

BOXTED PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 9 APRIL 2025 AT 730PM IN BOXTED VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Members – Councillors Jamie Seakens (Chair), Arabella Brentnall, James Collitt, Amin Dedhar, Jonathan Hunt, Angela McLauchlan, Gene Pugh and David Taplin.

Karen Thompson – Clerk

ALSO PRESENT One member of the public was present.

25/50 **Welcome and noting apologies.** Jamie Seakens welcomed everyone. Cllr Smith was absent.

25/51 **Declaration of Interests** – None were declared.

25/52 **Public Participation Session.** Nothing specifically raised. Although the member of the public was engaged by Bellway builders to ascertain the views of the Council on the possible development site of up to 150 houses on the land off Straight Rd.

25/53 **Minutes of the last meetings of the Council held on 12 March 2025.**

Councillors are asked to agree the draft minutes of the last meeting as a true and accurate account of the proceedings (see attached). These were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

25/54 **Colchester City Council (CCC) and Essex County Council (ECC).**

.1 **To receive the verbal reports of City Councillors and County Councillor.** There were no councillors present.

25/55 **Planning Applications**

.2 **To consider the following planning applications and any other applications arriving after the date the agenda is published:**

250500	24/03/2025	Lions Farm, Langham Lane,	New two-bedroom annexe to support aging relative with supported living on ground floor, with first floor office and games room formed in attic space. The south facing roof elevation to site solar panels to supply green energy to the annexe and existing main
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The council resolved to raise concerns about the proposal in the application whilst not objecting to the premise that accommodation for elderly relatives should be supported.

250537	17/03/2025	Boxted Bridge, Wick Road	CONSULTATION INSIDE BOROUGH - CC/COL/106/21 - Replacement of bridge and associated highways works involving realignment, junction improvements and width increase of the carriageway.
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The council resolved to object again to the proposal.

250512	14/03/2025	1 Cross Cottages, Dedham Road,	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed change to the existing render on the existing walls
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The council decided not to enter any comment on the planning portal.

250519	14/03/2025	Lions Farm, Langham Lane	Erection of Class B8 Storage & Distribution building with associated parking and turning facilities including minor widening of access driveway
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The council resolved to comment on the landscaping and lighting and to note the change in nature of the site to one of industrial distribution/commercial lettings use which differed from the first proposal for agricultural storage.

.3 **Decisions** - Decisions made by Colchester City Council were noted.

.4 **Appeals** – None

25/56 **Parish Council Finance**

.1 **To receive the Parish Council Financial Report** as at the 31 March 2025 (see attachments including bank and card statements). The finances were noted with receipts to date being £99,155.51 and spend £112,410.54. Some spend was authorised from Reserves. Bank holdings were reported as £73,227.53.

- .2 **To resolve to use the end of year financial data for internal and external audit.** This was approved.
- .3 **To approve for payment the invoices presented.**

The following invoices were seen and approved for payment.

Parish Council

Gross Pay all employees (inc NI, PAYE, Pensions)	3003.01
Clerks expenses/refunds	65.60
Green bins	73.36
Cloudy IT licenses	123.39
Moser Groundcare	2,032.80
Hall room hire	22.00
Groundsman mileage	9.00
EALC	457.07

Village Hall

Michelle Gourlay Cleaning	540.00
Wave - Anglian Water	140.57
CHIP management quarterly fee	950.00
Viking sundries (toilet rolls cleaning products)	154.48

- .4 **To resolve to add Wave (Anglian Water) to the bills paid automatically via direct debit.** Agreed.

25/57 Housing Needs Survey (HNS)
To note that 570 copies of the Housing Needs Survey will be delivered in the next week or so and delivered to councillors. These should be delivered to all households by 2nd May to allow for 6 weeks before survey closes on 13th June.

To also consider a parish council survey to accompany the HNS. An additional 3 question survey will be added to the envelopes to ascertain residents views on priorities for the parish council.

25/58 Boxted Bridge
To note the planning application for the replacement of Boxted Bridge is listed on the Colchester Planning Portal. Plans are being made as to speaking roles at the Essex Planning meeting on 25th April at 10am in Chelmsford. It was agreed that Cllr Jon Hunt would speak and represent Boxted Council.

25/59 Annual Parish Meeting
To note the agreed date of the Annual Residents Meeting (known as Annual Parish Meeting) will take place at 7pm, immediately before the monthly parish council meeting and agree any planning required. It was agreed to have an open forum discussion and to also launch the Boxted Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire if available.

25/60 Recreation Ground

- .1 **To note the fence replacement between the car park and recreation ground commenced on 8th April.** This was noted.

25/61 Neighbourhood Plan update and next meeting details
Verbal update from the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 13th March by Cllr Brentnall. Cllr Brentnall gave a verbal update that explained that with the proposed changes to the Colchester City Local Plan and a possible site allocation of up to 150 houses off Straight Rd this would represent a material change to the current plan and require all stages of NP development including referendum to be undertaken. The first piece of work is to advertise the project to revise the NP to residents and seek their initial thoughts.

25/62 Clerk's Report

- .1 **To receive the clerks report including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and note progress to date on the following (full report - see attachment).** Nothing reported.

25/63 **Items for the next meeting agenda**
The following items are planned for the next meeting agenda:
• Election of officers

25/64 **Date of Next Meeting – The proposed date of the next meeting is 14th May 2025 to follow the Annual Parish Residents Meeting in the Village Hall. Delegated authority being granted to the Clerk with authorisation from the Chair for emergency and time critical issues.** The next meeting date was agreed.

25/65

Signature _____ Signed by _____