discussion was had on whether adding the Village Hall to the local listing, acknowledging that no other village hall in the City, was on the list was the right action to take. It was discussed whether this would add additional red tape for the trustees if they wished to extend the village hall. As the trustees would be the ones applying for the planning permission this should be enough to secure the future of the village hall. No developer can make the trustees apply for planning permission. It was agreed that the Village Hall Committee were still discussing this as a possible idea and they would make a decision in due course, perhaps with more knowledge as the Wakes Colne protentional housing development progressed.
26/180	<u>VEHICLE SPEED THROUGH THE VILLAGE</u> 1) Cllr Dent confirmed that he had circulated his report. 2) Cllr Dent confirmed that Essex Police had attended and caught 19 in 1 hour going above the speed limit. Essex Police would carry out further shifts in the coming weeks. It was also confirmed that Essex Police were very much in favour of placing a SID on Rose Green and would support any application made by the Parish Council. 8.05pm Cllr Neubauer arrived. 3) The data from the SID on Swan Street had been circulated and put on the website. Thanks were given to Mr Stocker.
26/181	<u>VILLAGES IN BLOOM</u> Cllr Lippiatt gave the Parish Council an update on the Villages in Bloom project a year since setting up the group. This included the progress made, Anglia in Bloom Assessment, Funding and where the group would like to aim for in the next 5 years including further involvement with the local community like the school and the Millennium Green. All the Cllrs thanked Cllr Lippiatt for setting up Villages in Bloom and thanked all the volunteers for making such a great start to the wonderful project especially during the very hot summer. Comments had been received from residents, visitors, other bloom groups and commuters just passing through both villages. The Parish Council would

	send Villages in Bloom a grant application form in due course for consideration for 2027/28 financial year.
26/182	<u>PLAY AREA</u> It was confirmed that the new equipment was being fitted this week and should be completed by the 18 th September. Cllr Ingram agreed to take photos of the progress of the works for the funding bodies. RESOLVED that the Play Inspection Company would carry out the post installation inspection at a cost of £365 plus VAT. Strengthening the rigid skate posts were discussed. RESOLVED to carry out this work as long as the cost was no more than £380 plus VAT (otherwise it would need to come back to the October meeting). Cllr Ingram would confirm the cost.
26/183	<u>ALLOTMENT</u> Cllr Chamley confirmed that the yearly meeting with the allotment holders held on the 29 th June was very productive and was a great idea going forward. It was agreed to hold a meeting again before the end of the year. Cllrs discussed the idea of fencing to keep the muntjac deer out of the allotments RESOLVED not to spend Parish Council funds on fencing due the resilience of the deer to ignore fencing. RESOLVED that a delivery of bark at a cost of £40 was delivered to the allotment. RESOLVED that the hedge cutting along the allotment on the A1124 would take place shortly at a cost of £135 plus VAT. RESOLVED to allow plot 9 to place a polytunnel on the site as requested. This would be as per the contract no bigger than: '9.6 x 12.10 x 6.7 (height).
26/184	<u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u> 1) FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The fourteen invoices including the Clerks' Salary and Pension were circulated to vet and agree. These included the invoices that were circulated during August to pay prior to the September meeting. As per appendix A. RESOLVED that after further consideration the fourteen payments detailed on the schedule be authorised for payment. 2) MONTHLY BUDGET INFORMATION No items raised. 3) PAY SCALES 26/27 RESOLVED TO CONFIRM THE PAY SCALES FOR 2026/27 AND BACK DATE THE INCREASE OF 3.3% TO APRIL 2026 AS PER THE GUIDANCE.
26/185	<u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u> All correspondence had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was raised that a resident had emailed the Parish Council to inform them that application 250577, Oak Road original decision had been quashed. The Clerk confirmed that Colchester City Council had now confirmed that this is the case and that the applicant will need to apply again for permission. The resident confirmed to the Parish Council that they had written to Enforcement asking for action on the site, a response had not yet been received. The resident expressed their view that the Parish Council had a duty under biodiversity to conserve. RESOLVED to write to Colchester City Council to ask for a written explanation on what had happened with regard to the application 250577 and what the next steps were from Colchester City Council. Cllrs were concerned that the Parish Council had not been kept in the loop by Colchester City Council with regards to this application and were disappointed to only hear about this from a resident. The planning website showing details of this application had also not been updated. Cllrs Ingram & Neubauer confirmed that they had been contacted by the Gallery confirming that a lady had tripped on the 4 th September due to some fallen down metal fencing. No contact details were provided of the lady to check

	on her wellbeing. This was not Parish Council land, however, Cllr Chamley agreed to try to contact the land owner to pass on this incident. An email from RCCE had been circulated regarding Community Led Environmental Action, Cllrs Chamley, Ingram and Lippiatt were all interested in finding out more and would attend the on-line meeting at the end of October and then report back to the Parish Council.
26/186	<u>CHAIRMAN & CLERK'S REPORT</u> It was noted that the bridge had been cleaned by a resident in the village. Many thanks were given as they do this each year and Cllr Chamley agreed to phone and thank them. Cllr Ingram confirmed that the drains on the A1124 were still covered with tarmac. The Clerk agreed to continue to chase this with Essex Highways. Cllr Ingram informed the Parish Council that the Millenium Green were due to discuss hiring a flail. If this was the case would the Parish Council be happy if the brambles round the football field were cut back at no cost. Cllrs were very happy for the work to be carried out if the Millenium Green decided to hire a flail.
26/187	<u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS</u> Grass cutting RCCE meeting
26/188	<u>CO-OPTION</u> It was noted that one vacancy remains, no applications have been received.
	Cllr Chamley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.56pm. The next meeting will be on Monday 12th October at 7pm in the Village Hall. Signed:..... Chairman of the Parish Council Date: 12th October 2026.

MRS HELEN COOK

CLERK TO CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

E-MAIL: parishclerk@chappel.org

Appendix A

Date	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
17/08/2026	Room Hire - Meeting	Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall	33.00	0.00	33.00
17/08/2026	Play Area Maintenance	Lamberts Fabrication	582.00	116.40	698.40
17/08/2026	Grass Cutting	JPB Landscapes	231.49	46.30	277.79
17/08/2026	Play Area - Bark	Stour Valley Trees Services Ltd	40.00	0.00	40.00
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17/08/2026	Play Area Maintenance	Proludic	83.54	16.71	100.25
17/08/2026	Street Lighting - Electricity	Colchester City Council	256.89	51.38	308.27
17/08/2026	Bin Emptying	TBS Hygiene Ltd	54.00	10.80	64.80
24/08/2026	Parish Office Telephone	Goldstar Networks Ltd	16.03	3.21	19.24
28/08/2026	Pension	Essex Pension Fund	163.34	0.00	163.34
28/08/2026	Salary	Employee	526.83	0.00	526.83
14/09/2026	Play Area Maintenance	Proludic	2,951.58	590.30	3,541.88
14/09/2026	Grass Cutting	JPB Landscapes	247.24	49.45	296.69
14/09/2026	Expenses	Employee	29.73	0.00	29.73
14/09/2026	wood chip - allotments	Stour Valley Trees Services Ltd	40.00	0.00	40.00
30/09/2026	Pension	Essex Pension Fund	195.65	0.00	195.65
30/09/2026	Salary	Employee	631.02	0.00	631.02

Chairman's Signature

Approved Minutes – Full Council 14th September 2026

