MINUTES OF THE HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4TH AUGUST 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

Those present:

Cllr M Weale (Chairman)

Cllr D Broddle

Cllr M Elliston

Cllr T Munt

Cllr W Purser

Cllr M Renow

Cllr S Smith

Cllr D Wallace

Clerk

4 members of the public

25/65 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors Parker and Short.

25/66 Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th July 2025 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

25/67 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Wallace in item 25/81.

25/68 Essex County Councillor (ECC) Update

Councillor Louis gave an update on the following:

- Members' Highways Initiative next submission is mid-September. In addition to potholes
 and pavements, the scheme now includes unlit street signs, bollards and vegetation from
 private land.
- Locality Fund bids are now open. The minimum grant is £300.
- Consultations now open: Draft transport strategy <u>A Better Connected Essex Essex County Council Citizen Space</u>; Supported Local Bus Services <u>Local Bus Consultation 2025 Essex County Council Citizen Space</u>.
- A12 overbridge traffic lights. An update from National Highways has been requested.
- Nounsley Ford the footpath has been formally closed for safety reasons, but repair is pending, despite the damaged structure not belonging to ECC.

25/69 Braintree District Councillor (BDC) Update

Councillors Dervish and Coleridge were not present.

25/70 Public Participation

None.

25/71 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report was received and noted.

25/72 Finance and General Purposes

- (a) The budget update was received.
- (b) The Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025 has been received. The increase of 3.2% on all pay scales with effect from 1st April 2025 was noted.
- (c) **It was resolved** to agree expenditure from budget line 116 and appoint contractors for the following Village Hall projects:

- (i) Replacement doors for the nursery by Stephen Russell at a cost of £4,079.
- (ii) Heating improvements for the nursery by Anthony Drury at a cost of £4,700.
- (iii) Replacement of hall tables deferred to the next meeting.
- (d) **It was resolved** to appoint WorkNest for Health and Safety and HR support services for a 5-year period with a 3-year break clause, at a cost of £3,375 per year.

Powers: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19; Local Government Act 1972 ss111 & 112.

25/73 Traffic

An update on traffic matters was received.

25/74 Environment

Ongoing issues of parking on The Green despite existing 'no parking' signage was discussed. Further investigation will be undertaken.

25/75 Stone Path Meadow

An update on the meadows was received.

25/76 Section 106 Funds

- (a) An update on S106 funds and projects was received.
- (b) **It was resolved** to have a dark green inner and terracotta outer colour scheme for the tennis court surface.
- (c) The priorities for coaching and appointment of a coach for the tennis courts was deferred.

Powers: Local Government Act 1972 s.111.

25/77 Communications

An update on communications was received.

25/78 Keith Bigden Memorial Ground

An update on the KBMG was received.

25/79 Youth Services

No update at this time.

25/80 Devolution

A brief update on the local government reorganisation and devolution was received.

25/81 Accounts for Payment

It was resolved that the accounts for payment for July 2025 be approved as follows:

Staff costs	£6,656.96
Wallace Arboriculture and Groundcare	£2,680.50
The Maid Service	£67.00
Braintree District Council (planning)	£383.00
Andrew Smith Print Limited	£330.00
SSE	£693.32
ETC Sports Surfaces Limited (VAT)	£16,150.00
A&J Lighting	£240.00
And IT Consulting	£112.50
Hatfield Peverel Community Association	£293.33
Defib World	£243.79
Kompan	£680.60
Essex Community First Aiders	£200.00
My PT	£180.00
Ernest Doe and Sons	£43.00
Mark Bott (Alleykats)	£200.00
Matt's Generators	£425.00

S. Gaeta (expenses)	£122.22
Essex County Council	£1,176.00

Pre-Approved Direct Debits:

Unity Trust Bank £12.30
Braintree District Council £183.00
BT £60.16
Lloyds Bank £261.61

Now Pensions Included in staff costs

Councillor Wallace abstained.

25/82 General Announcements

• The Community Park car park works are beginning around the 22nd September.

25/83 Confidential Matters

- (a) Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1(2) **it was resolved** to exclude members of the press and public for the duration of this meeting to consider the following confidential matters.
- (b) **It was resolved** to appoint Surface Lux Limited to install floodlighting at the tennis courts, with an extended 10-year warranty and gym area fitting, with the caveat the gym supply has a timer and sensor.

The meeting closed at 9.11pm

The next meeting will be held on Monday 1st September 2025