



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 1st. September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall** for the purpose of transacting the business ONLY shown on the agenda

KBMoney - Kevin B. Money CiLCA - Clerk/RFO – 26th. August 2026

AGENDA

142/2026 Apologies for Absence

143/2026 Declaration of Members interests

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

144/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7th. July 2026

145/2026 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)

146/2026 Visitors Report (ECC Sara Naylor / CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / CCC Lewis Barber)

147/2026 National Grid Consultation

148/2026 Gallows Green – update on *Crassula helmsii* management

149/2026 Millennium Field – Update on progress with new lease

150/2026 Footpath and PROW update – Cllr J. Jennings

151/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

261470 - 4 Oak Tree Cottages Brook Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3RJ

Proposed single storey rear extension

Documents can be found at

<https://d0cs.colchester.gov.uk/Publisher/mvc/listDocuments?identifier=DC&ref=261470>

a) Local Plan Reg.19 Draft

152/2026 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham

261002 - Wick Farm New Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3QY

Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for general purpose agricultural building for grain storage. **Prior Approval Required (Approved)**

153/2026 Highways & Transport Matters

- 1) SID – Cllr T. Gearey
- 2) Love your Bus contract with Transport Made Simple (Konnect) – update on new 83B Service
- 3) Various issues in Ford Street
- 4) Response to A120 emergency diversions on 13th August
- 5) Traffic Calming Paper – Cllr M. Lambert

154/2026 Finance

- a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. August 2026
- b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2026/2027
- c) To approve the payment of Accounts for August & September 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements

155/2026 Budget 2027/2028 – Councillors to put forward any items to be included in the 2027/2028 budget

156/2026 Information Exchange

Report back on visit to Eight Ash Green Village Hall

Report back on Meeting with, and action by, Colchester Borough Homes

To note Essex Association of Local Councils' AGM on 15th September 2026

157/2026 Items for next agenda

158/2026 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 6th. October 2026 at 7.30pm

159/2026 To note 2026 meeting dates: 03.11: 01.12.26

160/2026 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 7 th . July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham	Action
Present: Cllrs Mike Lambert (Chair), Brenda Brown, Andrew D'Angibau, Tony Gearey, Jean Jennings, Adam Scott, Roger Walker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There was also present 2 members of the public. 124/2026 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr Sara Naylor 125/2026 Declaration of Members interests To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda Cllr Andrew D'Angibau declared an interest in planning application 261002 126/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 2nd. June 2026 All Agreed 127/2026 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes) A resident asked why some s106 money is being split between Aldham and Eight Ash Green 4 swing seats from the playing field are stored in a residents shed. Can these swings be either sold or disposed? It was decided to sell the swings on eBay The seat on the green by the village hall needs cleaning and refurbishing. 128/2026 Visitors Report (ECC/CCC Sara Naylor / CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Lewis Barber) ECC Cllr Sara Naylor gave a report prior to the meeting 129/2026 National Grid– update on progress with DCO Examination Penny Lang informed the meeting that N2T PINS Hearings 23-25 June 2026 Open Floor Hearing 4, Compulsory Acquisitions 3, Issue Specific Hearings ISH 3, ISH 4 Aldham & Colne/Roman River valleys Copy of an excellent letter from Sir Bernard Jenkin to the Inspectorate was sent to APC Clerk for agreement & information on 2 July Inspectors asked NG questions about the area, and are hoping to revisit, probably on foot. They queried the fact that three independent landscape reports (including the one commissioned by Pylons East Anglia and Aldham PC) all concluded that the pylons had “high potential for widespread and significant harm”, so why did NG deny this was the case? They asked about why there was a need for one particular pylon (TB55) to be so near to Hines Close. NG will produce a written answer to Action Point 6 from ISH4. Pylons E.A. argue that while the Colne Valley is not a National Landscape, it shares many of the characteristics required by Natural England for that status (see draft APC submission to Deadline 6, July 7th) 30 June Action Points from ISH4 published on the website. <i>If you want to listen to the recordings about Colne Valley:</i> <i>Agenda 5: Landscape section takes up most of Recording 1 of ISH4, and some of Recording 2. Colne Valley starts at about 33mins into Recording 2 of ISH4, and goes on for some time.</i> ISH 2 Action 27, ExQ LV 1.28 and Masterplans. Colne Valley <i>Masterplans to be provided at the next deadline, with an agreed position in terms of compensation measures for residual effects on the specified landscapes by deadline 5 (Wednesday 10 June)</i> Doc 8.4.12.2 NG Response to ISH2 Action Pt 27 Masterplans Appx. E, Fordham, Ford Street & Aldham The Applicant has not provided Masterplans, but limited sketch maps; and certainly no “agreed position in terms of compensation measures”. Suggestions are inadequate or incorrect. (see draft APC submission at Deadline 6 for full details) Neither Parish Councils nor local landowners have been consulted. These maps are vague and appear to be very superficial desktop surveys (see maps at 8.4.12.2. Appendix E)	Cllr R. Walker

There are only two veteran trees shown on the Aldham Constraint Map, but they appear to be in the wrong place. There should be two at the bend in Tey Road.

Habitat connectivity is a long-standing policy of the Woodland Trust with regard to corridors between Chalkney Wood (Earls Colne), Hoe Wood Aldham, Fiddlers Wood and Fordham Hall Estate.

General

Timely reminder from James Cartlidge MP about the unproved need for, and imposition of, pre-determined pylons and failure to consult on alternatives.

Panel were not happy that NG has, as yet, No Heads of Terms Agreements with UKPN, and are unlikely to have them before the end of the DCO. The first Design Agreement between them did not take place until Nov 2025.

(Many other Heads of Terms agreements, with councils, Highways, Water companies, Lower Thames Crossing, businesses, landowners and other Interested Parties are far from settled).

An utterly straight-faced member of NG staff stunned the Panel when replying that a necessary Design Review Workshop would not take place until October ...

Panel requested "substantive replies" from NG, with all info in one place, and excluding endless Document references and/or hyperlinks.

Long discussions took place about Councils' requests for shorter construction working hours, and noise, plus questions in Action Points from ISH4.

130/2026 Gallows Green – update on *Crassula helmsii* management

A task to look into this problem has been completed and further inspections will be required

131/2026 Millennium Field – to approve legal costs of £514 +VAT for new lease

Cllr M. Lambert proposed to spend £514 +VAT on the new Millenium Lease. Cllr T. Gearey seconded. **All Agreed**

132/2026 Footpath and PROW update – Cllr J. Jennings

Footpath 7-way marks to be installed, Report risks on Essex Way on River Colne behind Mill Race

133/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

260951 - Old Bouchiers Hall New Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3QT

Prior Notification under Class ZA of the GPDO for the demolition of the existing Class E building and erection of a dwellinghouse.

Due to planning time constraint, the following response was sent to CCC on 19.06.26

The Parish Council offers no comment on this application for prior approval. However, if the City Council deem the circumstances to comply with Class Z provisions the applicants should be advised that in the event a subsequent planning application is submitted to replace the permitted Class Z structure with a new dwelling it would be subject to Local Plan policies protecting the countryside from development

261002 - Wick Farm New Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3QY

Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for general purpose agricultural building for grain storage.

Due to planning time constraint, the following response was sent to CCC on 17.06.26

Aldham Parish Council has no comment to make on the application

A resident has raised concerns over the way the Parish Council came to its decision. The clerk has responded to the resident.

a) **Local Plan Review** - Update from Cllr M. Lambert regarding discussions with neighbouring Parishes & City Council. (see note in Supporting Papers)

The Local Plan Committee met on 29th June to receive reports on progress with the Local Plan and sought approval for amended wording to some of the strategic policies that will be incorporated into the final version of the Plan (Reg.19) to be considered at the next meeting on 26th August. The Committee also considered a report setting out the implications of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy, which would replace in part the s106 agreement process, and provide greater certainty.

City officers have met with Marks Tey Parish Council to discuss how they propose to take forward master planning for the proposed Marks Tey Growth Area. The City Council have appointed consultants who were originally employed by MTPC to carry out this work. However, the process, timescale and brief remains unclear at this point

Cllr Jean Jennings

b) **s106 Planning Obligations Wish List** – s106 for 26/1310 Foxes Corner, Halstead Road
Cllr M. Lambert has replied to the case officer at CCC asking if funding can be used for potential purchase of Millennium Playing Field and for future but unspecified improvements to the village hall.

c) **Application 251310 Halstead Road** - report back on Counsel's opinion – Cllr M. Lambert
Following the decision at last month's meeting Counsel's opinion has been sought on whether there were any legal grounds to challenge the City Council's decision to grant planning permission for 250 homes on the site. A Senior Barrister at Cornerstone Chambers has completed a comprehensive written opinion

To confirm for the record the Parish Council agreed a fee of £5000 +VAT for this opinion, funded jointly by Aldham (from General Reserves) and Eight Ash Green Parish

134/2026 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham

260641 - Corvettes New Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3QZ

Proposed outdoor swimming pool, modification of existing terrace area. **Approve with conditions**

260356 - Rose Cottage Halstead Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3PP

2 story extension to side land adding 2 bedrooms on first floor (existing third bedroom will become bathroom) a living area snug and utility to grounds floor. **Application Refused**

260550 - The Old House Ford Street Aldham Colchester CO6 3PH

Installation of an alarm bell on the east facing wall. **Approve conditional**

261002 - Wick Farm New Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3QY

Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for general purpose agricultural building for grain storage. **Prior Approval Required (Approved)**

135/2026 Highways & Transport Matters

1) SID – The speed sign has been turned around. The speed of oncoming traffic is about 28mph. The sign has now been turned off but it is still recording the speed of the traffic. This may give better data on its effectiveness.

2) Love your Bus contract with Transport Made Simple (Konnect) – to consider terms of a draft contract with Transport made Simple (Konnect Buses)

Cllr M. Lambert proposed that the Clerk signs the agreement, subject to querying whether the timetable could be altered to make the service half an hour later. Cllr B. Brown seconded. **All Agreed**

3) Salt Bag Partnership 2026/2027. Does APC wish to participate in this scheme for 2026-2027? Councillors decided not to participate in this year's salt bag scheme.

136/2026 Finance

a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. June 2026

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. June 2026

b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2026/2027

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2026/2027

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

137/2026 Information Exchange

The verge in front of the Alms Houses grass is looking poor. The Alms houses have now been strimmed. A meeting with Borough Homes to express concerns over the condition of the grass. Can the Clerk chase up the visit to Eight Ash Green village hall

138/2026 Items for next agenda

To give further consideration to potential s106 projects: To give further consideration to proposed traffic calming measures for consideration by ECC Highways

139/2026 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 1st. September 2026

140/2026 To note 2026 meeting dates: 06.10: 03.11: 01.12.26

141/2026 Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.45pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

Mike Lambert – Chair

1st. September 2026

**Cllr M.
Lambert**

**Clerk
Clerk**

**Cllr M.
Lambert
Clerk**

Aldham Parish Council: 1st September Meeting

Item 147/2026 National Grid Consultation on Community Fund

Government Policy updated last year states that National Grid are expected to provide 'community funds' for overhead transmission lines at the rate of £200k per km of OH line and £530k per substation.

NG has launched a consultation on a proposed Community Fund for Norwich to Tilbury stating:

If Norwich to Tilbury is granted planning consent, a dedicated Community Fund of over £30 million will be unlocked when we start construction. The fund would be invested in two ways, a Local Fund, with grants available for grass-roots projects and a Strategic Fund, supporting bigger, longer-term projects.

The Community Fund could support projects that invest in skills and training, improve community spaces, support physical health and wellbeing, enhance green spaces or create partnerships with charities or service providers.

We are asking for your views on how this funding could be used to best support your community or local area.

Tell us how you think this fund could make a difference to where you live. It might be:

- *opening doors to new skills, training and opportunities for the future*
- *revitalising community and green spaces where people can connect and thrive*
- *strengthening health and wellbeing support for local people*
- *or anything else you think your community needs.*

The consultation runs until the end of December and asks for an online form to be completed which asks the following questions:

1. *What Issues matter most to your community right now?*
2. *Which of the following themes are most important?*
 - *investing in skills*
 - *enhancing green spaces - Gallows Green/Millennium Green?*
 - *improving community spaces – Millennium Playing Field/Village Hall?*
 - *supporting physical health*
 - *partnering charities*
3. *What projects would benefit your community?*
4. *Where could investment make biggest difference?*
5. *Anything else you want to share?*

The first question would be why are they not talking direct to those local authorities and Parish Councils affected?

Rather than a competition requiring us to bid against a project in, say Norfolk, we should be allocated a sum on *pro rata* basis, the use of which would be at the Parish Council's discretion, subject to certain parameters.

NB: this is separate from the proposed £250 discount to annual electricity bills for ten years which applies to properties within 500m of the line, which could include a substantial proportion of properties in the main village and at southern end of Ford Street.

Mike Lambert
Chair

Aldham Parish Council 1st September 2026

Item 151/2016 a) Local Plan Review

The City Council has published the Reg.19 Submission Local Plan following consideration of the Consultation Responses to the Reg.18 Preferred Options in February. The Plan is to be considered at the Local Plan Committee on 26th August.

The revised Plan contains a number of alterations to both housing allocations and policies dealing with the provision of infrastructure but fundamentally remains unchanged proposing an increase of 21,692 new homes by 2043.

In terms of the Seven Parishes the number of new homes has now increased by 265 to 3,870, more than double the existing total of 3528 houses (2021 Census data). The figure is broken down as follows:

Marks Tey	2500 (to 2043 unchanged, but potentially more in longer term)
Chappel/Wakes Colne	235 unchanged
Copford	420 increase of 120
Eight Ash Green	500 (250 in Aldham Parish already) increase of 70
Gt Tey	200 increase of 75
Aldham Village	15 unchanged

There are currently planning approval or applications under consideration for over 1000 of these new homes in the Seven Parishes, including one site in Eight Ash Green for 140 that has been removed from the revised plan. It is not clear how the City Council will deal with this yet.

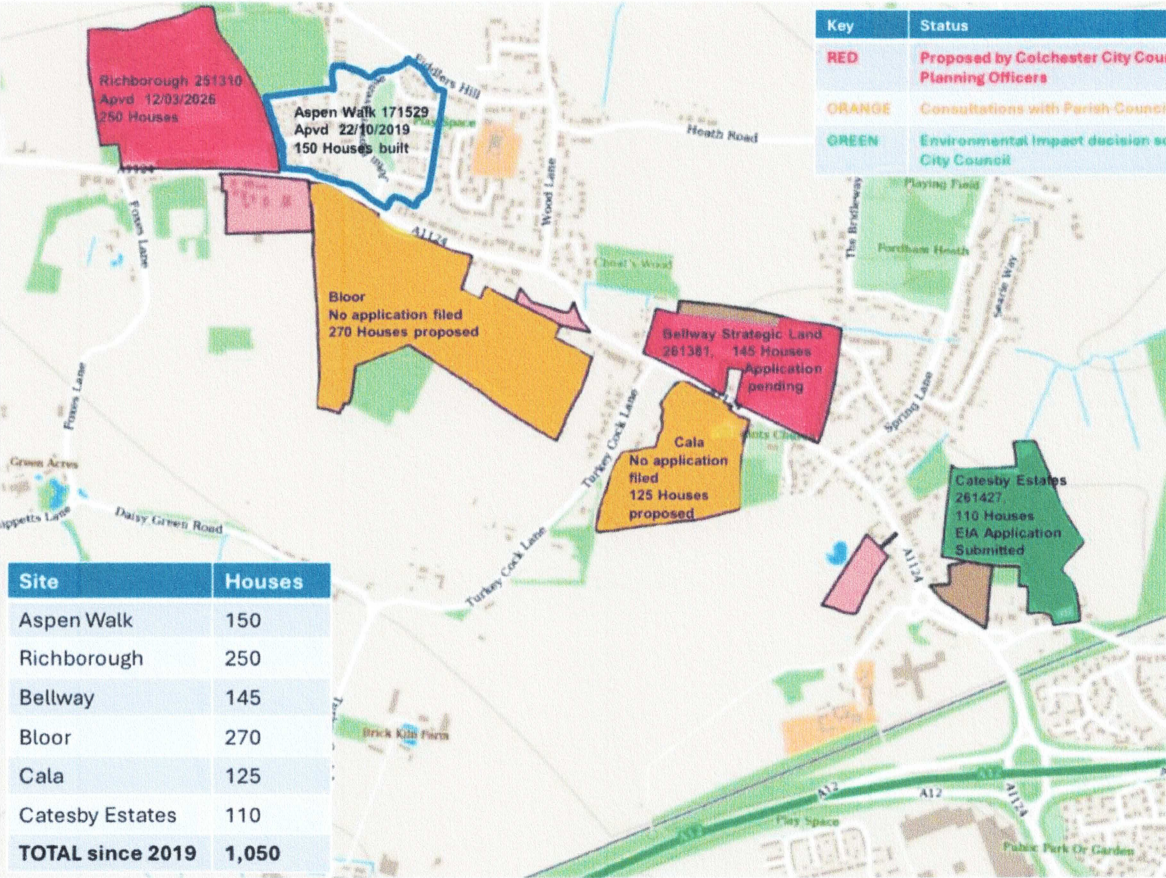
The Marks Tey Growth Area has now been redefined to indicate a broader area north and south of the A12 pending a separate Master Planning exercise. Policies have been strengthened to relate better to the need for infrastructure and capacity of the A120 in particular. The Plan also now safeguards the route of the A12 widening scheme which is welcome.

Whilst more work has been done to try to address concerns regarding how individual sites can contribute towards wider infrastructure, the mechanisms for achieving this are still vague and the Council has not yet committed to the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy, which would require every new house to contribute to a fund to pay for the improvements needed to cope with the additional growth in population and movement.

At the time of writing I am liaising with the other six parishes over our initial response but there will be a six week consultation period before the Plan is submitted for Examination by an independent Inspector. The issue for the Parishes is essentially whether a poor plan is better than no plan at all! The risk being that if the Plan does not move forward now further speculative applications will be impossible to resist. A copy of the Draft statement is attached.

Mike Lambert

Chair



Plan showing current proposals in Eight Ash Green

Statement on behalf of the Parish Councils of Aldham, Chappel, Copford, Easthorpe, Eight Ash Green, Gt Tey, Marks Tey and Wakes Colne.

The seven communities I represent comprise just 3,500 homes. The Plan will more than double and, in some cases, triple that, with allocations of over 3,800 new homes to be constructed in only 15 years. Over the last eight months we have sought to engage positively with the Council to ensure this degree of change can be accommodated successfully and the impact mitigated for our communities.

Engagement has been limited – one meeting with all seven to advise the number of new homes is increased by 260 and a short meeting with Marks Tey Parish Council on progress with master planning for the Growth Area.

Over that time we have seen applications submitted for over 1000 new homes and are told the Council cannot oppose them on grounds of prematurity and cannot secure s106 agreements that reflect the level of contributions for the mitigation needed.

We understand the dilemma the City faces, caught between Government targets, an out of date Local Plan and an approaching regulatory deadline. Time is short, but two meetings do not represent engagement.

City officers have been diligent in assembling and linking all the complex data required for the Plan, but less successful in forming that data into a deliverable vision for the whole of Colchester and explaining it. We have before us a completed jigsaw but with no picture on the front the communities can understand.

We do acknowledge the Council has listened to some of our concerns and changes have been made to better link the need for infrastructure provision to the policies in the Plan. However, there is no specific policy in the Plan that commits to the level of modal shift and transport investment needed to ensure we avoid gridlock in 2043.

In particular, the lack of firm commitment to CIL to secure infrastructure provision, the lack of specific detail in the Place Policies as to what is required, by whom and by when, and the absence of any phasing to avoid frontloading in advance of infrastructure, all point to the risk Plan will be undeliverable and therefore unsound.

Nevertheless, the Seven Parishes continue to be pragmatic and acknowledge a Plan may be better than no Plan – but if the Reg.19 is to proceed then the Council must commit to further refinement and strengthening before Adoption.

Firstly, use the Reg.19 Consultation Stage positively to continue to listen, and use the opportunity to further improve and strengthen the deliverability of the final Plan; secondly, give priority to working up a CIL proposal urgently that can run in parallel with the Local Plan and not behind it; and thirdly, acknowledge that the impact of the emerging Braintree Local Plan requires much closer collaboration to coordinate mitigation for all the communities in the A12, A120 and A1124 corridors.

Finally, we look for confirmation that in approving the Reg.19 Draft tonight the Council will now be able to control the spate of speculative applications that are causing such distress locally – just count the number of representations received on the five applications received to date.

There is much work still to be done and the early cancellation of this Committee's next meeting in October seems to us surprising.

ITEM 153/2026 (3)

Clerk @ Aldham Parish Council

From: Jackie Daines <jackiedaines@btinternet.com>
Sent: 22 July 2026 13:32
To: clerk@aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Various

Hi Kevin,

Could you take on board three items please.

Firstly a couple of the bollards skirting the village green in Ford Street have been damaged and need attention.

The dog residue bin, on the green in Ford Street, is badly in need of replacing (this has been reported many times)

The path up Ford Street Hill is getting more narrow by the day almost. It is badly in need of cleaning/clearing as the undergrowth is growing across the path. Walking up or down the path is, quite frankly, bordering on the dangerous. You can feel the wind whip past you from speeding traffic, and is only a matter of time (hopefully not) before someone gets clipped by a passing vehicle.

Urgent attention needed I think.

I look forward to hearing that these items will be addressed as soon as possible.

Many thanks,

Jackie Daines

Item 153/2026/5 Strategy to mitigate impact of traffic speed and volume on highway safety and amenity in Aldham Parish

Purpose:

To seek the support of the City Council and ECC Highways for a series of measures that over time could assist in mitigating the impact of increased traffic volume and speeds on minor rural roads in the Parish of Aldham.

In response to concerns expressed by local residents, especially following the impact of road works and major incidents on the A12, Parish Council established a Highways & Traffic Working Group in late 2024 which included co-opted residents and City and County Councillors. This Report was prepared by the Group and endorsed by the Parish Council on 4th February 2025. It was intended it should be reported to the Local Highways Panel to seek support for implementing the proposed measures when funds became available. However, the report was never submitted and it is understood the LHP has since been disbanded.

Problems persist and given the likely level of housing to be included in the Local Plan Review the current plans make no provision for the investment needed to mitigate the likely impact of additional traffic on rural roads. This report should inform both Councils when considering the allocation investment and in drawing up s106/CIL requirements for development in any of the rural parishes

Background:

The village of Aldham comprises two distinct parts: the main village at the cross roads of Tey Road/Green Lane and Brook Road/New Road; and Ford Street, with properties fronting the A1124 from the boundary of Eight Ash Green down Ford St Hill to the River Colne and the boundary with Fordham.

No.88 Colchester to Halstead Bus service runs along the A1124 serving Ford St, but there is a more limited service via the main village (88A), which is subsidised to run on Sundays and Bank Holidays by ECC.

There is currently no footway between Ford Street and facilities in the main village ie. Church and Village Hall, nor between the main village and facilities at Marks Tey ie. rail station, bus services and shops/post office etc.

Key Issues:

- **Local Plan Review**

An overarching issue for Aldham is the emerging Review of the Local Plan. Whilst recognising the national priority to increase housing supply there is little evidence in the emerging Plan that transport infrastructure will match the rate of new development, or that planning policy will reduce the use of the car as the principal means of transport for most residents in north Essex. In Aldham and the six adjoining

parishes, the Local Plan Review is proposing over 3800 new homes. That is more than double the existing housing in all seven parishes of Aldham, Chappel, Wakes Colne, Eight Ash Green, Gt Tey, Marks Tey, Easthorpe and Copford. Effectively doubling the population of these parishes will have a very significant adverse impact on both traffic movement and the amenity of all residents of these parishes.

- **Traffic Speed & Volume**

The village has experienced higher traffic volumes through the village, not only on the A1124 but also through the main village over the last ten years with the advent of SatNav and Google Maps. The west-east route (Tey Road/Green Lane) is now a recognised rat run to avoid congestion at the A120/A12 junction at Marks Tey and this has markedly increased since the A12 works between J25 and J26 over the last two years. The verges are badly eroded and badly potholed because it is generally too narrow for vehicles to pass without pulling on to the verge. Furthermore, residents have had to resort to erecting posts along the narrow verges to reduce the risk of vehicles running into roadside ditches when passing oncoming vehicles. Inevitably as a rat run, traffic speeds have increased making the route less safe for other road users ie. cyclists, pedestrians/dog walkers, runners and horse riders. The entire length of Tey Road between the built up edge of Aldham and Gt Tey is subject only to the National Speed Limit.

New Road and Brook Road form part of a short cut from A12/A120/Marks Tey station around the north west side of Colchester to the B1508 through Fordham and Wormingford. Although the section through Aldham is not subject to the same problem of HGVs from CSH and Fairfield Farm as our neighbouring Parishes, the use of minor roads such as these as a short cut, particularly during peak hours means high volumes and higher speeds to the detriment of safety and amenity.

Residents fronting the A1124, particularly those on the north side (Colchester bound carriageway) at the top of Ford St Hill lodged a petition with the Parish Council in response to the increased risks accessing the A1124 from their private drives on the inside of the bend, because of increased traffic volumes and speed over recent years. This follows an intensive campaign by residents over many years to secure a 40mph limit on this stretch of the A1124, which was eventually implemented in 2013. There has been no response to this from either City or County so far as we are aware.

- **Pedestrians and Cyclists**

National policy is seeking to encourage more walking and cycling and the use of public transport. The station at Marks Tey is only just over a mile from the centre of the main village and access to this and other facilities at Marks Tey should be accessible to both walkers and cyclists. However, from the edge of the village to

North Lane, where there is a footway and wider carriageway, there is no safe route for pedestrians on **Brook Road**. The narrow carriageway makes it unsafe for cyclists as there is not room for two vans or larger vehicles to pass safely on the stretch north of the Roman River, and raised verges make it impossible for vehicles to pull over.

SatNav and Google Maps is encouraging more traffic to short cut along **Rectory Road** which links Tey Road and Brook Road. This is very narrow with a number of blind bends. It is also subject only to the National Speed Limit. It serves just a farm, small market garden and 14 houses but is a popular local recreational route with walkers, cyclists, runners and horse riders. Unnecessary through traffic should be discouraged on the grounds of safety and amenity.

- **Public Transport**

The limited 88a service through the main village discourages more use by residents as an alternative to the car as a means of travel to the City Centre. The regular 88 travels up Ford St Hill with no additional stops, saving minimal journey time and losing the opportunity for additional passengers from Aldham village. The distance and absence of a convenient and safe pedestrian route from the village to Ford St rules out the chance of anyone making use of the better service. The Parish has recently been awarded a grant to provide an additional two services into Colchester on weekdays but for a limited period unless patronage can be increased.

Proposed Strategy for Mitigating Impact of Traffic Speed and Volume on our Community:

The Parish Council recognises that the general increase in traffic volumes, particularly on minor rural roads as a direct result of a lack of capacity on the Major Road Network is unlikely to diminish without changes to national policy on transport. However, the Local Plan Review is likely to exacerbate the existing problems and a number of measures need to be urgently adopted to improve safety and amenity for our residents.

- **Speed Indicator Devices:**

The Council has funded two Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) at two locations in Aldham; the bottom of Ford St Hill as you enter the current 30mph limit from the Colchester direction and at Brook Road at the northern end of the main village. The Brook Road SID can be turned to capture data in both directions. These devices have been operating for almost a year and the Parish has recorded speeds and volume on a monthly basis.

The SIDs have replaced the need for Community Speed Watch.

Insert summary data from SIDs

- **Additional Speed Limits on Minor Rural Roads:**

The Parish Council is aware of the consultation on a Draft Essex Transport Strategy in 2024 that proposed a new road classification for the County to make it more relevant to current issues, such as those raised in this paper. The Parish Council made representations on this draft to the effect that it did not address the problem of inadequate and inappropriate minor roads effectively becoming surrogate relief routes for the congested County Road network, with consequential detrimental effect on road safety and amenity for residents along these rural routes. The two routes through the main village of Aldham fall into this category.

The Parish Council would advocate the imposition of 40mph speed limits on the following roads between existing 30mph limits - Tey Road, Green Lane, New Road and Brook Road/North Lane, in the interest of traffic safety and local amenity.

- **Tey Road Improvements**

It needs to be recognised that this is now part of an established rat run avoiding both both A120 and A1124 and is frequently used by through traffic, especially if there are hold ups on either 'A' roads. The result is continual damage to verges and the need for regular maintenance. It is suggested that the length of road between the 30mph limits in Gt Tey and Aldham is surveyed to identify where the verges are of adequate width to provide a regular series of properly surfaced and marked passing places on each side to discourage and limit further damage and to improve road safety

- **A1124 Ford St Hill**

The Parish Council advocates the extension of the 30 mph limit at the bottom of Ford St Hill on the A1124 to a point east of the junction with Green Lane, beyond the last house on the north side, as a minimum and preferably to replace the entire 40mph limit between Ford St and Eight Ash Green with a 30mph limit.

- **Additional Traffic Calming Measures**

The Parish Council advocates the renewal and enhancement of the existing 'gateway' features at the entrance to the main village on Brook Road and New Road, which are in a poor state of repair. This should include a Priority Yield System to slow traffic entering the village and new 'gateway' features on the entrance to the village on Tey Road and Green Lane, to further discourage traffic speed. The cross roads in the centre of the main village creates a dangerous chicane and difficulty for pedestrians crossing to use the Church, Village Hall or bus stops. Scope for installing a central refuge to slow traffic and assist pedestrians should be investigated.

- **Contingency Plans for Emergencies on A12 & A120**

Aldham and our neighbouring villages frequently have to bear the consequences of emergencies on the A120 between Coggeshall and Marks Tey. Sat Nav diverts traffic along inadequate country lanes that cannot allow larger vehicles to pass creating gridlock and frustration for drivers and residents alike. In the absence of any commitment to improving the A120 despite the planned major housing growth the Parish Council urges the City and County Council to work with both Essex Police and National Highways to put in place a contingency plan that can be implemented at short notice, providing signage to direct traffic along suitable diversions and discouraging/preventing it on those that are unsuitable. Police, National Highway Traffic and Parish Council could be issued with temporary signage to be placed at agreed locations as soon as a major incident occurs.

- **Improvements for Pedestrians and Cyclists**

The Parish Council seeks support from the Local Highways Panel towards the cost of a feasibility study into the creation of a segregated cycle/pedestrian route from the Millennium Playing Field to North Lane to provide safe access to Marks Tey station and facilities at Marks Tey. Funding for implementation would be sought when opportunities to apply for capital funding initiatives are available and through s106/CIL or similar contributions from new development or major infrastructure projects in the locality.

The Parish Council advocates the introduction of 'Quiet Lane' status to the entire length of Rectory Road to discourage through traffic and traffic speed and improve both safety and amenity for recreational users of the lane on foot, cycle or horse.

- **Bus Service**

The Parish Council has successfully bid for funding from the Love your Bus initiative to provide a new early morning weekday service (83b). This is important in giving people working and students the opportunity to use Public Transport to get into the City Centre before 9am. The Parish will be working with Konect to publicise and encourage use. However, the return services are still inadequate for encouraging wider use and further enhancement to services if the Councils are serious about achieving a modal shift to mitigate the impact of new development over the next 15 years.

Conclusion & Way Forward:

1. The Parish Council wish to mitigate the impact on road safety and local amenity of increased traffic volumes and speed arising from the use of rural minor roads as short cuts and rat runs to avoid delay and congestion on the County Road Network.

2. The Parish Council seeks the support of the County and City Councils and future North Essex UA in principle for this package of measures for our Parish and would request the opportunity is taken to implement these in a phased manner over time as funding becomes available through s106 or capital funding.

Aldham Parish Council
September 2026

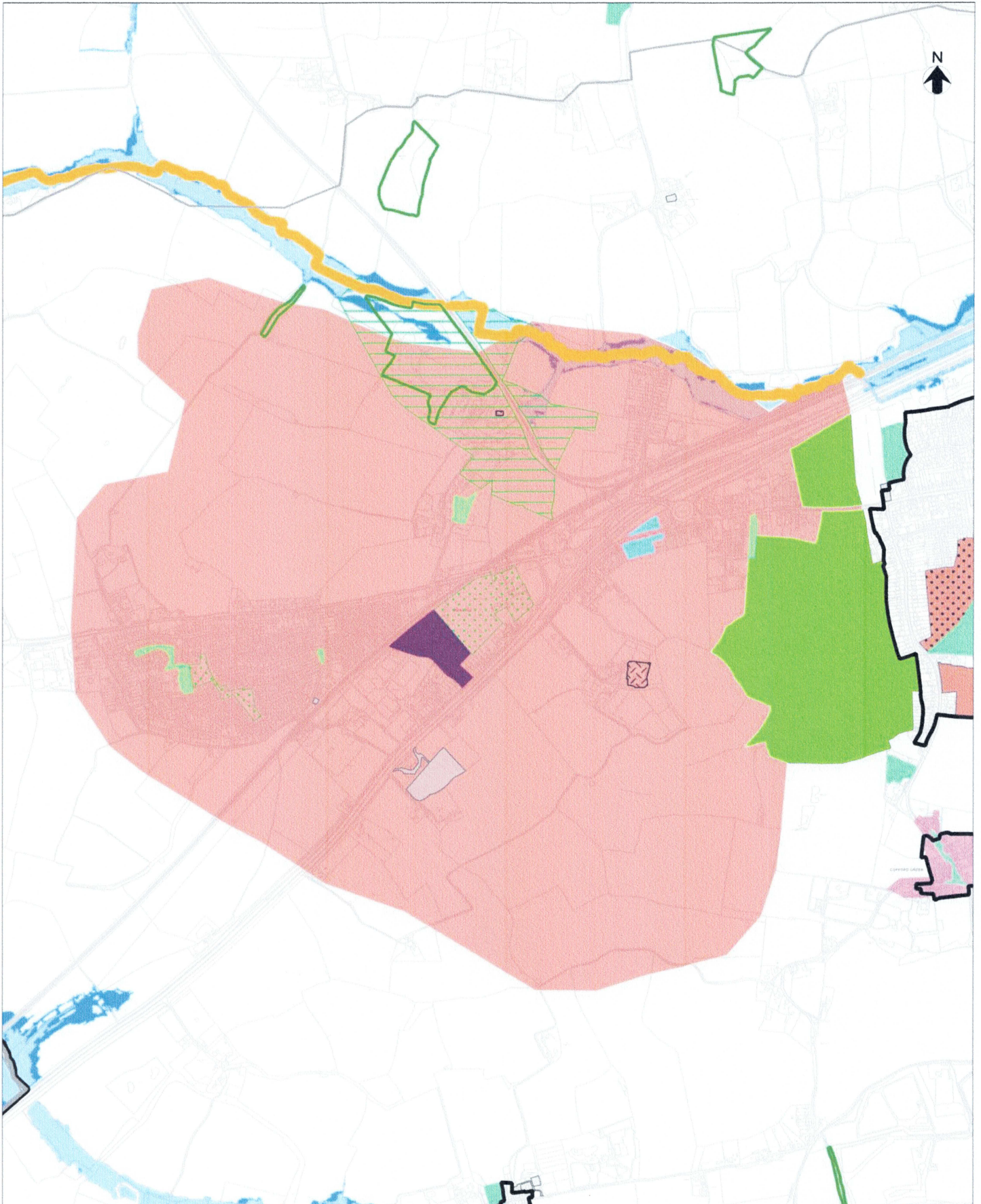
Policy OA5 Marks Tey Growth Area Framework Plan



KEY

- Growth area
- High density
- Medium density
- Active travel bridge
- Active travel route
- A12 widening scheme
- Copford Strategic Green Gap
- SANG
- Brickpits SSSI/Local Wildlife Site
- Connection to PROW
- Existing settlement areas
- Marks Tey Village Hall & Recreation Ground





	BANK RECONCILIATION			
Financial year ending 31.03.27				
Bank Balance as at	30.04.26	31.05.26	30.06.26	31.07.26
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£ 577.84	£ 716.66	£ 2,098.94	£ 739.98
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£ 24,854.89	£ 23,854.89	£ 18,964.77	£ 18,964.77
Total:	£ 25,432.73	£ 24,571.55	£ 21,063.71	£ 19,704.75
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 25,432.73	£ 24,571.55	£ 21,063.71	£ 19,704.75
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.26	£ 17,349.58	£ 17,349.58	£ 17,349.58	£ 17,349.58
Plus Receipts	£ 9,147.00	£ 9,147.00	£ 13,256.88	£ 13,256.88
Total	£ 26,496.58	£ 26,496.58	£ 30,606.46	£ 30,606.46
Less Payments	£ 1,063.85	£ 1,925.03	£ 9,542.75	£ 10,901.71
Grand Total	£ 25,432.73	£ 24,571.55	£ 21,063.71	£ 19,704.75
Difference	-£ 0.00	-£ 0.00	£ -	£ -
Bank Balance as at	28.08.26			
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£ 719.87			
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£ 14,464.77			
Total:	£ 15,184.64			
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -			
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 15,184.64			
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.26	£ 17,349.58			
Plus Receipts	£ 13,256.88			
Total	£ 30,606.46			
Less Payments	£ 15,421.82			
Grand Total	£ 15,184.64			
Difference	£ 0.00			
Bank Balance as at				
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c				
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c				
Total:				
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques				
Net Bank Balances as at				
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.26				
Plus Receipts				
Total				
Less Payments				
Grand Total				
Difference				

Aldham Parish Council

Current T1

60 83 01 20505556

Balance Available balance

719.87 719.87

Show:

Transactions



Balances are correct as of 16:33 on 27 Aug 2026.

↓ Date	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
17/08/26	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		-507.40	719.87
17/08/26	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 048/2026		-16.00	1,227.27
17/08/26	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 062/2026		-16.00	1,243.27
17/08/26	B/P to: Colchester CC • INV. 20226832		-20.71	1,259.27
17/08/26	B/P to: The Landscape Part • INV. 37539		-3,960.00	1,279.98
13/08/26	Transfer from 20505569	4,500.00		5,239.98
31/07/26	Service Charge		-7.00	739.98
08/07/26	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		-507.40	746.98
08/07/26	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 3243		-318.78	1,254.38
08/07/26	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 3229		-318.78	1,573.16
08/07/26	B/P to: CALC • ALDHAM PC		-35.00	1,891.94
08/07/26	B/P to: Dunmow Training • INV. SI-338		-156.00	1,926.94
08/07/26	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 036/2026		-16.00	2,082.94
30/06/26	Service Charge		-7.00	2,098.94
11/06/26	EIGHT ASH GREEN PA • LEGAL COSTS	1,000.00		2,105.94
03/06/26	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK PAYMENT		-507.40	1,105.94
03/06/26	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 3206		-318.78	1,613.34
03/06/26	B/P to: RCCE • ALDHAM PC		-63.60	1,932.12
03/06/26	B/P to: EALC • INV. 19303		-178.16	1,995.72
03/06/26	B/P to: Aldham VH • INV. 021/2026		-16.00	2,173.88

Aldham Parish Council

Instant Access

60 83 01 20505569

Balance Available balance Gross interest rate
14,464.77 14,464.77 1.95 % (1.96 % APR)

Show:

Transactions

Balances are correct as of 16:33 on 27 Aug 2026.

↓ Date	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
13/08/26	Transfer to 20505556		4,500.00	14,464.77
30/06/26	Credit Interest	109.88		18,964.77
03/06/26	Transfer to 20505556		5,000.00	18,854.89

APC ACTUAL AGAINST BUDGET REPORT 2026/2027					
		Agreed 2026/27	Total Income / spend to September '26	Left in Budget as at September '26	
Income	Precept	17378	£ 8,689.00		
	Other Income / Grant	916	£ 4,458.00		£4000 Legal contributions
	Wayleave	0	£ -		
	Bank Interest	150	£ 109.88		
	VAT Refund	0	£ -		
	TOTAL	18444	£ 13,256.88		
Exp.					
	Salary	5789	£ 2,894.40	£ 2,894.60	
	Home / Office allowance	300	£ 150.00	£ 150.00	
	Grounds maintenance	3500	£ 1,593.90	£ 1,906.10	
	Playing Field Inspection	100	£ -	£ 100.00	
	Street Lighting	120	£ 36.10	£ 83.90	
	Fees & Subscription	275	£ 474.16	-£ 199.16	ICO past subs
	Stationery	75	£ 58.38	£ 16.62	
	Insurance	400	£ -	£ 400.00	
	Village Hall Hire	250	£ 92.00	£ 158.00	
	Audit Fees	120	£ 130.00	-£ 10.00	
	Courses, Books & Travelling	400	£ -	£ 400.00	
	Poppy Wreath	25	£ -	£ 25.00	
	Grapevine Magazine	450	£ -	£ 450.00	
	Donations Other	150	£ -	£ 150.00	
	Fete or Events	500	£ -	£ 500.00	
	Defibrillator	200	£ -	£ 200.00	
	Tree Surgery & maintenance	500	£ -	£ 500.00	
	Miscellaneous	250	£ 5,000.00	-£ 4,750.00	Legal Advice
	Speed Gun	100	£ -	£ 100.00	
	Website	500	£ 138.00	£ 362.00	
	Contingency	756	£ -	£ 756.00	
	Playing Field Rent	300	£ -	£ 300.00	
	Bank Charges	84	£ 35.00	£ 49.00	
	Gallows Green / Notice board	2500	£ -	£ 2,500.00	
	Pylons	3300	£ 3,300.00	£ -	
	ICO Subscription	0	£ 52.00	-£ 52.00	
	TOTAL	20944	£ 13,953.94	£ 6,990.06	
			£ 2,034.28		
	Total Expenditure		£ 15,988.22		

	APC FINANCE SEPTEMBER 2026						
	Income:						APC Ref. No.
		Expenditure					
Chq No.	Inv. No.	Payee	Cost	VAT	Total		
FEE	Aug '26	Unity Trust Bank - Service Charge	£ 7.00	£ -	£ 7.00	32	
BACS	Sept '26	Kevin B. Money - Salary	£ 507.40	£ -	£ 507.40	33	
BACS		ICO - Subscription	£ 52.00	£ -	£ 52.00	34	
		TOTAL:	£ 566.40	£ -	£ 566.40		