

Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – TUESDAY 09 JUNE 2026

Convened at Woodham Mortimer & Hazeleigh Village Hall at 7:30pm

In attendance: Parish Cllrs: Simon Brady (SB), Kim McDonald (KM), Pauline McDonald (PM), Stephen Pemberton (SP), Peter Harland (PH). District Councillor Simon Morgan (SM). Andrew Ritchings Clerk to the Council recording proceedings.

80.26 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Parish Cllr Graham Harle was unable to attend due to business commitments.

81.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations made by Cllrs.

82.26 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public in attendance.

83.26 PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting 12 May 2026 were approved as a true record of events by Cllrs at that meeting as proposed SP by and seconded by PH.

84.26 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

No applications have been received by the Council.

85.26 TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT A DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Members reviewed and approved the Council's Data Protection Policy. Adoption of the document ensures compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018, the ICO's expectations for public authorities, and supports the Council's obligations under the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Assertion 10 relating to transparency and information governance.

86.26 TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT A RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

Members reviewed and approved the Council's Records Retention Schedule. This was adopted for the same reasons mentioned in item 85.26 above.

87.26 PLANNING

24/00262/VARM – HALL FARM LAND HAZELEIGH HALL LANE HAZELEIGH – *Variation of condition 27 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)) on approved planning application 22/00261/FUL (The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping.) Variation seeks: - Inclusion of a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan as an approved document. LPA Deadline 03/07/2024* **WITHDRAWN**

24/01014/OUTM – LAND SOUTH OF MALDON ROAD DANBURY – *Outline application with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 72 dwellings with associated infrastructure. LPA Deadline 18/04/2025* **TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00160/FULM – LAND SOUTH OF WYKE HILL AND LIMBROOK WAY MALDON – *Construction of 90 dwellings (Use Class C3), open landscape, landscaping, vehicular and pedestrian infrastructure, sustainable urban drainage and other associated works. LPA Deadline 22/05/2025.* **TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00277/OUT – LAND ADJACENT TO LITTLE OWLS POST OFFICE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Outline application with all matters reserved for demolition of twin stable blocks and replacement with two single storey holiday lets (2 bedroom) to replicate square footage of*

previous buildings and configured/designed to appear as low level farm buildings in a yard. **LPA Deadline 20/05/2025. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00612/FUL – LAND ADJACENT TO RICKERBY FAMBRIDGE ROAD HAZELEIGH – Erection of 1no. self build dwelling. **LPA Deadline 02/09/2025. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/01022/FULM - LAND EAST OF BRIDGE WICK LANE DENGIE - The construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of an onshore wind electricity generating facility and associated infrastructure, comprising up to 15 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), onsite substation, access tracks, underground cabling, temporary construction compounds, temporary concrete batching plant, and landscape and ecological mitigation and enhancement. **LPA Deadline 17/02/2026. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00959/VAR - LAND SOUTH OF WYCKE HILL AND LIMEBROOK WAY Maldon - Variation of condition 1 on approved planning permission 18/00531/RES (Approval of reserved matters (layout, scale, appearance and landscaping) for Phase 1 of the Eastern Parcel of the wider Land South of Wycke Hill and Limebrook Way site (LPA Application Ref. FUL/MAL/18/00071), comprising the construction of 200 residential dwellings (Use Class C3) and associated works.) to relocate 21 proposed trees. **LPA Deadline 22/01/2026 TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00997/FUL LAND ADJACENT TO OAK CORNER COTTAGE SOUTHEND ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER - Erection of a new self-build dwelling and associated works Location. **LPA Deadline 18/03/2026. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

26/00027/FUL GRENO HOUSE POST OFFICE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER - Construct replacement dwelling with ancillary pool building and garage, with associated landscaping. **LPA Deadline 01/05/2026 TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

25/00578/OUTM – LAND WEST OF THE CEMETERY LONDON ROAD MALDON - Outline application with all matters reserved, except for access, for the erection of up to 275 residential units including affordable housing, land for a children's nursery (Class E), 1.8ha of land for an extension to Maldon Cemetery, drainage works, landscaping, vehicular access to the A414, pedestrian/cycle access to Spital Avenue and London Road, and associated infrastructure. works. **LPA Deadline 25/09/2025 REFUSED (APPEAL IN PROGRESS)** Appeal Ref: 6004910

26/00191/PACUAR LAND NORTH EAST OF WOODHAM MORTIMER LODGE LODGE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER - Prior approval application for change of use of an agricultural Barn and Building Operations to one dwellinghouse (Use Class C3). **PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED**

26/00121/HOUSE – MERRY TREES BURNHAM ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER – Single storey side infill extension between dwelling and garage. **LPA Deadline 15/05/2026 APPROVED**

26/00217/HOUSE & 26/00218/LBC - BROOKHEAD FARM MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER Single storey front oak framed porch extension to the northern elevation, with pitched roof canopy. **APPROVED**

26/00293/PACUAR - BARN AT OLD MILL HOUSE VINEYARD HAZELEIGH HALL LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER - Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to one dwellinghouse (Class C3), including building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. Councillors noted that this is a proposal submitted under the provisions of Class Q of the General Permitted Development Order. Based on the information available, the Parish Council has no reason to suggest that the application fails to meet the relevant Class Q criteria and therefore raises NO OBJECTION to the conversion in principle. Cllrs would, however, prefer the dwelling be occupied only by individuals connected with the agricultural/vineyard enterprise operating on the site.

26/00348/HOUSE - RANDALLS LODGE ROAD HAZELEIGH CHELMSFORD - Two storey front/side extension, single storey rear extension with veranda. Relocation of entrance door to

side with porch and alterations to fenestration. - The Parish Council notes that the proposed extensions are relatively large in proportion to the existing dwelling and raises concerns regarding the overall scale and visual impact. However, councillors felt that, despite the size, the proposals do not appear so dominant as to fundamentally alter the character of the property or its setting. The Council therefore does NOT OBJECT but asks that the LPA carefully consider the scale design, and correlation of the extensions to the host dwelling and the rural character of Lodge Road.

26/00363/HOUSE – PLACE LODGE RECTORY LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER – *Single storey front and rear extension to existing bungalow. Conversion of existing garage into living space. PV panels to existing roof.* - Councillors felt that the scope, design and combined scale of the additions would overwhelm the original building and result in a development that appears overly dominant within the rural setting of Rectory Lane. For these reasons, the Parish Council recommends REFUSAL on the grounds of adverse impact on the character of the area.

88.26 ROYAL OAK QUARRY - *Review of public access restoration plans.* - After pursuing further enquiries, it has been confirmed that when restoration completion at the quarry is completed other than the re-alignment of the temporarily diverted footpath there will be no other public open access spaces.

89.26 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Cllr Simon Morgan advised he has now been elected as leader of Maldon District Council. Significant time over the coming months will be spent on administration associated with the forthcoming Local Government Review and meetings have already taken place with Chelmsford and Brentwood authorities to discuss the pending implementation of the Mid Essex Authority. Discussions about plans for renovating the museum at Promenade Park are progressing with considerations that the site could become a cultural centre. SM provided an update on ongoing matters relating to the A414 travellers' site, the update was noted.

90.26 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance of Accounts

Unity Trust Instant Access Savings Account	£10,621.69
Unity Trust T1 Current Account	£985.02
Unity Trust Community Benefit Account	£5,283.52
Unity Trust Community Benefit 95-Day Account	£80,044.49
Total funds on deposit	£96,934.72
Lloyds Debit Card	ZERO

Authorisation of payments

Clerk Quarterly salary (Nett)	£863.30
HMRC PAYE Tax	£215.80
Clerk Work from home allowance (13 weeks @£4)	£52.00
Bus shelter maintenance (From Community Benefit Fund)	£1,050.00
HMRC – late filing fee	£70.62
Transfer from Community Benefit to Current	£1,050.00
Transfer from Savings to Current	£1,000.00

Transactions since the previous meeting

MS365 monthly subscription fee	-£35.57
H J Heelis (internal auditor)	-£245.00
EALC & NALC affiliation	-£334.53
Lloyds Debit card fee	-£3.00

Bank service charge	-£7.00
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91.26 VILLAGE HALL FUNDING – To be deferred to the next meeting.

92.26 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Footpath 11 Hazeleigh (Dragons Path) – *gate restriction and return to previous character.*
Nothing to report.

Member Led Priority Scheme - A414 Road Markings. Nothing to report.

Local Highways Panel Schemes. The following projects remain on the list of schemes though they are not expected to be delivered due to the forthcoming closure of all LHP Schemes.

- **Footway Defect A414** – *Foliage/soil restricting width of footway/pavement between Bryants Lane and Runsell Green Danbury (LHP Scheme No. 36).*
- **A414 30mph Speed limit** – *between Oak Corner and Post Office Road.*
- **A414 40mph Speed limit** – *between Post Office Road and Limebrook Farm.*
- **Conduit Lane** – *Mobility vehicle/wheelchair access to bus stop*

TRUCAM – Cleark has contacted the Community Safety Team who have advised fees and brief explanation of processes. It was agreed that the following locations should be proposed to the CST: operatives on both sides of the A414 close to Zara's Restaurant near Oak Corner and Rectory Lane, also on Fambridge Road near the Royal Oak Pub. The suggested time for operation being between 11:00 to 14:00 at all locations at least one day each month for an initial 3-month period where data would then be reviewed.

District Cllr Justin Jay – it was noted that communication from the new District Cllr Justin Jay requesting pothole reports, was received with very short notice and Cllrs were unable to respond within the timescale offered.

93.26 MAINTENANCE OF BUS SHELTER BRICKWORK

Cllrs agreed the standard of work by the contractor at the two cleaned-up and decorated bus shelters was exemplary, SB had received many comments of thanks from parishioners.

94.26 INFORMATION ONLY

Clerk noted a fine had been received from HMRC for late filing of PAYE. Having spoken to a tax official neither the clerk nor HMRC adviser could understand why the fine had been imposed. AR has appealed the fine which will be considered in due course. It was however decided by Cllrs to pay the fee rather than hold back payment just in case further fees are incurred.

AR advised he has recently discovered that the 'work from home' rate allowance payment had increased in April 2020 during the Covid pandemic, but the increase has not been applied since then. Cllrs requested this be added as an agenda item for next meeting.

SB advised the Council have been invited to provide a judge for this year's Maldon Conservation and Design Awards, SB has been a judge previously and enjoyed the experience immensely but thought it beneficial for a different Cllr to enjoy the process. PH volunteered which was agreed by all present.

It had been commented that the Village Notice boards were in a rather dilapidated condition and whether money should be utilised from the Community Benefit Account to replace them. It was considered the board at the Village Hall is likely to be well seen but much less so for the board in Hazeleigh. A note will be placed in the Village Magazine requesting parishioner comments and the matter added to the July Agenda.

Date of next scheduled Ordinary Parish Council meeting is 14/07/2026 at 7:30pm

..... (Chairman to the Council) 14/07/2026