

Minutes of the Meeting of the Great Waltham Parish Council held on Monday 20th January 2025 at The Pavilion, South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF at 7.00pm.

24/2075 Chair's Welcome:

Chair: Gilbert.

Cllrs: Martin, Stephenson, Steel, Bradley . McDevitt, Taylor, Jenkins, Micklem and Jackson.

24/2076 Apologies.

None required.

24/2077 Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to items on the agenda and any request for dispensation.

Cllr's Taylor and McDevitt – Parish News Item – Non-pecuniary.

24/2078 Public Participation session for any items regardless of its existence on the agenda.

Four members of the public.

1 member of the public to thank ECC Cllr Steel for his work to get Mill Lane at North End has been cleared and the flood issue seems to have been resolved. 73 Cubic Metres of tarmac required to fill the holes.

2 members of the Parish News editorial team to discuss the grant request 24 / 2089 and a member of the Community Network in support of the grant request.

- The Parish News is paid up to date – end of January 2025.
- £1000 from the Parish Council to cover March & April 2025.
- February will be paid for from the Community network paid a grant of £800 to clear the outstanding sums.
- Some advertising income received.
- The printer requires payment on order due to the previous outstanding invoice position.

Concerns on the forward-looking finances if no changes to previous actions . The advertising costs have been increased so that the 30 advertisers will cover the printing for the year. Invoices are issued in March 2025 for the year.

24/2079 Report by County Councillor – (Cllr Mike Steel).

The full report is online in the agenda section of the website.

- Devolution in Essex. Powers passing down from Westminster to Essex.
- Local Government reform. Essex , Southend, and Thurrock regions with 15 local authorities to be split across 4 unitary Councils with a Mayor for Essex.
- County Council elections will be postponed (From May 2025) for a year.
- Highway defects reporting – Single platform. Winter damage fund is supporting some additional repairs.
- South Street. Visibility splays have been improved opposite the school.
- Faded school signs still to be replaced.

24/2080 Report by Chelmsford City Councillor – (Cllr Mike Steel).

- Chelmsford City Council has a £4mil deficit.
- Brown bins scheme. Starts in April 2025. Bins must be licensed with a discount for a second bin.
- Opus retirement village for Little Waltham failed on the appeal.
- Chelmsford Local Plan will proceed.

The full report is online in the agenda section of the website.

24/2081 Confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 17th December 2024.

Resolution: The minutes were confirmed.

24/2082 Planning decisions by Chelmsford City Council.

Reference	Address	Status
24/01363/FUL	Garnetts Farm Mashbury Road Great Waltham Chelmsford Essex CM3 1EG	Application Permitted
24/01548/CUPAQ	Barn North Of Top Farm Black Chapel Lane Great Waltham Dunmow	Prior Approval Required - Approved
24/01554/FUL	Primrose Cottage Larks Lane Great Waltham Chelmsford Essex CM3 1DT	Application Permitted
24/01488/FUL	Fordhams Littlely Green Road Great Waltham Chelmsford Essex CM3 1BU	Application Permitted

24/2083 Local Planning.

1. Reference: 24/01602/OUT

Address: Lavender Farm Main Road Great Waltham Chelmsford

Description of works: Outline application for the erection of a shooting lodge. All matters reserved.

Resolution: The Parish Council supports the application as we support business initiatives.

24/2084 Finance Report.-(Clerk).

Accounts information taken on 14.01.2025 at 19.12.

Current Account: **£ 1,478.55 (0% interest)**

Reserve Account: **£69,973.36 (2.6% interest) Variable rate.**
Interest received (included above) £534.17.

Redwood Account **£17,000 (4.1% interest) Fixed rate.**
Interest accrued – Not Paid £154.68

Total £88,451.91.

Resolution: The accounts were noted.

24/2085 Confirmation of payments-(Clerk) :

Payee	Item	Budget heading	Payment
JCM	PUMP GREEN DITCH LINE	Grounds maintenance	£168.00
Handyman	Expenses	Expenses	£83.60
salaries	salaries	salaries	£1,180.07
unity trust bank	bank charges	bank charges	£6.00
Community Heartbeat Trust	Defib Pads and Battery		£189.00
Broomfield Parish Council	Pylon Consultants		£250.00
DM Payroll	1/2-year Payroll	salaries	£66.00
Great Waltham Village Hall	Annual Car parking Fee	VH Car Parking	£1,200.00
HMRC	PAYE	PAYE	£629.69
Essex Pension fund	Pensions	Pensions	£1,099.34
Clerk	Expenses	Expenses	£92.27
Cleaning Service	Pavilion	Pavilion expenses	£50.00
Cleaning Service	Toilet Roll	Pavilion expenses	£1.45
Three Mobile	Broadband	Pavilion expenses	£18.90

Total	£5,034.32
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Resolution: **The payments were approved.**

24/2086 Monthly Bank Reconciliations.

Resolution: **The bank reconciliation was approved.**

24/2087 Update on the Action Tracker (circulated with the agenda).
Several items were updated and closed as appropriate.

24/2088 Discuss the request for an additional Dog waste Bin at Howe Street.
The general waste bin on the side of the bus shelter is being used for dog waste.

Resolution: **Parish Council to place a notice on the waste bin that it's for use for litter only.**

24/2089 Discuss the request from the Great Waltham Parish News for financial support. –
See grant request submitted.

Immediate help was required by the Parish News, but the Parish Council cannot react immediately. The Community Network was able to step in with immediate support and provided a grant of £800. Advertising invoices were outstanding for the year and needed to be chased in. The Grant from the community network will cover February . Each edition is £400 per print. 11 issues per annum. Additional payments or articles require additional payments. Income was less than costs. Parish Council to support March and April 2025 editions and £200 towards new software. The Parish News is delivered to every household in the Parish by the distribution network of volunteers. As an example:

- Broomfield Times – run by Broomfield Parish Council and is issued 4 times a year.
- Pleshey News – Privately run and with a subscription – issued monthly.
- Writtle News – private.
- Roxwell recorded supported by PC and Church but is closing.
- Little Waltham – 4 times a year

The editorial team would prefer not to charge for the edition. If the format was changed it would make no difference to the printing cost.

New software is a one-off payment. Personal license per editor.

Resolution: **Give the £1000 grant now to support the Parish News.**

24/2090 To receive an update from members who attended the community consultation event organised on behalf of Dandara Eastern on 14/01/2025 at Ford End Village Hall regarding the possible development of land south of Ford End Primary School, and to agree the Council's immediate next steps, if any.

Several Parish Councillors attended the community event. The potential for an average speed camera or other recreational items in Ford End. The local plan has a provision for 20 houses. The developer would like to put additional houses on the site to increase the level of investment available in the Ford End community.

24/2091 Discuss and approve any items to release for publication.

- Precis of the minutes
- Vacancy on the Parish Council.
- Annual assembly.

Next Meetings:

2025

Monday 3rd February 2025 Recreation Committee at 7pm at the Pavilion.

Monday 17th February 2025 Monthly Meeting at Pavilion at 7pm.

Monday 24th February 2025 Highways & Transport Committee at 7pm at the Pavilion.

Tuesday 4th March 2025 Annual Assembly of the Parish 7pm at Ford End Village Hall.

Tuesday 18th March 2025 Monthly Meeting at FE VH at 7pm.

Monday 24th March 2025 Finance and General Purposes Committee at 7pm at the Pavilion.

Monday 7th April 2025 Recreation Committee at 7pm at the Pavilion.

Monday 21st April 2025 Bank Holiday.

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 Monthly Meeting at Pavilion at 7pm.

Monday 5th May 2025 Bank Holiday.

Tuesday 6th May 2025 Highways & Transport Committee at 7pm at the Pavilion.
Monday 19th May 2025 AGM & Monthly Meetings at Ford End VH at 7pm.
Monday 26th May 2025 Bank Holiday.

Meeting closed 21.15.
Will Adshead-Grant
Clerk to the Council.