

MOUNT BURES PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk Kevin B. Money
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Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 9th. September 2025 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 were 3 members of the public was present.

072/2025 Apologies for Absence were received from CCC Cllr W. Sunnucks

073/2025 Declaration of Members interests

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda Cllr H. Bufton and Cllr M. Graham declared an interest in item 078/2025 (251786)

074/2025 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 8th. July 2025 **All Agreed**

075/2025 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)

- Defibrillator – The defibrillator is in place and available for use. The Village Hall are arranging for their electrician to connect the cabinet heater. In discussion on whether the defibrillator should be locked it was noted that the British Heart Foundation advised that overall very few cases are recorded of defibrillators being stolen or vandalized and that the Council's insurers had agreed that it would be covered by the Council's existing insurance. Council members and the members of the public present agreed that in these circumstances it should be left unlocked for speedy access in an emergency.
- Training for defibrillator – The BHF provided good quality on line training on using a defibrillator which can be used by anyone at home. Details of this will be promulgated on the Council website, the notice board and the Mount Bures What's App Group. The BHF also provide materials for group training sessions and the Council will investigate arranging a group session in the Village Hall.
- Land behind village hall. It had been determined that this land had been leased by CCC to the Parish Council for car parking in 1995 for £1 a year. No rent ever appeared to have been paid and the lease had lapsed. CCC was proposing to reactivate the lease at the cost of £50 p.a. The Parish Council would also be responsible for maintaining the site. The site is currently used by some village residents for car parking and, on occasion, by village hall users. A charge had sometimes been levied for parking on the site. The Village Hall Committee and some current users had indicated that they would be prepared to make a contribution towards any rent to retain parking rights for the future. Cllr I. Woodman proposed opening discussions with CCC over the level of the proposed rent given that CCC seem to have no use for the land and the Parish Council would be assuming maintenance responsibilities. Cllr M. Graham seconded. **All Agreed**

Harvest supper is on Saturday 20th. September

£2000 has been received for the village hall from CCC s106 from local developments.

076/2025 Training - All training courses have been circulated to Councillors

077/2025 Visitors Report – A written report was given prior to the meeting covering progress on the CCC local plan.

078/2025 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

251746 - Burnt House Jankes Green Road Wakes Colne Colchester CO6 2AT

Proposed conversion of agricultural building to 1 x 4 bedroom dwelling.

RESOLVED: In the light of the permitted development rights that exist for this site, Mount Bures Parish Council has no comments to make on this application except that given the proximity of the neighbouring observatory and the dark skies in this area that no external lighting should be placed on the building and that the developer should be encouraged to include measures to mitigate light pollution from windows and other sources.

251786 - Orchard Lodge Dowling Road Mount Bures CO8 5AY

Application for a lawful development certificate to regularise the use of a former agricultural barn and adjacent land as storage associated with a tree surgery business.

RESOLVED: Mount Bures Parish Council has no information relevant to this application.

For information only**251634** - Greenacres Packards Lane Wormingford Colchester CO6 3AH

Change of use of land from part agriculture to employment to provide a mix of agriculture buildings, office; storage, manufacturing or industrial uses; and construction of a Business Support Centre providing research and development space for agricultural use

RESOLVED: Although this application lies outside the Parish, Mount Bures Parish Council should object to the scale of the proposed development given the adverse impact it would have on the predominantly rural nature of the local countryside and the increase in traffic on local roads.

079/2025 Planning Decision/s made by CCC affecting Mount Bures

No planning decisions have been made by CCC affecting Mount Bures.

080/2025 Local Plan Reviews - This item covered under item 077/2025.**081/2025 Defibrillator pledges** – update Cllr I. Woodman and the Clerk.

The Clerk informed the meeting that £750 has been received in resident donations.

082/2025 Finance

a) To receive the Bank balances as at 31st. August 2025.

Councillors noted the Bank balances as at 31st. August 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 August & September '25 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements **All Agreed**

083/2025 2026-2027 Budget – Councillors to submit proposals for the draft 2026-2027 budget

Councillors were asked to consider projects, with costings, for 2026-2027 financial year. It was noted that the budget would need to cover future footpath cutting costs following the retirement of the Council's volunteer Footpath Officer, Mr. Ian Andrewartha. The Parish Council thanked Mr Andrewartha for his work in keeping local footpaths clear over many years.

084/2025 Information Exchange**085/2025 Items for next agenda****086/2025 To confirm date and time of next meeting. Tuesday 11th. November 2025 at 7.30pm****087/2025 Closure of the meeting**

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

The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

I Woodman
Ian Woodman
 Chair

11th. November 2025