

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL



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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ashingdon Parish Office, The Cricket Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Ashingdon Road, Ashingdon on Monday 2nd June 2025 at 7:30pm.

Present: Chairman: Cllr. D. Catchpole Vice Chair: Cllr. D. Constable

Councillors: Cllr S Chittenden Cllr D McCarthy
Cllr. S Osborn

Officers: Kath Parkin Clerk/RFO

District Councillors: None present

25/216 **Apologies for Absence**

Standing Apology: Cllr G Dryhurst has a standing apology for absence, which will be noted until further notice.

Apologies received from Cllr D Reed and Cllr P Hennessy.

Resolved that the apologies be accepted.

25/217 **Minutes**

It was noted that minute 25/205 was not proposed or seconded.

Proposal: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2025.

Proposed: Cllr. Osborne

Seconded: Cllr. McCarthy

All in favour.

25/218 **Declaration of Interests and Dispensations**

None.

25/219 **Update and Correspondence from District County Councillors.**

Apologies received from Cllr R Constable who had sent in the following information:

- Cllr Newport and Hoy gave notice that they did not want to continue running the administration after 7 councillors had resigned from the administration.
- Council is now run by the Conservatives, Rochford District Residents and Rochford, Foulness and Great Wakering Independents.
Leader of the Council: Cllr D Belton
Deputy Leader: Cllr J Mason
Chairman: Cllr J Macpherson
Vice Chairman: Cllr S Wooton
- New committees have been formed, with new chairs and vice chairs.
- The road subsidence on lower Road has been made safe with a temporary repair.

25/220 **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

None present.

25/221 **Co-option.**

To consider co-opting any candidate onto the parish council. There are 3 vacancies on the Council. No candidates were present.

25/222 **Clerks Report**

The clerk gave a verbal report, which will be attached to the minutes.

25/223 **Planning**

No planning this month.

25/224

Finance.

Members received the schedule of payments for approval, the following were approved and signed:

May-25				
Supplier Name	Total Amount	Details Ref	Sort code	Account
Wickes	£14.00	paint		
Rospa	£96.00	88224	60-22-31	70525366
j+m payroll	£42.00	44108	20-70-93	90404608
Zurich	£1,394.69	544455366	20-65-82	23110249
EALC	£120.00	18373	60-83-01	20271424
J&P Prior	£138.58	1351	12-24-82	6585520
J&P Prior	£902.00	1345	12-24-82	6585520
CAM	£1,030.39	16065	30-15-99	13775560
Weaveaweb	£192.00	25199	40-10-27	11328506
Constable	£360.00			
John Watson	£245.00	25/25/13	20-70-79	20413208
EALC	£150.00	18750	60-83-01	20271424
NALC	£42.00	391	08/02/2028	61063277
	£4,726.66			

- (a) **Proposal:** To approve payments made by BACS, in accordance with the 2025/2026 budget.

Proposer: Cllr Chittenden

Seconded: Cllr Osborne.

All in favour.

Annual Governance statement 2024/2025

Members noted and approved the internal audit report from John P Watson.

Proposer: Cllr D Constable

Seconded: Cllr D McCarthy

All in favour.

Annual Return.**Section 1**

Members reviewed section 1 of the AGAR and agree that the council met the systems of control.

Proposer: Cllr D Constable

Seconded: Cllr S Chittenden

All in favour.

The document was signed by the Chairman Councillor Catchpole.

Section 2

Members reviewed section 2 of the AGAR and approved the figures presented.

Proposer: Cllr D Constable

Seconded: Cllr S Chittenden

All in favour.

25/225

Safestore

Members discussed the current storage arrangements at Safestore, noting that the cost has increased significantly. The Chairman reported that he had visited the site and taken photographs of the current setup. It was suggested that installing shelving or more efficient internal storage solutions might help maximize the use of space.

Proposal: The Clerk will investigate alternative storage options and obtain comparative quotes for consideration before any decision is made.

Propser: Cllr D Constable

Seconded: Cllr D McCarthy

All in favour.

25/226

Terms of Reference

Councillors reviewed the draft Terms of Reference for the Event Working Party. It was proposed that the wording to include regional events.

Proposal : To accept the draft copy with the amendment That the sentence be revised to read: "To identify any significant national or regional events during the calendar year that the Council may wish to participate in."

Proposer: Cllr D Constable

Seconder: Cllr S Chittenden

All in favour.

25/227

Health and Wellbeing.

Cllr McCarthy had nothing to report, but said that he would be looking at the Office of National Statistics.

25/228

South Farnbridge Car park.

The Clerk informed members that the vehicle in question had finally been removed from the car park, following a formal letter. Now that the correct procedure is understood, it is expected that any similar incidents in the future can be resolved more promptly.

Proposal: To take no further action at this time, and not to engage private enforcement companies, but to continue monitoring the situation and review if necessary.

Proposer: Cllr D Constable

Seconder: Cllr D McCarthy

All in favour.

25/229

To receive a report from the representatives for the following outside committees/working groups:

(a) Ashington and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall - Cllr. P. Hennessy;

Cllr McCarthy informed members that, following the success of the VE Day celebrations, they are now considering holding a VJ Day event.

They are exploring the possibility of offering refreshments such as tea, coffee, and ice cream during the summer holidays.

The AGM will take place on 11th July and will include cheese and wine..

(b) Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils – Cllr. D. Constable;

No meeting.

(c) RSPB Local Liaison Group – Cllr. G. Dryhurst;

No report.

(d) River Crouch Coastal Community Team – Cllr. G. Dryhurst;

No report.

(e) Rochford Old Peoples Welfare- Cllr .S. Osborne.

Cllr Osborne said the next meeting is next week.

25/230

Training and Events

No training requests received.

25/231

Items from Councillors to be added to next agenda.

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Next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 7th July 2025 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman's Signature

Date:

