

LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall on January 8th, 2026. The Meeting commenced at 7:30pm. In attendance:

Cllr P Irvine – Chair
Cllr A Roche
Cllr D Ginn
Cllr C Galea

Cllr V Rose
Cllr Stephanie Scott
Cllr S Scott
Cllr K Sheldrake

Mr I Wardle – Clerk

Members of the Public – 1

1/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr B Teal

2/26 Declarations of Interest

No interests declared.

3/26 To Approve the Minutes of the 4th December 2025 Meeting

Council approved the minutes from the meeting held on the 4th December 2025 and they were signed by the Chairman.

4/26 Matters from Prior Meetings

Minute No/Date/Councillor	Subject	Status
11/23 – Hammonds Farm Development Cllr Irvine	Maintain communication with Chelmsford City Council over next steps in the review of the Local Plan	December – The 4 Council Working Group (4CWG) attended the Planning Inspector meeting on the 25 th Nov to raise objections to the proposed Pidgeon development. The 4CWG are looking to retain the barrister to review the process adopted to date and determine if there are grounds for a Judicial Review prior to the Inspector decision. January – The 4CWG met and agreed on the need to raise further funds to cover the costs of the Barrister and expert consultants attending the Public Inspector meeting later this year.

5/26 Public Question Time

No questions raised by members of the public.

6/26 Development in the Village

The following planning applications were considered by Council:

Application Number	Location and nature of the Proposed Development to which the application relates	Result
25/01666/FUL	Somerville, Wayside	No Objection
	Demolish Garage & Build First Floor & Rear Extension	
25/01691/LBC	Walters Cottage, North Hill	No Objection
	Enlarge Internal Hatch to Create Doorway	
25/01709/FUL	Sandpit Cottage, Holybread Lane	No Objection
	Replacement Dwelling	

7/26 Payment of Accounts

Council approved the payment of accounts for December as proposed.

Transfer	Payee	Description	Subject	Cost	VAT	Total
**DD	Barclays	General	Charges	£ 14.41	£ -	£ 14.41
**DD	Talk Talk	Memorial Hall	Hall Telephone/wifi	£ 34.17	£ 6.83	£ 41.00
**DD	Talk Talk	History Centre	Telephone/wifi	£ 23.95	£ 4.79	£ 28.74
**DD	British Gas	Memorial Hall	Hall Electric	£ 87.89	£ 4.42	£ 92.31
**DD	British Gas	Memorial Hall	Gas - November	£ 139.03	£ 6.95	£ 145.98
**DD	British Gas	Memorial Hall	Gas - December	£ 190.99	£ 9.54	£ 200.53
**DD	British Gas	Sports Pavilion	Gas	£ 20.30	£ 1.01	£ 21.31
**DD	British Gas	Sports Pavilion	Electric	£ 19.89	£ 0.99	£ 20.88
**DD	EE Mobile	General	Clerk Mobile	£ 9.18	£ 1.84	£ 11.02
**DD	Wave - Anglian Water	Sports Pavilion	Water	£ 655.86	£ -	£ 655.86
**DD	Wave - Anglian Water	Memorial Hall	Water	£ 642.76	£ -	£ 642.76
**Transfer	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	General	Donation	£ 250.00	£ -	£ 250.00
**Transfer	Community First Responders	General	Donation	£ 350.00	£ -	£ 350.00
**Transfer	B. Teal	Memorial Hall	Hall Christmas Lights	£ 117.87	£ -	£ 117.87
**Transfer	B. Teal	Carers Club	Expenses	£ 49.83	£ -	£ 49.83
**Transfer	Steph Scott	Carers Club	Expenses	£ 40.60	£ -	£ 40.60
			Sub Total	£ 2,646.73	£ 36.37	£ 2,683.10
Transfer	I Wardle	General	Salary	£ 632.80	£ -	£ 632.80
Transfer	I Wardle - Amazon	Memorial Hall	Paper Supplies	£ 149.00	£ -	£ 149.00
Transfer	E. Cole	Memorial Hall	Hall Cleaning	£ 403.00	£ -	£ 403.00
Transfer	Neil Holmes	Memorial Hall	Manager Duties	£ 585.00	£ -	£ 585.00
Transfer	Neil Holmes	General	Handyman Tasks	£ 212.00	£ -	£ 212.00
Transfer	Neil Holmes	General	Handyman Tasks	£ 26.50	£ -	£ 26.50
Transfer	RitchComm	Sports Pavilion	Cleaning	£ 240.75	£ -	£ 240.75
Transfer	Skippers Ground Maintenance	General	Grass Cutting	£ 325.00	£ 65.00	£ 390.00
Transfer	Weave-a-Web	General	Website Maintenance	£ 160.00	£ 32.00	£ 192.00
Transfer	C. Ogden	History Centre	Admin Assistant - Nov	£ 480.00	£ -	£ 480.00
Transfer	G. Jarvis	WHPA	Supervision - November	£ 60.00	£ -	£ 60.00
Transfer	MDW Technology	General	IT Security Updates	£ 166.00	£ 33.20	£ 199.20
Transfer	EWT	General	Membership Fee	£ 40.00	£ -	£ 40.00
Transfer	C. Galbally	Carers Club	Yoga Class Fee	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00
Transfer	HMRC	General	Nat Ins & Tax	£ 2,280.24	£ -	£ 2,280.24
Transfer	V. Rose	Carers Club	Christmas Tree	£ 30.00	£ -	£ 30.00
Transfer	S. Scott	Memorial Hall	Table Tennis Table	£ 208.99	£ -	£ 208.99
			Sub Total	£ 6,049.28	£ 130.20	£ 6,179.48
			TOTAL - Payments	£ 8,696.01	£ 166.57	£ 8,862.58
	ACCOUNTS STATUS	31/12/2025	+/- vs prior		RESERVES	
	Current Account (B)	£ 55,900.56	-£ 2,693.60	Hall		£ 28,000.00
	Reserve No 1 (B1)	£ 52,344.65	£ 152.29	Pavilion		£ 16,000.00
	Reserve No 2 (B2)	£ 8,053.89	£ 23.43	WGPA		£ 21,000.00
	Reserve No 3 (B3)	£ 2,181.44	£ 6.35	EALC Reserve		£ 26,000.00
	Total Barclays a/cs	£ 118,480.54		CIL Fund		£ 14,530.96
				Holybred Wood		£ 3,977.39
	Current Account	£ 14,868.68	£ -	War Memorial		£ 2,160.71
	Savings Account	£ 50,622.83	£ 36.52	Charity Fund		£ -
	Total Metro Bank a/cs	£ 65,491.51		History Centre		£ 12,146.28
				Fir Tree Woods		£ 8,662.47
				Hammonds Farm Appeal		£ 13,463.20
				LB Carers Club		£ 2,217.86
				Total - Reserves + Payments		£ 157,021.45
	Total All a/cs	£ 183,972.05		Funds Available		£ 29,633.70
**	Outside Council Meeting			Total (exc ** payments)		£ 183,972.05

Council approved the following:

- Estimated costs of £1,500 to £3,000 for the emergency repairs required at the Sports Pavilion
- Contributing £800 as a 50% share of the costs of tree pruning in Parsonage Lane where the trees are encroaching on the Play Area equipment

8/26 CIL Reserve Fund Project Proposals

The Clerk briefed Council on the following proposals:

- **Vehicle Activated Speed Signs** – The Clerk had received quotes from two providers and costs for two signs range between £5,200 and £8,300. Council agreed to hold over until the next meeting as quotes from two further suppliers and a contractor to install the required posts is outstanding.
- **Picnic Tables** – the Clerk advised that three weatherproof picnic tables for the sports field would cost £1,365. A decision was deferred until the next meeting when all proposals could be assessed.
- **Renew Notice Boards** – as one of the village notice boards is in a poor state the clerk obtained estimates for new notice boards. Cost is estimated at £1,500 per board installed and so the cost of replacing all five boards was considered to high. Council agreed to retain the Handyman to assess the notice boards and provide a quote for repairs.
- **Boules Pitch** – the clerk briefed Council on the pitch recently installed at Great Baddow sports field at a cost of £22,000. This was considered too high a price and the clerk will complete further research into options and visit the Gt Baddow pitch to understand what was required.

9/26 Land North of Sandon Lodge – Pigeon (Sandon) Ltd

Council was updated by the Chairman that following the granting of Outline Planning permission by the Appeals Inspector there was no further action for the Council to take in objecting to the development.

10/26 Hammonds Farm Appeal

The Chairman advised that following the recent meeting of the Four Councils Working Group it was agreed to commence fund raising to cover the costs of retaining the Barrister and expert consultants to represent the Councils in objecting to the City Local Plan Review at the forthcoming Public Inspector meeting. It is estimated to need £80,000 and the four Parish Councils are looking to contribute as well as campaigning for public donations. The Chairman will make a proposal at the next meeting for the Council to make a contribution of between £10,000 and £15,000.

11/26 Social Media Update

Cllr Rose gave an update on new social media activities including:

- Creating a Facebook site for the Memorial Hall which will be promoted by posters
- Completing a video of the History Centre to highlight resources available at the centre
- Looking into getting Drone footage of village assets for the websites

12/26 Little Baddow Carers Club

Cllr Steph Scott advised Council that the Carers Club meetings were arranged for the first quarter 2026 and numbers attending have been increasing.

13/26 Handyman Schedule

The following task was added to the list for the Handyman: Assess Village Notice Boards for Repairs

14/26 Future Meeting Agenda Items

The following topics were raised for inclusion at the next meeting:

- CIL Project Proposals
- History Centre Update
- Hammonds Farm Appeal – Council Donation
- LB Table Tennis Club Update (March Meeting)

15/26 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Thursday 5th February 2026** commencing at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman
February 5th, 2026