

# Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Mark Brewer  
 Clerk: Kevin B. Money 7 Roach Vale Colchester Essex CO4 3YN  
 alphandlampc@gmail.com  
 NEW Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alpc/>

Dear Councillors

You are hereby requested to attend the forthcoming meeting of Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council at **ALPHAMSTONE VILLAGE HALL** on **FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup>. May 2026 at 6.30pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

*KBMoney* - Kevin B. Money Parish Clerk / RFO to the Council CiLCA – 8<sup>th</sup>. May 2026

## **ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

**017/2026 Election of Chair for the 2026/2027 year**

The Chairman to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form

**018/2026 Apologies for Absence**

**019/2026 Election of Vice-Chair for the 2026/2027 year**

**020/2026 To re-adopt all Council policies and consider the need for any further policies to be included/reviewed**

Bio-Diversity: Code of Conduct: Complaints procedure: Co-Option policy: Document Management  
 Equal opportunities policy: Financial Regulations: FOI policy: GDPR policy: Grant application form  
 Internal Control policy: Internet Banking policy: IT policy: Media Relations policy: Risk Assessment:  
 Standing Orders: Asset Register

**021/2026** The Council to pass a formal resolution to adopt the **General Power Competence** and this resolution must be reaffirmed at each subsequent relevant annual meeting

**022/2026 Declarations of Interest**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda

**023/2026 Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup>. February 2026

**024/2026 Essex County Council report – Cllr P. Schwier**

**025/2026 District Councillor report – Cllr D. Holland**

**026/2026 Public Forum** A total of 15 minutes is allowed for all public participation

**027/2026 Replacement of Salt bin**

**028/2026 Street Cleaning replacement**

**029/2026 Friends of Alphamstone Church – update from Cllr S. Nichols**

**030/2026 Alphamstone Village update**

**031/2026 Lamarsh Village update**

**032/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response**

**26/00187/HH & 26/00188/LBC - Tudor Cottage Pebmarsh Road Alphamstone**

Proposed rear conservatory, oak frame pergola and alteration to rear opening.

*Due to BDC planning time restraints the following planning was sent to BDC on 20<sup>th</sup>. March 2026  
 A&LPC has no objection to this planning application*

**26/00912/LBC - Ansells Farm, Henny Back Road, Alphamstone**

Installation of 8 No. solar panels to the south elevation of barn roof.

Documents can be found at

<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=TDWDWRBF0P700>

**033/2026** To consider and approve the change to .gov.uk for all Council email and website addresses

**034/2026** Finance

- 1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 30<sup>th</sup>. April 2026
- 2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2026/2027
- 3) To approve the payment of Accounts for March, April and May 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements.
- 4) To appoint Ann Wood as Internal Auditor for 2026-2027 year

**035/2026** 2025-2026 Annual Audit

- 1) To Receive the Internal Auditors report for 2025/2026
- 2) To Receive and, if agreed, sign the Certificate of Exemption for 2025/2026
- 3) To Receive and, if agreed, sign Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2025/2026
- 4) To Receive and, if agreed, sign Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2025/2026

**036/2026** Items for next agenda

**037/2026** Date of Next Meetings –3<sup>rd</sup>. September 2026 at Alphamstone VH at 6.30pm: 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2026 at Lamarsh VH at 6.30pm

**038/2026** Closure of the Meeting

To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

## **ITEM 021/2026**

**The General Power of Competence (GPC)** allows eligible parish councils to do anything that an individual can do, provided it is not prohibited by law, giving councils broad legal freedom to act for their communities.

### **Overview**

The GPC was introduced under the Localism Act 2011 (s 1-8) and provides eligible Parish councils with a wide-ranging legal authority to act in ways similar to individuals without needing specific statutory power for each action. This power is intended to encourage innovation. Local initiative and cost-effective service delivery

### **To exercise the GPC, a Parish Council must meet certain conditions:**

- a) Clerk qualifications: The Council must have a Clerk with the appropriate professional qualification as prescribed in legislation
- b) Elected councillors: At least two-thirds of the council members must be elected, not co-opted.
- c) Resolution: The council must pass a formal resolution to adopt the GPC and this resolution must be reaffirmed at each subsequent relevant annual meeting

If these conditions are met, the Council is considered an eligible Parish Council and can continue to exercise the power until the next annual meeting. Even if circumstances change temporarily

### **Scope of the Power**

The GPC allows councils to:

- 1) Undertake activities that an individual could normally do, such as running a community shop or setting up a company to provide services.
- 2) Engage in commercial activities, provided they are conducted through a company or co-operative society.
- 3) Work beyond the parish boundaries if it benefits the community.

### **However, the GPC does not allow councils to:**

- i. Impose taxes or fines beyond statutory powers.
- ii. Incarcerate individuals.
- iii. Delegate decision-making to individual councillors outside legal procedures.

Some actions, like creating byelaws or raising a precept, still require specific statutory authority and cannot rely solely on the GPC.

### **Practical Implications**

The GPC is a power of first resort, meaning councils should first consider whether they can act under this general power before seeking a specific statutory power. It provides legal confidence for councils to innovate, form partnerships, and deliver services in ways that were previously restricted by narrowly defined powers. Councils can use it to improve local services, support community projects, and explore commercial ventures that benefit residents.

In summary, the General Power of Competence empowers eligible parish councils to act broadly in the interests of their communities, while still respecting legal limits and procedural requirements.

# Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Mark Brewer

Clerk: Kevin B. Money 7 Roach Vale Colchester Essex CO4 3YN

Tel: 07810781509: Email: [alphandlampc@gmail.com](mailto:alphandlampc@gmail.com)

NEW WEBSITE: <https://e-voice.org.uk/alpc/>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>. February 2026 at 6.30pm in Alphamstone Village Hall

Present: Cllr M. Brewer (Chair), Cllr S. Nicholls, Cllr S. Willis, BDC Cllr D. Holland and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There was 1 member of the public present.

**001/2026 Apologies for Absence** were received from ECC Cllr P. Schwier, Cllr B. Twinn, Cllr S. Pitman

**002/2026 Declarations of Interest**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda  
**None declared**

**003/2026 Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2025 **All Agreed**

**004/2026 Essex County Council report** – Cllr P. Schwier. No report was given

**005/2026 District Councillor report** – Cllr D. Holland

- Proposal for budget have now been through the scrutiny process and will be confirmed at Full Council.
- BDC Council Tax bill remains unchanged.
- £1.8m of the pension pot (due to pension surplus) has been transferred back into daily running costs.
- No increase in green bin charges, with new bin services to go live in June
- More funding pots, consequently, being made available for local organisations and community projects
- BDC has looked at the Local Plan - having an up-to-date plan together with a 5-year housing supply
- 6-week consultation period for local plan under Regulation 18 from mid-February '26
- National Grid has a Community Fund of £4.2m to be allocated along the Bramford-Twinstead reinforcement project's route, with c.£530,000 to be allocated with 5 miles of Butler's Wood substation .

**006/2026 Public Forum** A total of 15 minutes is allowed for all public participation

A resident spoke about planning application 26/00114. This may cause a problem with Lamarsh village hall having a right of access to the septic tank which is on the applicant land. Visibility of access. Outside village envelope.

**007/2026 Replacement of Salt bin**

The Clerk will purchase this new salt bin soon after this meeting and have it delivered to Cllr B. Twinn's farm address after 14<sup>th</sup>. February 2026

**008/2026 Friends of Alphamstone Church** – update from Cllr S. Nichols. No update was given

**009/2026 Alphamstone Village update** No report from Alphamstone village hall

**010/2026 Lamarsh Village update**

Wall in the process of being rebuilt, weather permitting, thanks to a grant from BDC.

Our hall is regularly being used for fitness classes and there is talk of more to come.

Our notice board has been revamped and will soon be sign written

**011/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response**

**25/02828/HH - Cocks Foot Goulds Road Alphamstone**

Proposed new pitched roof to enable first floor accommodation incorporating rooflights & removal of chimney.

**RESOLVED:** Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council has no comment on this planning application

**26/00114/HH - Woodview Goulds Road Alphamstone**

Proposed single storey rear extension, entrance porch, first floor extension above existing detached garage and replacement two storey link extension between detached garage and dwelling.

**RESOLVED:** Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council has no comment on this planning application

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**26/00226/OUT** - School Bungalow Henny Road Lamarsh

Outline planning application with all matters reserved, except access for the erection of one dwelling.

**RESOLVED:** Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council objects to this planning application

Planning comment can be found at

<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=T9SEHHBFFV400>

**012/2026 County Broadband** – Update on the Wayleave Agreement sent on 30.12.25

Information received from Tamasin Curtis on the progress of this signed agreement is below

*I have chased County to confirm that I am ready to go and just waiting for them to confirm they can move to finalise the deed. Please note that I am away from the office for 3 weeks from next Monday so I have asked the to complete this before I head off. At the meeting this evening this email was received - It looks like they are ready to agree to date the document can you confirm you are happy for me to do this.*

**013/2026 Finance**

1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. January 2026

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. January 2026

2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2025/2026

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget 2025/2026

3) To approve the payment of Accounts for January and February 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements. **All Agreed**

Councillors agreed to the March payments being made in March '26 before the year end

**014/2026 Items for next agenda**

Definitions of planning responses:

**015/2026 Date of Next Meetings** – 15<sup>th</sup>. May at Lamarsh VH at 6.30pm which is the Annual Assembly of Parishioners and A&LPC AGM:

3<sup>rd</sup>. September 2026 at Alphamstone VH at 6.30pm: 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2026 at Lamarsh VH at 6.30pm

**016/2026 Closure of the Meeting**

To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

Signed

Cllr Mark Brewer - Chair

15<sup>th</sup>. May 2026

		BANK RECONCILIATION			
Financial year ending 31.03.27					
Bank Balance as at		<b>30.04.26</b>			
NatWest Bank - Current a/c	£	3,001.07			
NatWest Bank - Reserve a/c	£	2,760.46			
Saffron Building Society a/c	£	2,621.14			
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>£ 8,382.67</b>			
Less Unpresented cheques					
Total of unpresented cheques	£	-			
<b>Net Bank Balances as at</b>		<b>£ 8,382.67</b>			
<b>CASH BOOK</b>					
Balance as at 01.04.26	£	5,555.17			
Plus Receipts	£	2,827.50			
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>8,382.67</b>			
Less Payments	£	-			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>8,382.67</b>			
Difference	£	-			
<b>Bank Balance as at</b>					
NatWest Bank - Current a/c					
NatWest Bank - Reserve a/c					
Saffron Building Society a/c					
		<b>Total:</b>			
Less Unpresented cheques					
Total of unpresented cheques					
<b>Net Bank Balances as at</b>					
<b>CASH BOOK</b>					
Balance as at 01.04.25					
Plus Receipts					
<b>Total</b>					
Less Payments					
<b>Grand Total</b>					
Difference					
<b>Bank Balance as at</b>					
NatWest Bank - Current a/c					
NatWest Bank - Reserve a/c					
Saffron Building Society a/c					
		<b>Total:</b>			
Less Unpresented cheques					
Total of unpresented cheques					
<b>Net Bank Balances as at</b>					
<b>CASH BOOK</b>					
Balance as at 01.04.25					
Plus Receipts					
<b>Total</b>					
Less Payments					
<b>Grand Total</b>					
Difference					

Account Name  
ALPHAMSTONE & LAMARSH PARISH  
COUNCIL

Account No 52438554 Sort Code 60-21-03 Page No 1 of 2



MR KEVIN MONEY  
7 ROACH VALE  
COLCHESTER  
CO4 3YN

### Current Account

Summary	
Statement Date	05 MAY 2026
Period Covered	03 APR 2026 to 05 MAY 2026
Previous Balance	£173.57
Paid In	£2,827.50
Withdrawn	£0.00
New Balance	£3,001.07
BIC	NWBKGB2L
IBAN	GB54NWBK60210352438554

## Welcome to your NatWest Statement

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If you have changed your address or telephone number please let us know.

Date	Description	Paid In(£)	Withdrawn(£)	Balance(£)
03 APR 2026	BROUGHT FORWARD			173.57
20 APR	Automated Credit HMRC VTR XDV126000105904	60.50		234.07
23 APR	Automated Credit PAYMENTS BTREE DC	2,767.00		3,001.07

Account Name  
ALPHAMSTONE & LAMARSH PARISH  
COUNCIL

Account No 52438554 Sort Code 60-21-03 Page No 1 of 2



MR KEVIN MONEY  
7 ROACH VALE  
COLCHESTER  
CO4 3YN

### Current Account

Summary	
Statement Date	02 APR 2026
Period Covered	06 MAR 2026 to 02 APR 2026
Previous Balance	£450.33
Paid In	£750.00
Withdrawn	£1,026.76
New Balance	£173.57
BIC	NWBKGB2L
IBAN	GB54NWBK60210352438554

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If you have changed your address or telephone number please let us know.

Date	Description	Paid In(£)	Withdrawn(£)	Balance(£)
06 MAR 2026	BROUGHT FORWARD			450.33
31 MAR	OnLine Transaction From A/C 52648435 ALPH & LAM PC BR Via Mobile Xfer	250.00		700.33
	OnLine Transaction From A/C 52648435 ALPH & LAM PC BR Via Mobile Xfer	500.00		1,200.33
	OnLine Transaction Friends of L. Chur A&LPC DONATION VIA ONLINE - PYMT		200.00	1,000.33
	OnLine Transaction MRS J. PENFOLD STREET CLEANING VIA MOBILE - PYMT FP 31/03/26 10 35144322006780000N		360.00	640.33
	OnLine Transaction Kevin Money Clerk payment VIA MOBILE - PYMT FP 31/03/26 10 02143858393895000N		266.76	373.57
	OnLine Transaction The Friends of St. A&LPC Donation VIA MOBILE - PYMT FP 31/03/26 10 52144609316174000N		200.00	173.57

Account Name  
ALPHAMSTONE & LAMARSH PARISH  
COUNCIL

Account No 52648435 Sort Code 60-21-03 Page No 1 of 2



NatWest

MRS P POTTER  
7 ROACH VALE  
COLCHESTER  
CO4 3YN

Business Reserve Account

Summary	
Statement Date	02 APR 2026
Period Covered	06 JAN 2026 to 02 APR 2026
Previous Balance	£4,901.20
Paid In	£9.26
Withdrawn	£2,150.00
New Balance	£2,760.46
BIC	NWBKGB2L
IBAN	GB07NWBK60210352648435

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If you have changed your address or telephone number please let us know.  
Interest rate: 0.85% Gross / 0.85% AER

Date	Description	Paid In(£)	Withdrawn(£)	Balance(£)
06 JAN 2026	BROUGHT FORWARD			4,901.20
30 JAN	Interest 30JAN GRS 52648435	3.83		4,905.03
02 FEB	OnLine Transaction To A/C 52438554 ALPHAMSTONE/LAM PC Via Online Xfer INTERNAL TRANSFER		900.00	4,005.03
06 FEB	OnLine Transaction To A/C 52438554 ALPHAMSTONE/LAM PC Via Online Xfer TRANSFER OF MONEY		500.00	3,505.03
27 FEB	Interest 27FEB GRS 52648435	2.72		3,507.75
31 MAR	Interest 31MAR GRS 52648435	2.71		3,510.46
	OnLine Transaction To A/C 52438554 ALPHAMSTONE/LAM PC Via Mobile Xfer		250.00	3,260.46
	OnLine Transaction To A/C 52438554 ALPHAMSTONE/LAM PC Via Mobile Xfer		500.00	2,760.46

**A&LPC ACTUAL AGAINST BUDGET REPORT 2026-2027**

		<b>Agreed 2025/26</b>	<b>Total Income / spend to May '26</b>	<b>Left in Budget as at May '26</b>
<b>Income</b>	Precept	5301	£ 2,767.00	
	Other Income	0	£ -	
	Bank Interest	50	£ -	
	Street Cleaning Grant	618	£ -	
	VAT Refund	0	£ 60.50	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5969</b>	<b>£ 2,827.50</b>	
<b>Exp.</b>				
	Salary	3102	£ 533.52	£ 2,568.48
	Office expenses	100	£ 58.38	£ 41.62
	Audit Fees	130	£ 32.90	£ 97.10
	s137	150	£ -	£ 150.00
	Street Cleaning	720	£ -	£ 720.00
	Fees & Subscriptions	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Insurance	295	£ 376.25	-£ 81.25
	Alphamstone Village Hall	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Lamarsh Village Hall	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Alphamstone PCC	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Lamarsh PCC	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Training	20	£ -	£ 20.00
	Dedham Vale AONB	100	£ -	£ 100.00
	Election costs	0	£ -	£ -
	Projects / Repairs	100	£ -	£ 100.00
	Lottery/Defibs	252	£ -	£ 252.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5969</b>	<b>£ 1,001.05</b>	<b>£ 4,967.95</b>
	<b>VAT Reclaim</b>		<b>£ 11.68</b>	
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>£ 1,012.73</b>	

A&LPC FINANCE APRIL 2026 PAYMENTS						
Income: 1st. Instalment of Precept £2767.00p: VAT Refund £60.50p:						
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Chq No.	Inv No.	Payee	Cost	VAT	Total	A&LPC Ref. No.
BACS		Kevin B. Money - Clerk salary April '26	£ 266.76	£ -	£ 266.76	1
BACS		Kevin B. Money - Clerk salary May '26	£ 266.76	£ -	£ 266.76	2
BACS		Amazon - Office stationery	£ 102.96	£ -	£ 102.96	3
BACS	19317	EALC 2026-2027 subscription	£ 168.87	£ -	£ 168.87	4
BACS		Clear Councils - 2026-2027 Insurance	£ 376.25	£ -	£ 376.25	5
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>£1,181.60</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£1,181.60</b>	