



ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Aldham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 th . October 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham	Action
<p>Present: Cllrs M. Lambert (Chair), B. Brown, A. D'Angibau, J. Jennings, R. Walker, CCC S. Naylor and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also present 3 members of the public.</p> <p>161/2025 Apologies for Absence were received from CCC D. Willetts, Cllr T. Gearey and Cllr A. Scott</p> <p>162/2025 Declaration of Members interests To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda None declared</p> <p>163/2025 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 2nd. September 2025 All Agreed</p> <p>164/2025 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes) The bus service is now worse than ever. ECC Cllr L. Barber has circulated an update on the future of the local bus service. Highways furniture is propping up a fence outside the village hall and junction of Rectory Road and Tey Road. Clerk to pursue with ECC highways</p> <p>165/2025 Visitors Report (CCC D. Willetts / CCC S. Naylor / ECC L. Barber) CCC Cllr D. Willetts prior to the meeting said that this evening's CCC Scrutiny Panel at 6pm should have been a short matter enabling me to attend Aldham at 7.30pm. It now appears that Panel meeting will take much longer than expected CCC Cllr S. Naylor informed the meeting that CCC had an Extra-ordinary Full Council meeting in September to consider view on Re-organisation of the Unitary numbers. There are a variety of suggestions of 2, 3, 4 or 5 Authorities. CCC is supporting 5 Unitary Authorities , across Essex with Tendring, Colchester, Braintree merging to form one Unitary for NE Essex These suggestions now go to Government for final decision.</p> <p>166/2025 National Grid– update from Cllr A. Scott Nothing to report apart from the Inspectorate has deemed the application valid. Form to be published soon about the Examination for residents to submit statements.</p> <p>167/2025 Gallows Green Grant Application – update from Cllr M. Lambert & Cllr B. Brown Nothing to report as Essex Wildlife Trust have not responded to emails. The result of the survey is still awaited.</p> <p>168/2025 Footpath and PROW update – Cllr J. Jennings ECC have advised that Footpath/PROW signs that have been reported as missing to are to be replaced at FP7, FP5 and FP13. Finger post at junction of Tey Road and Rectory Road needs replacing and marked as 'Rectory Road' or 'By Road' not Marks Tey</p> <p>169/2025 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response</p> <p>251889 - Pippins Green Lane Aldham Colchester CO6 3PR Demolition of the existing detached bungalow and construction of a new two-storey, 4-bedroom detached family dwelling within the same footprint as the existing building. RESOLVED: Aldham Parish Council has no objection to this planning application</p> <p>251913 - 26 Hines Close Aldham Colchester CO6 3RL Single storey and part two storey rear extension and fenestration changes RESOLVED: Aldham Parish Council has no objection to this planning application</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs Brown & Lambert Cllr J. Jennings</p>

Amendment to Planning Consultation (Reference No. 251310)

251310 - Land off Foxes Corner Halstead Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3PP

Outline application for the erection of up to 250 residential dwellings, public open space and associated works. Approval is sought for the principal means of vehicular access arrangements from Halstead Road. Internal access and all other matters are reserved

RESOLVED: Aldham Parish Council notes the additional information but does not consider it overcomes the detailed reasons for objecting to development of the site for 250 dwellings set out in our original representations, and in addition would emphasis the following points:

1. The development would be contrary to the Adopted Local Plan,
2. Notwithstanding the possible inclusion of the site in the emerging Local Plan Review Preferred Options, the site is poorly related to the existing villages of both Aldham and Eight Ash Green,
3. The development of the site for 250 dwellings would require a density that would be inappropriate in this rural setting and be prominent and intrusive in views from the Colne Valley and have a detrimental effect on the landscape character of the area, and
4. The application is premature pending the outcome of the Local Plan Review and a Review of the Eight Ash Green Neighbourhood Plan and the proper consideration of alternative sites.

170/2025 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham

251664 - Bullbanks Farm Halstead Road Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3PT

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed steel portal framed agricultural building. **Prior Approval Required (Approved)**

251666 - Bullbanks Farm Halstead Road Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3PT

Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed excavations or deposits of waste material reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture - excavate an area measuring 1080m² to facilitate a hardstanding for safe machinery movement. **Prior Approval Required (Approved)**

251289 - Corvettes New Road Aldham CO6 3QZ

Demolition of existing barn and replacement with proposed stable building. **Approve Conditional**

171/2025 Highways & Traffic Working Group

- 1) Speed Indicator Device

Latest figures to be supplied at the November meeting

- 2) To convert the SID from Battery to Solar power. Total cost is £650 +VAT. Cllr M. Lambert proposed converting the new SID from battery to solar power at a cost of £650.00p +VAT. Cllr R. Walker seconded. **All Agreed**

- 3) Love your Bus Grants – Cllr M. Lambert

You will recall we had a question on the reduction in service by First Bus on the 88a route earlier in the year and I have been following up on this. The key issue is that the morning service is now limited to one 88a into Colchester at 9.35am, which is too late for anyone working or going to College, and an 82b at 11.48am. I received a very curt response from First Bus when I quizzed them on the reason for the cutback and it is ironic that the best service is now on a Sunday when it is supported by ECC! Subsequently I have been advised of the 'Love Your Bus' scheme which provides grants to enhance local services: <https://www.travelessex.co.uk/love-your-bus> and following a discussion with Tatania Cullingford (Local Bus Network Community Engagement Lead) I understand there is another round of applications in November. **All agreed to investigate grant further**

- 4) Response to Consultation on Bus Services and Transport Plan

The consultation is not relevant to Aldham village

172/2025 s106 monies update

a) Discussion and decision on uncommitted monies of £4250 for Leisure facilities from s106 on Ashington Lodge. Cllr M. Lambert informed the meeting of how Aldham Parish Council can utilise this money. Councillors are made aware of this money and bear in mind of future projects.

173/2025 Assets in Aldham to be transferred to Aldham Parish Council – update Clerk

The Clerk has chased CCC for an update but just a “holding email” has been received. **NFA required**

Cllr M
Lambert

<p>174/2025 Finance a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. September 2025 Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 30th. September 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 October 2025 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements All Agreed</p> <p>175/2025 2026-2027 Budget – Councillors to discuss proposals for the draft 2026-2027 budget Councillors discussed the first draft of the 2026-2027 budget</p> <p>176/2025 To consider training opportunities available from EALC All training courses have been circulated to Councillors</p> <p>177/2025 APC reviewing policies below Existing policies to be reviewed Complaints: Public Land and Buildings and assets: Equality Diversity and Inclusion New policies to be adopted Dignity at Work – covers anti bullying and harassment: Discipline: Grievance: Performance Management option: Performance Review form: Whistleblowing: Performance improvement policy and process Cllr J. Jennings proposed to accept and adopt the policies above. Cllr B. Brown seconded. All Agreed</p> <p>178/2025 Information Exchange - To organise a wreath for Remembrance Day – Clerk to obtain wreath - New owner of Mill Race Nursery is keen to speak to the Parish Council and residents about the future of Mill Race Nursery. All agreed. Suggest meeting on 4th November - Hedge in Harding's Close has been cut.</p> <p>179/2025 Items for next agenda 2026-2027 budget:</p> <p>180/2025 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 4th. November 2025 and 2nd. December 2025 at 7.30pm</p> <p>181/2025 To note 2026 meeting dates: 06.01: 03.02: 03.03: 07.04: 05.05: 02.06: 07.07: 01.09: 06.10: 03.11: 01.12.26</p> <p>182/2025 Closure of the Meeting - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business</p> <p>The Chair then closed the meeting at 9pm and thanked everyone for attending</p> <p>Signed 4th. November 2025</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mike Lambert – Chair</p>	<p>Clerk to place policies on website</p>
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