

## **LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the History Centre Committee was held in the Memorial Hall on December 8th, 2025. The Meeting commenced at 7:00pm. In attendance: -

Cllr Barbara Teal - Chair  
Andy Coppell  
Chrissi Frost

Cllr Peter Irvine

Ian Wardle – Clerk

Members of the Public – 1

### **64/25 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from: Cllr C. Galea; C. Ogden and A. Wiltshire

### **65/25 Declarations of Interest**

None declared

### **66/25 Approve the Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 Meeting**

Committee approved the minutes from the meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and they were signed by the Chair.

### **67/25 Public Participation**

Cllr Verity Rose attended the meeting to discuss the promotion and advertising of the History Centre in the village – see minute 71/25

### **68/25 History Centre Grant**

The Chair advise Committee that the grant application under the Locality Fund was recommended by County Councillor John Spence and approved for £965 to purchase a PC and Card Reader. The Chair passed the Claim Form to the Clerk who will arrange payment and submit the claim following receipt of the invoices from the suppliers.

### **69/25 Future Events**

Committee discussed the following suggestions:

- An Art Show combined with a 'Meet the Authors' event
- A Craft Fair to be held in the grounds of the URC over the Easter weekend
- Music evenings in the Chapel building (see minute 70/25)

### **70/25 Use of the Vestry & Chapel Building**

The Chair asked Andy Coppell if the URC would support the use of the Chapel building for music and dancing events. Andy said he would discuss the idea with Church elders and members and advise.

Andy Coppell confirmed that the redecoration and refurbishment of the Vestry and Chapel was complete.

He then provided an update on the discussions with the URC Synod over the ownership and control of the Little Baddow Church property and the Barrington Trust. Following legal advice and review of historic documents the Little Baddow URC has evidence to support the case that they and not the Synod own the property as it was gifted to the local URC.

Andy is looking to arrange a meeting between the local URC and the Synod to finalise the matter and will share the summary documentation with the Chair of Little Baddow Parish Council.

### **71/25 Advertising & Promotion**

Committee discussed the need for raising the awareness of the History Centre locally; Cllr Verity Rose joined the meeting and agreed to assist in promoting the History Centre. The following suggestions were agreed:

- Verity would work with Caroline Ogden to complete a video of the History Centre and upload onto Facebook
- Verity would develop new designs for leaflets
- Cllr Irvine said that he would support Little Baddow Councillors delivering leaflets to village residents
- Caroline to liaise with local schools about arranging visits for pupils to learn about local history

### **72/25 'Meet the Authors' Event Review**

The Chair provided a report on the recent 'Meet the Authors' event held at the Memorial Hall. Despite there being eight Authors giving talks on the work, attendance was poor with only four attendees. Feedback centred on a low awareness of the event (see minute 71/25)

### **73/25 Any Other Business**

The following matters were raised:

- Chrissi Frost reported uneven paving slabs outside the building that could be a trip hazard. Andy Coppell will investigate the matter.
- Following the update on the discussions between the local URC and the Synod, the Chair of Little Baddow Parish Council reiterated the need for the Council and URC to complete formalising the position of the History Centre building.

### **74/25 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the committee was provisionally set for the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.