

**DRAFT MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 8th JANUARY 2026 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Gari Spearpoint - (GS) Chair
David Murfitt – (DM)
Erica Bromley – (EB)
Ray Hart – (RH)
Peter Beaumont – (PB)
Caroline Mackrill - (CM)

Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk
1 member of the public

1758. Declarations of Interest

None

1759. Apologies for Absence

District Councillor Neil Hargreaves – (NH)
District Councillor Judy Emanual – (JE)

1760. Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th December 2025 (already circulated)

The draft minutes of the last meeting were amended to show the correct meeting date and were then agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

1761. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 11th December 2025

- a. The memorial bench for Tom Duncan is awaiting selection.
- b. GS met with John Lodge regarding the Pavilion. Discussions are ongoing.

1762. Public participation session

It was noted that GS had met with John Lodge.

Is the council aware of any progress from Pegasi? [Note: The Belchams Lane/Pegasi issue will be discussed under item 13 on the agenda].

1763. Agree precept.

A precept of £20,000 was agreed for the year 2026-2027. The clerk will advise UDC.

1764. Gov.uk domain.

The parish council agreed to proceed with the “Cloud Next” procedure and the clerk will submit the application. The clerk will speak to Ken Wheatley and instruct him to proceed with the new email addresses. The chosen name will be **qandr-pc.gov.uk**

[388/2026]

1765. Correspondence

Information from RGRA will be circulated.

1766. Footpaths

Nothing to report.

1767. Planning

UTT/25/3361/LB – Grape Cottage, 8 Waterbutt Row

Installation of fibre broadband cable box.

No objections.

1768. Village projects

- a. There are further posts to be installed around the Village Green.
- b. Potholes will be re-filled.
- c. The Village Hall Committee will be asked if an external electric socket can be fitted to the Hall.
- d. The RGRA to be asked if the flagpole by the Pavilion can be used as a support for a Christmas Tree.
- e. The dog bin needs to be installed.

1769. Village Asset storage

The current facilities are now considered adequate. There will therefore be no need to obtain new storage.

1770. Belchams Lane

Documents regarding the proposed development have been circulated. An entry will be made in The Link explaining the current position.

1771. Actions Register

This is to be regularly updated. An additional column to be inserted to record any potential costings.

1772. Finance

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

FINANCE REPORT for DECEMBER 2025

Balance b/f @ 30/11/2025 8487.50

Payments to be authorised for DECEMBER 2025

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Reason
Terrace and Garden	Online	272.00	Christmas trees
Christine Osbourn	Online	20.00	Plants for Fountain
Npower	dd	129.63	Electricity for November 2025
Payroo	Online	6.00	Payroll for November 2025
Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	Online	250.00	Donation
Gari Spearpoint	Online	30.50	Chairman's expenses
Bishop's Band	Online	50.00	Christmas carols
			Salary for December
Keith Williams	online	446.04	2025 PAYE for December
HMRC (Keith Williams)	online	132.47	2025
Unity Trust Bank	dd	6.00	Service charge

Total Payments for December 2025 1342.64

Balances at 31/12/2025 Current A/C 7144.86

Savings A/C	
b/f	20646.26
Interest	<u>353.64</u>
Savings A/C	<u>20999.90</u>

Total c/f at 31/12/2025 28144.76

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

1773. Events

Nothing to report.

1774. County and District Councillor reports

Cllr Hargreaves has submitted the following report;

The Local Plan; we await the inspectors response to the consultation on their intended modifications. Once these are received and assumed ok, the Plan will go to full Council for approval ASAP. After that Community Infrastructure Levy will be next.

[390/2026]

Parishes get 10% of it or 25% if they have a Neighbourhood Plan and it is additional to s106 agreements for matters specific to an application

As it stands today most councils in Essex have requested the county elections are held in May. Essex have said nothing so far. It is a government decision. If it goes ahead, the division is altered by removing Elsenham and Henham into Thaxted, but Quendon remains in the Stansted Division.

Our bin lorries will switch to green fuel – hydrogenated vegetable oil – in a weeks time, having run to the end of our diesel stock. It was going to cost more than diesel but the good news is the 12 month contract has been agreed cheaper than was budgeted, so it is only very slightly more than diesel

Re Pegasi, our consultants ONH are happy to prepare a response when an application is published. They wanted to know when it is likely to be validated which we can't answer as we have no visibility of internal application matters before made public

1775. Date of next meeting

12th February 2026

1776. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.48.

[391/2025]