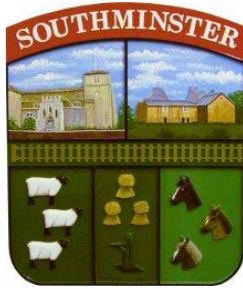


Signed by Cllr Harrold Chair
20th January 2025



SOUTHMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes

The Meeting of Southminster Parish Council

**16th December 2024 at 19.00, held at Community Hall 2, King George V Playing Field,
Station Road Southminster Essex.**

Present: Cllr Harrold, Cllr Mische, Cllr Fluker, Cllr McKee, Cllr Pratt,
Cllr Wyn-Davies and Cllr Wilcox.

In Attendance: J Jeffery (Parish Clerk/RFO) and 2 members of the public.

24/272 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Cleary.

**24/273 To receive and approve Minutes of the Parish Meeting held 21st October
2024 and 16th November 2024.**

21st October 2024 Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Wilcox

18th November 2024 Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

**RESOLVED: The minutes of meetings held 21st October 2024 and 18th November 2024
were duly signed by Cllr Harrold, Chair.**

24/274 To receive and note any declarations of interest:

To disclose the existence and any nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary
Interests. Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests relating to
items of business on the agenda having regard to paragraph 9 and Appendix B
of the Code of Conduct for Members.

(Members are reminded that they are also required to disclose any such
interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the
meeting.)

24/290 Cllr Mische – Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – Family member attends the preschool.

**24/275 Public Session – Opportunity for Members of the Public to
speak regarding items on the agenda only**

Restricted to 15 minutes across both public sessions.

24/276 Land Adjacent to 55 Kings Road, a resident commented that the proposed garages will
take additional car parking spaces.

24/276 Planning

Week ending: 22nd November 2024

WTPO/MAL/24/00751

(TPO 08/20) T1 – Ash Tree – Crown reduction by 2m and lateral reduction by
1.5m

The Cottage 25 Burnham Road Southminster Essex

Southminster Parish Council SUPPORT the Tree Officers recommendation.

J Jeffery

16-12-2024

Week ending: 29th November 2024

24/00921/LDE PP-13593232

Claim for a lawful development certificate for existing shipping containers which have existed for over 17 years.

Land Adjacent Theedhams Farm Steeple Road Southminster Essex

Southminster Parish Council SUPPORT this planning application.

24/00885/VAR PP-13564377

Variation of condition 2 on approved planning permission 23/01187/FUL

(Erection of 8 dwellings). Variation would include additional garages to plots 2,3 and 8.

Land Adjacent to 55 Kings Road Southminster Essex

Southminster Parish Council recommend the REFUSAL of planning permission. The site is so condensed, more buildings will make the site look over developed. It is an incongruous form of development, Policy D1.

Week ending 6th December 2024

FULM/MAL/24/00901 PP-13411051

Construction and operation of a solar farm and battery energy storage system (with a power generation capacity up to 25.5MW), together with all associated works, equipment, necessary infrastructure and landscaping.

Solar Farm At 596892 196989 Marsh Road Burnham-On-Crouch Essex

Southminster Parish Council SUPPORT this planning application.

Week ending: 13th December 2024

24/00940/HOUSE PP-13610176

Retrospective application for a two storey rear extension and single storey side extension and garage conversion. Addition of rooflights. Fenestration alterations and change to external finishes.

Cattolica 23 Burnham Road Southminster Essex

Southminster Parish Council recommend the REFUSAL of planning permission. Single storey – Materials used are not in keeping with the street scene.

Garage conversion results in a loss of a parking space, does not accord with SPD.

Roof Lights are not in keeping.

Previous highways condition, one way carriage way driveway with a flap system has not been adhered too, the system has been removed.

Planning

Decision

Week ending: 29th November 2024

HOUSE/MAL/24/00778

Proposed single storey side and rear extension. Addition of rooflights.

57 Cherry Orchard Southminster Essex CM0 7HE

APPROVE

Appeals Advised

Site Address: Land North of Homefield Southminster Essex

Proposal: Outline application for a residential development of up to 220 dwellings and associated infrastructure, public open space and highways access.

Application Ref: 23/01244/OUTM PP-12612236

Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/24/3351697

Appeal Start Date: 29 November 2024

Appeal Decisions

23/01190/HOUSE

Appeal Reference: APP/X1545/D/24/3342442

Proposal: Single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension and alterations to fenestration.

Address: 7 Cripplegate, Southminster

APPEAL DISMISSED

24/277

Finance Matters: -

- a: To receive and approve payment and receipts reports for December 2024. Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Harrold.
- b: To approve payments and to sign cheques. Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Pratt.
- c: To receive and approve the budget status for December 2024. Proposed by Cllr Pratt, seconded by Cllr Fluker.
- d: To receive and approve the Bank Reconciliation Statement to 30th November 2024. Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Harrold.

24/278

Budget/Precept 2025/2026

To review budget

To discuss and agree precept for 2025-2026.

Following the budget/precept meeting held on 30th October 2024, Cllr Fluker proposed an increase of 5% to the Parish Precept for the Municipal year 2025/2026. The precept for 2025/2026 will be £162843.00, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

The Clerk gave the following breakdown, 162843.00 divided by Council Tax Base 1657.2 + £98.26 for a Band D equivalent property compared to 2024/2025 155089.00 divided by 1633.3 + £94.95.

Yearly increase 2025/2026 £3.31, weekly increase 6 pence.

RESOLVED: Precept for 2025/2026 to be set at £162843.00, an increase of 5%.

24/279

Highways

To receive an update.

Repairs to Southfield Way have been scheduled.

24/280

Clerks Update

Rough Sleeper count 13/11/2024 submitted to Maldon District Council – No known rough sleepers in the Parish.

19th November 2024, Vehicles parked again on Burnham Road, Reported.

Parish street lights, Princes Avenue 9072 and 9073 have been reported for repair.

Locality Fund Grant of £574.91 has been received for the Health and Wellness event.

Signed by Cllr Harrold Chair
20th January 2025

Cllr Fluker asked for an update of the tender process for works to Community Hall 2, The Clerk informed that six construction companies had been sent the schedule of works, two companies would be meeting the Parish Warden on Tuesday 17th December to view the works. The Preschool is currently on Half Term break so there will be no disruption.

A discussion was held regarding co-option, it was agreed to add this to the next agenda.

24/281 Dist Cllr's Report

Dist Cllr Pratt informed that Vicarage Court planning application heard at South East Area Planning Committee has been refused.

Maldon District Council Audits for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 have now been signed off, there were no known material issues.

Maldon District Council will be offering free car parking in Maldon Car Parks on 21st December and Christmas Eve.

Central Government have advised an additional £327,000 government grant will be given to the Shared Prosperity Fund.

Christmas Waste days are as follows: Thursday 26th November will be Saturday 28th November Thursday 2nd January will be Friday 3rd January.

Report from Maldon District Councillor Adrian S Fluker **Devolution**

Maldon District Council is unlikely to exist in its current form from May 2026. More powers and obligation are likely to revert to Parish and Town Councils who may be required to merge. Essex County Council is promoting a greater Essex proposal whereby all the functions of District and Unitary Councils will be performed by one central authority.

Medium Term Financial Strategy

Shortfalls of £1m are likely in the administrative periods of 24/25 and 25/26

Development Plan

No policies have been presented to Council it has been reported that the budget has been exceeded. The new NPPF proposes an additional 3,000 or circa 280 additional house per annum in the District. Which means the Council no longer has a 5 Year Housing Land Supply and therefore all policies will have to be revisited. Devolution will see all planning matters dealt with by the new combined authority against a backdrop of special planning.

St Peters Hospital

The new Mid Essex PHC Trust CEO is reviewing the public consultation and the outcome of their proposals going forward have been delayed until the New Year

Leisure Contract

Places for Peoples Leisure the current provider has been given a 20 year contract to deliver the service which covers the Blackwater Leisure Centre, Dengie Hundred Sports Centre and the Promenade Park Splash Park. The contract involves the Council making a multi-million pound investment in the leisure centres

Promenade Park Survey Closes 2nd January

Details of the public consultation are on the MDC website

Signed by Cllr Harrold Chair
20th January 2025

Vicarage Court

The SEAP Committee refused the application contrary to the officers' recommendation to approve it at its meeting on 13th November. The decision was ratified at the meeting of the Committee on the 11th December.

Festive Free Parking MDC Car Parks

From 2pm on Thursday 19th December and all-day Christmas Eve.

Burnham Town Council

Following the resignation of several elected members of Burnham on Crouch Town Council an election has been called. It is understood that the cost of holding the election is in excess of £15,000. The costs will be met by the Town Council from the public purse.

Winter Community Services & Information

Available from the Councils Web Site

Christmas Waste Collection for Southminster

Usual Date Revised Date

Thursday 26th Saturday 28th

Thursday 31 No Change

Thursday 2nd Friday 3rd

Car Parking Charges in Burnham (Including the surgery car park)

I spoke against the proposal at the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting and the proposal was not agreed

Corporate Plan

Has been updated and agreed for 25/26

Fees and Charges

Council agreed the new schedule of fees and charges which included some huge increases to some burial associated charges, memorial plaques and parking charges. I voted against proposal

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

MDC has been awarded £328,000. Combat Academy for Sports has received grant funding circa £32k for the repairs, renovations and new all-weather surface in the MUGA

24/282 Gov.uk Domain

To discuss the provision of .gov.uk domain and website upgrade.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary

Cllr Fluker asked for the item to be deferred to allow for costings to be brought back to Council, costings to include purchase of 10 x laptops complete with software. Insurance and support contract. Cllr Wilcox to obtain costings for a new stand alone website.

24/283 Events Committee

To adopt minutes of meetings held 16th October 2024.

To agree and pass any resolution as necessary.

Signed by Cllr Harrold Chair
20th January 2025

Cllr Wyn-Davies proposed the adoption of the Events Committee meeting minutes held 16th October 2024, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

Cllr Fluker proposed a vote of Thanks to Cllr Wyn-Davies, Cllr Harrold and the Christmas lights sponsors, The Kings Head, White Horse Hotel, BSP Plumbing Services, MS Joinery, Dengie Crops, David Wilson Homes, Headline News, GB Finch, Scott Parsons Landscaping, Nisa, SK Maddison, DJ Fisher Farms, Fisk Group Hire, Advanced Tans and Wibblers Brewery.

Cllr Mische gave Thanks to Cllr Harrold for the Fireworks Event.

Cllr Pratt suggested that Southminster Parish Council could work with other parishes for the new Christmas Lights Contract in an attempt to reduce costs.

24/284 Community Hall 1 lessons learnt and cost recovery

Cllr Fluker

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Chair and Clerk to map out the sequence of events and bring to next meeting.

24/285 Southminster Flower Show 2025

A request has been made for the use of King George V Memorial Field on Saturday 19th July 2025. Request for use of toilets from the Community Buildings.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Cllr Harrold proposed the use of King George V Memorial Field by Southminster Flower Show on Saturday 19th July 2025, Use of toilets will need to be discussed directly with the Tenants, seconded by Cllr Mische.

RESOLVED: Southminster Flower Show can use King George V Memorial Field on Saturday 19th July 2025.

24/286 Public Session– opportunity for members of public to speak on items of mutual interest:

A resident asked when Allotment lights will be installed. A discussion took place regarding UK power networks and BT not allowing any lamps to be sited on their poles.

New Health Centre, Cllr Fluker informed that it is online to progress.

War Memorial, a resident asked if an application could be made to the shared prosperity fund, the Clerk informed that an application had been made previously to War Memorials Trust, however it was refused as grant funding was not available for aesthetic works.

Shared prosperity Fund, Members agreed that new public toilets at the King George V Memorial Field would be a good project for an application. Cllr Mische will gather costings ahead of any application.

Cllr Harrold gave thanks to all Staff for their hard work during 2024.

24/287 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 20th January 2025.

24/288 Exclusion of Press and Public:

To determine a proposal that the press and public should now be excluded from the meeting in accordance with The Local Government Act 1972, ss100.

Proposed by Cllr Pratt, seconded by Cllr McKee.

RESOLVED: Press and public should now be excluded from the meeting in accordance with The Local Government Act 1972, ss100.

Signed by Cllr Harrold Chair
20th January 2025

24/289 Renewal of agreement/Review of Charges - Car Park building – All Raw

Cllr Fluker to update.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Cllr Fluker to draft the new document.

**24/290 Renewal of agreement/Review of Charges – Community Hall 2 –
Southminster Preschool.**

Cllr Fluker to update.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary

Cllr Fluker reported that all terms had been agreed.

24/291 Close of business.

Meeting closed at 8.53pm.