



GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2025
IN GREAT HORKESLEY NEW VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

Those present:

Cllr Arnold (Chairman)	Cllr Baker
Cllr Burns-Langton	Cllr Jarvis
Cllr Mead	Cllr Sudbery
Cllr Tempest	

25/087 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged members to consider attending one of the online events regarding the Local Plan held by CCC in December.

25/088 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Banks.

25/089 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Baker declared an interest with respect to item 25/093 (d) as he is a member of Great Horkesley PCC.

25/090 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st October 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

25/091 Have Your Say – Public Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

25/092 Reports from Members and Officers of Other Authorities

Cllr Arnold reported that he had spoken with a volunteer that used to run the village Youth Club, who said that the reasons the Youth Club had closed down were due to volunteers not getting any younger, the numbers of children attending dropping, and few of those regularly turning up were being repeatedly troublesome.

Cllr Jarvis reminded members that the community Christmas event will be held on 30th November from 5pm to 7pm at the Village Hall.

25/093 Finance

- (a) The Statement of Accounts as at 31st October 2025 were noted and Cllr Jarvis, who is not a bank signatory, checked and signed to say that balances reconciled with those on the October bank statements, and carried out a spot check of the bank reconciliation.
- (b) The October payments list was approved in accordance with the 2025/26 Budget.
- (c) The draft minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held 10th November were noted.
Cllr Baker left the room.
- (d) The Council considered a grant application from All Saints' with St. John's PCC for a £1000 contribution towards the cost of maintaining All Saints' churchyard.

(e) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold, seconded Cllr Jarvis) that the application be accepted in full and, provided that the amount is funded in the 2026/27 budget, be paid out in April 2026 (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137).

It was also agreed to suggest to Great Horkeley PCC that the Village Warden may be available to carry out tree surveys of the churchyard as part of his work for the Council.

Cllr Baker returned to the room.

25/094 Planning

(a) Members discussed the following planning application and did not wish to make any representation to the Planning Authority:

252410	Holly Lodge Farm, Holly Lane	(expires 02/12/2025)
	<i>Construction of agricultural machinery store</i>	

(b) It was noted that decisions have been made on the following Planning Applications:

251976	Little Beeches, Brick Kiln Lane	Approve Conditional
	<i>Single storey side extension</i>	

252076	Holly House, London Road	Prior Approval Required
	<i>Timber built machinery store</i>	(Refused)

(c) There were no reports of any other new urgent Planning matters.

25/095 Highways

(a) Cllr Arnold reported that he had alerted Cllr Barber to another council that had recently succeeded in getting Highways to restore the original width of a footway. The Clerk had then received a call from Essex Highways, but the number left on the voicemail would not connect. The Clerk will ask Cllr Barber if he has any further information.

A local resident contacted Cllr Arnold and made some suggestions regarding engaging a Special Constable to carry out official police speed monitoring in certain areas of the village, with the Parish Council covering the cost of any expenses. The Chairman will investigate this further and bring some figures to a future meeting.

(b) There were no reports of any other urgent matters regarding Highways.

25/096 Village Hall

The Clerk reported that the hole in the concrete of the floor of the main hall cupboard has been filled today, and TTSS are due to come and look at the door alarms on 27th November.

25/097 Public Spaces & Jubilee Green

(a) Cllr Tempest reported that CCC advised that an application needs to be made to Fields in Trust for consent to transfer ownership of the Jubilee Green to the Parish Council, and they would expect GHPC to reimburse costs of this. The transfer could be done within five days at a cost of £2,000 +VAT, otherwise the standard cost is £150 +VAT.

It was unanimously agreed (proposed Cllr Tempest, seconded Cllr Jarvis) to propose a new handover date of 1st February and that a standard application to Fields in Trust should be processed. The Clerk will ask Cllr Laws for support in asking that CCC cover the cost of the transfer, as GHPC will be taking over the ongoing maintenance costs of the Jubilee Green and will therefore be saving CCC money moving forward.

(b) Cllr Tempest reported that he and Cllr Jarvis met with a representative from Caloo (playground equipment suppliers). Earlier today they received quotes for various pieces of play equipment with costs ranging from £12,000 to £30,000.

It was unanimously agreed (proposed Cllr Arnold, seconded Cllr Sudbery) to delegate to the Jubilee Green Committee the power to make all decisions regarding which new pieces of play equipment should be installed on the Jubilee Green in 2026. The overall cost will be advised to the Finance Committee and be included in the budget options for the next financial year to be recommended to Full Council in January's meeting. Meanwhile members will look to see if any grants are available to cover any costs of new equipment.

(c) There were no reports of any other urgent matters regarding Public Spaces.

25/098 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report to date was noted, including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and any progress to date.

25/099 Village Warden

The Village Warden's report to date was noted.

25/100 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7.30pm in Great Horkesley New Village Hall (unless a meeting is required on 16th December).

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.27pm.

These minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed
(Parish Council Chairman)

Date