

# Little Totham Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January in the Evangelical Hall, at 7.30pm

### PRESENT

Chairman: N. Lawrence

Councillors: T. Gritton, V. Hare, and J. Hughes  
In attendance: Parish Clerk

Parishioners: 3

**26.01 Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Councillors Birkin, King and Venton.

#### **26.02 To invite Councillors to declare an interest in matters on the Agenda**

Councillor Lawrence declared an interest in planning application 25/01060/OUTM as a nearby resident to the proposed development.

#### **26.03 Minutes 02/12/25**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 be approved and confirmed.

#### **26.04 Planning**

##### **a) Applications**

25/01060/OUTM outline application for the erection of up to 14 dwellings (C3 land use) with associated parking, access and landscaping at land adjacent Davenbrook, Plains Road – councillors discussed their objections to this proposed development and two local residents voiced their concerns. The clerk will draft the parish council's response and circulate to all councillors for comments or additions.

##### **b) Decisions**

25/00836/PACUCD change of use of a commercial (Class E) to dwelling (Class C3) Cherith, The Street – approved.

*Two members of the public left the meetings.*

#### **26.05 Budget and precept 2026/27**

The clerk had circulated recent precept amounts and finance information. It was acknowledged that the costs of taking on the common were unknown at this time but could increase 2026/27 expenditure and the precept request should be increased. Councillor Hare proposed a 5% increase on £9,508 to request £9,983, seconded by Councillor Gritton and all agreed.

#### **26.06 Common land**

Councillor Lawrence reported that Mr Mabbitt is now officially registered with the Land Registry as the owner of the common. Costs incurred for this stage of the process will be shared 50% between the parish council and Mr Mabbitt. The clerk has subscribed the parish council to the Open Spaces Society membership scheme.

**26.07 Traffic**

- a) There were 3 Tru cam captures for speeding in November.
- b) The clerk has re-registered the parish for Community Speedwatch scheme contacted Gt Totham clerk to ask about the shared portable Speed Indicator Device that councillor can remember having use of.

**26.08 Where Quality of Life Matters grant application**

The clerk reported that the outdoor gym equipment project has met the criteria for this grant scheme but MDC needs some more information and will be in contact.

**26.09 Invoices presented for payment**

M. Gardiner	Clerk’s salary December	£196.34
M. Gardiner	Open Spaces Society fee	£45
HMRC	Tax	£49.20
Steve Venton	Christmas tree and lights	£106.99
EALC	Commons training course	£192.00
LT Evangelical Church	Hire of hall	£20.00

**26.10 Correspondence**

All correspondence had been circulated to councillors.

**26.11 Update from District Councillor**

Councillor Hughes reported on a District Planning Committee meeting in December at which the proposed development near the cemetery in Maldon had been discussed. This meeting was adjourned and the development is due to be discussed again at the January meeting of the District Planning Committee.

**26.12 Public questions**

Reminder to local residents to park considerately to be included in the newsletter update.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.32pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026