

Those present:

Cllr Smith (Chair)
Cllr Denney
Cllr Ewing
Cllr Henderson
Cllr Munson
Cllr Reeve
Michelle Curtis (Parish Clerk/RFO)
Steve Howard - Parish Working Group

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Middleton.

Apologies were also received from District Councillor Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest disclosed.

3. County and District Councillors

Cllr Thompson was not present at the meeting but had notified the Clerk that there was no update on the planning application on Beckingham Road.

4. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

5. Parish Working Group

Steve reported the following:

- There is a potential new tenant who will be taking over the pub.
- The area outside the school has become overgrown again, and a large amount of debris (broken branches) needs to be removed. Previously, the Parish Council provided a grant to assist with clearing the area. Is it possible to do this again? Could it be added to the existing grounds maintenance contract?

The Chair advised that this was Essex County Council land and that any work should be carried out by them. If the Parish Council takes on the maintenance of this piece of land, it could set a precedent and there may be an expectation that the Parish Council maintain other areas of land that they do not own.

Action: Steve to forward pictures to the Clerk to raise the issue with County Councillor Durham.

- During the recent Speedwatch patrols, 15 offenders were recorded travelling towards Tollesbury from the direction of the school. Steve asked whether there was any update on the data on the SID.
Cllr Denney advised that he had contacted the supplier and was awaiting a response on how to access the data, as the SID unit is sealed. It is hoped that data will be available for the next meeting.

6. Minutes

Resolved: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st March 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed by those who attended.

7. Planning Applications

7.1 Application No: 26/00231/TCA PP-14824645

Proposal: T1 Field Maple, T2 & T3 Apple tree, T4 Cherry - Height reduction by 2m

Location: 29 Chapel Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.

7.2 Application No: 26/00268/TCA PP-14872878

Proposal: T1 - Holly tree, T2 - Cedar Fur tree, T3 - Cherry tree, T4, T5 - Conifer trees - Fell

Location: 8 Vicarage Close Tolleshunt D'Arcy

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to respond to the application as follows:

- Unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the felling on the conifer trees.
- Unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of the felling of T1 - Holly tree, T2 Cedar Fur tree, T3 - Cherry tree, as there was no evidence submitted with the application giving reasons why the trees should be felled.

8. Planning Decisions

8.1 26/00063/FUL - Grouts Farm Kelvedon Road – Refused

8.2 26/00060/FUL - Land Adjacent Maple Cottage Tudwick Road – Refused

8.3 26/00016/HOUSE - Mulberry House Salters Meadow - Approved

8.4 26/00039/FUL - Wickham Engineering Units 1 To 4 Station Road Industrial Estate Station Road - Approved

9. Finance

9.1 Monthly Financial Report

Councillors received the Monthly Financial Report as of 31st March 2026

Bank Reconciliation – a Closing balance of £36,608.30

Expenditure to date – Budget £36,430 – Actual £41,411

Income to date (including Precept (£25,730) £36,430 – Actual £39,852

Earmarked Funds – Closing Balance £13,244.85 – Net Transfers -£329

The Clerk reported:

- £125.47 bank interest received from the Unity Trust Bank Instant Access Account.

The Chair and Cllr Henderson signed the Reports.

9.2 Payments

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to approve the payments for April 2026 (Appendix A) totalling £6,407.65.

The Chair and Cllr Henderson signed the payment schedule.

10. **Asset Register**

Councillors reviewed the Asset Register.

The value of the assets at the end of March 2026 was £247,901, an increase of £6,022.15 compared to March 2025 (new SID and goalposts).

11. **Risk Management**

Councillors reviewed the Risk Assessment and Management Document.

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to accept the updated Risk Assessment and Management Document.

12. **Gifts & Hospitality**

Councillors confirmed that they have not received any gifts or hospitality during the 2025/26 financial year.

13. **Training**

There were no requests for training.

14. **Pavilion**

The Clerk reported that they would be meeting the new tenant on Thursday. The Rental Agreement would be signed, and a set of keys would be provided to the tenant.

15. **Community Engagement Officers**

The CET report for March 2026 was received and noted.

It was noted that during the CET patrols in March, 4 speeding offences were recorded on Tollesbury Road, with the highest speed recorded at 42mph.

16. **Administration**

Annual Assembly – The Clerk advised that the Village Larder has confirmed that they will give a presentation at the Annual Assembly. The Clerk was awaiting confirmation from the First Responders and also whether the Village Hall AGM would be held after the Annual Assembly.

June Meeting – The Clerk requested that the June meeting be moved from the 30th to the 23rd.

Councillors agree to move the meeting a week earlier.

17. **Representative Reports**

17.1 Burial Ground

Cllr Henderson advised that there were no new issues to report.

17.2 Recreation Ground/Pavilion

Cllr Middleton was not present at the meeting but had advised the Clerk that there were no new issues to report.

The Clerk advised:

- A request had been received from a resident for a memorial tree in the Recreation Ground.

Action: Clerk to obtain further information so that the Council can consider the request.

- The Clerk reported that the cost of the annual inspection of the play equipment would be £65.10 plus VAT. This was part of the arrangement between Maldon District Council and the Play Inspection Company Ltd.
The Chair proposed that, following this year's annual inspection, we agree on a plan under which low-risk defects that do not have a reasonable solution would be accepted without further action, and medium- and high-risk defects would be put out to tender for remedial works.

17.3 Public Rights of Way

Cllr Henderson advised that there were no new issues to report.

17.4 Road Safety/Highways

Cllr Denney advised that there were no new issues to report.

17.5 Defibrillators

Cllr Middleton was not present at the meeting but had advised the Clerk that he would arrange to check the defibrillators and would notify the Clerk once this had been done.

18. Community Matters

To receive information only or note future agenda items

19. Dates of the Next Meeting

Tuesday 12th May 2026 – 7.30 pm – Annual Statutory Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.14pm.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH COUNCIL
 PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL

Appendix A

April 2026

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Invoice No/Ref	Expenditure Detail	Amount
UNITY TRUST ACCOUNT					
15.04.2026	D/D	EE		Parish Mobile	£20.06
28.04.2026		Payroll		Staff Payroll	£970.39
	Online	Mr L Aldridge		Maintenance - Area near village shop - April	£50.00
	Online	Rialtas	SM33872	Software annual support and maintenance	£252.00
	Online	Maldon District Council	TOL28794315	CET - Jan-Mar 26	£311.33
	Online	Marmax Products	INV055981	Replacement bench - Burial Ground	£568.80
	Online	OR Property Maintenance	INV0008	Repairs to floorng - Pavilion	£4,200.00
LLOYDS BANK - MULTIPAY CARD					
07.03.2026	D/C	Microsoft	GB-T12601115081	Monthly subscription	£12.10
28.03.2026	D/C	Adobe	IEN2026018028702	Monthly subscription	£19.97
02.04.2025	D/C	Lloyds Bank		Monthly fee	£3.00
TOTAL					£6,407.65

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____