



# ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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| Minutes of Aldham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> . November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham   | Action  |
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| <p>Present: Cllrs M. Lambert (Chair), A. Scott (Vice-Chair), B. Brown, A. D'Angibau, T. Gearey, J. Jennings, CCC S. Naylor, CCC D. Willetts and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk).<br/>There were also present 4 members of the public.</p> <p><b>183/2025      Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p><b>184/2025      Declaration of Members interests</b><br/>To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda.<br/>Cllr M. Lambert declared an interest in item 191/2025 (252346) and will not take part in the discussions</p> <p><b>185/2025      To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>. October 2025</b><br/><b>All Agreed</b></p> <p><b>186/2025      Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)</b><br/>An event in each of the villages affected along the Pylon route to raise publicity. Aldham will be holding an event 15<sup>th</sup>. November 2025, as part of the Autumn Fayre.</p> <p><b>187/2025      Visitors Report</b> (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber)<br/>Cllr S. Naylor informed the meeting about forthcoming local plan committee on 10<sup>th</sup>. November.<br/>In February '25 the committee decided not to send the draft local plan out to consultation due to lack of information on infrastructure. Another 40% of housing is to go into the local plan making an increase of 20,800 additional houses which is an increase of 11,000 dwellings<br/>CCC Cllr S. Naylor to share a spreadsheet regarding infrastructure projects affecting Aldham with Councillors.<br/>Cllr Willetts highlighted that the difficult part of the plan was delivering the infrastructure to support the level of housing proposed rather than identifying the individual sites<br/>The shortfall in funding was in excess of £800m and there was a lack of confidence that the gap could be met from s106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). We are already behind and failure to deliver on the infrastructure would result in an overall decline in the city.</p> <p><b>188/2025      National Grid– update from Cllr A. Scott</b><br/><b>LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE NORWICH TO TILBURY PYLONS</b><br/>Tell Government what you think. Register with the Planning Inspectorate before 27<sup>th</sup>. November '25<br/>To do that: Google 'planning inspectorate Norwich to Tilbury' (or visit <a href="http://www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk">www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk</a>.)<br/>Say "I support Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons action group", then list specific harms caused by the project in your area and any issues you have faced dealing with National Grid since 2022.</p> <p>There are three areas to update the Council on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Next stage of the DCO Process</li><li>2. Draft Heads of Terms sent to Landowners</li><li>3. Random notices and maps around the village.</li></ol> <p>The Development Consent Order (DCO) process replaces normal planning application rules for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The process is tightly time constrained with set time limits for each stage of the process. This is aimed at preventing those opposed to a scheme deploying delaying tactics.<br/>The DCO process began when National Grid submitted their application on 29 August 2025 and it was deemed acceptable for Examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 26 September 2025.<br/>The process will now be controlled by the Planning Inspectorate with all the necessary information posted on their website here <a href="#">Norwich to Tilbury - Project information</a></p> | <p></p> <p><b>Cllr S. Naylor</b></p> <p><b>Cllr T. Gearey</b></p> |

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| <p>You will find 428 documents in total all in the Examination Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 360 application documents from NGET</li> <li>• 35 Adequacy of consultation comments</li> <li>• 4 Procedural decisions</li> <li>• 22 additional Submissions</li> <li>• 7 Events</li> <li>• Plus guidance</li> </ul> <p>We have now entered the Pre Examination Phase. This gives a set period to register with the Planning Inspector to become an interested Party. This will allow you to take part in the Examination Phase. Registration is easiest online and required a combination of contact details and a Relevant Representation (your reasons for objecting or supporting the project)</p> <p><a href="#">Register to have your say about a national infrastructure project - National Infrastructure Planning</a></p> <p>All Aldham residents are encouraged to register. Remember, you've told National Grid what you think before, <i>not</i> the Planning Inspectorate. So you should reuse the points you have made before. APC will be registering and making a Relevant Representation</p> <p>There is guidance on what to include in you Relevant Representation – this includes requirements to be clear concise and logical and not to be defamatory or to use personal details</p> <p>Comments must be about what you consider to be the main issues and impacts. You should include as much detail as possible and cover anything that may affect your day-to-day life.</p> <p>The <b>deadline</b> for registration is <b>23:59 on 27 November 2025</b>.</p> <p>Random notices and maps.</p> <p>The random notices are looking for landowners of land marked in green on the maps. This may be people they have been unable to trace previously but many look like they are due to mapping inaccuracies. The wording is the same as used in letters received by landowners in early October stating the Planning Inspectorate has accepted the documents and will move project to Pre examination stage.</p> <p>Draft Heads of Terms</p> <p>Many Landowners received draft terms on 24 October 2025. National Grid via their agents Fisher German are looking for early sign up to release land. They are offering a 20% incentive to sign up within 8 weeks. An average payment of £7500 to “host” a pylon plus access rights over around 500m of land is the benchmark</p> <p><b>189/2025 Gallows Green Grant Application</b> – update from Cllr M. Lambert &amp; Cllr B. Brown</p> <p>Progress with EWT has been slow and the deadline for the next Enover application will be missed. However, a positive meeting took place last week with a local contractor to dredge the pond. It was positive in that the project may be eligible for grant from the Farming &amp; Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) which has helped restore and create ponds elsewhere in the Parish. In which case a grant from Enover may not be required to clear the pond and the depth of the pond is not likely to result in as much material to move as expected and most could be retained on site.</p> <p><b>190/2025 Footpath and PROW update</b> – Cllr J. Jennings</p> <p>All signposts have been reported to ECC. Existing broken signs have not been attended to.</p> <p><b>191/2025 Planning</b> – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response</p> <p><b>252346 - The Cabin Rectory Road Aldham Colchester CO6 3RR</b></p> <p>Application for variation of condition 2 following grant of planning permission 231906</p> <p>Cllr M. Lambert left the meeting and Cllr A. Scott assumed the Chair</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Aldham Parish Council has no objection to this planning application</p> <p>Cllr M. Lambert rejoined the meeting</p> <p>- Local Plan Update – Cllr M Lambert</p> <p>Following on from the update from City Councillors Cllr Lambert noted that two new reports had been tabled on Infrastructure and the impact of not proceeding with the A12 improvements. These highlighted the risks that the level of housing proposed could lack the necessary infrastructure. However, there were risks associated with not proceeding with the Local Plan as this would increase the chances of speculative applications being allowed on appeal.</p> | <p>Cllrs B. Brown / M. Lambert</p> <p>Cllr M. Lambert</p> |
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| <p>Cllr Lambert also reported on informal discussions with Eight Ash Green PC on how to best to respond to the application and proposed allocation on land at Halstead Road.</p> <p>Following discussion Cllr M. Lambert agreed to attend the CCC local plan meeting on 10<sup>th</sup>. November '25 to represent the Parishes concerns.</p> <p><b>192/2025 Planning Decision/s affecting Aldham</b><br/> <b>251913</b> - 26 Hines Close Aldham Colchester CO6 3RL<br/> Single storey and part two storey rear extension and fenestration changes <b>Approve Conditional</b></p> <p><b>251158</b> - 2 Oak Tree Cottages Brook Road Aldham CO6 3RJ<br/> Proposed timber garden room <b>Approve Conditional</b></p> <p><b>193/2025 Highways &amp; Traffic Working Group</b><br/> 1) Speed Indicator Device – update from Cllr T. Gearey<br/> Cllr T. Gearey went through the latest figures from both SID devices. See data results at <a href="https://www.aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices">https://www.aldhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices</a></p> <p>The Clerk then offered to take the SID to the suppliers to make sure it arrives safely in order to carry out adaptation to solar power as agreed at last meeting. Cllr M. Lambert agreed to this proposal. Cllr T. Gearey seconded. <b>All Agreed</b></p> <p>2) Love your Bus Grants – Cllr M. Lambert<br/> The grant is now live and Cllr M. Lambert is progressing with the application.</p> <p>3) Update on A12/A120 - This item as dealt with earlier in the context of the Local Plan</p> <p><b>194/2025 Finance</b><br/> a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. October 2025<br/> Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. October 2025<br/> b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026<br/> Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2025/2026<br/> c) To approve the payment of Accounts for November 2025 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements <b>All Agreed</b></p> <p><b>195/2025 2026-2027 Budget</b> – Councillors to discuss proposals for the draft 2026-2027 budget<br/> Councillors discussed the draft budget which will be finalised at the 2<sup>nd</sup>. December 2026 meeting</p> <p><b>196/2025 To consider training opportunities available from EALC</b></p> <p><b>197/2025 Information Exchange</b><br/> Bad flooding outside Wick Farm New Road. Clerk to send an email to ECC Cllr L. Barber</p> <p><b>198/2025 Items for next agenda</b></p> <p><b>199/2025 To confirm date and time of next meetings. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>. December 2025 at 7.30pm</b></p> <p><b>200/2025 To note 2026 meeting dates:</b><br/> 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><b>201/2025 Closure of the Meeting</b> - To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business</p> <p>The Chair then closed the meeting at 9.10pm and thanked everyone for attending</p> <p>Signed <i>M.Lambert</i> 2<sup>nd</sup>. December 2025<br/> Mike Lambert – Chair</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Remove from agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr A. D'Angibau<br/>Clerk</p> |
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