



GREAT OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk: Mr D Land

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ON TUESDAY, 24th FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.00 PM
PRESS AND PUBLIC WELCOME**

PRESENT:

Chairman: Cllr M Bush

Vice Chairman: Cllr C Browne

Councillors: Cllrs C Browne, W Eddy, S Southern, D Timmis

District Councillor: Cllr M Bush

Essex County Councillor: Cllr D Land

6 members of the public were in attendance.

02 / 2026- 01 | Welcome

Cllr Bush welcomed everyone to the meeting.

02 / 2026 – 02 | Apologies for absence

Cllr C Bush.

02 / 2026 - 03 | Declarations of Interest

None were noted.

02 / 2026 – 04 | To agree the minutes of the last meeting (20th January 2025)

Resolved: That the minutes be agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Browne, Seconded Cllr Southern – all in favour.

02 / 2026 – 05 | Public Forum

MOP asked about a discussion that may have taken place in the January meeting concerning the HUB. It was noted that no decisions were taken and the matter was informally discussed.

MOP mentioned that some time ago two cabinets were removed from the hall whilst it was under renovation. The council were asked if ONE of these cabinets could be reinstated as storage. MOP of the also noted that the second cabinet would be helpful to have reinstated for their storage needs. Chairman noted that the situation needs to be looked at and any space available allocated. An alternative point was raised that the fireplace area could be used for storage.

MOP asked about the public right of way near Park Pale – there is a bridge with steps and it can become slippery.

MOP mentioned that there is still parking on the green at Partridge Close. Write letter, produce sign.

MOP mentioned that the situation with the old history records is still being discussed with a couple of outcomes on the table.

02 / 2026 – 06 | Clerks report / Correspondence

Clerk reported the following matters:

- bank mandate change now nearing completion
- thanks to Cllrs involved in the ground's maintenance contract work

02 / 2026 – 07 | Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on the following matters:

- thanks to Cllr Timmis for his efforts on the ground's maintenance contract work
- disappointed with the road conditions as your drive around



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- received email about dog poo on the recreation field. Options to improve the situation were discussed. It was **resolved** to have three signs made and placed on the field. Proposed Cllr Browne, Seconded Cllr Eddy – all in favour.

02 / 2026 – 08 | District Councillor Report

Cllr Bush reported on the following matters:

- the local plan consultation exhibitions are taking place in the coming months, poster in the hall on the notice board
- county elections to take place in May
- precept agreed last month

02 / 2026– 09 | County Councillor Report / Local Government Reform

Cllr Land gave an update on the following matters:

- a section of the village (high street) will be resurfaced in the coming month, this has been pushed for by our County Councillor and will be a huge improvement for the village.

02 / 2026 – 10 | Reports

Parish Council Maintained Areas

Cllr Browne/Timmis reported:

- conversations around the new contract were discussed and the scope handed out to Cllrs
- planters - Cllr Eddy to speak to Garden Club

Public Rights of Way / Environment / Highways / Pavements

Cllr Browne reported:

- Cllr Browne attended an event where she learnt about the potential for open spaces and conservation management, open meadows, bat boxes, flowers. This will be used to look at plans for potential land acquisitions in the future.

TDALC

Cllr Eddy reported:

- Cllr Eddy reported that the lady from speed watch came to discuss the scheme. He has emailed the lady for more information.

Village Hall / New Community Facilities / Soils

- quotes for store room ongoing
- quotes for carpet in the lobby
- Chairman de-scaled the water heater in the kitchen – thanks to him!

02 / 2026 – 11 | To consider planning applications received from Tendring District Council

Nothing to report.

02 / 2026 – 12 | Cheques and finance authorisation

To consider this month's payments for approval.

Resolved: that this month's cheques be signed. Proposed Cllr Eddy, Seconded Cllr Southern – all in favour.



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02 / 2026 – 13 | Motions

Resolved: to approve purchase of two wheelie bins up to the value £150

Resolved: a one-year extension to the ground's maintenance contract Proposed Cllr Timmis, Seconded Cllr Southern – all in favour

02 / 2026 – 15 | Agenda Items for Future Consideration

Any local groups looking for funding from the PC should make representation via attendance at a meeting or through the Clerk.

Meeting closed 20:50pm

Date and Time of next meeting | 17th March 7pm 2026 | Village Hall