

Alphamstone & Lamarsh Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Mark Brewer

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

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<https://wordpress.com/pages/alphamstoneandlamarshparishcouncil.wordpress.com>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10th. April 2025 at 7pm in Alphamstone Village Hall

Present: Cllr M. Brewer (Chair), Cllr S. Nichols, Cllr S. Willis, Cllr S. Pitman, BDC Cllr D. Holland and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

019/2025 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr P. Schwier and Cllr B. Twinn

020/2025 Declarations of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda Cllr S. Willis and Cllr S. Pitman declared an interest in item 025/2025

021/2025 Minutes

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th. February 2025 **All Agreed**

022/2025 Essex County Councillor Report. No report was given

023/2025 District Councillor Report

Devolution and local Government process is rolling on at pace. 5 Unitarities are being discussed with BDC, CCC, Tendring CC all joining 1 Unitary. The debt is being shared amongst those involved.

There will be a decline in District and County Councillors attending meetings. In May '26 an elected Mayor is expected with elections to the shadow Unitary authority taking place in 2027. Being in place by April '28. Urban and rural problems are vastly different. Rural areas will not be served adequately. Strong voices for rural areas are needed. Essex is covered by 86% of countryside. Consultation is open for the elected Mayor. Government is desperately getting to streamline the planning system. With the larger authorities how can it serve local residents.

024/2025 Public Forum A total of 15 minutes is allowed for all public participation.

No questions were asked

025/2025 National Grid – Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

An update has been received from National Grid that have fulfilled all their obligations. Landowners have been informed about National Grid vehicle movements. The project is running late with the date for completion now 2028 and not 2027. Re-wilding should take place ASAP.

026/2025 Lamarsh Village Hall – No update was given

027/2025 Alphamstone Village Hall - No update was given

028/2025 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

25/00284/VAR - Clovelly Henny Road Lamarsh

Variation of Condition 2 (Approved plans) of approved application 22/02627/HH granted 27.10.23 (Allowed at appeal) for: First floor extension, garage conversion, materials and fenestration changes, with double carport.

Variation would allow:- Lean-to added within sheltered area with relocated door and new window to side elevation. Balcony removed & glazing moved forward to front elevation with Juliet Balcony. Window reduced in height to rear elevation. New flue to rear elevation

A&LPC responded to this planning application on 14th. March 2025. Their comments can be found at

<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SRM5OWBFGDG00>

25/00342/ELD - Store at Kings Farm Bishops Lane Alphamstone Essex CO9 2NY

Application for an existing lawful development certificate - Use of site as Class B8 Storage & Distribution A&LPC responded to this planning application on 14th. March 2025. Their comments can be found at

<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SRZI93BFGJ200>

25/00499/HH - Clees Hall Goulds Road Alphamstone

Replacement of existing store and water treatment plant house with new oak framed cart lodge.

RESOLVED: No comment on this planning application

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25/00797/HH - Upper Green House Goulds Road Alphamstone

Proposed two storey rear extension & addition of door to ground floor side elevation.

RESOLVED:

030/2025 Decisions made by BDC affecting either Alphamstone or Lamarsh villages

No planning decisions have been made by BDC affecting either Alphamstone or Lamarsh villages

031/2025 Finance

1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. March 2025

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. March 2025

2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2024/25

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget 2024/25

3) To approve the payment of Accounts for March and April 2025 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements. **All Agreed**

032/2025 2024/2025 Annual Return

1) To Receive the Internal Auditors report for 2024/2025

Councillors noted the Internal Auditors report for 2024/2025

2) To receive and sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2024/2025 part 2

Cllr M. Brewer proposed accepting and signing the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2024/2025 part 2.

Cllr S. Willis seconded. **All Agreed**

The Chairman and Clerk then signed the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2024/25 part 2

3) To Receive and, if agreed, sign Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

Cllr M. Brewer proposed accepting and signing Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025. Cllr S. Pitman seconded. **All Agreed**

The Chair and Clerk then signed Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

4) To Receive and, if agreed, sign Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

Cllr M. Brewer proposed accepting and signing Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

Cllr S. Nichols seconded. **All Agreed**

The Chair and RFO then signed Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

033/2025 Update on drainage works to cure flooding in Alphamstone Road, Lamarsh, Lamarsh Road. Alphamstone and bottom of Dark Lane, Lamarsh

The section of Lamarsh Road, Alphamstone, has been re-tarmaced in the last few months. The jetting of Dark Lane did not happen as originally scheduled in week beginning 22 February, but instead took place in the week beginning 7th. April 2025.

034/2025 County Broadband – Update on Agreement - Wayleave across Village Green

No update has been received. The Clerk was asked to chase up the legal department dealing with this issue.

035/2025 Speed Limits on Road from Middleton Via Henny Street and Lamarsh to Bures Hamlet

Councillor D. Holland wrote to Highways Authority (HA) to undertake at least 3 speed surveys from Bures Hamlet to Middleton. HA said that having recently undertaken surveys at Bells Hill, which recorded average speeds of c.22mph, and one entering Bures' 30mph zone that they would not fund another survey (each speed survey costs about £350) as there were insufficient funds in the 2024/25 year to do so.

An email was sent to Cllr D. Holland regarding "Could an application please be sent to Local Highways Panel for a speed survey to be undertaken in the 2025-2026 funding round. The residents and Councillors of both villages would like to have the Speed Limit Proposal for Henny Road - Middleton to Bures Hamlet be undertaken and do not believe it is down to the Parish Council to fund this. What other options are open to Councillors and residents?"

036/2025 Items for next agenda Lay by at Bells Hill: Website update:

037/2025 Date of Next Meeting – Friday 30th. May 2025 at 6.30pm which is the Annual Parish

Assembly followed by the A&LPC AGM then onto a Council meeting at Lamarsh Village Hall

The Chair then closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signed

MBrewer

30th. May 2025

Cllr Mark Brewer - Chairman