

Little Totham Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 2nd September 2025

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 2nd September in the Evangelical Hall, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Chairman: N. Lawrence

Councillors: A. Birkin, T. Gritton, V. Hare, J. Hughes and J. King

Parishioners: 2

25.119 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Councillor Venton.

25.120 To invite Councillors to declare an interest in matters on the Agenda

Councillor King has an ongoing interest in the common land.

25.121 Minutes 05/08/25

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th August 2025 be approved and confirmed.

25.122 Common land

Following advice from Councillor Hughes, the Scheme of Management for the common has been sent to Emma Holmes, the Monitoring Officer and the legal team at MDC to ask about enactment of the agreement. The request has been acknowledged but no response received yet. It was agreed to contact Emma Holmes again before the October meeting for an update and to approach ECC legal team if MDC are unable to help.

25.123 a) Planning applications

25/00650/FUL PP-14144108 retrospective permission for the stationing of a mobile unit to be used as welfare and office unit at Willowbrook Farm, The Street – has been called in and will be decided at the next North Western area planning committee meeting.

b) Planning decisions

25/00212/FUL retention of stables and use of land for the grazing of horses at land north Of Oaktrees, The Street – approved.

25.124 Outdoor gym equipment project

The clerk attended a briefing session organised by MDC for the new 'Where Quality of Life Matters' grant which is now open for applications. The clerk will progress the application.

25.125 Connexin pole installation

No recent updates from Connexin and the pole near to the Swan is still to be installed.

25.126 Memorial tree and replacement tommies

Discussion ongoing with Bernie Appleton’s family about a memorial tree. Chairman Lawrence will contact Jeff Black who Councillor Hughes has already spoken with about the tommies. Councillor Birkin reported that she had cleaned the village sign and was thanked for her efforts. She also offered to coat the post with wood preservative and Councillor Hughes agreed to help.

25.127 Litter bin at the play area

Councillor Hare reported that the litter bin has been emptied by MDC.

25.128 Traffic

a) no tru cam report received since last meeting.
b) Councillor Birkin reported that she had carried out a further traffic survey outside her house on a Wednesday from 12noon-5pm and she tabled a summary of the data from both counts. Councillors were very surprised to see that the total number of vehicles through the village in a day was 1,512. The clerk will write to Clive Morley about the number and speed of Morley’s skip lorries quoting this data. The clerk will also contact Essex Highways regarding the status of Local Highways Panels and to invite an officer to a meeting in the village with a view to re-establishing community speedwatch and a traffic action group. It was acknowledged that the traffic data will be very useful and councillors appreciate the time that Councillor Birkin has spent on this project.

25.129 Invoices presented for payment

M. Gardiner	Clerk’s salary August	£221.70
LT Evangelical Church	Hire of hall	£20.00
The Play Inspection Co.	Annual inspection	£276.00
Petty cash		£50

25.129 Correspondence

The clerk has circulated all correspondence.

25.130 Update from District Councillor

There have been no District Council meetings over the summer period. Councillor Hughes spoke about the high number of objections which have been submitted to an outline application for 170 houses land east of Seagers in Great Totham.

25.131 Public questions

There were no public questions.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.43pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA – 7th October 2025