Minutes of

Langham Parish Council (LPC) Meeting

Held at Langham Community Centre 8th July 2026 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Haynes, Cllr Hunter.
Attendee: Clerk – Carol Harbach
2 members of public

26/060 Welcome and apologies for absence
Cllr Armstrong welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received from Cllrs Bottwood and Anderson.
Cllr Lecoeur has resigned.

26/061 Declarations of Members Interests
None arose

26/062 Agreement of minutes from meeting of 10th June 2026
These minutes had been previously circulated and were thought to be a true and accurate account.
Proposed Cllr Haynes seconded Cllr Hunter All Agreed.

26/063 Matters arising from this meeting
Potholes – still ongoing
Terms of reference planning committee deferred to September as Cllr Bottwood is absent
Traffic report Langham Lane deferred to September
Other items on this agenda
Hedge Greyhound Hill this will be cut early August
CIL slides - Ongoing

26/064 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)
Questions may be noted and answered at the next meeting.
None arose.

26/065 Visitors Reports (Colchester City Council (CCC) and Essex County Councillors (ECC)
None Present

26/066 Finance
066.1 To report on payments made in accordance with the 2025/26 budget.

Clerk Salary June26	1,079.12
HMRC NI/TAX	95.92
James Todd & Co Inv 94398	34.60

Village Contractor 5/26	184.00
Langham Community Centre Invoices 729	19.00
Moser Groundcare Ltd care of field inv. 0344	609.24
Capel Plant Holdings Ltd – portaloo for field	132.00
E. Ellis Plants for Tubs	24.95
Reimbursement C. Harbach ICO registration	52.00
Agrovista UK Ltd white paint for field	244.80
Clear Insurance Management Insurance	181.78
H J Heelis – internal auditor fee	285.00
Dynamic Fireworks deposit	1,300.00
Impact Security and Medical cover for classic car event	500.00
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Total	£4,742.41

Balance as at 31//26

Community Account 30553093	£ 45,427.05
Savings account 30553085	118.39
Tennis account 50634468	15,601.08
Bonfire account 40553182	63.57
LCC S106 80168297	76.16
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	£61,286/24

Income	£ 22,378.96
Expenditure	£ 22,069.82

Cllr Armstrong to start payment run Cllr Bottwood to second payments

066.2 Grant application Langham Carpet Bowls Club
The council has received a grant application from Langham Carpet Bowls Club They are seeking funding support of £380 to cover 50% of this year's village hall hiring fees. This was discussed further by the council and proposed by Cllr Hunter seconded by Cllr Armstrong All agreed. The Clerk will contact the club for BACS details so the payment can be made this month.

066.3 Agree Data Protection Policy from last month
This had been circulated prior to this meeting with one proposed alteration coming back for amendment. This was then proposed Cllr Armstrong seconded Cllr Haynes All agreed.

066.4 Standing Orders review with new finance addition as per audit report
The recommendation from the internal auditor was to have the same amount in the Public Contractor Regulation section as the finance regulations we already have in place so the proposal is to increase this amount from £25,000 to £30,000 so they mirror each other. The alteration of this amount has previously been circulated. Proposed Cllr Armstrong seconded Cllr Hunter all agreed.

26/067 Planning and housing

067.1 Planning applications received

261073 Grove Farm, Grove Hill, Langham Colchester CO4 5PJ
Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - machinery shed for the safe storage and maintenance of two or more tractors, a telehandler and other equipment
LPC Comment: No Comment

261106 Springfield Farm, Nightingale Hill, Langham Colchester CO4 5PN
Application to discharge condition 13 (CMS), 15 (RMS) and BNG of planning permission 251799
LPC Comment: Planning committee will look at this and comment online

261110 Langham Lodge, Lodge Lane, Langham Colchester CO4 5ND
1 x self-build dwelling in lieu of permitted barn under 241765
LPC Comment: No comment

261136 Thaubels, Wick Road, Langham Colchester CO4 5PG
Erection of carport
LPC Comment: No comment

Birchwood Road – planning enforcement have been to the site.

067.2 Planning application decisions

250925 - Birchwood Road, Dedham, Colchester, CO7 6HX
Erection of a Drive-Thru (Use Class E(a)/(b)) with associated car parking, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, landscaping and other ancillary works.
CCC Decision: Approve Conditional

067.3 Local Plan Update

Cllr Armstrong attended CCC's 29th June Local Plan Meeting which discussed Local Plan policies (excluding site policies, which will be on the August meeting agenda). Cllr Armstrong proposed some revised wordings to strengthen the sewage treatment policy. CCC will consider these for potential adoption at the next Local Plan Meeting in August.

067.4 Langham 900 update

An update will be sent to the Langham 900 mailing list shortly.

067.5 S106 Update

Update at next meeting.

067.6 Mobile phone problems in Langham update

Cllr Haynes has spoken to the landowner at the decommissioned mast site who confirms that the gas company - Cadent - wanted this removed. Negotiations for erection of a new temporary mast are ongoing with more than one local landowner. There may be a new planning application put in during August by the phone companies for a new permanent mast.

26/068 Recreation Ground Committee updates

068.1 MUGA update

The council are still waiting for information from Chris Harden to move this forward. Cllr Armstrong will follow this up.

068.2 Event updates

There have been several requests to hire the field lately who also have hires at LCC. The requests are:

School PTA hire 31/7/26, for a small part of field part past patio area for a rodeo they are hiring and do not require a lot of space, the contractor has the mats etc. and insurance is available if agreed. This was agreed at no charge.

Also, the LCC Summer Fair on 15th August which we have invoiced for. They want to have the wooden gate open for the event. The council would like to have more information as to why this would be required before going ahead Clerk to follow this up via email, as there is no meeting in August.

Blue Bird Care Company – are hiring the LCC 5/9/26 and would like the small area of field at £75 and the overflow car park £50. This was agreed Clerk to contact company.

Langham Fun Run would like to hire the field again for the fun run on 21/3/27 with the use of both gates again. This was agreed if it is the same as this year but they will be made aware of the updated charges which have been introduced.

These were discussed and agreed Clerk to notify relevant groups.

Firework night has been booked for the 7th Nov and the deposit invoice has arrived for payment.

068.3 New football club

Brookland Boys football team are going to be hiring the field next season for their junior teams. 2 smaller pitches will be marked out for 5-a-side and 7 a-side on the field near the play area end. Contracts will be produced and insurances obtained.

Training will be Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

Matches will be Sunday between 10:00-14:00 every week dependent on Fixtures lists.

Matches on a Saturday would be worked out to miss Roman Rovers bookings but we are awaiting the Fixture Lists from the League.

26/069 Hornestreet Nature Reserve update

We are now in a position to employ a conveyancing solicitor to get this moving as we have the relevant paperwork.

Insurance for the current year was £160. The council are working towards a November date to finalise things. A Celebration event is going to be planned for September.

26/070 **Pylons - updates**

No updates at moment, email updates are still coming through from Rosie Pearson.

26/071 **Councillors Reports**

Footpath upkeep – this was brought up by Cllr Haynes.

26/072 **Clerk report and correspondence**

Nothing to report

26/073 **Training and events**

Cllr Armstrong is to undertake Chairs training

26/074 **Items for next agenda and date of next meeting**

Footpaths
Recruitments
9th September 2026 7:30pm – No meeting in August

26/075 **Chairman's closure of meeting**

The Meeting was closed at 8:40pm

Signed ……..
Cllr Armstrong

Date ……..