

## GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Councillors,

You are hereby summonsed to attend a meeting of Great Horkesley Parish Council on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**, which will be held in Great Horkesley New Village Hall, for the purpose of transacting the business as set out in the Agenda below.

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend. Please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting if you wish to participate in the Public Open Forum.



Teri Duckworth – Parish Clerk & RFO

### AGENDA

#### **25/123 Chairman's Welcome**

#### **25/124 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

To receive apologies from absent members and approve those considered acceptable.

#### **25/125 Declaration of Interests**

To receive any declarations of interest, whether registered or not, in respect of any item of business on this agenda. Where a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial non-disclosable pecuniary interest has been declared, the member must withdraw from the meeting while the item is discussed and decided.

#### **25/126 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- (a) To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 as a true and accurate record.
- (b) To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 as a true and accurate record.

#### **25/127 Have Your Say – Public Open Forum**

Members of the public wishing to speak, should notify the Clerk prior to the meeting. Unless the Chairman rules otherwise, three minutes will be allowed per person, with an overall maximum of 15 minutes allowed for this item.

#### **25/128 Local Government Reform**

To confirm that, copies of correspondence between a resident and the Chairman having been distributed to members prior to the meeting, the Council does not wish to pursue the matter raised.

## 25/129 Reports from Members and Officers of Other Authorities

To receive reports and updates from Colchester City and Essex County councillors, if present, and from Parish councillors in respect of their allocated responsibility.

*Colchester City Council Rural North members: Cllrs Laws, Rowe and Sunnucks*

*Essex County Council Constable Division member: Cllr Barber*

## 25/130 Finance

- (a) To note the Statement of Accounts as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026, and a member that is not a bank signatory check and sign that balances reconcile with those on the January and February bank statements and carry out a spot check of the bank reconciliation.
- (b) To approve the January and February payments lists in accordance with the 2025/26 Budget.
- (c) To agree whether to subscribe annually to CouncilWise at a cost of £150 for the year, in order to receive a 20% discount on their training courses and one-to-one support for clerks and councillors.
- (d) To agree whether to renew the annual subscription with RCCE at a cost of £107.50.
- (e) To note that the internal audit is booked for 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

## 25/131 Planning

- (a) To discuss and agree any representation to be made to the Planning Authority regarding the following Planning Application:

**260245**                      **Land to the South West of Holly Nook**                      **(expires 20/03/2026)**

*Erection of a timber-clad outbuilding for land maintenance storage*

- (b) To note that decisions have been made on the following Planning Applications:

**251595**                      **Land to the East of Nayland Road**                      **Approve Conditional**

*Application for approval of reserved matters following approval 230625*

**252754**                      **3 Tithe Courtyard, London Road**                      **Approve Conditional**

*Installation of air conditioning unit*

**252723**                      **Knowles Cottage, London Road**                      **Approve Conditional**

*Alterations to internal layout and removal of former annexe entrance*

**252469**                      **The Crescent**                      **Approve Conditional**

*Erection of one detached chalet bungalow*

**252410**                      **Holly Lodge Farm, Holly Lane**                      **Approve Conditional**

*Construction of agricultural machinery store*

- (c) To consider the matters raised by the Colchester City Council Community & Partnerships Officer in his email dated 12<sup>th</sup> March and agree any action to be taken.
- (d) To receive reports of any other new Planning matters.

## 25/132 Highways

- (a) To agree to write to the Head of Essex Highways to draw attention to the exceptional deterioration of Coach Road between Old House Road and Westwood Park and request that urgent action be taken to restore the road to a safe condition.
- (b) To receive reports of any urgent matters regarding Highways.

## 25/133 Village Hall

- (a) To note that a tapestry in the hall was previously damaged and agree any further action.
- (b) To agree to accept the quote for £320 from Inside Electrical to install an external light at the Village Hall, as budgeted for in the 2026/27 budget.

(c) To receive reports of any urgent matters regarding the Village Hall.

**25/134 Jubilee Green & Public Spaces**

To receive reports of any urgent matters regarding public spaces.

**25/135 Communications Strategy**

To discuss and agree measures to be taken to improve residents' awareness of the Council's objectives and progress being made towards achieving them.

**25/136 Parish Boundary**

To agree to ask Colchester City Council to begin the process to align the parish boundary between Myland and Great Horkesley with the A12.

**25/137 Clerk's Report**

- (a) To note the Clerk's report to date, including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and any progress to date.
- (b) To note that, in consultation with the Chairman, the Clerk booked the Assistant Clerk onto a course for Writing Grant Applications & Sourcing Funding, which was undertaken at the end of February, and to note the Assistant Clerk's report.

**25/138 Village Warden**

To note the Village Warden's report to date.

**25/139 Date of Next Meeting**

- (a) To confirm that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm in Great Horkesley New Village Hall.
- (b) To agree to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on the same evening as the Annual Parish Council Meeting (Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May).