

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 13th April 2026 at 7.30pm.

Present: Chairman: Cllr. D. Catchpole

Councillors: Cllr D McCarthy Cllr D Reed
Cllr P Hennessy Cllr S Chittenden
Cllr. M Nunn Cllr S Osborne

Officers: Kath Parkin Clerk/RFO

District Councillors: None

26/1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies accepted for Cllr D Constable and Cllr G Dryhurst..

26/2 Minutes

Proposal: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd March 2026.
Proposed: Cllr. Hennessy
Seconded: Cllr. Nunn
All in favour.

26/3 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Catchpole declared a non-pecuniary interest in 8(b).

26/4 Update and Correspondence from District County Councillors.

Apologies received from Cllr R Constable.

26/5 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

None present.

26/6 Co-option:

To consider co-opting any candidate onto the parish council. There are 2 vacancies.
No candidates were present.

26/7 Clerks Report

The Clerk did not have anything to report.

26/8 Planning

Members considered the planning application detailed below:

[31 Nelson Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 3EJ](#)

Rear conservatory (Retrospective application)

Application reference: **26/00198/FUL** received on **12/03/2026**

Councillors noted that they believed the elevation drawings submitted with the planning application may be inaccurate.

Land Adjacent Dormers, Lower Road, Hockley, Essex.

Sub-divide the plot and construct a new build 4 bedroom detached chalet bungalow with 2 private car parking spaces.

Application reference: **26/00165/FUL** received on **27/02/2026**

No objections.

Dunrovin, Ellesmere Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 3JP

Proposed swimming pool

Application reference: 26/00179/FUL received on 04/03/2026

No objections.

577 Ashingdon Road, Ashingdon, Essex, SS4 3JF

Sub-divide the plot and construct 2no. 6 bed chalet bungalows with private parking, landscaping and amenity space. Access from The Chase and Ashingdon Road.

Application reference: 25/00938/FUL received on 18/12/2025.

Object: Cllrs object due to overdevelopment of site.

26/9 Finance.

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

Mar-26				
Supplier	Total Amount	Details Ref	Sort Code	Account
CAM	£967.94	16981	30-15-99	13775560
Constable	£360.00	2776	30-96-94	27987668
J+P Prior	£902.00	1530	12-24-82	6585520
J+P Prior	£138.58	1531	12-24-82	6585520
Weaveaweb	£125.99	26090	40-10-27	11328506
J+M payroll	£42.00	46670	20-70-93	90404608
Amazon (Clerk)	£19.49	Paper		
Amazon (Clerk)	£18.04	laptop charger		
Amazon (Clerk)	£4.95	gloves		
Amazon (Clerk)	£18.04	toolkit		
Amazon (Clerk)	£25.44	toilet rolls		
Dunmow Training Ltd	£360.00	SI-193 Subs	60-83-01	20544821
The Cartridge People	£396.81	ink toners		
Initial	£160.15	35761831	20-00-00	33583457
Replacement Keys	£13.60	toilet dispenser		
Dunmow Training Ltd	£30.00	SI-41	60-83-01	20544821
	£3,583.03			

Apr-26				
Supplier	Total Amount	Details Ref	Sort Code	Account
Dunmow	£60.00	SI-208	60-83-01	20544821
SLCC	£200.00	Mem258152-1	60-83-01	20314459
A+J Lighting	£137.70	40030	20-19-95	93232859
Weaveaweb	£192.00	26166	40-10-27	11328506
Initial	£160.15	35761831	20-00-00	33583457

EALC	£794.83	19137	608301	20271424
Total	£1,544.68			

- a. **Proposal:** To approve payments made by BACS, in accordance with the 2025/2026/2027 budget.
Proposer: Cllr M Nunn
Seconded: Cllr P Hennessy
All in favour.
- b. Councillor Osborne had checked the February 2026 bank reconciliation figures and approved all balances are correct.
- c. Councillors noted the price increase of £1.50 per month from EE.
- d. Councillors noted that CAM will increase their rates from £13.01 per visit to £14.31 from April 2026.

26/10 **Grant Application.**

Councillors considered the grant application for £1000 submitted from Wyvern Transport and agreed to approve the grant.

Proposer: Cllr M Nunn
Seconded: Cllr D McCarthy
All in favour.

26/11 **Health and Wellbeing**

Cllr McCarthy reported that he had visited Trust Links in Rochford, an organisation that does a great deal to support and improve wellbeing in the community and noted that it is very well used. He also advised that they had recently held an Integrated Day attended by the NHS and other organisations, working together to support wellbeing. Cllr McCarthy further informed Members that a "Lads Lounge" event will be held at Ashingdon Memorial Hall on 24th April from 6.00pm to 10.00pm.

26/12 **Community Litter Picking Station**

Cllr Nunn explained the concept of litter picking stations and suggested that one could be located next to the Parish noticeboard in South Fambridge. She also reported that she had spoken with Marcus Hotten regarding additional dog waste bins in the area and was hoping that two further bins could be installed. What3words locations had been sent to Rochford District Council, who are currently looking into the matter.

Cllr Nunn suggested installing a fixed litter picking station. Councillors discussed the type and quantity of equipment required. It was proposed that a fixed litter picking station be purchased, together with a starter kit and personalisation, at an approximate cost of £800 including a post for installation. The cost will be met from General Reserves.

Proposer: Cllr M Nunn
Seconded: Cllr P Hennessy
All in favour.

26/13 **Open Spaces Tender.**

Councillors were provided with a summary of the three tenders received with the company names redacted to ensure that the Council adheres to transparency requirements and Financial Regulations.

Proposal: To appoint Tender B as the appointed open spaces contractor from 1st May 2026- 30th April 2028. Cllrs. Catchpole, Reed and Chittenden were excluded from voting as they were on the working party.

Proposer: Cllr M Nunn
Seconded: Cllr S Osborne
All in favour.

Once the vote process was completed the Parish Clerk reported that the company referred to as Tender B was Constable Landscapes.

26/14 **Fambridge Road – Large Vehicles and Signage Concerns**

Cllr Nunn reported that she had walked along the road and identified locations where signage could be placed, noting the positions using what3words. She will forward an email to the Clerk outlining the proposed signage, which includes three signs: No Through Road, Weight Restrictions and No U-Turn. The Clerk will then send this information to Rochford District Council for their consideration

26/15 **Street Lighting Ashingdon Academy**

The Clerk to contact A & J Lighting to request a price to convert two sodium lamps to LED immediately outside the Academy and cut away some of the tree branches around the lamp standards.

- 27/16 MUGA.**
Cllr Catchpole and the Clerk reported that they had met with Marcus Hotten and Adam Aldredge regarding the project. The works will be going out to tender; however, a site visit has not yet taken place. As a result, the cost may be higher than the previously quoted £92,000. It was noted that the project could potentially take place this year.
- 26/17 Correspondence from Rochford District Council- Teen shelter**
Rochford District Council advised that they would look into the possibility of relocating the teen shelter to an alternative position; however, this may be difficult due to possible damage caused in removing it from its foundations.
- 26/18 Bar n Bus**
Cllrs Osborne and Hennessy reported that this is a cross-parish initiative and, following discussions with other parishes, it was noted that each parish would like the youth worker to attend their area and would also expect a report on the work carried out. The general consensus from the discussions was that Bar n Bus should seek a grant from each participating parish.
Councillors agreed that Cllrs Hennessy and Osborne should advise Bar n Bus that they have spoken with other parishes and that they advise them to submit a grant application also to ask what they intended to use the £15k grant on they are receiving from RDC.
- 26/19 Annual Report**
Councillors considered the distribution of the Annual Report. Cllr Catchpole proposed that the Annual Report be printed and made available in local shops, Memorial Hall and Parish Office for residents to collect.
Proposer: Cllr S Osborne
Seconded: Cllr P Hennessy
All in favour.
- 26/20 River Crouch Coastal Valley Community.**
Councillors noted that at the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 11th November 2025 it was confirmed that in the absence of an Accountable Body under the current Terms of Reference the Crouch Valley Coastal Community would dissolve with immediate effect,"
- 26/21 To receive a report from the representatives for the following outside committees/working groups:**
(a) **Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall - Cllr. P. Hennessy;**
The quiz night on 10th April was a huge success and made over £800.
The main entrance door and the large window at the front are being replaced.
(b) **Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils –**
The next meeting is April 16th.
(c) **RSPB Local Liaison Group – Cllr. G. Dryhurst;**
No report.
(d) **Rochford Old Peoples Welfare- Cllr .S. Osborne.**
The organisation has recently held its AGM. They are currently looking at ways of raising additional funds. The centre has a maximum of 30 attendees per day.
- 26/22 Training and Events**
- 26/23 Items from Councillors to be added to next agenda.**

Next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman's Signature

Date:

