

**DRAFT MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.30 PM.**

Present: Gari Spearpoint - (GS) Chair
 Peter Beaumont – (PB)
 Caroline Mackrill – (CM)
 Erica Bromley – (EB0)

District Cllr Judy Emanuel – (JE)
 Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk
 2 members of the public

1626. Declarations of Interest

None

1627. Apologies for Absence

Ray Hart – (RH)
Cllr Neil Hargreaves - (NH)
Cllr Ray Gooding – (RG)

1628. Minutes of the last meeting held on 16th January 2025 (already circulated)

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

1629. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 16th January 2025

None.

1630. Public participation session

- Could the Parish Council please push ahead with installation of new posts around the Green.
- A resident advised that the area in front of his house is severely potholed. The resident has offered to fill in the holes.

1631. Correspondence

None.

1632. Footpaths

- a) GS has written to Kemi Badenoch (KB) MP regarding the state of the footpath and the time it is taking for remedial work to take place. KB has replied that she will refer this to ECC Highways to find out when work will commence.
- b) GS and RG have walked the area. RG is concerned about the number of trees that have come down.
- c) The gas contractors have left a mess after their work in the area.

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d) An island has been knocked over. RG will report this to Highways.

1633. Planning

1. UTT/25/0087/HHF-The Thatched Cottage, Cambridge Road

Erect a one-storey extension and modify the internal layout.

No objections.

2. UTT/25/0218/HHF-Bury Farm House, Rickling Green

Installation of EV charger.

No objections.

1634. Football Pitch

The Parish Council has handed over the full running of the football pitch to Ted Crow (TC), together with any equipment which the PC owns. TC is now running the project independently. He has been offered a £1000 grant from Cllr Neil Hargreaves (NH). The money has to be paid into a commercial account, which TC does not currently have, and before 15th March 2025. NH wonders if the money can be paid into the PC 's bank account and then transferred to TC when he has set up a commercial bank account. The parish clerk was not sure if this would be acceptable and is seeking advice from EALC. If EALC advise that this would be acceptable it must be made clear to TC that the transfer must take place before 31st March 2025. The clerk will report back when the advice is received.

It is clear from the accounts that expenditure relating to the football pitch substantially exceeds income received from football pitch hire.

1635. Village projects

Consider quotation for Village Green Posts.

RH has received a new quotation of £850-£900 to supply the post. The PC agreed to proceed with this. The clerk will advise RH.

1636. Belchams Lane

JE advised that there are no plans within the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plan for any development in Quendon and Rickling.

1637. Finance

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a. Accounts Balances (already circulated) - | Noted. |
| b. Invoices and payments for approval (already circulated) - | Approved. |

[359/2025]

FINANCE REPORT for JANUARY 2025

Balance b/f @ 31/12/2024

8494.76

Payments to be authorised for January 2025

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Reason
CPRE	online	72.00	Membership renewal
Npower	dd	117.99	Electricity for December 2024
Ted Crow	online	114.84	Grassline paint
Payroo	online	6.00	Payroll expenses for December 2024
Q&R Village Hall	online	401.25	Room hire and defibrillator expenses
Val Evans	online	106.00	Internal audit 2023-2024
Keith Williams	online	431.91	Salary for January 2025
HMRC (Keith Williams)	online	108.20	PAYE for January 2025
A&J Lighting	online	96.00	Call out charge to inspect light
Community Heartbeat	online	59.94	Defibrillator pads
Rickling Ramblers	online	3,995.00	Grant
Unity Trust Bank	dd	6.00	Bank charges
Ted Crow	online	315.00	Refund of pitch hire fees
Total Payments for January 2025		5830.13	

Football pitch hire

700.00

Bank interest

2.42

Balances at 31/01/2025

Current A/C

3367.05

Savings A/C

b/f

20240.30

Bank interest

276.79

Savings A/C

20517.09

Total c/f at 31/01/2025

23884.14

Please note: The payment to HMRC was made by the parish clerk and is being reimbursed.

Note: The payment of £401.25 to Q&R Village Hall comprises £256.25 for hall rental (11 meetings at £20.50 and an additional meeting at £30.75), plus £145.00 for the agreed contribution towards defibrillator costs. The contribution was last agreed at the meeting in February 2023.

[360/2025]

1638. Events

Autumn Daze and the Pumpkin Competition have been mentioned in The Link. CM wondered if the Cricket Day will happen this year. GS will speak to Sally Kitcat to see if there is any information.

1639. County and District Councillor reports

Neil Hargreaves

NH has sent a report.

- For 2025/26 there is an intended rise in council tax of £5.28 per year which takes the Band D rate to £182.02.
- The Blueprint project has generated £2.5 million of continuing savings.
- A five-way split is being sought for Essex. Uttlesford is likely to combine with Harlow and Epping Forest.
- I intend giving £1000 from my ward initiative to the Football Pitch operation. This must go into a commercial account, which has not yet been set up, and must be paid by middle of March when the funding is no longer available.

Judy Emanuel

- The government has published it's various methods of streamlining councils. This will include a mayor for Essex.
- All new funding will then go through the mayor. Below the mayor will be unitary and district councils. It is expected that there will be 5 unitary authorities in Essex.
- There is a proposed 90 home development Newport.
- There is speculation that a travellers site might be established in Chalk Farm Lane, Newport.

1640. Date of next meeting

12th March 2025 (This is subject to change if a quorum cannot be guaranteed).

1641. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.05.

[361/2025]