

# Little Totham Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April in the Evangelical Hall, at 7.30pm

### PRESENT

Chairman: N. Lawrence

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

Parishioners: 5

**26.38 Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Cllr Venton.

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

Cllr King has an ongoing interest in the common land.

### **26.40 Minutes 03/03/26**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 be approved and confirmed.

### **26.41 Traffic issues**

Since Cllr Durham's attendance at the last meeting, the unsafe barrier has been repaired and it has been confirmed that the existing pole can be re-used for a speed camera. Cllr Lawrence will circulate the information about the ElanCity device.

Still waiting to hear from the Community Speedwatch trainer about dates for training. Angela Fuller had not been able to sign up for online CSW training, so the clerk had been in contact with Janet Willey the Essex Co-ordinator to remind her that we would like to set a date and inform her that the equipment is now with the clerk.

There were 0 captures in February and 3 in March from the Tru Cam patrols. The number of Tru Cam hours will increase to 4 per month during April.

**RESOLVED** Cllr Birkin to include Tru Cam results in the newsletter and update about traffic issues.

### **26.42 Common land**

First stage invoice from Dyer and Crowe has been received and confirmation that the land is registered to Mr Mabbitt. The process of transferring the land to the parish council will start later in April.

Cllr Birkin had recently notice a wet area and sewage odour when walking on the common, she will check again and send the location to the clerk so that it can be reported to appropriate authority.

**RESOLVED** Cllr Birkin to confirm location and inform clerk.

### **26.43 Planning enforcement**

MDC enforcement team had responded with an update on the open cases.

**RESOLVED** the clerk will update the document with MDC comments and circulate to all.

#### **26.44 Planning**

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

**26/00224/PIP** Permission in principle application for the construction of up to two residential dwellings with access being taken from The Street at Land Rear Of Rosedale, The Street – Councillors do not support this application. District Cllr Siddall has prepared a comprehensive response to this application and the clerk will ask him for a copy so that the parish council's objection can be based on his.

**26/00245/WTPO** Proposal: (TPO 20/03) T5 Oak - Removal of one branch near overhead electricity and telephone cables and in close proximity to No. 7 The Green – no comments.

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

No decision received.

#### **26.45 Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agreed that the meeting would be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm and include an update on the traffic issues and a report from District Cllr Siddall if he is available.

**RESOLVED** the clerk will draft an agenda and ask Cllr Siddall if he can attend.

#### **26.46 Clerk's report**

The clerk had produced a report of extra information and evidence of need for the outdoor gym equipment and submitted to MDC for the Where Quality of Life Matters grant. She is currently preparing the end of year accounts for audit and asked for ideas of people to approach for the internal audit as Rowena Collins may still be unwell. Bob Fuller offered to undertake the internal audit and councillors gratefully agreed.

The government has decided to proceed with the five unitary authority option for Essex and EALC will be offering briefings to parish councillors about this in due course. There is an event on 6<sup>th</sup> May at Hatfield Peverel Village Hall for parish councils to help understand their duty to enhance biodiversity. It was discussed that the efforts of the volunteer litter pickers should be acknowledged again.

**RESOLVED** the clerk to circulate details of 6<sup>th</sup> May event and look into volunteer recognition for the litter pickers.

#### **26.47 Invoices presented for payment**

M. Gardiner	Clerk's salary March	£196.34
HMRC	Tax	£49.20
EALC	Membership fee 2026/27	£159.57
Dyer and Crowe	Services for registration of common	£672.00
LT Evangelical Church	Hire of hall	£20.00

#### **26.48 Correspondence**

David Brewer informed councillors that there will be a funeral service at the Evangelical Church on 1<sup>st</sup> May at 11.30am where high numbers of attendees are expected and asked for Maldon orchestra to hold a performance on the common on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm. Some properties in the parish are now fibre

ready and Gigaclear will be holding another drop-in information event in the Swan on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. All other correspondence had been circulated.

**26.49 Update from District Councillor**

Cllr Hughes reported that the five unitary authority outcome was the option that MDC supported.

**26.50 Public questions**

It was noted that new yellow planning notices have appeared and will be checked.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.46pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Annual meeting of the parish council and May monthly meeting