

# Woodham Mortimer and Hazeleigh Parish Council

## ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – TUESDAY 12 AUGUST 2025

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

**In attendance:** Parish Cllrs: Simon Brady (SB presiding), Kim McDonald (KM), Pauline McDonald (PM), Graham Harle (GH), Lorraine Cobb (LC), Peter Harland (PH), Stephen Pemberton (SP). County Cllr Jane Fleming (JF). District Councillors Simon Morgan (SM) and Mark Durham (MD), Andrew Ritchings (AR) Clerk to the Council recording proceedings.

#### 97.25 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

None received

#### 98.25 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared

#### 99.25 PUBLIC FORUM

No members of public present.

#### 100.25 PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting 07 July 2025 as proposed by SP and seconded by GH were approved as a true record of events by all Cllrs present at that meeting.

#### 101.25 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 TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA*

**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*

**25/00492/PACUAR - LAND NORTH EAST OF WOODHAM MORTIMER LODGE LODGE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER MORTIMER** - *Prior approval application for change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse (Use Class C3. NOT PERMITTED, PLANNING PERMISSION IS REQUIRED*

**25/00454/HOUSE – CHURCH COTTAGE LODGE ROAD HAZELEIGH CHELMSFORD** – *Single storey extensions on both side elevations, with addition of roof lights on western elevation and window alterations. APPROVED*

**25/00519/HOUSE – BADGERS HALL GOAT HOUSE LANE HAZELEIGH** – *Proposed part two storey, part single storey side extension with balconies single storey front projection. Addition of Cat-slide dormer and fenestration alterations. LPA Deadline 30/07/2025* **TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

**25/00523/FUL – CAFÉ AND OFFICES AT CLAREMONT GARDEN CENTRE BRYANTS LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER MORTIMER** – *Construction of a single storey outbuilding as an extension to existing bakery facilities.* **APPROVED**

**25/00590/FUL – AGRICULTURAL BARN AT LODDARTS FARM LODGE ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Demolition of the existing barn and outbuilding and erection of a new dwelling in the style of the original barn. LPA Deadline 19/08/2025* - **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* **TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LPA**

**25/00580/HOUSE – PLACE LODGE RECTORY LANE WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *First floor extension to existing garage. Single storey front & side extension including replacement porch. Alterations to materials and fenestration with addition of solar panels to existing rear roof. LPA Deadline 25/08/2025* Considering the remote site location of the property and distance from neighbouring dwellings Cllrs do not believe there will be a detrimental effect to the current street scene and surrounding environment and recommend GRANTING the application.

**25/00629/HOUSE – BROOKHEAD FARM MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Two-storey side extension, addition of dormers on the front, side and rear elevations, new brick garden wall to the front elevation, addition of roof lights on the rear elevation. Fenestration alterations and internal layouts. LPA Deadline 03/09/2025* - Having attended the site SB advised the changes appear to be very much in keeping with the magnificent features of this grade II listed building, it is also understood MDC's historical building expert fully approves the proposals. As the proposals are adhering to the strict conditions imposed by listed building regulations and are sympathetic to the existing property, Cllrs recommend GRANTING the application.

**25/00630/LBC – BROOKHEAD FARM MALDON ROAD WOODHAM MORTIMER** – *Two-storey side extension, addition of dormers on the front, side and rear elevations, new brick garden wall to the front elevation, addition of roof lights on the rear elevation. Fenestration alterations and internal layouts. LPA Deadline 03/09/2025.* The same response refers as per 25/00629 above and Cllrs recommend GRANTING the application.

**25/00612/FUL – LAND ADJACENT TO RICKERBY FAMBRIDGE ROAD HAZELEIGH** – *Erection of 1no. self build dwelling. LPA Deadline 02/09/2025.* The development site resides outside of any settlement boundary and development would result in an increase of urbanisation negatively affecting the rural character of the area. There are no suitable pedestrian links or access to services and facilities, the site would be heavily reliant on private transport and is considered to be in an unsustainable location, therefore Cllrs recommend REFUSAL of the application.

## **102.25 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

County Cllr Jane Fleming reported that the Local Government Review continues to be debated with proposals due to be submitted to central government by the end of this September. Not all Districts, Boroughs and County Council agree on the version of the resulting number of

unitary authorities. The resulting authorities are likely to see the number of Councillors across the County reduce from 750 to 250 who will have more responsibility and an increased financial remuneration/allowance.

District Cllr Simon Morgan advised the meeting that Maldon District Council have been handling numerous enquiries associated with proposed leisure centre changes, the details of which will be announced soon.

## 103.25 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Bank statements 01 April to 30 June have now been reviewed by non-signatories.

Name.....Kim McDonald.....Peter Harland.....

Signature.....*Kim McDonald*.....*Peter Harland*.....

Potential alternative bank savings accounts will be reviewed in time for the next meeting.

### Balance of Accounts

Unity Trust Instant Access Savings Account	£8,017.20
Unity Trust T1 Current Account	£1,559.33
Unity Trust Community Benefit Account	£83,934.63
Total funds on deposit	£93,511.16

### Authorisation of payments

MS365 Business Standard Account	£138.24
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### Transactions since the previous meeting

Zurich Insurance bus stop graffiti vandalism claim	+£578.84
Woodham Mortimer & Hazeleigh Parish News	-200.00
Heelis & Lodge internal audit fee	-130.00
Lloyds debit card fee	-£3.00
Unity Trust Bank service charge quarterly charge	-£6.00

As agreed at the December 2024 Budget Review and subsequent March meeting AR will shortly be setting up a full Microsoft 365 Account for himself on the newly procured laptop and 6x Microsoft Exchange Accounts (email only) for Cllrs. Cllrs Kim and Pauline McDonald to share an account as per the existing email set-up. Details advising Cllrs how to proceed with the new accounts will be emailed by AR and support provided if required.

Clerk account with access to desktop Office programs will be £138.24/yr.

Cllr email accounts will be £27.36 each/yr.

Cllrs agreed as the new laptop will require a new MS Office suite purchase anyway it would be practical to start a yearly subscription so that a continuous use of the most up-to-date products can be utilised. Cllrs also advised they will not need to access any old emails which will be easier for new account set up as no migration will be required.

## 104.25 HIGHWAY MATTERS

**Footpath 11 Hazeleigh** (Dragons Path) – *gate restriction and return to previous character.*

Following a period of foliage rejuvenation parishioners have contacted the Council expressing their disappointment that flora on the sides of the Footpath has again been destroyed. AR to contact Land Registry in an attempt for landowner information.

**Vehicle Activated Speed Sign A414 adj Oak Manor Chelmsford Road.** – *VAS Installation to be continues.* Working party to meet and provide an update at the next meeting.

**A414 Chelmsford Road** – *hedge encroachment between Zara Restaurant and gravel pit* (EH ref: 2942385). No activity to report.

### **A414 Maldon Road Central island Crossing between Crematorium and Church –**

Discussions between the Highway Authority and crematorium developers are ongoing which will hopefully reach an appropriate solution so the crossing point can be opened.

**Conduit Lane** – *Mobility vehicle/wheelchair access to bus stop.* County Cllr Jane Fleming to provide update in due course.

#### **LHP Schemes:**

- **Footway Defect A414** – *Foliage/soil restricting width of footway/pavement between Tom Tit Lane and Runsell Green Danbury (LHP Scheme No. 36).* It has been reported that footway debris/overgrowth has been cleared between Tom Tit Lane and Bryants Lane.
- **A414 30mph Speed limit** – *between Oak Corner and Post Office Road.* No activity.
- **A414 40mph Speed limit** – *between Post Office Road and Limebrook Farm.* No activity.

**105.25 MAINTENANCE OF BUS SHELTER BRICKWORK - Updates.** Cllrs have reviewed and approved the Risk Assessment provided by GH. GH to convene with other volunteers to undertake the brickwork painting once a date has been agreed.

**106.25 BUS STOP BENCH** – *Purchase of seating via County Cllr Locality Fund.* SB has identified a suitable bench and will advise AR the details so an installer can be appointed along with completion of an Essex Highways license application.

#### **107.25 INFORMATION ONLY**

The Council's Insurance supplier has confirmed that the new laptop has been added to the policy at no additional cost.

AR's new MS365 Business Standard Account will include Microsoft One Drive which will allow all Council files to be backed-up off-site, it was therefore decided to cease the regular current CD writing back-ups particularly as the new laptop doesn't have a CD drive installed. It was also decided to discontinue saving archives to the external drive and solely use Microsoft One Drive for the secure storage of PC files and data. AR to update The Councils Risk Assessment to reflect new back-up routine.

Date of next scheduled meeting 09/09/2025

.....*Simon Brady*..... (Chairman to the Council) 09/09/2025