



FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 19th May 2026

The Annual meeting of the Parish Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex CO5 7BH on 19th May 2026 at 7pm.

Councillors present: Sharron Law – Vice Chairman

Derek Henderson

Emma Dixon

Ian Chamberlain

Petra Palfreyman – Parish Clerk

Also in attendance Colchester City Councillors Dr Martin Parsons and Cllr Carl Powling and two members of the public.

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| 060/26 | Election of chairman for the coming year – Cllr Gerald Ketley was nominated and unanimously elected |
| 061/26 | Election of vice chairman for the coming year – Cllr Sharron Law was nominated and unanimously elected |
| 062/26 | Apologies for absence – Cllr Ketley, Cllr Martin and City Cllr Robert Davidson |
| 063/26 | To record declarations of interest – none |
| 064/26 | Public Questions – none |
| 065/26 | To receive reports from our Essex County and Colchester City Councillors

To note that the recycling changes on 1 June 2026. The new Essex County Councillor covering Fingringhoe is Cllr Christopher Perera |
| 066/26 | To approve minutes of the meeting on 7 th April 2026 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated were approved for signing. There were no matters arising |
| 067/26 | To consider planning applications received |

260591 Mr Holbrow Viewlands, Ferry Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7BX
Retrospective approval of single storey side extension to existing single garage and installation of boundary fence and gate Expiry date 5 May 2026 extended to 20 May 2026.

Object – Not in keeping and overbearing with the street scene. Fence exceeds permitted height and pitch of roof higher than approved plans.

260827 Mr Kevin Jordan 2 Woodside Cottages, Haye Lane, Fingringhoe
Colchester CO5 7AE Two storey side extension Expiry date 2 June 2026 - No comment

068/26 To receive planning notification decision

260076 Mr Harry Keegan Saltmarsh House (formerly Salmons Cottage), South
Green Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7DW Application to vary condition 2
(drawings) of planning permission 231460 Decision Type: Approval Conditional

069/26 To note the outcome of the uncontested election and the vacancy available for co-option.

The clerk confirmed that six out of seven councillors stood for re-election and there is now one vacancy open for co-option. The clerk has contacted the Election office at CCC to provide a co-option notice.

070/26 FINANCE

a) Accounts payable 30 April 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	
Total				3061.51	114.84

b) To note the bank reconciliation to 30 April 2026 - noted and agreed

c) To note the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2026 – noted and agreed

d) To note the report from the Internal Auditor – noted and agreed. Cllr Law thanked the clerk for her work on the end of year accounts

e) To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) – agreed and signed

- f) To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement (Section 2) – agreed and signed
- g) To advise the dates for the Exercise of Public Rights – 11 June 2026 to 22 July 2026 (to include the first 10 working days of July)
- h) To note the updated asset register – noted and agreed

071/26 To review and approve the following documents and policies

Standing Orders	Financial Regulations
Scheme of Delegation	Document and Retention policy
Biodiversity policy	Freedom of Information
Date Breach policy	Strategic Risk assessment
Co-option policy	Code of Conduct
Model Councillor/Officer protocol	
All noted and agreed	

072/26 To review and approve the following risk assessments

Play area risk assessment	Risk Management Scheme
Pond risk assessment	Strategic Risk Assessment
All noted and agreed	

073/26 To confirm Councillor representatives for 2026/27

Footpaths – Cllr Martin	Fingringhoe School – Cllr Chamberlain
Village pond – Cllr Chamberlain	Transport – Cllr Dixon
Recreation Ground – Cllr Henderson	

074/26 To resolve to adopt the General Power of Competence until the next Annual meeting, as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, having met all the conditions of eligibility, being;

- at least two thirds of the council must hold office as a result of being declared elected (i.e., not co-opted).
- the Clerk must hold a recognised professional qualification (e.g., Certificate in Local Council Administration, Certificate of Higher Education in Local Policy) and have passed the 2012 CiLCA module relating to the general power of competence.

Discussed and agreed

075/26 To consider a donation for village flower displays – residents attended the meeting to explain plans to put some flower and bulb planters around the village which has been supported by sponsorship from local businesses. If further funding is required later in the year, the Council have agreed to make a donation towards the costs.

076/26 To agree the purchase of new adult defibrillator pads costing £118.74 – noted and agreed

077/26 To consider asking Colchester City Council to include the map of isolated villages to the official collection of Local Plan documents (highlighting areas vulnerable if there were wildfires) – following discussion it was agreed to send a request to CCC

- 078/26 To note the play area inspection report and discuss replacing the flat swing seat – following discussion it was agreed to replace both seats and chains at a cost of £651.30.
- 079/26 To receive reports from Parish representatives
- Footpaths – Cllr Chamberlain will clear the footpath near at Ferry Road
 - Village Pond – the pond was cleared of some weed last week
 - Recreation Ground - Cllr Henderson has kindly cleaned the signage and weeded the play area.
 - Transport – the clerk to contact Stevensons to see if they will continue their contract after July 2026
 - Fingringhoe School – parking is still an issue. The school have a petition to sign. Cllr Powling to highlight issues to Cllr Perera
- 080/26 Update about ongoing issues
- School parking and petition – as above
 - Second village stone name – the stone is ordered and currently being worked on
 - Church Green and boardwalk – seats and benches and been cleaned up and returned. A further quote for the boardwalk has been received, and the clerk will apply for a grant.
 - Common Land – the clerk has requested any historical documents from Colchester City Council. The surveyor will be appointed to review and stake the boundaries
 - Pigs Foot Green – one of the posts has been snapped off and will be replaced
- 081/26 Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 16th June 2026 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.
- There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm