

ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Kevin B. Money 7 Roach Vale Ardleigh Essex CO4 3YN 01206 672191 - 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 5th. NOVEMBER 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall for the purpose of transacting the business ONLY shown on the agenda

ior the purpose of transacting the business CIVET shown on the agenda

XBMoney - Kevin B. Money CiLCA - Clerk/RFO – 30th. October 2024

AGENDA

	AGENDA
164/2024	Apologies for absence
165/2024 To declare an	Declaration of Members interests y Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda
166/2024	To approve the minutes of the last meetings held on Tuesday 1st. October 2024
167/2024	Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)
168/2024	Visitors Report (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber)
169/2024	Speed indicator Device for Brook Road - update from Cllr A. D'Angibau
170/2024	National Grid- update from Cllr A. Scott
171/2024	Dog Exercise Area – Cllr R. Walker
172/2024	Planning Applications
173/2024	Planning Decisions affecting Aldham
	1685 - Old Queens Head Ford Street Aldham CO6 3PH al roof windows - Approve Conditional
241778 - Som Application fo Approve Cor	nerson House, New Road, Aldham Colchester CO6 3PN r variation of condition 2 following grant of planning permission for 241291 Inditional
174/2024 Green and Fl	Update on Key Priorities for 2024/25: Housing, Millennium Playing Field, Gallows P/cycleway link to Marks Tey
175/2024	Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Cllr M. Lambert
176/2024 • To cor	Highways & Traffic Working Group nsider recommendations of the Working Group
b) To recc) To appthe Pa	Finance serve the Bank reconciliations as at 30 th . October 2024 serve the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/25 prove the payment of Accounts for November 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet arish Council financial requirements point Mr. M. Lawson as Internal Auditor for 2024-2025 year
178/2024	Budget 2025/2026 - Councillors to discuss draft budget for 2025-2026
179/2024	To consider training opportunities available from EALC
180/2024 181/2024 182/2024 183/2024 of business	Information Exchange Items for next agenda To confirm date and time of next meeting. Tuesday 3 rd . December 2024at 7.30pm Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items



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-	Minutes of Aldham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 1 st . October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham	Action
	Present: Cllrs Mike Lambert (Chair), Brenda Brown, Andrew D'Angibau, Tony Gearey, Jean Jennings, Roger Walker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also present 7 members of the public.	
	142/2024 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A. Scott	
	143/2024 Declaration of Members interests To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda. Cllr M. Lambert declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 150/2024	
	144/2024 To approve the minutes of the last meetings held on Tuesday 3 rd . September 2024. All Agreed	
		Working Group
	146/2024 Visitors Report (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber)	Working group
	147/2024 Bus shelter in the village Clir R. Walker spoke about an offer from ECC Clir L. Barber as money can be used to have a new bus shelter erected. This to be put onto the Highways Working Group	
	148/2024 Response to National Grid Statutory Consultation – update from Cllr A. Scott No further update has been supplied	
	149/2024 Response from National Highways on A12 over-running – Cllr M. Lambert reported on the response/apology from National Highways following overrun of works last month and extension of completion date to mid-October. The south route is now fully opened but the north bound still has overnight closures.	
	150/2024 Planning Applications	
	241769 - Moon Acre Rectory Road Aldham Creation of a smallholding and limited amenity use on agricultural land together with a vehicle hardstanding area, the erection of a timber fence and an agricultural hay barn, hedgerow replanted, installation of private sewage treatment plant, and the use of a small touring caravan on site under the '60 day permitted rights' rule	
	RESOLVED: Aldham Parish Council recommends that CCC Refuses this planning application on the following grounds	
	1. The site was never used for agriculture.	
	Initially used for storage by a local blacksmith in the 1980's, it reverted to scrub in the 1990's.	
	The site is in the countryside and governed by Policy ENV1, which protects the countryside.	
	The application does not comply with this policy due to its negative impact on the local landscape.	

- 5. The site boundary is inaccurately depicted, including hedges and trees not belonging to the applicant.
- 6. This misrepresentation could affect access to contractors and services.
- 7. The proposed use lacks clarity and fails to meet smallholding criteria
- 8. The land is 0.135 hectares, not meeting the minimum size for classification as a smallholding or agricultural unit.
- 9. The term "limited amenity use" is ambiguous and needs strict conditions to control any sui generis use.
- 10. No details on animals to be kept on site.
- 11. The necessity of a second entrance for UK Power Networks is questioned.
- 12. No permission exists to relocate an electricity pole
- 13. A sewage treatment plant is included without a toilet
- 14. No permission to discharge water onto neighbouring properties
- 15. Suggestion of possible future residential use, which is inappropriate
- 16. Incorrectly cites rules for bringing a touring caravan on site
- 17. Aldham Parish Council concurs with all the 5 Objection comments made on CCC website

151/2024 Planning Decisions affecting Aldham. None made

152/2024 Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

Consultationhttps://consultations.essex.gov.uk/c-e/Inrs-public-consultation/#:~:text=The%20public%20consultation%20for%20the,connected %20approach%20to%20nature%20recovery.

The Strategy contains a comprehensive review of the state of the County's natural habitats, flora and fauna. It identifies a number of features and potential for recovery in Aldham, including the Roman River Valley, which has been put forward to the City Council for inclusion as a Landscape feature in the Local Plan Review. However, it is not clear from the scale of the plans included exactly what is included and what is not and how the strategy can be implemented at the local level. Cllr Lambert to review document and prepare draft response to circulate before deadline of 25th October.

CIIr M Lambert

153/2024 Update on Key Priorities for 2024/25: Housing, Millennium Playing Field and FP/cycleway link to Marks Tey

A quick update. Housing issue in abeyance awaiting CCC Local Plans Review, now expected Feb/March 2025. Also includes Millenium Playing Field. FP/Cycleway on Working Group list

Working Group

154/2024 To report back on the meeting with EWT about Gallows Green

Attended a good meeting from EWT. Community Ranger for small areas attended and was very impressed with the wildlife. m EWT on drawing up a Management Plan.

Suggested limited works, ie. pond cleared and dead tree removed. A positive meeting. A survey to be undertaken by volunteer experts and possible assistance from consultancy element of the EWT to assist in the management of Gallows Green.

Clirs Lambert/ Brown/ Scott

155/2024 Hedge on playing field – update from the Clerk - Already been cut. Thanks to Cllr A d'Angibau

156/2024 Highway Issues

- Clerk to update for moving Speed Indicator Device (SID) in Aldham
- The SID device comes to Aldham in December '24 for 1 month
 - Update on pole extension from Cllr A. D'Angibau

An extension pole was discussed and preferred to a new pole. A meeting with Bradley Smith from Suffolk CC to see if this is possible.

A quotation of £63.11p + carriage + Vat. Cllr A. D'Angibau proposed this project. Cllr R. Walker seconded. All Agreed

Update on having a SID in Brook Road

ECC Cllr L. Barber may have up to £2500 available from his locality funding for a permanent SID.

- Update on Working Group. Meeting on 14th. October 2024
- Update on Footpaths/Verges. No further update available. All footpath defects have been reported to ECC. All footpaths are now fully opened

Cllr d'Angiba

157/2024 Finance

- a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. September 2024 Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. September 2024
- b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/25 Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/25
 - c) To approve the payment of Accounts for August & September 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements. **All Agreed**

158/2024 Budget 2025/2026 - Councillors to discuss draft budget

Councillors discussed the 1st. draft of the 2025-2026 budget

159/2024 To consider training opportunities available from EALC

All EALC training calendar for 2025-2026 have been sent to Councillors

160/2024 Information Exchange

The Clerk mentioned about the EALC AGM

The ditch on New Road has been cleared and the culvert rodded.

The level crossing on Rectory Road is being updated with red and green lights. Hopefully this time the funding will come through.

The land at the rear of the village hall has been suggested as a possible dog park. Access to this will be via the Tey Road which will need a culvert and the site fenced. The cost will be about £3000 for the fencing which is the main cost. Cllr R. Walker to make further investigations

Remembrance Sunday Poppy Appeal Representative to be approached for a Wreath

161/2024 Items for next agenda

2025-2026 Budget: Dog park at the rear of the village hall:

162/2024 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 5th. November 2024 at 7.30pm & 3rd. December 2024

163/2024 Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.52pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed 5th. November 2024

Mike Lambert - Chair

CIIr R. Walker

Clerk

Report to Aldham Parish Council Consultation on Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy

https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/ddb68e54/

Extracts from Executive Summary:

The role of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) is to provide a county-wide, practical solution for nature recovery. The Government has established a nationwide network of 48 Responsible Authorities, each being required to create a LNRS for its area. Essex County Council is the Responsible Authority for the Greater Essex LNRS. The primary purpose of the LNRS is to identify locations to create or improve habitat most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment.

The Essex LNRS identifies new habitats — such as woodlands, grasslands, freshwater areas, river buffers, coastal and marine zones, and urban habitats — that can be created. Opportunity maps highlight these areas and suggest actions for nature recovery within them. These actions will help connect and expand important natural areas. The Essex LNRS provides guidance for organisations and individuals on where to focus their efforts and what actions to take, and incentivises these actions to achieve nature recovery.

The actions identified in the Essex LNRS, for each habitat type, are categorised under three habitat priority statements, which are aimed at connecting, enhancing and expanding existing natural spaces.

Habitat creation, including the expansion of existing habitats, is a key focus of the opportunity maps, which link to the aims for bigger habitats identified in the Essex LNRS, such as:

- Create 18,000 hectares of new woodland across Essex.
- Create 22,000 hectares of new grassland across Essex.
- Create 3,100 hectares of new habitats in urban areas in Essex. This can be achieved by creating new green and blue spaces in the heart of our local communities, for example, in gardens, balconies and windowsills; and by developing more green roofs and walls, street trees and community gardens.
- Create 22,000 hectares of new freshwater habitats to enhance the water quality of our river network, by creating 6,000 hectares of new river buffer habitat.
- Create 4,000 hectares of new coastal habitat and 1,000 hectares of new marine habitat to support the creation of a dynamic, resilient ecosystem.

In Essex, our top 10 aims for Nature Recovery are:

- 1. To create networks of bigger, better, more connected habitats.
- 2. To have green and blue habitats covering 25% of the county by 2030, compared with 14% today.
- 3. To encourage farmers to leave more space for nature in less productive areas and to increase usage of nature-friendly farming practices in productive areas.

- 4. To encourage local communities across Essex to actively engage in restoring, managing and protecting nature in their areas.
- 5. To boost the use of nature-friendly practices in urban areas across the county, to improve spaces for biodiversity and people, and to create a greener and healthier environment for all.
- 6. To ensure that new development of all kinds, of all scales and in all locations prioritises the incorporation of green spaces in its planning and management strategies and is consistent with the Essex LNRS.
- 7. To prioritise the creation of new native woodland in ways that link with existing native woodland, to consider both new planting and natural regeneration, and to improve the management of existing woodland to enhance biodiversity.
- 8. To increase the size, scale and connectivity of species-rich grasslands by restoring and recreating those that have been lost or damaged.
- 9. To strengthen the resilience of coastal and marine environments against the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, coastal erosion and warmer conditions, as well as human pressures including disturbance, development and pollution.

To enhance the water quality of freshwater, coastal and marine habitats.

Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS), such as Countryside Stewardship schemes and Sustainable Farming Incentive, are available to assist farmers and landowners in implementing nature recovery initiatives, by offering payments for a wide range of actions that support the local natural environment. Another important mechanism to support the delivery of LNRSs is Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). BNG provides developers and landowners the opportunity to contribute positively to the implementation of the Essex LNRS. The sites shown on the strategic opportunity maps offer an uplift of 15% on biodiversity units compared with other sites.

Commentary and Implications for Aldham

The document is an important collaboration between a wide range of authorities and organisations involved in the County and represents a significant body of work, recording in great detail the current state of nature in the County and along its' coast. It outlines a range of high level interventions and initiatives that could contribute to nature recovery by authorities, community groups, farmers and individuals. It is to be welcomed in providing an important baseline from which to start developing new initiatives to restore and enhance the biodiversity of our countryside.

The document maps existing features and identifies opportunities for enhancement and recovery. However, the document shows this at a scale that is difficult to assimilate to features on the ground. For this to be a useful tool for Parishes and local groups it needs to be issued at a much finer grain. Large parts of the Parish of Aldham are identified as significant for woodland and grassland but the strategic opportunities for the Colne and Roman River Valleys have not been fully recognised.

The Strategy needs to inform and promote more local initiatives to fulfil its ambitious but laudable aims and to help organisations such as Aldham PC understand how they support and implement work at a local level such as Gallows Green.

Mike Lambert



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HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP

Note of Meeting held on 14th October 2024

In attendance:

County Councillor Lewis Barber Councillors Tony Gearey, Jean Jennings and Mike Lambert Local residents Jill Wilson, Alan Knott and Hugh Randall

1. Meeting agreed Mike Lambert as Chair

2. Key Issues/Priorities for HTWG:

The following were discussed in detail:

- Traffic Calming Measures
- Permanent Speed Indicator Display
- placing of unofficial highway signage in village and/or Ford St
- Speed Limits on A1124 at Ford St Hill, Brook Road, New Road and Tey Road
- Use of Quiet Lanes
- Community Speed Watch

3. Recommendations of Working Group to be considered at next Parish Council Meeting:

i. that the Local Highways Panel (LHP) be asked to be consider the merits of a using a mini roundabout at the junction of Tey Road, Green Lane, Brook Road and New Road, and at the junction of the A1124 and Green Lane,

ii. that the PC agree to purchase a permanent solar powered Speed Indicator Device (SID) with Thank you/Slow Down legend for Brook Road, including dual colour display and Data Collection Unit at a total cost of £5241 + VAT and make provision for this in the 2025/26 Budget,

NB: Councillor Barber has indicated the potential for a contribution towards the cost of up to £2400 from the City Councillors' Locality Budget. Further funding from ECC and s106 funds to be investigated.

Suggested that sponsorship from local businesses be sought, eg. County Broadband and Mill Race Nurseries

iii. that the PC seeks to re-establish a Community Speed Watch Group using Grapevine Magazine and Facebook page to encourage volunteers to come forward for initial training,

iv. that notwithstanding current ECC policy the PC seek support from the LHP for the introduction of 40mph limits on all or part of Brook Road and Tey Road, and an extension of the 30mph limit on Ford St Hill to replace current advisory limit,

v. that the PC seek support from LHP for the introduction of Quiet Road status for Rectory

Road to assist in slowing traffic and discouraging rat running/short cuts,

vi. the PC continues to lobby National Highways to take action at the A12/A120 junction at Marks Tey to reduce queuing and consequential rat running through Gt Tey and Aldham villages,

4. Further Action to be considered by HTWG:

- follow up on funding/sponsorship for SID
- follow upon Community Speed Watch initiative
- scope for weight restrictions on signs saying 'Not suitable for HGVs'
- seeking assistance *pro bono* from Highway consultants to support case for measures to slow and reduce traffic volumes
- investigate feasibility of improved footpath/cycleway link to Marks Tey

5. Next Meeting:

Late November date tbc

Mike Lambert Aldham Parish Council

15th October 2024

	B	ANK RECO	VCII	LITION		
Financial year ending 31.03.25						
Bank Balance as at		30.04.24		31.05.24	30.06.24	31.07.24
Barclays Bank - Current a/c	£	18,141.71	£	-	£ -	£ -
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c	£	-	£	18,141.71	£ 13,181.89	£11,937.63
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£	-	£	-	£ -	£ -
Total:	£	18,141.71	£	18,141.71	£13,181.89	£11,937.63
Less Unpresented cheques						
Total of unpresented cheques	£	-	£	-	£ -	£ -
Net Bank Balances as at	£	18,141.71	£	18,141.71	£ 13,181.89	£11,937.63
CASH BOOK						
Balance as at 01.04.24	£	9,420.71	£	9,420.71	£ 9,420.71	£ 9.420.71
Plus Receipts	£	8,721.00	£		£ 9,811.71	
Total	£	18,141.71	£			
Less Payments	£	-	£	-	£ 6,050.53	
Grand Total	£	18,141.71	1	18,141.71	£ 13,181.89	
Difference	£	-	£	-	£ -	£ 0.00
Bank Balance as at		31.08.24		30.09.24	30.10.24	
Unity Trust Bank Current a/c		11,937.63	£		£ 16,808.27	
Unity Trust Bank Savings a/c	£	-	£	-	£ -	
Total:	£	11,937.63	£	17,814.77	£ 16,808.27	
Less Unpresented cheques		,				
Total of unpresented cheques	£	-	£	-	£ -	
Net Bank Balances as at	£	11,937.63	£	17,814.77	£ 16,808.27	
CASH BOOK						
Balance as at 01.04.24	£	9,420.71	£	9,420.71	£ 9,420.71	
Plus Receipts	£	9,814.13	£	18,535.13	£ 18,535.13	
Total	£	19,234.84	£	27,955.84	£ 27,955.84	
Less Payments	£	7,297.21	£	10,141.07	£11,147.57	
Grand Total	£	11,937.63		17,814.77	£ 16,808.27	
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 01.04.24						
			+			
IFIUS RECEIDIS						
Plus Receipts Total						
Total						



Aldham Parish Council

Current T1

60-83-01 • 20505556

Balance Available £ 16,808.27 £ 16,808.27

Balances are correct as of 07:55 on 31 Oct 2024.

↓ Date	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
03/10/24	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK SALARY	kan da an da	-473.50	16,808.27
03/10/24	B/P to: Zurich Municipal • REF: 92384972		-300.00	17,281.77
03/10/24	B/P to: VCS Websites Ltd • INV. 1382		-215.00	17,581.77
30/09/24	Service Charge		-18.00	17,796.77
06/09/24	COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL • PRECEPT SEP 24	8,721.00		17,814.77
05/09/24	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK SALARY		-473.50	9,093.77
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2837		-303.60	9,567.27
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2874		-303.60	9,870.87
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2886		-303.60	10,174.47
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2897		-303.60	10,478.07
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2905		-303.60	10,781.67
05/09/24	B/P to: CALC • ALDHAM PC		-35.00	11,085.27
05/09/24	B/P to: Kevin B. Money • CLERK SALARY		-473.50	11,120.27
05/09/24	B/P to: Landscape Services • INV. 2914		-303.60	11,593.77
05/09/24	B/P to: Aldham Village Hal • STRIMMING GREENS		-19.50	11,897.37
05/09/24	B/P to: Colchester CC • INV. 20207411		-20.76	11,916.87

	APC ACTUAL AGAINST BUI	OGET REF	POR	T 2024/202	5			
				Total				
				Income /		Left in		
		Agreed		spend to Nov '24				
		2024/25	OP			Nov '24		
Income	Precept	16526	£	16,526.00				
	Other Income / Grant	916	£	916.00				
	Wayleave	0	£	-				
	Bank Interest	0	£	2.42				
	VAT Refund	0	£	1,090.71				
	TOTAL	17442	£	18,535.13				
Ехр.								
	Salary	5382	£	3,588.00	£	1,794.00		
	Mileage Expenses	50	£	-	£	50.00		
	Home / Office allowance	300	£	200.00	£	100.00		
	Grounds maintenance	3000	£	3,818.50	£	818.50		
	Playing Field Inspection	100	£	-	£	100.00		
	Street Lighting	120	£	55.07	£	64.93		
	Fees & Subscription	275	£	202.39	£	72.61		
	Stationery	50	£	56.04	£	6.04		
	Insurance	675	£	300.00	£	375.00		
	Village Hall Hire	250	£	170.25	£	79.75		
	Audit Fees	250	£	272.00	£	22.00		
	Courses, Books & Travelling	400	£	•	£	400.00		
	Poppy Wreath	25	£	25.00	£	-		
	Grapevine Magazine	420	£	<u>-</u>	£	420.00		
	Donations Other	150	£	-	£	150.00		
	Fete or Events	500	£	211.68	£	288.32		
	Defibrillator	200	£	-	£	200.00		
	Tree Surgery & maintenance	500	£	<u>-</u>	£	500.00		
	General Admin & Postage	50	£	-	£	50.00		
	Miscellaneous	750	£	90.16	£	659.84		
	Speed Gun	100	£	-	£	100.00		
	Website	500	£	215.00	£	285.00		
	Clerk expenses	50	£	_	£	50.00		
	Contingency	3045	£	1,879.36	£	1,165.64		
	Playing Field Rent	300	£	_	£	300.00		
	Bank Charges	0	£	24.33	£	24.33		
	TOTAL	17442	£	11,107.78	£	6,334.22		
	Outstanding VAT Claim		£	790.50				
	Total Expenditure		£	11,898.28				

	-	ANCE NOVEMBER 2024	1		-				
	Income:								
		Expenditure							APC
Chq									Ref.
No.	Inv. No.	Payee	Cost		VAT		Total		No.
BACS	Nov '24	Kevin B. Money - Salary	£	473.50	£	-	£	473.50	39
BACS		RBL - Poppy Wreath	£	25.00	£	-	£	25.00	40
BACS		A. Fulcher - War Memorial flowers	£	12.02	£	-	£	12.02	41
BACS	2934	Landscape Services - Grass cutting 16.10	£	110.00	£	22.00	£	132.00	42
BACS		Wick Farm - Extension pole for SID	£	90.16	£	18.03	£	108.19	43
		TOTAL:	£	710.68	£	40.03	£	750.71	
		Denotes already paid							