



ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Kevin B. Money 7 Roach Vale Ardleigh Essex CO4 3YN

07810781509 - clerk@aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk - www.aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

Your attendance is required at the forthcoming meeting of Aldham Parish Council to be held at the village hall on **Tuesday 3rd. February 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall** for the purpose of transacting the business ONLY shown on the agenda

KBM - Kevin B. Money CILCA - Clerk/RFO – 28th. January 2026

AGENDA

021/2026 Apologies for Absence

022/2026 Declaration of Members interests

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda

023/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 6th. January 2026

024/2026 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)

025/2026 Visitors Report (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber)

026/2026 Local Government Re-organisation in Essex – update on response from Cllr M. Lambert

027/2026 National Grid– update from Cllr A. Scott

028/2026 Gallows Green Grant Application – update from Cllr M. Lambert & Cllr B. Brown

029/2026 Footpath and PROW update – Cllr J. Jennings
- Update on FP7 at Ashington Lodge

030/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

Local Plan Review - Consultation on Preferred Options

Update from Cllr M. Lambert regarding discussions with neighbouring Parishes

031/2026 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham

252553 - Oak House New Road Aldham Proposed replacement of agricultural building with a self-build/custom build new dwelling. (In lieu of Prior Approval for conversion of building into a dwelling 221000).
Refused

032/2026 Highways & Transport Matters

- 1) Speed Indicator Device – update from Cllr T. Gearey
- 2) Love your Bus Grants – update on application from Cllr M. Lambert

033/2026 Finance

- a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2026
- b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026
- c) To approve the payment of Accounts for February 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements

034/2026 To consider training opportunities available from EALC

035/2026 Information Exchange

036/2026 Items for next agenda

037/2026 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 3rd. March 2026 at 7.30pm

038/2026 To note 2026 meeting dates: 07.04: 05.05: 02.06: 07.07: 01.09: 06.10: 03.11: 01.12.26

039/2026 Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business



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Minutes of Aldham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6 th . January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham		Action
Present: Cllrs M. Lambert (Chair), A. Scott (Vice-Chair), B. Brown, J. Jennings, T. Gearey, R. Walker, CCC D. Willetts and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also present 1 member of the public.		
001/2026 Apologies for Absence were received from CCC Cllr S. Naylor, Cllr A. D'Angibau		
002/2026 Declaration of Members interests To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda. Cllr A. Scott declared an interest in item 10		
003/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 2nd. December 2025 All Agreed		
004/2026 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">National Grid CEO has left his positionNESO has a conflict of interest in the project over share optionsSolicitor's letter sent to Planning Inspectorate regarding at least 60 people reporting registration system intermittently not working. PINS reply indifferentAdvertising Standard Authority has refused to take action against NG for the misleading advertorials in national papers / magazines		
005/2026 Visitors Report (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber) CCC D. Willetts informed the meeting that it is a quiet time at CCC. Local Plan consultation has been circulated. CCC Councillors are confused why Mayoral elections have been put off for another 2 years. Re-organisation has ground to a halt over Treasury concerns it could take 13 years to pay back the expense of setting up the Five Unitary option but less time for Three Unitary Option (see below). Government has given CCC an extra £1m towards revenue budget for 26/27. However, the cost of housing the homeless has increased dramatically, more than off setting this additional grant.		
006/2026 Local Government Reorganisation in Essex – Cllr M. Lambert To consider what response to make to options for local government in Essex https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-essex-southend-on-sea-and-thurrock/proposals-for-local-government-reorganisation-in-essex-southend-on-sea-and-thurrock		
The Government is currently consulting on options for replacing Essex County Council, Southend & Thurrock Unitary Authorities and the City/District Councils with larger Unitary Authorities across the whole County. The new structure would also involve the creation of a new role of Mayor of Essex in a combined authority with significant powers over Transport, Housing & Skills. The election of a new mayor of Essex has been postponed until after the reorganisation of local government in 2028 following elections in 2027. There are four proposals for differing structures of Local Government: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Three Councils, proposed by Essex County Council, Braintree and Epping Forest District Councils, which puts Colchester in North Essex with Tendring, Braintree and UttlesfordFive Councils proposed by Colchester and most of the other District Councils in Essex which puts Colchester with Tendring and BraintreeFour Councils, proposed by Rochford Council which also puts Colchester with Tendring and Braintree, andFour Councils, proposed by Thurrock which puts Colchester with Tendring and Maldon.		

Proposals 1 and 2 appear to be the strongest candidates and the final decision will be made by the Government following the current consultation. The objective is to create new authorities that can demonstrate greater cost efficiencies and provide local democratic accountability.

Essex CC have carried out an extensive piece of work on Proposal 1, a summary of which can be found here:

https://www.essex.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2025-09/Three%20new%20councils%2C%20one%20bright%20future%20-%20Essex%20LGR%20proposal%20-%20Overview_0.pdf

In essence it creates three 'City Regions' based upon Colchester, Chelmsford and Southend, each with a population of 560,000 - 769,000, underpinned by what it calls Neighbourhood Delivery Committees, based on current County Wards, which would have delegated powers on certain matters and a dedicated discretionary budget. It also suggests that Parish Councils could be represented on these Neighbourhood Delivery Committees

Proposal 2 has also been the subject of a detailed appraisal of the costs and benefits by the Councils supporting it that can be found here:

<https://www.essexlgrhub.org/sites/default/files/4799901/2025-09/Greater%20Essex%205UA%20LGR%20Proposal%20-%20Creating%20a%20greater%20future%20for%20Essex.pdf>

The five authorities would be 320,000-360,000 in population, apart from North Essex which would still be over 500,000. It proposes two Councillors for each Ward of 6,000 electors and three Councillors for Wards of 9,000 electors.

Summary:

All the options put Colchester in a new unitary authority of over half a million people but the three authority proposal is the only one that appears to set out a structure for local accountability that might have relevance for Parish Councils in the future.

Councillors were in favour of the three Council proposal proposed by ECC

Cllr M. Lambert

007/2026 National Grid – update from Cllr A. Scott

No update from the Planning Inspectorate yet regarding date of Examination and issues they want to consider. A total 3800 of representations were submitted of which 68 representations referred to Aldham. Waiting for timetable to be published.

Cllr B
Brown
&Cllr M
Lambert

008/2026 Gallows Green Grant Application – update from Cllr M. Lambert & Cllr B. Brown

No further update on the application. Cllr M. Lambert has been in contact with Adam Hull
Post Meeting Note: Contact details for FWAG now received

009/2026 Footpath and PROW update – Cllr J. Jennings

- Update on closure of FP7 at Ashington Lodge

Cllr J. Jennings has walked FP7 which is open with "dog sign to be aware" having been erected. The footpath is still open after the white stile. Cllr J. Jennings to inspect the footpath again.

010/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

Local Plan Review - Consultation on Preferred Options

a) Update from Cllr M. Lambert regarding discussions with neighbouring Parishes, including draft Joint Statement to be considered at further meeting on 8th January.

Councillors considered their response to the draft statement and to the three sites identified in Aldham Parish, namely PP18 north of A120 at Marks Tey, PP32 north of Halstead Road and PP45 west of New Road. For further detail see - <https://www.aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/notice/local-plan-update-january-2026>

The following was agreed:

1. That Aldham PC continue to support the principle of a Joint Statement on the Local Plan by the Six Parishes to urge the City Council to engage positively with us to ensure the best possible outcome for the communities we serve.
2. That Aldham PC support the efforts by Eight Ash Green PC to propose alternative sites to those in the Preferred Options, including PP32
3. To give urgent publicity to the forthcoming consultation by EAGPC on Grapevine FB and by delivering leaflets if possible, and to encourage as many residents as possible to submit

representations on the Plan - <https://www.aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/notice/urgent-public-consultation-of-planning-for-site-at-foxes-corner-on-halstead-road>

4. That Aldham PC continues to oppose the inclusion of the land on the north side of Halstead Road for the reasons set out in the objections to the current application

5. To raise concerns on the extent of land allocated north of the A120 at Marks Tey and in particular the amount of land to be dedicated for POS to be more than the 10% referred to in the Policy

6. To query the discrepancy on PP45 at New Road and the apparent doubling in size that could accommodate double the fifteen houses proposed

7. That Aldham PC gives authority to the Chair to draft and circulate detailed reps on the Local Plan on behalf of the Council, and subject to any comments, submit in consultation with the Clerk by the deadline of 14th January

Cllr T. Gearey proposed that Cllr M. Lambert submit the representation from Aldham Parish Council.
Cllr R. Walker seconded. **All Agreed**

Cllr M.
Lambert

252553 - Oak House New Road Aldham

Proposed replacement of agricultural building with a self-build/custom build new dwelling. (In lieu of Prior Approval for conversion of building into a dwelling 221000).

For the Aldham Parish Council planning response go to

<https://d0cs.colchester.gov.uk/Publisher/mvc/listDocuments?identifier=DC&ref=252553>

011/2026 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham

252346 - The Cabin Rectory Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3RR

Application for variation of condition 2 following grant of planning permission 231906.

Approve Conditional

012/2026 Highways & Traffic Working Group

1) Speed Indicator Device – update from Cllr T. Gearey

December Speed Data to be published later in the month.

The battery has been changed regularly and the device is working well

2) Love your Bus Grants – Cllr M. Lambert

Aldham has been actively engaging with both Transport Made Simple (TMS) and First Bus about improving the early morning weekday service into Colchester from Aldham village (VH/Church). A positive response has been received from TMS and is hoped to submit a bid by deadline of the end of January

013/2026 Finance

a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. December 2025

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. December 2025

b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026

c) To approve the payment of Accounts for January 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements **All Agreed**

014/2026 2026-2027 Budget – Councillors to confirm the 2026-2027 budget and to sign the Precept form

Cllr M. Lambert proposed the 2026-2027 budget expenditure of £18444 and a Precept demand of £17378. Using CCC tax base figure of 215.9 resulted in a Band D property figure of £80.49. This is a Zero increase from 2025-2026. Cllr A. Scott seconded. **All Agreed** and the Clerk was thanked for helping to achieve this positive outcome

The Clerk then signed the 2026-2027 Precept form

Clerk

015/2026 To consider training opportunities available from EALC

016/2026 Information Exchange

The ramp outside the bungalows on Green Lane has been repaired but a request for a handrail was not supported as the ramp was designed for use by pushchairs and wheelchairs and a handrail could be unhelpful to such users

017/2026 Items for next agenda

Cllr A. D'Angibau apologies for the February meeting

018/2026 7.30pm	To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 3 rd . February 2026 at	
019/2026 01.12.26	To note 2026 meeting dates: 03.03: 07.04: 05.05: 02.06: 07.07: 01.09: 06.10: 03.11:	
020/2026	Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business	
The Chair then closed the meeting at 9.20pm and thanked everyone for attending		
Signed Mike Lambert – Chair		3 rd . February 2026

ITEM 027/2026

Pylons Notes for APC Meeting 3 Feb, from Penny Lang

Am assuming that Adam will explain about the Planning Inspectorate's recent Rule 6 Letter about the arrangements for the pylons Examination, which has now started, and is planned to continue until August.

We have made a submission to the Planning Inspectorate to the effect that, considering that Ardleigh, Dedham, Lt Bromley and Aldham are particularly badly affected, we are surprised there was **no hearing venue at Colchester** for the first round of hearings. Colchester United Stadium is the obvious location, and we've requested it is used regularly going forward.

The deadline to participate in the first tranche of Examination hearings, Feb 10- 13th has now passed. Our barrister, Lord Banner KC, is lined up to speak as follows:

Tuesday 10 Feb, at 10.00am. Preliminary Meeting (mostly discussing procedures for the Examination)

Friday 13 Feb at 10.00am. Issue-Specific Hearing - on Alternatives

If you simply wish to **observe** a meeting then you do not need to register as you can either:

1. Watch a livestream of the event online (via Microsoft teams) - a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin
2. Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

BANK RECONCILITION				
Financial year ending 31.03.26				
Bank Balance as at	30.04.25	31.05.25	30.06.25	31.07.25
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£ 10,277.00	£ 10,196.38	£ 3,057.30	£ 1,266.11
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£ 8,000.00	£ 8,000.00	£ 14,000.00	£ 14,056.23
Total:	£ 18,277.00	£ 18,196.38	£ 17,057.30	£ 15,322.34
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 18,277.00	£ 18,196.38	£ 17,057.30	£ 15,322.34
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.25	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60
Plus Receipts	£ 8,829.00	£ 10,445.83	£ 10,445.83	£ 10,502.06
Total	£ 19,712.60	£ 21,329.43	£ 21,329.43	£ 21,385.66
Less Payments	£ 1,435.60	£ 3,133.05	£ 4,272.13	£ 6,063.32
Grand Total	£ 18,277.00	£ 18,196.38	£ 17,057.30	£ 15,322.34
Difference	£ -	-£ 0.00	£ -	£ -
Bank Balance as at	31.08.25	30.09.25	30.10.25	30.11.25
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£ 1,634.99	£ 9,606.99	£ 1,057.49	£ 505.09
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£ 12,806.23	£ 12,883.40	£ 16,383.40	£ 16,383.40
Total:	£ 14,441.22	£ 22,490.39	£ 17,440.89	£ 16,888.49
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 14,441.22	£ 22,490.39	£ 17,440.89	£ 16,888.49
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.25	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60
Plus Receipts	£ 10,502.06	£ 19,408.23	£ 19,408.23	£ 19,408.23
Total	£ 21,385.66	£ 30,291.83	£ 30,291.83	£ 30,291.83
Less Payments	£ 6,944.44	£ 7,801.44	£ 12,850.94	£ 13,403.34
Grand Total	£ 14,441.22	£ 22,490.39	£ 17,440.89	£ 16,888.49
Difference	-£ 0.00	-£ 0.00	£ -	-£ 0.00
Bank Balance as at	31.12.25	31.01.26	28.02.26	31.03.26
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£ 455.18	£ 2,960.74		
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£ 15,973.54	£ 15,773.54		
Total:	£ 16,428.72	£ 18,734.28		
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -	£ -		
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 16,428.72	£ 18,734.28		
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.25	£ 10,883.60	£ 10,883.60		
Plus Receipts	£ 19,498.37	£ 22,327.33		
Total	£ 30,381.97	£ 33,210.93		
Less Payments	£ 13,953.25	£ 14,476.65		
Grand Total	£ 16,428.72	£ 18,734.28		
Difference	£ -	£ -		

Aldham Parish Council

Current T1

60 83 01 20505556

Balance Available balance

/ 2,960.74 > 2,960.74

Show:

Transactions



Balances are correct as of 09:50 on 29 Jan 2026.

↓ Date	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
16/01/26	HMRC VTR • XKV126000102390	✓ 2,828.96		✓ 2,960.74
07/01/26	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		✓ -507.40	131.78
07/01/26	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 109/2025		✓ -16.00	639.18
01/01/26	Transfer from 20505569	✓ 200.00		655.18
31/12/25	Service Charge		-6.00	455.18
03/12/25	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		-507.40	461.18
03/12/25	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 095/2025		-16.00	968.58
03/12/25	B/P to: Colchester CC • INV. 20220994		-14.51	984.58
30/11/25	Service Charge		-6.00	999.09
27/11/25	Transfer from 20505569	500.00		1,005.09
05/11/25	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		-507.40	505.09
05/11/25	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 079/2025		-20.00	1,012.49
05/11/25	B/P to: RBL • REF: EDB16		-25.00	1,032.49

Aldham Parish Council

Instant Access

60 83 01 20505569

Balance Available balance Gross interest rate
£ 15,773.54 £ 15,773.54 2.10% (2.12% AER)

Show:

Transactions

Balances are correct as of 09:50 on 29 Jan 2026.

↓ Date	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
01/01/26	Transfer to 20505556		£ -200.00	£ 15,773.54
31/12/25	Credit Interest	£ 90.14		£ 15,973.54
27/11/25	Transfer to 20505556		£ -500.00	£ 15,883.40

APC ACTUAL AGAINST BUDGET REPORT 2025/2026				
		Agreed 2025/26	Total Income / spend to Feb '26	Left in Budget as at Feb '26
Income	Precept	16742	£ 16,742.00	
	Other Income / Grant	916	£ 916.00	
	Wayleave	0	£ -	
	Bank Interest	0	£ 223.54	
	VAT Refund	0	£ 4,445.79	
	TOTAL	17658	£ 22,327.33	
Exp.				
	Salary	5609	£ 5,231.40	£ 377.60
	Home / Office allowance	300	£ 275.00	£ 25.00
	Grounds maintenance	4000	£ 2,783.00	£ 1,217.00
	Playing Field Inspection	100	£ -	£ 100.00
	Street Lighting	120	£ 55.67	£ 64.33
	Fees & Subscription	275	£ 223.75	£ 51.25
	Stationery	80	£ 50.52	£ 29.48
	Insurance	330	£ 300.00	£ 30.00
	Village Hall Hire	250	£ 180.00	£ 70.00
	Audit Fees	127	£ 110.00	£ 17.00
	Courses, Books & Travelling	400	£ -	£ 400.00
	Poppy Wreath	25	£ 25.00	£ -
	Grapevine Magazine	420	£ 420.00	£ -
	Donations Other	150	£ -	£ 150.00
	Fete or Events	500	£ 163.59	£ 336.41
	Defibrillator	200	£ -	£ 200.00
	Tree Surgery & maintenance	500	£ 600.00	-£ 100.00
	Miscellaneous	750	£ 19.99	£ 730.01
	Speed Gun	100	£ -	£ 100.00
	Website	500	£ 577.00	-£ 77.00
	Clerk expenses	50	£ -	£ 50.00
	Contingency	1250	£ -	£ 1,250.00
	Playing Field Rent	300	£ 300.00	£ -
	Bank Charges	72	£ 60.00	£ 12.00
	Speed Indicator Device	1250	£ 500.00	£ 750.00
	Pylons	0	£ 2,500.00	-£ 2,500.00
	TOTAL	17658	£ 14,374.92	£ 3,283.08
	Outstanding VAT Claim		£ 1,212.13	
	Total Expenditure		£ 15,587.05	

APC FINANCE FEBRUARY 2026									
Income: HMRC VAT Refund £2828.96p:									
Expenditure									
Chq No.	Inv. No.	Payee	Cost	VAT	Total				APC Ref. No.
FEE		Unity Trust Bank - Service Charge	£ 6.00	£ -	£ 6.00				55
BACS	Feb '26	Kevin B. Money - Salary	£ 507.40	£ -	£ 507.40				56
BACS	126/2025	Aldham Village Hall - Meeting cost	£ 16.00	£ -	£ 16.00				57
BACS	1498	Websites Ltd - Domain name renewal	£ 161.00	£ -	£ 161.00				58
BACS		Aldham Grapevine - Donation	£ 420.00	£ -	£ 420.00				58
		TOTAL:	£1,110.40	£ -	£1,110.40				
	Denotes already paid								