

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the 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 Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7:30pm.

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

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

Officers: Kath Parkin Parish Clerk

District Councillors: None

Members of press and public: None present

- 26/24 To elect a Chairman.**
RESOLVED that Cllr. D. Catchpole be elected as Chairman of Ashingdon Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.
Proposer: Cllr P.Hennessy
Seconded: Cllr. D Reed
All in favour.
- 26/25 To receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**
Cllr. D. Catchpole made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman.
- 26/26 Apologies for Absence.**
Apologies received from Cllr. D McCarthy and Cllr G Dryhurst
Resolved that the apologies be accepted.
- 26/27 Minutes**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th April 2026.
Proposed: Cllr M Nunn
Seconded: Cllr P Hennessy
All in favour
- 26/28 To receive member's declaration of interests and dispensations in items on the agenda**
None.
- 26/29 To elect a Vice Chairman.**
RESOLVED that Cllr. D. Constable be elected as Vice Chairman of Ashingdon Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.
Proposed: Cllr. S. Osborne
Seconded: Cllr. P.Hennessy
All in favour.
- 26/30 To receive the Vice Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**
Cllr. D. Constable made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice Chairman.
- 26/31 To receive a report from the District Councillor.**
Apologies received from Cllr R Constable, Cllr M Carter and Cllr L Shaw.
Cllr R Constable sent in an update, which is attached to the minutes.

26/32 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

None present.

26/33 Co-option

No candidates were present at the meeting.

26/34 Clerks Report

A report was circulated at the meeting and will be attached to the minutes.

26/35 Planning To consider and make comments on the following planning applications:

[Land At Junction Of Ethelbert Road And, Ulverston Road, Rochford, Essex.](#)

Demolish the existing structure and sub-divide the plot to allow for the construction of 2 no. detached four-bedroom chalet bungalows, with associated access, parking, landscaping, and private amenity space.

Application reference: **26/00236/FUL** received on **24/03/2026**

Comments

Inappropriate development of green belt, the bulk, scale and mass of the proposed dwelling would have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt and would result in encroachment into the open countryside.

[Land North Of Malvern Road And Harrogate Drive, Greensward Lane, Hockley, Essex.](#)

Outline Planning Application with All Matters Reserved apart from the means of access from Greensward Lane for a residential development (Use Classes C2 and/or C3) to include open space, landscaping, drainage and all associated works and infrastructure

Application reference: **26/00167/OUT** received on **02/03/2026**

Objection:

Overdevelopment of Green Belt land.

The scale of the proposed housing and residential home would harm the openness and character of the landscape.

Concerns regarding encroachment on ancient woodland.

Highway safety concerns relating to the two proposed access points onto Greensward Lane.

One of the proposed access points is located close to a bend in the road, creating a potential danger to road users.

26/36. Finance

a) Members received the schedule of payments for approval; the following were approved and signed:

Apr 26

A&J Lighting	£114.00	40060	20-19-95	93232859
J&P Prior	£138.58	1549	12-24-82	6585520
J&P Prior	£902.00	1560	12-24-82	6585520
ACL GP Ltd	£144.00	7305	20-70-93	33665372
J+M Payroll	£42.00	46962	20-70-93	90404608
Solopress	£36.16	4875267		
Dunmow Training	£30.00	SI-229	60-83-01	20544821
Constable	£360.00		30-96-94	
CAM	£1,099.01	17075	30-15-99	13775560
A&J Lighting	£419.10	40098	20-19-95	93232859
Weaveaweb	£192.00	26257	40-10-27	11328506
Dunmow Training	£60.00	SI-252	60-83-01	20544821
DCK accounting	£775.08	TPC12286	60-21-40	40544605
Total	£4,311.93			

Proposal: To approve payments made by BACS, in accordance with the 2026/2027 budget.

Proposer: Cllr Nunn

Seconded: Cllr Hennessy

All in favour.

b) Cllrs noted that the bank reconciliation approved at the April meeting were for March and not February.

Cllr Catchpole had checked the February bank reconciliation and approved all balances are correct.

c) Cllr Nunn checked the March 2026 bank reconciliation figures for the Barclays Premium Account.

d) Cllr Nunn checked the March 2026 bank reconciliation figures for the Unity Trust Bank account and approved the balance.

e) Cllr Nunn checked the March 2026 bank reconciliation figures for the Hampshire Trust Bank account and approved the balance.

f) Cllr Nunn checked the March 2026 bank reconciliation figures for the Cambridge Building Society account and approved the balance.

g) Cllr Nunn checked the March 2026 bank reconciliation figures for the Hinckley and Rugby savings account and approved the balance.

Proposal: To accept the bank reconciliations for c), d) e), f) and g).

Proposer: Cllr Nunn

Seconder: Cllr Hennessy

All in favour.

h) Cllrs noted the current financial position for 2026/2027, including available funds and potential expenditure.

26/37 Grant Application

This should not have been on the agenda as the policy for grants states the grant funding budget will be split in half and allocated twice per year in two rounds. The first round will open to applications on 1st April of each year and close on 1st August of each year. The second round will be open to applications on 1st September of each year and close on 1st February of each year.

The Clerk will write to the Hockley day centre and explain.

26/38 Appointment of Councillors to Committees and Working Parties

	2025/2026	2026/20267
Personnel and Staffing Committee	Catchpole, Reed and Dryhurst	Catchpole, Reed and Dryhurst (sub- Osborne)
MUGA	Dryhurst, Hennessy and McCarthy.	Hennessy, Nunn and Catchpole
Finance Committee	Catchpole, Hennessy and Reed	Hennessy, Reed and Chittenden
Tender Working Committee		Catchpole, Chittenden and Reed

26/39 Clarification of other existing working parties.

No other working parties needed.

26/40 Appointment of Representatives to outside organisations.

Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils	Catchpole, Constable and Osborne	Catchpole, Constable and Hennessy.
Rochford Transport Meeting	Dryhurst	Reed
Memorial Hall Committee	Hennessy	Hennessy
RSPB Local Liaison Group	Dryhurst	Dryhurst
Old Peoples Welfare Committee for Rochford District	Osborne	See below

Old Peoples Welfare Committee for Rochford District

The Clerk would contact Rochford Day Centre to establish how many collections are made from Ashingdon. The matter will be added to the June agenda for further discussion.

26/41 Health and Wellbeing

No report.

26/42 School Fetes-Greensward 4th July and Ashingdon 20th June.

Councillors considered the level of planning required, resources needed and the need for an allocated budget. It was agreed that community events would be discussed further at the November meeting, with consideration given to setting a dedicated budget for future events to ensure the Council is better prepared for next year.

26/43 Ashingdon School-Speed limits.

As Cllr McCarthy was not in attendance, Cllr Nunn provided an update regarding speeding concerns outside Ashingdon School. It was explained that discussions had centred on reducing the speed limit around the bend and relocating the 30mph speed sign further back towards the bend. Councillors noted that these measures had been explored previously.

Proposal: The Clerk will contact the newly elected County Councillor and invite them to attend the June meeting to introduce themselves and discuss local highway concerns.

Proposed: Cllr Chittenden

Seconded: Cllr Nunn

All in favour..

26/44 Biodiversity Policy.

Cllr Reed explained that he had recently attended a biodiversity course, which he found very informative and potentially useful in relation to planning matters. Copies of a proposed Biodiversity Policy were made available at the meeting.

It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate copies to all councillors for consideration, and the item would be added to the June agenda for further discussion and possible adoption.

26/45 To receive a report from the representatives for the following outside committees/working groups:

- a. Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall - Cllr. P. Hennessy;
Quiz on 24th July-tickets sold out
Deceivers evening, inspired by The Traitors- 27th June.
- b. Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils - Cllr. D. Catchpole sent report to all councillors.
- c. RSPB Local Liaison Group – Cllr. G. Dryhurst;
No report.
- d. Rochford Old Peoples Welfare- Cllr .S. Osborne.
No meeting

26/46 Training and Events

26/47 Items from Councillors to be added to next agenda.

Rochford Day Centre. Biodiversity Policy.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 1st June 2026 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairmans Signature

Date