

# ABBESS, BEAUCHAMP & BERNERS RODING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday May 21st 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

No members of the public

**39/25**

### **Retiring Chair's Welcome**

Cllr Stratton welcomed those present.

**40/25**

### **Apologies for absence**

None.

**41/25**

### **Election of Chair**

Cllr Stratton was proposed by Cllr Markey and seconded by Cllr Milligan. Elected unopposed.  
Cllr Stratton signed his Acceptance of Office form.

**42/25**

### **Election of Vice Chair**

Cllr Markey was proposed by Cllr Milligan and seconded by Cllr Osborn. Elected unopposed.

**43/25**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Cllrs approved the minutes of the previous meeting March 26<sup>th</sup> 2025 as a correct record and signed by Chair.

**44/25**

### **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs were reminded of the requirements to declare pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in agenda items.

**45/25**

### **Areas of Responsibility**

- Cllr Osborn – Events Co-ordinator
- Cllr Stratton – Berners Roding defibrillator. Cllr Stratton required new frames/sealant at a cost of £48 to repair the kiosk. Cllrs resolved to approve this.
- Mr Robert Osborn – Abbess Roding defibrillator

**46/25**

### **Register of Members Interests**

Cllrs were reminded that any changes to the forms must be notified within 28 days.

**47/25**

### **Public Representation**

None.

- 48/25 Essex County Council Report**  
Cllr Jaymey Mclvor was not present and had not sent a report. Cllrs expressed their disappointment that Cllr Mclvor did not attend the VE Day Event and were very concerned that £300 promised by him from the ECC Locality Fund towards the VE Day Event (see minute 8/25) had not been requested by him from the Fund which had now closed for last year.
- 49/25 District Council Report (EFDC Rural East)**  
Cllr Ray Balcombe sent his apologies that he was unable to attend. Cllrs requested that congratulations on his appointment as Deputy Leader of EFDC were recorded.
- 50/25 Police Report**  
A/Sargeant Warren Shepherd was unable to attend the meeting but had sent the crime statistics for the q/e May 12<sup>th</sup> 2025 (compared to the same period in 2024).  
Calls to Police 18 (13) of which recorded as crimes 7 (9)  
- of which considered to have community impact 5 (2)  
Residential burglary 1 (2)  
Residential burglary unconnected building 1 (0)  
Business burglary 2 (0)  
Theft from motor vehicle 1 (0)
- 51/25 Clerk's Report**  
Thank you letters sent to VE Day supporters.  
School Lane, Abbess Roding Report It summary not completed.
- 52/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/2025**  
No issues arising from the Audit but the paperwork had not yet been received from the Auditor. RFO and Chair signed Certificate of Exemption Part 2 (p3 of 6) to be sent to PKF Littlejohn by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Paperwork must be published before July 1<sup>st</sup> which will require signature between meetings.
- 53/25 VE Day Event**  
Cllrs thanked Cllr Osborn for her organisation of this very successful and well attended event. The feedback was very positive. The costs exceeded the budget due to non-receipt of the promised £300 from Cllr Mclvor (see 48/25 and the popularity of the event. Cllrs agreed that events linked to a special occasion were more successful and resolved that the Parish Council would continue to offer a free annual event.
- 54/25 Village Gateways**  
The Licence had been granted and the Permits applied for.
- 55/25 Planning**  
Cllrs noted that there were 1 or 2 unoccupied mobile homes at Elms Farm.  
  
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 under consultation.

EPF/0906/25 Land adj Brook Cottage CM5 ONY approval of details on EPF/0555/24 under consultation

3. EFDC Decisions

EPF/195/25 & LBC 00209/25 8 Bonds Cottages, Beauchamp Roding. Refused.

4. Appeal to Secretary of State

EPF/2320/24 4 Dacre Cottages, Berners Roding

5. Enforcement

CLRs were concerned at the stable block and caravans on the newly fenced site on the corner of School Lane, Beauchamp Roding and B184.

**56/25 Finances**

1. The Clerk reported the Lloyds balances total £18,086.25 and transactions from 1/4/25 to 20/5/25 - below.
2. CLr Markey signed current account statement to confirm balance.

**57/25 Vacancy for new Parish Clerk**

The two possible candidates have both declined to apply for the vacancy. The Clerk will advertise on the Abbess noticeboard and in Ten Parish News (June/July).

**58/25 Correspondence**

None.

**59/25 Items for Information and next agenda**

- CLr Milligan had completed Report It for the collapsed verge School Lane, Abbess.
- Clerk to report
  1. fallen tree on bridge in Elms Lane ///match.atomic.tone or ///proper.adding.spill.
  2. footpath on RH side behind the Old Rectory, Beachamp ///palm.rich.zoom.
  3. blocked drain under road on Poplar Hill after cleared outside Poplar Cottages.
  4. Potholes opposite 1-4 Bonds Cottages. School Lane, Beauchamp already reported.

**60/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (s)**

Wednesday July 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

October 29<sup>th</sup>

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2026

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

March 18<sup>th</sup>

**61/25 MEETING CLOSED 8.50 pm**

Approved ..... July 9th 2025

### Savings Account

Opening balance 1/4/25	11,000.00
Interest	18.62

Transfers	<u>4,000.00</u>
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<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>15,018.62</b>
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### Current Account

Opening balance 1/4/25	982.87
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Transfers	-	4,000.00
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EFDC Precept		5,950.00
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ECC verge contract	3,947.29	1,997.29
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FHE		12.00
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Berners defib pads		83.93
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EALC		189.26
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VE Day printing		67.00
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VE Day Event*		1109.34
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Singer		100.00
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Clerk salary M1		238.10
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HMRC PAYE M1		54.40
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bank charges	1,862.53	8.50
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<b>Balance at 20/5/25</b>	<b>3,067.63</b>
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