

**Those present:**

Cllr Plater (Chair)  
Cllr Bell  
Cllr Gilbert  
Cllr Inwood (7.40pm)  
Cllr Page  
Cllr St Joseph  
Michelle Curtis (Parish Clerk/RFO)  
District Councillor Stephens  
District Councillor Thompson  
3members of the public

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Clare, Goldie, Hawes and Rogers.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest disclosed.

**3. Public Forum**

The Clerk advised that a resident had requested a copy of the minutes from the Parish Council meeting with Welbeck.

The Chair confirmed that it was not a formal Parish Council meeting but had no objection to the notes being shared with the resident.

**Action:** Clerk to forward a copy of the notes from the meeting to the resident.

**4. County Councillor and District Councillors**

Cllr Stephens reported:

- Road safety work was ongoing around the bus shelter. First Buses have yet to see if they can make a U-turn in the area near the bus shelter.
- Nicola Syder, Maldon District Council (MDC), has secured an agreement in principle with the South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) for yellow lines to be installed on the four corners at The Square. This would be much cheaper than moving the bus shelter or driving buses around it.
- Nicola has also offered, free of charge, that the Community Engagement Team patrol the Square area during evening rush hour: the suggested time is 4.30pm—6.00pm.

Councillors were happy with the proposed times for the patrols.

**Action:** Emma will liaise with Nicola to progress on this.

- Hedingham is progressing with the re-timetabling to avoid multiple buses waiting in and around the area of the bus shelter.
- It has been nearly 6 months since a meeting was held with the bus companies and some Parish Councillors. Cllr Stephens proposed that a further meeting be arranged.

**Action:** Clerk to circulate a Doodle poll to arrange a meeting.

- SEPP intend to implement the road markings at the flood barrier in 2025 Q2. Cllr Stephens was unsure if this was Q2 of the calendar year or the financial year.

- Cllr Stephens had advised Officers at MDC that Lewis & Scott seem to have stopped using the MDC-owned access track, so MDC should be asking Lewis & Scott to repair it.
- Cllr Stephens has written to Lewis & Scott regarding the enforcement of wheel-washing. There has been no reply. This has been raised with Officers at MDC, but this will not be dealt with at the moment as the Officers have other priorities.
- MDC had hoped to get £5m from the “Levelling Up” Culture Fund. The new government has reduced the pot and is spending what’s left, mainly in northern cities such as Leeds and Liverpool.
- MDC are on track to receive £327,000 from the UK Prosperity Funding. This will be capital and must be spent within 1 year on Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills. MDC is offering to match-fund this from reserves. The MDC element will not be restricted to 1 year or capital expenditure and will give the Parish Councils much more flexibility. Once more details become available, they will be shared with the Parish Council.
- MDC has agreed the 2025/26 budget. To help achieve this, MDC has increased the MDC element of the council tax bill by 2.99%. This means that MDC’s part will be £232.01 per year for the average Band D property or approximately £4.46 per week.

The Chair reported that he had noted that properties on the Lewis & Scott site were now for sale for £595,000.

Cllr Stephens confirmed that of the 25 properties, 12 were affordable, and 13 were at market value.

Cllr Inwood arrived at the meeting.

## 5. Minutes

**Resolved:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Inwood, seconded Cllr St Joseph. Unanimously agreed by those who attended.

The Chair signed the Minutes.

## 6. Planning Applications

### 6.1 Application No: 25/00048/HOUSE PP-13708128

Proposal: Erection of close boarded fence to boundary's

Location: Mount Ash 1 Mell Road Tollesbury

**Resolved:** Unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of this application due to the following:

- The height of the fence is inappropriate for the site
- The fence is inappropriate, given the property's position on the highway junction.
- The fence is inappropriate for the quality and character of the area
- The proposed fencing would remove parking

### 6.2 Application No: 25/00097/TCA PP-13744715

Proposal: T1 Chestnut - Crown reduction by 1m

Location: Templeton Hunts Farm Close Tollesbury

**Resolved:** Unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.

## 7. **Annual Assembly**

It was agreed to hold the Parish Annual Assembly on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025.

## 8. **Administration**

The Clerk reported Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders for East Street/High Street/West Street, Elysian Gardens, Church Street and Station Road. There are intended closures due to commence on 20th February 2025 for 2 nights (20:00 - 05:00). The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes Priority One – Machine Surfacing.

**Action:** Clerk to seek information on access in and out of the village while the works are taking place.

There is also a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order of Oxley Hill, Tolleshunt D'Arcy, due to commence on 12th March 2025 for 3 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes gully and frame replacement.

The Clerk advised that the proposed road closures had been shared with residents on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

The Clerk reported that the Tollesbury Climate Partnership AGM would be held on Friday, 28th February 2025, at 7pm in The Centre.

The Clerk reported that the pool had been filled the previous week, but there was a slow leak, and it will be rectified at the next fill. The swimmers have been informed. The Clerk advised a "charity dip" was scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025.

## 9. **Community Matters**

Cllr Bell reported:

- The two drains in East Street had been cleared.

The Chair reported:

- The Woodrolfe Hard Washdown, held on Saturday, 8th February 2025, was successful, with approximately 25 people attending. Thanks were expressed to all those who attended, especially Tollesbury Sailing Club.

## 10. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

**Resolved:** Due to the confidential personnel and contractual nature of the business to be transacted, the meeting would be closed to the press and the public.

## 11. **Employment Matters**

Councillors carried out an annual review for the Litter Picker – (confidential report FC04-24/25).

## 12. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

**Resolved:** Open the meeting to the press and the public.

## 13. **Dates of the Next Meetings**

Full Council Meeting  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 7.30pm – Pavilion

Committee Meetings

Woodup Pool Committee – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – 7pm in the Pavilion

Recreation Ground Committee – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 7.15pm - Pavilion

Finance & Policy Committee – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 7pm – Pavilion

Environment & Amenity Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 - 7pm – Pavilion

Woodrolfe Hard Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 7pm – Pavilion

Personnel Committee – February 2026 - 7pm – The date to be confirmed

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.18pm.

Signed:..... Date:.....