



**FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING – 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex  
CO5 7BH on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.10pm

Councillors present: Gerald Ketley – Chairman  
Derek Henderson  
Emma Dixon  
Neil Gordon  
Jonathan Martin  
Petra Palfreyman – Parish Clerk

Also in attendance – Colchester City Councillors Dr Martin Parsons and Cllr Robert Davidson and one member of the public.

049/26 Apologies for absence – Cllr Chamberlain and Cllr Law

050/26 To record declarations of interest – none

051/26 Public Questions – an organiser of the Classic Car Show, due to be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at the village hall and the Whalebone carpark, came along to give an update about the show. So far there are forty-one classic cars, three vintage motorcycles, stalls for the village hall and a BBQ. Church Greet Trust will also have some cars and stalls with crafts and cakes. Parking will be available at the Recreation Ground and the field next to it.

052/26 To receive reports from our Colchester City Councillor

Cllr Davidson

The City Council budget was agreed in February. Black and blue wheelie bins for general waste and recycling will be rolled out between June 2026 and March 2027. There will be a joint coordination committee, where a CEO from each of the current councils will meet until May 2027, when a shadow unitary council will be formed.

053/26 To approve minutes of the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated were approved for signing. There were no matters arising

054/26

FINANCE

a ) Accounts payable 31 March 2026 - the following payments were noted and agreed

Payment date	Payee	Purpose	Method	Total Amount £	VAT
02.03.26	HMRC	Clerks PAYE Feb 26	Bacs	96.59	
02.03.26	P Palfreyman	Wages Feb 26	Bacs	507.40	
05.03.26	I C Maintenance	Misc. village works	Bacs	530.00	
05.03.26	Open Spaces Society	Annual subscription	Bacs	45.00	
05.03.26	Colchester Trophies	Badge & chains engraving	Bacs	15.00	
05.03.26	David Monks	Village stone placement	Bacs	450.00	
05.03.26	Glasdon	Church Green bin	Bacs	365.03	60.84
05.03.26	R J Playle	Fan Hill hedge	Bacs	240.00	40.00
05.03.26	RCCE	Annual subscription	Bacs	85.50	14.00
07.03.26	ICO	Annual subscription	DD	47.00	
26.03.26	G K Ketley	Badge & chains engraving	Bacs	15.00	
31.03.26	HMRC	Clerks PAYE Mar 26	Bacs	96.79	
31.03.26	P Palfreyman	Wages Mar 26	Bacs	507.20	
31.03.26	P Palfreyman	Office allowance	Bacs	54.00	
31.03.26	Unity Trust Bank	Service charge	Bacs	7.00	
<b>Total</b>				<b>3061.51</b>	<b>114.84</b>

b) To review the budget to 31 March 2026 – noted and agreed

c) To note the bank reconciliation to 31 March 2026 - noted and agreed

d) To note the date of the Annual Internal Audit – the records will be presented for audit next week.

e) To review and agree the insurance quote for 2026/27 - the Council agreed a further 3 year agreement with Clear Councils at a cost of £640.26 (£601.34 last year) for this year. The clerk reviewed the asset register and increased the amount insured.

055/26

To agree the dimensions for a second village name stone at the corner of Haye Lane – following discussion it was agreed that a name stone the same size as the stone on Fingringhoe Road should be ordered.

056/26

To agree continued use of the Recreation Ground by the existing football clubs – the Council agreed the existing football clubs could continue under the current arrangements.

057/26

To receive reports from Parish representatives

- Footpaths – nothing to report
- Village Pond – nothing to report
- Recreation Ground – the clerk will request the grass is cut as soon as possible
- Transport – nothing to report
- Fingringhoe School – nothing to report

058/26

Updates about ongoing issues

- Picnic bench for Church Green – has been ordered and will be delivered next week
- Play bark – the levels have been topped up to comply with the park inspection report
- Common Land – further advise has been requested from the Open Spaces Society
- Anglian Water reply – AWA have advised they will investigate the sewage and drainage issues in Fingringhoe
- Boardwalk grant, quotes, tree and bulbs – the clerk applied for the grant but has been advised more quotes are needed. The new tree will be planted next week and the Council agreed to purchase daffodil bulbs for Church Green in the autumn
- School parking – the schools request for a crossing patrol officer has been rejected. The clerk will try to arrange a meeting with ECC officers
- Elections – Parish Elections are on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Cllr Neil Gordon advised he will not be standing again which will leave a vacancy on the council. All other councillors have put forward a nomination to stand again
- Local Plan Update – Cllr Martin and the clerk took part in a webinar with more information about the Local Plan. The organisers went through each location but the information about Fingringhoe has not changed. Larger councils will be having separate meetings
- Barnfields update – the large lime tree at the front has been cut back
- Annual Parish Meeting next year – the Council agreed that an Annual Parish meeting would not be held next year unless members of the public requested one
- Flowers for the village – two residents asked if the Council would agree and/or fund tubs of flowers around the village. Sponsorship from local businesses will also be requested. This was agreed in principle and will be discussed further
- Grass cutting – the cost of grass cutting will be increased to £336 (£276) per cut for the coming year. The Council agreed the increase.
- United Charities for the Poor, Fingringhoe – the next meeting of the trustees will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026

059/26

Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.

This meeting is the Annual parish Meeting and is being held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of May.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.50pm

DRAFT