



Fordham Parish Council

Locum Parish Clerk - Kevin B. Money
7 Roach Vale Colchester Essex CO4 3YN

Tel: 07810781509: E-mail: clerk@fordham-pc.gov.uk : Website: <https://fordham-pc.gov.uk/>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8th. January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M. Hamilton-Macy (Chair), C. Alexander, O. Acland, CCC D. Laws, Kevin B. Money (Locum Clerk to Parish Council). There were no members of the public present

001/2026 Apologies for absence was received from N Durlacher

002/2026 Declaration of Interest

To receive any 'Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, other Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests' relating to items on the agenda **None declared**

003/2026 To approve the Minutes of the last Full Council meeting held on Thursday 27th. November 2025 All Agreed

004/2026 Councillor vacancy and Co-option

The co-option notice has been published in the notice boards, on Facebook and on the website

005/2026 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest

The maximum time allowed for the public to participate as per Fordham Parish Councils Standing Orders is 15 minutes with each person being invited to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. At the close of this item members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the council unless the Chairman deems it appropriate. No questions were asked

006/2026 To receive reports from County and City Councillors if in attendance

- Local Elections for CCC in May '26 possibility
- No Mayor until 2028
- PC Councillors are so important for stability
- CCC D. Laws informed the meeting that it is a quiet time at CCC. Local Plan consultation has been circulated. CCC Councillors are confused why Mayoral elections have been put off for another 2 years.
- Re-organisation has ground to a halt over Treasury concerns it could take 13 years to pay back the expense of setting up the Five Unitary option but less time for Three Unitary Option (see below).
- Government has given CCC an extra £1m towards revenue budget for 2026/27. However, the cost of housing the homeless has increased dramatically, more than off setting this additional grant.
- Still Chair of scrutiny committee
- CCC Budget is being looked at closely
- Public space protection order has come into place in High Street Colchester
- Pavement parking is being closely looked at with the Government making a statement on this issue
- Severalls lane bridge repair has been suspended due to funding of A12 being stopped

Councillors asked questions on Bus Service 88b being suspended affecting school children getting to school and return home. Also, if the Parish Council could get the £250 from CCC locality funding.

007/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

No planning applications have been submitted

008/2026 Planning Decisions made by CCC

252374 - 4 Weavers Green Fordham Colchester CO6 3PF

Rear single storey extension. **Approve with Conditions**

009/2026 Health & Safety and Village Maintenance

a) **Weekly H&S checks for the Playground** and reports submitted to the Clerk

010/2026 Quotation Recreation Ground Overhanging Shrubs

Cllr O. Acland proposed to accept this quotation of £100 to prune the overhanging shrub back to boundary fence. Along the entrance track remove shrub blocking access to recreation ground and to remove and dispose of waste shrubs. Cllr C. Alexander seconded. **All Agreed**



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011/2026 2024/2025 Annual Return

1) To receive the Internal Auditors report for 2024/2025 – previously circulated to Councillors
Councillors noted the Internal Auditors report for 2024/2025

2) To receive and, if agreed, sign Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025
Cllr M. Hamilton-Macy proposed accepting and signing Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025. Cllr O. Acland seconded. **All Agreed**

The Chair and Clerk then signed Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

3) To receive and, if agreed, sign Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025
Cllr M. Hamilton-Macy proposed accepting and signing Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025
Cllr C. Alexander seconded. **All Agreed**

The Chair and RFO then signed Section 2 - Accounting Statement of AGAR 2024/2025

4) To receive the Bank reconciliation for 31st. March 2025
Councillors noted the Bank reconciliation for 31st. March 2025

5) To receive the Explanation of variances
Councillors noted the Explanation of variances

012/2026 Finance

1. To receive the Bank Reconciliations as at 31st. December 2025
Councillors noted the Bank Reconciliations as at 31st. December 2025

2. To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2025/2026
Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget 2025/2026

3. To approve the payment of Accounts for October, November, December 2025 and January 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements **All Agreed**

4. Councillors to be updated on changing bank accounts from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust Bank
Cllr M. Hamilton-Macy and the Clerk updated the latest position with Barclays Bank and Unity Trust Bank
The Clerk had produced and circulated the Barclays bank business account closure form for signing

013/2026 2026-2027 Budget – Councillors to confirm the 2026-2027 budget and to sign the Precept form
Councillor M. Hamilton-Macy proposed a 2026-2027 budget expenditure of £41093. This produced a Precept request from CCC of £39175 an increase of £585. Using the CCC 2026-2027 tax base figure of 349.11 made a Band D property figure of £112.21p pa. A Zero increase from 2025-2026. Cllr O. Acland seconded.
All Agreed

014/2026 To receive reports from Councillors

Pot holes in the village are getting worse: Woodland Trust – Horse riders still using the BMX field:
What happened to the poppy wreaths at War Memorial?

015/2026 Items for next meeting

016/2026 Next meeting is on Thursday 12th. February at 7.30pm in the village hall

017/2026 2026 meeting dates: 12.03: 09.04: 14.05: 11.06: 09.07: 10.09: 08.10: 12.11: 10.12.26

018/2026 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Cllr M. Hamilton-Macy proposed to exclude the public and press. Cllr C. Alexander seconded. **All Agreed**

019/2026 Staffing matters

020/2026 Closure of the Meeting

To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

Mike Hamilton-Macy - Chair

12th. February 2026