

Little Totham Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 4th November 2025

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 4th November in the Evangelical Hall, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Chairman: N. Lawrence

Councillors: A. Birkin, T. Gritton, V. Hare, J. Hughes and S. Venton
In attendance: Andrew Lipski from Gigaclear until 8.17pm, Parish Clerk

Parishioners: 4

25.146 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Councillor King.

25.147 To invite Councillors to declare an interest in matters on the Agenda
None declared.

25.148 Minutes 07/10/25

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th October 2025 be approved and confirmed.

25.149 Gigaclear – presentation from Andrew Lipski

Andrew explained what will be happening during the Gigaclear installation and confirmed that there will not be a service cabinet located in the village. The dates of the road closures are not yet known but will be published and further information events will be held as the process moves forward. He answered questions from parish councillors and residents in attendance and can be contacted by email Andrew.Lipski@gigaclear.com with any further queries.

25.150 Common land

Registration of the common is still progressing. The clerk has sent scheme of management to ECC for advice but Chairman Lawrence wants to pursue with MDC as well.

The clerk has paper copies of the commoners with grazing rights, but very few other documents relating to the common.

RESOLVED all to check for paperwork relating to the common to gather documents together in one file.

25.151 a) Planning applications

No planning applications.

b) Planning decisions

No planning decisions from MDC.

25.152 Outdoor gym equipment project

The application to 'Where Quality of Life Matters' grant has been submitted.

25.153 Remembrance Service and replacement tommies

District Councillor Siddall to lead the Remembrance Service on Sunday.
Jeff Black has confirmed he can make three new tommies in 3mm steel for £220+VAT as a special rate.
This will be acknowledged in the village newsletter to help promote his business.
RESOLVED all agreed to Jeff Black’s quote and Chairman Lawrence will liaise with him.

25.154 Traffic

a) The tru cam report for October had not yet been issued.
b) A successful traffic meeting had been held before the parish council meeting with 13 parishioners and parish councillors in attendance. The discussion had been positive and some suggestions had been put forward. Chairman Lawrence will source costs for the speed signs he had previously looked at.
RESOLVED Councillor Birkin will produce the list of suggestions and work with the clerk to take forward.

25.155 Parish Council laptop quote

The clerk had got a quote from ‘The Computer Guys’ based in Tiptree for an Asus Vivobook Ryzen 3 for £380 to include transfer of files. Two other comparative quotes will be obtained.

25.156 Invoices presented for payment

M. Gardiner	Clerk’s salary September	£196.34
HMRC	Tax	£104.40
MDC	Tru cam patrols Jul-Sep	£331.33
LT Evangelical Church	Hire of hall	£20.00

25.157 Correspondence

The clerk had contacted Essex Highways enforcement to inform them that Councillor Birkin has cut back the vegetation obscuring the road sign. They have acknowledged and will inspect the site in due course.
Thank you to Councillor Birkin for doing this.
The clerk is unavailable for the MDC parish council forum on 6th November so Chairman Lawrence and Councillor Birkin offered to attend as planning enforcement officers will be there.
All other correspondence has been circulated to councillors.

25.158 Update from District Councillor

No report.

25.159 Public questions

The clerk will ask Gigaclear if they will fund a cut Christmas tree for the village this year as the planted tree did not survive the summer dry period.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.51pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA – 2nd December 2025
Dates for 2026 meetings