

Pentlow Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th. April 2026 at 7.55pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs T. Bartlett, D. Wright, I. Bower and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk).

There were also 3 members of the public present.

018/2026 Apologies for Absence were received from BDC Cllr I. Parker, Cllrs M. Stuchfield and R. Smith

019/2026 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda Cllr I. Bower declared an interest in the PCC

019/2026 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Pentlow Parish Council

To receive and agree the minutes of the last PPC meeting held on 14th. January 2026 **All Agreed**

020/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

No planning applications received

021/2026 Finance

a) The Clerk advised the Bank balances as at 31st. March 2026 which were noted by Councillors

b) Comparison provided of Actual against Budget 2025/2026 & 2026/2027

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget 2025/2026 & 2026/2027

c) Councillors agreed the April '26 finances and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial obligations as with prior agreement of Councillors. **All Agreed**

022/2026 Village Hall Lease - Cllr T. Bartlett

This has been completed. The Chair will hold the original lease and the Clerk will maintain an electronic copy.

023/2026 VHMC accounts – Internal auditor cost £135

Cllr D. Wright proposed accepting that Ann Wood undertakes the VHMC accounts at £135. Cllr I. Bower seconded. **All Agreed**

024/2026 Membership resilience – Cllr T. Bartlett

Cllr D. Wright spoke about how Pentlow Parish Council can promote residents coming on as Councillors. With the Council being short of Councillors it is imperative to get new faces onto the Council.

A suggestion was made that perhaps a member from the VH committee could be persuaded to be coopted onto the Council.

025/2026 Volunteering – Cllr T. Bartlett

More volunteers are required for the Speedwatch team and litter picking. Cllr. D. Wright advised he would be prepared to support Speedwatch. (Cllr. T. Bartlett to find out when next online training for new volunteers will be held).

026/2026 Bulk Refuse collections – Cllr T. Bartlett

These collections are very popular. It was resolved that the next bulk refuse collection will be on Saturday 10th. October 2026 10am – 12noon at the village hall (subject to BDC confirming this date)

027/2026 Solar Farm – Cllr T. Bartlett

The plants around the solar farm have been pruned to allow further and stronger growth. This seems strange as they have only been planted for just over a year. The mounds at the solar farm have now been removed.

028/2026 Parish Sign – Cllr T. Bartlett

No update available on the sign. If a sign is designed and produced, the location needs to be carefully thought about?

029/2026 Councillors, Clerk and website new .gov.uk addresses – Councillors to discuss changing to .gov.uk

The Clerk informed the meeting that changing emails and website to a .gov.uk domain name is now mandatory.

The Clerk circulated an estimate of £267.00p +VAT totaling £320.40p. Cllr T. Bartlett proposed accepting and to go ahead. Cllr D. Wright seconded. **All Agreed**

030/2026 Public Participation Session

The Chairman invited questions and observations from members of the public present.

Question raised concerning the Village Hall work being undertaken. The critical repairs around the chimney have been completed but there is further work that needs undertaking before the scaffolding is removed. The VHMC Maintenance Officer is having difficulties getting the contractor back to agree a price for additional work.

031/2026 Items for Next Agenda

Solar farm can now be removed.

Extending Village Speed limit and the Essex Highways Public Consultation on new speed limits.

032/2026 Date of Next Full Council meeting – 13th. May 2026 at 7.30pm

033/2026 2026 meeting dates: - 9th. September 2026: 11th. November 2026

034/2026 Closure of the Meeting

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

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

Signed

T Bartlett

T. Bartlett - Chair

13th. May 2026