

# Steeple Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 08<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm in Steeple Village Hall

Present: Cllrs J. Partridge (Chair), C. Poulter, R Wilson  
Joanna Jeffery Locum Parish Clerk and 8 Members of the Public.

If members of the press or public are present

Does any member of the public or press wish to film or otherwise record the meeting? You are reminded that:-

- Members of the public or officers present at a meeting may not be filmed without their consent
- Any persons under the age of 18 may not be filmed regardless
- Any recording must be done in a way that does not disrupt the meeting
- No oral commentary is permitted during the meeting and
- No recording is permitted of any part of a meeting which is closed to the public.

Anyone who objects to being filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise reported, and children and vulnerable adults now have an opportunity to declare their presence.

**055/2026 Apologies for Absence – Cllr S Wilson.**

**056/2027 Co-Option**

To co-opt one Member to Steeple Parish Council.  
To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.  
There was none.

**057/2026 Declaration 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.

There was none.

**Members are requested to review and update declarations of interest if necessary.**

**Noted by all Members.**

**058/2026 To approve the Minutes of meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

To approve minutes of meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Poulter, seconded by Cllr Partridge

**RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were duly signed by Cllr Partridge.**

**059/2026 Public Participation Session.** The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present. A maximum time of **15 minutes** will be allowed.

A resident informed that the pavements on the opposite side of the old Sun and Anchor site, are in a bad state of repair and it is especially hard for a mobility scooter to navigate the path safely. It was commented that the pavement has been reported to Essex Highways since 2023.

It was agreed that photos would be taken and submitted to Essex Highways.

There was a short discussion regarding the kissing gates at Canney Chase, could this be changed for a swing one to allow for better access. Cllr Partridge kindly offered to speak with Wallasea Farms. Potholes were also reported by the green at South Green.

A resident asked if there was any plans for the playing fields. Cllr Partridge informed that negotiations were ongoing with Moat Housing for the installation of new play equipment, however funding would need to be sought. A suggestion was for a new shelter. A short discussion regarding funding followed.

### **060/2026 Highways issues**

Cllr R Wilson informed that dialogue had been had between Safer Highways Group and Community Speedwatch. It was informed that no repeater signs can be installed through the village due to the streetlights. An application can be made for a 20mph speed reductions. Suggestions of a zebra crossing and traffic islands have also been made.

Cllr Partridge informed she had spoken with Sonic Rail Services and they have confirmed that all of their vehicles drive through the village at 25mph, all vehicles are tracked.

A petition is currently being circulated around the village.

Cllr R Wilson informed that Community Speedwatch must use fixed designated spots at locations as set by Essex Police. Cllr R Wilson informed that new Members to the community speedwatch group would be welcomed.

There is currently an investigation for the purchase/siting of a speed camera.

### **061/2026 Planning Application/s**

26/00178/HOUSE PP-14780525

Proposed single storey detached garage with rear storage area, including relocation of fence and extended patio.

Rutland The Street Steeple Southminster

Steeple Parish Council recommend the GRANTING of planning permission.

### **062/2026 Planning Appeals affecting Steeple – None.**

### **063/2026 Planning Decision/s made by MDC affecting Steeple – None.**

### **064/2026 Finance**

- 1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026., proposed by Cllr Partridge, seconded by Cllr Poulter.
- 2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2025/2026, proposed by Cllr Partridge, seconded by Cllr Poulter.
- 3) To approve the payment of Accounts for March and April 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements. Members agree a transfer of funds was not necessary.

### **065/2026 Risk Register**

To review Risk Register.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Proposed by Cllr R Wilson, seconded by Cllr Poulter.

**RESOLVED: The Risk Register was duly accepted.**

### **066/2026 Website**

To receive an update.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

The Clerk informed that the new website is still being built.

The Clerk is aware there are issues with e-voice, when accessing from a mobile phone. However, it is working via a laptop.

### **067/2025 Steeple Playing Field**

To discuss gate quotes received – Cllr Poulter to update.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Cllr Partridge informed that the dirt pile is due to be removed from the playing field and reseeded, these works have been funded by the Locality Fund.

Cllr Poulter will be meeting with a contractor for advice on new play equipment.

It was reported that the hedge is very overgrown, there was a short discussion regarding Moat Housing/consultation.

Cllr Poulter has endeavoured to obtain quotes for a new disability friendly gate for the playing field, despite contacting many companies only two had provided quotes. After a short discussion Members agreed to proceed with an application to the Locality Fund for £1297.74 for the purchase of the gate.

**068/2025 Trucam/Speedwatch**

To receive an update – Cllr R Wilson

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Cllr R Wilson informed there have been two Spacewatch's in the last couple of weeks and that there are currently twelve Members.

There was approximately 8 – 12 captures and all data has been sent to Maldon District Council.

**069/2025 Defibrillator**

To receive an update – Cllr Partridge/Clerk

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

It was reported that the new defib cabinet has been delivered, the electrician will install as soon as possible.

Cllr Partridge informed that The Star pub has a donation jar for replenishing supplies.

The Clerk informed that the Co-op has withdrawn funding for supplies and going forward Steeple Parish Council will need to make provision in the budget.

**070/2025 Dog Waste Bin**

To discuss the provision of a dog waste bin at Canny Chase, leading to Pigeon Dock.

To discuss and pass any resolution as necessary.

Cllr Poulter proposed the purchase of a post mounted dog waste bin at a cost of approximately £400, seconded by Cllr R Wilson.

**RESOLVED: Purchase of post mounted dog waste bin for Canny Chase.**

**071/2025 Date of Next Full Council meetings – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 7pm, Annual Parish Assembly followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm.**

**072/2025 Councillors to note the 2026 meeting dates: 13.05.26:**

**10.06.2026: 08.07.2026: 17.09.2026: 14.10.2026: 11.11.2026 and 09.12.2026.**

**073/2025 Items for Next Agenda**

Audit, Trucam, speeding, defib update, dog waste bin.

**074/2025 Closure of the Meeting**

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

Meeting closed at 8.06pm