

ABBESS, BEAUCHAMP & BERNERS RODING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday March 26th 2025
at 7.30pm at the Room in the Rodings.

Present

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

Parish Clerk Karen Weare

CLlr R Balcombe (EFDC)
A/S W Shepherd Community Policing Team

No members of the public

21/25 Chair's Welcome

CLlr Stratton welcomed those present.

22/25 Apologies for absence

None.

23/25 Approval of Minutes

CLlrs agreed minutes of the meeting January 22nd 2025 as a correct record. The Chair signed for the records.

24/25 Declarations of interest in Agenda Items

None.

25/25 Public Representation

None.

26/25 Police Report

Acting Sargeant Warren Shepherd gave the crime statistics for the 3 months to 24/3/25 for the Parish. Figures in brackets are previous period –
Calls to Police 19 (14) of which 3 (5) were recorded as crimes
Burglary 1 – theft of ATV from farm
Hare Coursing 2 (1)
The Rural Engagement Team will be more visible when patrolling
He will be unable to attend any further meetings this year.

27/25 District Council Report – Epping Forest District Council (Rural East)

Cllr Balcombe reported that there was little to add to his report at the APM. The main topic was Devolution. There were 15 Districts plus 2 Unitary Authorities to combine into larger Authorities.

28/25 Clerk's Report

The Clerk had nothing to add to the APM report.

29/25 Highways

1. The Village Gateway Licences had been received for signature. There are further issues to deal with.
2. Cllr Milligan reported that the issues in School Lane (Abbess) had got worse. Cllr McIvor had not arranged a site visit with him. Cllr Balcombe was asked for his help with this. The culverts were blocked and trees had fallen into the ditch from the field. Generally, the landowner of the tree would be responsible for clearing it but if it is obstructing a water course it might be the water course owner.
3. Cllr Markey reported that large vehicles, failing to follow the official diversion route, caused damage to Berwick Lane verges after the emergency road closure in White Roding.
4. Cllrs Stratton and Markey and the Clerk attended a B184 speed reduction meeting at Fyfield Village Hall. The news was not positive although subsequently Jennifer Boxall (ECC Highways Liaison) outlined speed reduction measures. She was unaware of the Village Gateways Scheme but subsequently agreed that if Highways Permits were applied for, the Scheme could go ahead.

A/S Shepherd advised that they struggled to make any difference with a speed camera but the addition of a trainee officer and a new video camera, which was particularly good for use with motorbikes, there might be more success.

5. The Clerk had received several Report It updates on road defects. These would take some time to collate due to the way the information was presented.

30/25 Planning

1. New applications
EPF/0195/25 and LBC EPF/0209/25 8 Bonds Cottages. Comments made.
2. EFDC Decisions made
EPF/0089/25 Well Cottage, Beauchamp. Refused 11/3/25
EPF/2320/24 4 Dacre Cottages. Refused 28/1/25
EPF/2438/24 Elms Farm (gate). Approved 24/1/25
3. Secretary of State Appeal Decisions
EPF/0733/24 2 Frayes Chase appeal dismissed

31/25 Finances

1. The Clerk reported the Lloyds bank transact balances at 20/3/25 total £13,367.70 -
Current 323.91
Savings 13,043.70
2. The Clerk was given authority to purchase new pads for the Berners defib before they expire in May.
3. Cllrs resolved to make grants and donations of £350 each to Abbess Church, Beauchamp Church, and to Essex and Herts Air Ambulance.

32/25 Verge Contract 2025 Season

J Kenney Services had tendered in the amount of £2,170 (£1,797.68 2024 with an ECC payment of £1,933.39). Cllrs resolved to accept this tender although it was in excess of the expected ECC payment.

33/25 Annual Parish Meeting Feedback

A successful meeting. The Clerk was given authority to pay the caterer £25.

34/25 Flyer Delivery Rounds

Cllr Parmenter had problems with new, missing and re-named properties on his round. The Clerk had liaised with EFDC and Royal Mail and most of the issues had been resolved, with the exception of "Dalbeg" which appeared on the postcode list but did not seem to be a property. No other Cllrs reported issues with their lists.

35/25 VE Day Celebration May 8th

The event will start at 7.30 pm with food at 8.00 pm, and the beacon lighting at 9.30 (Chris Metson). Cllr Osborn will arrange for collection of the food and organise the bunting. No live music had been organised yet. The Clerk will prepare the flyers for printing.

36/25 Correspondence

The Clerk had dealt with a Freedom of Information request under "The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976".

37/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday May 21st 2025 APCM

38/25 MEETING CLOSED 8.30 pm

Approved May 21st 2025