

# ABBESS, BEAUCHAMP & BERNERS RODING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday July 9th 2025  
at 7.30pm at the Room in the Rodings.

Present

Councillors

B Stratton (Chair)  
P Lawrance  
C Markey  
T Osborn  
A Parmenter  
E Sherwen

Parish Clerk Karen Weare

No members of the public.

62/25

### **Chair's Welcome**

Cllr Stratton welcomed those present.

63/25

### **Apologies for absence**

None.

64/25

### **Approval of Minutes**

Cllrs approved the minutes of the previous meeting May 21st 2025 as a correct record and signed by Chair.

65/25

### **Declarations of Interest**

None.

66/25

### **Public Representation**

None.

67/25

### **Essex County Council Report**

Cllr Jaymey McIvor not present.

68/25

### **District Council Report (EFDC Rural East)**

Cllr Ray Balcombe sent his apologies that he was unable to attend due to his Deputy Leader responsibilities. He reported that the blue bin roll out was going well and that any resident who needed a smaller or larger bin or was having any issues with the scheme must contact EFDC.

69/25

### **Police Report**

PC Warren Shepherd was unable to attend the meeting but sent the crime statistics for the q/e Jul 1 2025 (compared to the q/e Jun 1 2024). Report read by Chair. Calls to Police 16 (24) of which recorded as crimes 7 (13) of which considered to have community impact 2 (4). Residential burglary 0 (4) and residential burglary unconnected building 1 (0)  
Theft from motor vehicle 1 (0)

70/25

### **Clerk's Report**

Nothing to report under this heading.

## **71/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/2025**

The AGAR paperwork has been lost in the post. The Clerk has reconstructed the records as far as possible and published the required information.

## **72/25 Village Gateways**

The Licences had been granted. The Permits would not be granted until a qualified contractor was awarded the contract. Qualis did not undertake this work. Cllrs resolved to use the existing posts at Abbess and Berners and attach the new signs which would not involve “disturbing” the verge so a permit would not be required. The Clerk would continue to search for a contractor for the Beauchamp sign.

## **73/25 Highways**

Reported

- 2979312 defective bridge byway 31 Elms Lane Berners Roding. Requires repair
- 2979316 defective bridge footpath 74 Beauchamp Roding. Requires repair. Temporary prohibition of use Notice June 26 2025.
- 2900513 blocked drain Poplars Hill (Dukes Lane). Caused by tarmacking over drain. Also reported by resident to Cllr Stratton who liaised with Cllr Balcombe.
- 2983953 pothole far end Anchor Lane, Abbess Roding – Cllr Osborn

Repaired

- 2943924 pothole School Lane, Beauchamp Roding.

Closed no action

- 2932004 vegetation at noticeboard, Abbess Roding.

## **74/25 Planning**

1. New Applications

None.

2. Technical Applications and Decisions (no comments required)

**EPF/0894/25** Fairlands CM5 OJR approval of details on EPF/0634/24 - approved

**EPF/0906/25** Land adj Brook Cottage CM5 ONLY approval of details - approved

3. EFDC Decisions

None

4. Enforcement

**ENF/0098/25** Stables and caravans in Field at junction of School Lane and B184, Beauchamp Roding

## **75/25 Finances**

1. The Clerk reported the Lloyds balances at June 30 2025 total £16,489.70

Current £ 1,461.08 see transactions below

Savings £15,028.62 (including June interest £10.00)

Opening balance 20/5/25		3,067.63
VAT refund		214.81
Less		
Verge contract	1,116.00	
Clerk salary May	237.90	
Venue hire	75.00	
Kiosk repairs (BS)	42.96	
Annual Audit	28.20	
Service charges June	4.25	
HMRC PAYE M3	54.60	
Clerk salary June & Q1 expenses	262.45	-1,821.36
Closing balance 30/6/25		1,461.08

2. Cllr Sherwen signed current account statement to confirm balance.
3. No funds received from Cllr Mclvor's ECC Locality Fund. Cllr Stratton has contacted the Reform Party Leader Nigel Farage, and the Brentwood and Ongar Leader Paul Godfrey who has advised that he will help to resolve this.
4. Cllr Osborn is now an authorised user of the Lloyds account.
5. Cllr Sherwen is currently being added as an authorised user.
6. Cllr Lawrance does not wish to be added as signatory.

#### **76/25 Vacancy for new Parish Clerk**

Three candidates had applied. All three would be interviewed by the Chair and Parish Clerk.

#### **77/25 Correspondence**

1. Defibrillator training offered by Severnside. Cllrs resolved not to offer any training.
2. Thank you letter for donation received from Herts and Essex Air Ambulance.
3. The Shellow Cross consultation will open in September. Cllrs thought that increased traffic might help the request for a reduce speed limit on B184. Cllr Stratton will liaise with Cllr Webster, chair of Fyfield PC, to discuss a combined approach.

#### **78/25 Items for Information and next agenda**

- Cllr Osborn has the Robin King Archive which will be loaned to Chris and Jo Metson for the Abbess Roding Church coffee morning.
- Cllr Sherwen asked about reporting fly tipping. If on Highways land this should be reported to EFDC otherwise it is the responsibility of the landowner. To be advertised in Parish News.
- Cllr Sherwen asked about fire breaks to prevent field fires from spreading. As burning is no longer permitted farmers are not required to do this.

#### **79/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (s)**

October 29<sup>th</sup>

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2026

March 11<sup>th</sup> (APM)

March 18<sup>th</sup>

#### **80/25 MEETING CLOSED 8.05 pm**

Approved ..... October 29th 2025