

ASHDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk - Angela Balcombe

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Minutes of a meeting of Ashdon Parish Council, held on Monday 15 June 2026, 7pm at Ashdon Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Goodwin, Gray, Horrigan, Lewis & Pardue.
In the Chair: Cllr Horrigan.
Clerk: Angela Balcombe.
Also present: 6 members of the public.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Cllr Horrigan signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

26/79. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr Moran.

26/80. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

Two amendments were made to the minutes:

26/68 Insert the word 'Vice' so it reads 'Cllr Lewis proposed Cllr Gray as Vice-Chairman and not Chairman.

26/73 Insert 'No report received'.

The minutes of 18 May 2026 were then approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Lewis. Seconded: Cllr Goodwin. All agreed.

26/81. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests relating to items on the agenda.

Please note: all Councillors are Sole Trustees of the Village Hall.

Cllr Moran is a District Councillor for Uttlesford District Council (UDC).

Cllr Gray declared an interest in agenda item 26/85 UTT/26/1192/HHF as she is a friend of the applicant.

26/82. MATTERS ARISING.

A brief update on any actions from the previous meeting.

(For information only, Councillors are reminded that no decisions can be made under this agenda item; Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).

- White railings – thanks were noted to the volunteers that helped to paint the railings.
- Phone Box - has now been painted.

26/83. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Essex County Council (Cllr Davis). No report received.

Uttlesford District Council (Cllr Moran). Apologies were received from Cllr Moran.

26/84. PUBLIC FORUM

No matters were raised.

26/85. PLANNING.

Application No: UTT/26/1192/HHF. Demolition of existing garage. Proposed smaller homeowner studio and greenhouse and brick fire wall around existing gas tank.

Location: Old Vicarage, Church Lane, Ashdon. No objections.

Application No: UTT/26/1163/LB. Replacement of all the windows in the original house and replacement of single glazing with 14mm slim double glazing. Replacement of two of the external doors in the original house and replacement of single glazing with 14mm slim double glazing. Replace the single glazing panels of the front door with 14mm slim double glazing.

Location: Rothend, New House Lane, Ashdon. It was agreed that the look of the windows is important to the overall look of the listed building.

Decisions

Application No: UTT/26/0493/FUL. Erection of new agriculturally tied self-build dwelling at Sandons Farm, associated 2-bay cartshed, new driveway and vehicular access from existing private driveway to Sandons Farm.

Location: Land at Sandons Farm, Kates Lane, Ashdon. **Approved with conditions.**

Application No: UTT/26/0136/FUL. Change of use from paddocks to dog training area.

Location: Saffron House, Redgates Lane CB10 2LP. **Withdrawn.**

Application No: UTT/26/1020/LB. Installation of a fibre broadband junction box to the exterior of the property.

Location: Ashdon Hall, Ashdon. **Approved.**

Application No: UTT/26/0656/LB. To attach a bleed kit next to the defibrillator at Ashdon Village Hall.

Location: Ashdon Village Hall, Crown Hill, Ashdon. **Approved.**

26/86. FINANCE.

Payments made:

103141 £313.00 HMCTS (Court Fee to set judgement aside)
103142 £723.81 Ashdon Village Hall (Hall Hire £24.00, VAT £699.81)
103143 £563.18 A Balcombe (Salary/PAYE/Expenses)
103144 £822.78 M D Landscapes (Grass Cutting)
103145 £36.00 Outdoor Jack (Weed Spraying)
103146 £156.85 J Gray (Neighbourhood Plan - Website)
103147 £366.00 Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA Safety Inspections)
103148 £30.00 Dunmow Training Ltd (VAT for bill of £150.00)
Barclays £14.50 Commission Charges (April/May)
D/D £60.92 Npower Business Solutions (Streetlighting April)
D/D £50.96 Npower Business Solutions (Streetlighting May)

Income

£780.00 Cemetery (Ref: McKinley Plot 321)

Bank Balances (May 2026)

Current Account £29,966.87
Business Savings £56,027.97
Business Savings £1,116.16

26/87. ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026.

Internal Auditors Report – the report was received and noted.

As the gross income/expenditure for 2025/26 is above £25,000, the Council must complete the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 Form 3 which must be externally audited.

The accounts for the year-ending 31 March 2026 were approved by the Council.
Proposed: Cllr Horrigan. Seconded: Cllr Lewis. All agreed.

The Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer signed:

- (i) Annual Governance Statement.
- (ii) Accounting Statements.

26/88. LITTER & DOG WASTE BINS.

To receive a report from Cllr Moran. As Cllr Moran had sent apologies it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

26/89. PLAY AREAS.

To consider the RoSPA safety inspections and agree any action needed. It was agreed that Playquip Leisure Ltd would carry out the safety inspections going forward. A quote to be obtained to carry out any essential work resulting from the recent inspection.

26/90. BENCH AT THE VILLAGE GREEN.

To consider moving the bench to a more suitable, cleaner area. Cllr Gray explained the issue with the current location in which the bench sits under an oak tree and gets covered in bird mess. It was suggested cleaning the bench before anything is done about moving it. Awaiting a quote to move the bench.

26/91. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE.

- Court letter and email from claimant. The email was read out to the meeting. Agreed to acknowledge the email.
- Residents emails re Road Closure. The legality of the closure regarding access for emergency vehicles was mentioned. The Clerk to contact County Cllr Davis again to find out if emergency access was part of the road closure permit.
- Apology from UDC regarding the Garden Waste collection, the driver had the information about the two sites before collections started. UDC will chase this up and make sure all drivers have the correct information going forward.
- Hundred Parishes Society – asking to attend a meeting to give a presentation – July agenda.

26/92. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA.

Litter and Dog Bins

Benches

Hundred Parishes Society

Lorries coming through the Village as a result of the work being carried out at land west of Butlers Lane, Saffron Walden – to be reported to UDC Planning Enforcement.

26/93. MEETING DATES 2026.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month (except August).

20 July, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, 17 December (*please note the earlier date for the December meeting*).

Close of meeting 20:08

Signed (Chairman):

Date: