

Stow Maries Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 17th March 2025

in The Smythe Hall, Church Lane, Stow Maries at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr Matt Cooper welcomed all those present.

COUNCILLOR ATTENDEES AND OTHER ATTENDEES

Councillors:- Matt Cooper, Neil Gilmore, David Hopping, Debbie Driver & Adam Brown

District: No one in attendance due to illness

Essex CC Cllr Jane Fleming

In attendance: Parish Clerk

24-5/141 APOLOGIES

DCllrs - White and Whiffen due to illness.

24-5/142 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a) No declaration were made at this point in the meeting.

24-5/143 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

a) The minutes of the meeting of 24th February 2025, subject to a change regarding the details pertaining to the buses being expanded, were approved and signed by the Chairman Cllr Matt Cooper as a true and accurate record.

24-5/144 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

a) No report was available.

24-5/145 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Jane Fleming updated the members on the status of the Local Government Reform and there is to be a meeting on 18th March to agree the draft for Greater Essex. It was stated that 10 out of 15 Councils have shared a preference for 5 Unitary Councils. The Secretary of State will review and decide on exactly how many. It is considered that this should be finalised by December 2025 and people who are planning to stand for the Mayoral position will start this September in readiness for the election in May 2026 and the shadow election will take place the following May 2027.

It was reiterated that the Love your Bus funding will be coming around again and that it would be a good idea to get a quote from Stephensons to hold a "Try your Bus Day" in readiness for the application.

The next date for sending a list of really bad road defects to Cllr Fleming is 23rd March. The one in Honey Pot Lane was mentioned and Cllr Brown to take a photo and send to CC Fleming for the list and other members to send any others to the Clerk.

A vote of thanks was giving to Cllr Fleming and she left at this point in the meeting.

24-5/146 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC -An opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise issues.

Signed by the Chairman.....
Cllr Matthew Cooper

Dated 28th April 2025

Stow Maries Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 17th March 2025

in The Smythe Hall, Church Lane, Stow Maries at 7.30 p.m.

24-5/147 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications:-

- a) No planning applications.
- b) **Planning correspondence** received over the course of the month and circulated via e-mail:
 - i) Planning application listings were noted
 - ii) Planning decisions and appeals were noted
 - iii) Planning Decisions:- none at the time of writing.
- c) **MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL - LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**
 - i) No information at this time.
- d) **BRADWELL B**
 - i) No information at this time.
- e) **STOW MARIES GREAT WAR AERODROME**
 - i) No information at this time.

24-5/148 HIGHWAY & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES

- a) The vegetation from Honeypot Lane to the Three Rivers Golf Club, is still on the list to be done by ECC through the member led scheme that Cllr Fleming has been dealing with. Clerk to chase again.
- b) Members reiterated their concerns that the victoria brickwork would be totally hidden when the in-fill takes place and were concerned that the bridge would look ugly.

24-5/149 FINANCE

- a) Members approved the payments and receipts for the March 2025 meeting.
- b) Clerk clarified to members that the bank reconciliations would be reviewed quarterly, but as the bank statements do not arrive until the first week in the following month, the reconciliation would take place at the meeting following the quarter end (April/July/October and January).
- c) Members approved the use of Mr. John Watson as the internal auditor at a cost of £125.00 for 24/25.

Mar-25	DATE	CHEQUE NO	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
49/24-25	17/03/2025	100683	Sarah Sayer		302.39	£0.00	£302.39
50/24-25	17/03/2025	100683	Sarah Sayer		43.88		43.88
51/24-25	17/03/2025	100684	HMRC		£10.60		£10.60
					£356.87		£356.87

24-5/150 WEBSITE

- a) Parish Meeting dates installed on website for 25/26.

24-5/151 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Signed by the Chairman.....
Cllr Matthew Cooper

Dated 28th April 2025

Stow Maries Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 17th March 2025

in The Smythe Hall, Church Lane, Stow Maries at 7.30 p.m.

24-5/152 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 28th April 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

**24-5/153 ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN TRANSACTED THE CHAIR THANKS EVERYONE
FOR ATTENDING & CLOSES THE MEETING at 8.00 pm.**

**Signed by the Chairman.....
Cllr Matthew Cooper**

Dated 28th April 2025