

# MOUNT BURES PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk Kevin B. Money  
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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>. January 2026 at 7.30pm in Mount Bures Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs I. Woodman (Chair), F. Willett (Vice-Chair), H. Bufton, M. Graham and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There was 1 member of the public present.

**001/2026 Apologies for Absence** were received from CCC Cllr W. Sunnucks

**002/2026 Declaration of Members interests**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda  
**None Declared**

**003/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meetings of Mount Bures Parish Council**

To receive and agree the minutes of the last MBPC meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup>. November 2025 **All Agreed**

**004/2026 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)** No questions were asked

**005/2026 Visitors Report**

- a) Crossing cottage. Cllr W. Sunnucks had kindly asked one of the Chappel & Wakes Colne Station adopters if they could use their contacts within Network Rail to get some action taken over the dilapidated state of this building. The response from Network Rail is below:

We are aware of the issues with the property and Arch Co has committed to progressing works including the replacement of the dilapidated roof.

Due to the proximity to overhead line equipment, we will deliver the works on behalf of Arch Co. This is a priority project for Arch Co although I can't yet confirm when works will start. We are currently working through the approvals process and as soon as I have a date and programme of works, I'd be happy to update you.

Cllr W. Sunnucks local plan report was circulated to Councillors. This highlighted how infrastructure to support develop was still a problem in the area. Mount Bures Councillors agreed there was no need with the Parish to comment to the CCC local plan.

**006/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response**

**252604** - Bluebell Farm Peartree Hill Mount Bures CO8 5BA

3no. agricultural buildings for the keeping of livestock and storage of agricultural equipment and produce

**RESOLVED:** Mount Bures Parish Council has no comment to make on this application

**007/2026 Planning Decision/s made by CCC affecting Mount Bures**

No planning decisions have been made by CCC affecting Mount Bures

**008/2026 Bures Hamlet Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan Reviews**

It is expected that the Braintree local plan consultation would be issued early in the New Year (February '26). There up been no further developments on the Bures Neighbourhood Plan on which the Council commented in November.

**009/2026 Finance**

- a) To receive the Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup>. December 2025

Councillors noted the Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup>. December 2025

- b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget for 2025/26

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget for 2025/26

- c) To approve payments for December '25 and January '26 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the

Parish Council financial requirements **All Agreed**

**010/2026 2026-2027 Budget –** Councillors to finalise the draft 2026-2027 budget

Cllr M. Graham proposed a 2026-2027 expenditure of £4461. Resulting in a Precept demand from CCC of £3684. Using CCC Tax Base figure of 114.12 resulted in a Band D property cost of £32.28p. An increase of 79p pa or 2.52%. Cllr F. Willett seconded. **All Agreed**

**011/2026 Information Exchange**

- a) There had been complaints about vehicles using the old ammunition tracks at the top of Craigs Lane which are bridleways not byways. These tracks lie in Bures Hamlet but are used by Mount Bures locals. It was understood that local residents had complained to Bures Hamlet Parish Council. Councillors noted this complaint
- b) The car park behind the village hall. The Council had budgeted for an annual payment of £50 for the use of this land as a village car park, the cost to be partially offset by a contribution from the Village Hall.
- c) The Council thanked Mr Gould for providing the electricity for the Christmas decorations.
- d) Cllr I. Woodman had attended a training course on "Open spaces" organised by EALC and delivered by the Open Spaces Society which provides advice on managing Local Green Space. Councillors agreed that the Council should take up membership at a cost of £45 p.a.

**012/2026 Items for next agenda**

Footpath maintenance officer.

**013/2026 To confirm date and time of next meeting. Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>. March 2026 at 7.30pm**

**014/2026 2026 meeting dates: 12.05.26: 14.07.26: 08.09.26: 10.11.26**

**015/2026 Closure of the meeting**

To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.25pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

*I Woodman*  
**Ian Woodman**  
 Chair

10<sup>th</sup>. March 2026