

Stanford Rivers PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting: PARISH COUNCIL

Date: 17th July 2025

Time: 5.30pm

Toot Hill Village Hall, Toot Hill Road, Toot Hill, Essex

PRESENT:

Councillors (4) Cllr Glover (Chairman), Cllr Jackson, Cllr Adams, Cllr Hollington

Also in Attendance (1) - Adriana Jones – Clerk

Members of the Public (1) – EFDC Cllr Amos

Members of the Press (0)

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

P14.1359 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Jackson and Cllr Tallon.

P14.1360 OTHER ABSENCES

Cllr Saridja.

P14.1361 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

P14.1362 MINUTES

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 15th May 2025, and noted the minutes of Planning Committee meeting dated 30th June 2025.

P14.1363 MEMBERS REPORTS

- Chairman's Report – The Chairman provided a brief report on the matter of a hall user falling following the collapse of a chair at the Toot Hill Village Hall. The Chairman and Clerk had liaised immediately following notification of this event, and the Chairman visited the hall the following day at an event at which the lady was present (it was a three day event). The Chairman had also made arrangements for all the chairs to be fully inspected, and a sticker placed underneath each chair to confirm the date of inspection and that it had been deemed safe to use. 68 chairs are available. A further report would be made later in the meeting. In addition, the Chairman advised he had attended a public meeting on the proposed solar farm in Tawney Common, at which there were around 40 people. Alex Burghard MP had been involved, and there was a fairly large public opposition to this proposal.
- Vice Chairman's Report – no report.
- District and County Councillor reports – Cllr Amos advised there wasn't too much to report, advising that the issues at the Bell and Pheonix hotels had been the main issues dealt with by EFDC. He advised that it was his understanding two security personnel had been attacked at these demonstrations, with serious injuries being sustained.
- Parish Councillor reports – None

P14.1364 SOLAR FARM, TAWNEY COMMON

On 30th April 2025, a public consultation took place with regard to a proposed Solar Farm on land east of Tawney Common, Theydon Mount, which effectively borders the approved Solar Farm at Berwick Lane. The Clerk has received correspondence from both the promoter of the Solar Farm and the neighbouring Parish. As a result of the consultation, the promoter has advised that the scheme had been updated, and a copy of the brochure regarding this was attached to the agenda, detailing the changes. Whilst this proposal was not in this Parish, the associated works to create it will have an impact. A formal planning application has now been submitted - [Planning Application: EPF/1216/25](#) - with a deadline for responses of 21st July. The Clerk provided an update, which included a presentation on the Solar Farm. Councillors discussed this matter in detail, including how the different construction routes had been planned for both this application (Church Road / School Road / Epping Road) versus the Berwick Lane Solar Farm which would be using Tawney Lane. There was discussion regarding

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shifting the impact of construction into the neighbouring parish (Tawney Lane), and the response this Parish Council should make to the application. It was agreed that the key issues for this Parish was the impact on the roads as a result of the construction traffic. The Clerk advised that EFDC had accepted as part of the Berwick Lane application that the possibility of another Solar Farm north of the site could have an overall cumulative impact, however this had not been carried forward. The Chairman expressed his concern that all these solar farm applications simply did not have the longevity to last 40 years, and that changes in solar panel capacity meant they would need to be changed after a period of years. The Clerk reminded Councillors of the recent complaints received from members of the local community regarding the increase in HGVs using School Road, and the impact this was having on both the road and residents. After discussion, it was **AGREED** by way of majority vote to object to this application based on the cumulative impact of having the two solar farms so close together, the impact of the construction vehicles on local roads, on the route being proposed by the application, but not to suggest the use of Tawney Lane as a possible alternative route in support of our neighbouring parish. It was **AGREED** the Clerk would write a planning response under delegated powers. There was concern about what would happen long term with solar farms, with the suggestion they would simply become derelict with no further investment.

P14.1365 CLERKS COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

Members **RECEIVED** a verbal report from the Clerk as follows:

before the Council, which at the time of printing the agenda includes the following:

- The CCTV signs have been erected on the hall
- The new notice boards for Toot Hill has been purchased, and is awaiting installation. Total cost to purchase was £673.95 plus VAT
- No further information or complaints about lorries using School Road
- Notification from Cllr McIvor of funding for VAS repairs – come too late for this Council
- Letter regarding possible challenge to Berwick Lane Solar farm – The Clerk will go back to the individual advising if they want to take action forward, this Council would be happy to hear what they were proposing.
- Local Government Reorganisation – W/c 23rd June a telephone and written survey of 1,400 residents was started by the National Centre for Social Research to gather residents' views and priorities to help shape local government reorganisation across Greater Essex. The feedback will inform business cases being developed by the 15 councils in Essex, which are due to be submitted to the Government in September. The Government is currently reviewing how councils in Greater Essex are structured and believes reorganising and simplifying councils can help grow the economy while delivering better public services. In addition, a report would be going to cabinet on 21st July (a copy of which had been sent to Councillors) setting out that there really wasn't a clear, concise way forward. It had been reported that the Epping Forest District council merge with Chelmsford, Maldon, Brentwood and Harlow to make 'Central Essex', and that this was Essex County Councils favoured option. Watch this space
- Advised by resident of Fly Tip on A113 by Bridge Farm – reported FLYT730862767.
- Another Flytip in Toot Hill Road – Chairman reported this including the vehicle registration of the van
- Winter Salt Bag Scheme – deadline 21st July – don't need any more.
- Remote attendance and Proxy Voting update from Government – Sets out that the Government plans to enable remote attendance and proxy voting for councils, and by doing allowing remote attendance at meetings it will give councils the freedom to operate more efficiently and make elected roles more accessible for more people. The introduction of proxy voting will support council decision-making when Councillors are away because of serious or long-term illness or becoming a new parent. Full details and implementation date is awaited (when Government has time)
- Transport East's Travel Behaviour Survey Report for Essex has now been published; <https://www.transporteast.gov.uk/travel-survey/essex> - document offers invaluable insights into how residents across Essex travel, their reasons for transport choices, and the barriers they face in adopting more sustainable methods. The findings can play a critical role in guiding transport planning and policy development
- Email received asking how this Council recommends finding a record of the births of Edward Tyng and William Tyng in Stanford Rivers in about 1600 – advised to contact the History Society.

P14.1366 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Adams provided an update, advising that the only thing to have come up was the theft of a Land Rover a few weeks ago in Tawney Parish. There had been an issue raised on Facebook of activity on Mutton Row in terms of potential travellers moving onto land. Cllr Adams stated he had been advised that the Police want to stop producing the weekly reports, which he and others find extremely useful, and that this would be extremely disappointing if this was the case. The Chairman stated that this Council should object to this, to which Cllr Adams advised that many NHW groups were indeed doing so. The Chairman stated things seem to be getting further and further away from the public. It was thought that this was as a result of police reorganisation, and

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that a new nominated contact was expected shortly.

P14.1367 USEFUL INFORMATION

Cllr Adams had suggested a permanent link to 'useful information' is included in both News & Views and also on the PC website, advising that there is a lot of "advertising" on the NHW group because people are not aware of other groups. Some suggested information is:

- Neighbourhood Watch <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stanforddriversneighbourhoodwatch>
- Stanford Rivers Community <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2186954641537345>
- Fly Tipping (As per PC Website)
- Essex County Council Highways (As per PC Website)

Councillors also suggested Affinity Water and Road Closure links should also be included. Councillors were asked to contact the Clerk if they had further suggestions of useful links / information.

P14.1368 OPEN SPACES AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

a) Work on land the PC does not own

At the May meeting, Councillors were provided with an update from ECC which set out that individuals can complete works on the highway, and it was agreed the Clerk would contact the Parish Councils insurance company to obtain formal confirmation that the Parish Council would be covered if we completed work. A response had been received, which sets out that provided the Parish Council risk assess this activity, carries out a briefing on the day, provides the relevant PPE such as hard-wearing gloves and high visibility jackets (where applicable), ensures that those carrying out the work have the appropriate skills/training/experience to do so, and have the permission of the landowner, then the works would be covered under the insurance policy. However, the Clerk advised that she had received confirmation from ECC that they don't formally give this permission, which left this Council in a bit of a catch 22 situation.

Also relevant to this subject, as a result of the small grass verge by the layby near Traceys Farm becoming overgrown, and in an attempt to deter fly tipping, the Clerk arranged for the Councils ground maintenance contractor to complete a one off cut of this area as an emergency. The contractor has provided feedback following the cut which took place 20th June, setting out that *due to the length of time since it was previously cut there was lots of tree saplings and some really thick scrub. The grass, weeds, trees were high and made visibility for operatives and road users very poor due to the lay-by side being lower than the road. We've cut as much as we could with the pedestrian flail mower which we wouldn't be able to do again due to the large number of tree stumps, rubble and general rubbish in the stretch of grass. As it is a national speed limit road I do feel going forward it will need to become something that is cut regularly to improve visibility and reduce the amount of time spent on the area or we will need some form of traffic management in place for operatives safety and general road safety compliance.* Councillors noted that the Clerk had also contacted ECC asking them to cut it more frequently (2978300 - 28th May), with an update received 7th July advising '*We have determined that the issue it does not meet our minimum requirements to be recorded as a defect at this time or the issue may have already been resolved. During our routine safety inspections the area will be monitored to check if it has deteriorated. A future inspection may result in a new defect being raised.*'

Councillor Jackson proposed that the use of some very heavy duty weedkiller on the verge could solve the problem. This was seconded by Cllr Adams and unanimously agreed. It was agreed the Clerk would contact this Councils Grounds Maintenance contractor regarding this. It was also agreed to discuss with the Grounds Maintenance contractor his thoughts on cutting back the verge throughout the length of Hare Street, Stanford Rivers, and to report back at the next meeting.

With regard to the flower Boxes, they had now been installed but the Clerk had not had time to install the flowers, and she would do this w/c 21st July.

- b) Yew Tree Jubilee Green** – At the May meeting it was agreed that the grounds maintenance contractor should cut down the tree on Jubilee Green, however following the meeting Cllr Jackson asked for one further opportunity to try and save it before it was cut down. Cllr Jackson advised he had considerably cut it back, and whilst it didn't look particularly attractive, it may just give the tree a chance to recover. It was noted that the Council would not be having a Christmas event in Jubilee Green going forward, so he had no particular issue with leaving this tree on the green for a few years, and it seemed pointless paying somebody to dig it up. The Chairman agreed. Cllr Adams understood Cllr Jacksons desire to try and save the tree, however it looked a mess. It was **AGREED** to leave it at this time, and consider it in the future.

P14.1369 BERWICK LANE STATUS – PROTECTED LANE / LHP APPLICATION

It was agreed at the May meeting that the Clerk would look into the status of Berwick Lane, and formally ascertain if it was protected, if so what that meant, and if not the process for arranging protection. It was also agreed the

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Clerk would look into making an LHP application for additional signage at the various junctions to Berwick Lane to warn drivers of the narrow and dangerous conditions. The Clerk provided an update, stating that it was indeed a protected lane, and that EFDC commissioned a report in 2015 for their Local Plan which sets out the type of protection for protected Lanes (which wasn't much). In addition, ECC Highways Strategy (3.4.4) sets out that on the rural network, the roads may provide important links between PROW, farms, small villages and hamlets, and country parks. Where appropriate a network of Quiet Lanes will be developed in accordance with guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT). Excessive speed will be discouraged and physical measures may be required to alter the appearance of the road. Protected Lanes were in effect covered by the EFDC Local Plan Policy H7 as a non-designated heritage assets. Councillors **AGREED** the Clerk should progress a Local Highway Application for additional signage.

P14.1370 VEHICULAR SPEEDING AND SAFETY MATTERS IN THE PARISH

1. **Community Speedwatch** – Cllr Adams advised that as previously reported the Speederbot data is no longer available, and he had been advised this was due to changes made by Elon Musk regarding the X platform. Cllr Adams had been looking at an alternative observational tool that speedwatch could use utilising the 'raspberry pie' system used in schools. It is possible this could be put together for around £500, however we would need somebody with the relevant technical expertise to create it. It was **AGREED** the Clerk would place an advert in News and Views to see if anybody could help. Cllr Adams also asked if perhaps Cllr Jackson could ask if the TruCam system could be deployed along the A113 in Stanford Rivers as he has noticed an increasing in speeding.
2. **Average Speed Limit A113** - The Clerk advised Councillors that ECC had published its intention to create an average speed limit along the A113 just south of Ongar going all the way to Abridge. This would include reducing the majority of the road to 50mph, whilst retaining the 30mph through Little End / Hare Street. Councillors were extremely positive about this possibility, and it was **AGREED** the Clerk would send the relevant links out to Councillors, and also place information in News and Views.
3. **School Road Surface** - The Clerk contacted Cllr McIvor following the May meeting asking him to take a drive down School Road, Toot Hill - specifically the road outside Toot Hill Golf Club – advising that the road surface was absolutely awful. The Clerk had checked online and there were four reported issues - Ref: 3864583, 2951389, 2970585, 2972236. The Clerk requested Cllr McIvor try and expedite works to repair this road, or come back the Clerk with an estimated time for when works to repair the road surface will take place. There was no update at the time of the meeting.
4. **Safer Essex Roads Partnership** – The Clerk advised that an email had been received from the SERP seeking to explore whether there were communities which would like/are pushing for a 20mph speed limit. They want to understand the level of support across Essex for this approach. The SERP (which does not implement speed limits) is simply seeking to understand the level of community support for lower limits in residential areas/communities. They want to hear from communities (ideally through the parish council) firstly as to whether there would be interested in showing support for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit within the community and, secondly, as to how much support for the proposal has been generated within the community. Councillors discussed this matter and felt that they would be more interested in the money being spent on enforcing the 30MPH limits, and generally at this time would not support 20MPH.

P14.1371 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The Clerk advised that she had now received all hard copies of the survey and return envelopes. Councillors were reminded that survey starts on 1st August 2025, and runs for a period of 8 weeks given part of this time is over the summer holidays. The survey will be distributed with the News and Views w/c 21st July 2025.

P14.1372 EFDC £60 CHARGE FOR GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

Councillors noted that at the 10th June meeting of the EFDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a draft report was presented to the Committee regarding the possible splitting of food and garden waste, with the Committee being asked to consider the draft report which would be going to Cabinet on 14th July. The recommendations made were to stop the current co-mingled food and garden waste collection service (the current cost of which is £2.1m per year) and introduce a new separate food waste collection service (at an estimated cost of £1.9m per year) to achieve a saving of £200,000 per year. Food collections must be weekly under current legislation. A separate, subscription-based, fortnightly garden waste service would be introduced alongside the new food waste collection service. This fortnightly service would likely run for 10 months of the year and is estimated to generate enough income to cover the operating costs.

That caddies for the new proposed food waste service will be provisionally silver/grey in colour for kerbside and

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for the kitchen and of a similar size and operation to what is currently used. An order for the food waste vehicles will need to be placed as soon as possible following the approval of the recommendations in the report, to enable the separate collections of food and garden waste to be implemented in April 2026. The existing 180 litre bins with green lids will be used with residents having the option to purchase and subscribe for multiple Green Waste bins. EFDC has an assumption of a 40% uptake of garden waste subscriptions which would require 4 vehicles for collection as opposed to the current 8 vehicles used. Upon looking at all the available options for charging for this service, the most effect one is an annual payment paid in advance in full by residents, thought to be around £60. There is no reduction for residents paying for a part year. EFDC Officers will undertake further work to ascertain the best way to collect payment and issue permit stickers. Overview and scrutiny also questioned the use of stickers, and to clarify this point the stickers are essentially a permit for residents to have the garden waste collected and enable waste operatives to identify the fully paid-up waste customer. This kind of scheme is used successfully across the country by many other local authorities. When a resident signs up and pays for the scheme, they will be sent a garden waste permit sticker to put on their bin/or bins, which will help the waste collection crews identify which bins should be emptied. The permits will act as a proof of subscription payment. All subscribers will receive a new sticker annually each time they renew. This will help to ensure that only households that have paid for the service have their garden waste collected.

Councillors **AGREED** this matter should be placed in the News and Views.

P14.1373 VILLAGE SIGN STANFORD RIVERS

Cllr Adams provided an update on the search for a suitable sign to be located on Jubilee Green following agreement at the January 2025 budget meeting (the budget agreed being £1,500). The Clerk placed on the screen during the meeting an image of a sign created by the Village of Hilton. Cllr Adams advised he had been in contact with the relevant Parish Council who state that the sign had been there many years. Councillors liked this particular style of sign, and it was **AGREED** to place a notice in the News and Views magazine to see if there were any local carpenters who may be interested in crafting a similar sign.

P14.1374 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. Councillors formally **CONFIRMED** they would like the Clerk to update the Councils Facebook on a weekly basis with any planning applications that are included on the weekly list in this Parish.
- b. The Clerk advised residents of a letter received from local resident regarding EPF/0718/25, which included various matters such as not being notified of planning applications. The letter requested that the parish council write to residents regarding planning applications. It was noted that it is the responsibility of the local planning authority EFDC to notify residents, and that it was not feasible to write to each resident, however weekly updates on the Parish Councils Facebook page would help. It was also suggested that people could provide this Council with their email address if they wanted to be kept informed.
- c. Councillors **CONSIDERED** the following planning applications/matters:

1. To CONSIDER any planning applications submitted to the Parish Council for comment as detailed below		
EPF/0647/25 HH	Land Adjacent Former White Bear PH, 149 London Road, Sanford Rivers, CM5 9QF	Proposed Annex & Outbuilding to be used in conjunction with main house. <i>The Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application, subject to a condition being imposed that the annexe is ancillary to the main dwelling, is not to be used as a separate dwelling, and that permitted development rights are removed from the address.</i>
EPF/1343/25 FULL	6 Barn Mead, Toot Hill Road, Ongar, CM5 9SE	Change of use of Green Belt land to permeable access / turning area.
<i>The Parish Council OBJECTS to this application. The prior application (EPF/0786/24) clearly indicated that the turning head was needed to ensure the continued and safe operation of the Stables, with the turning head needed to 'support vehicles for the delivery of hay, etc' for the better use of the stables and tack room. The Parish Council challenged this assertion, and has been proved correct as this current application sets out that the turning head is needed to facilitate a 'truck and trailer' to turn, and that the stables have never been in use by the applicant. The applicant sets out in this application that the Parish Council based its objection on misinformation, but clearly this was not the case. The applicant also states within the planning statement that the buildings (stables and outbuilding) have been in place for in excess of 20 years. Once again, this is a false statement, as Google Earth clearly shows in 2014 that neither building was in place, with the hard standing having been laid some time after May 2020. Whilst this is not particularly relevant to the specifics of this application, it creates a position of distrust as clearly the applicant has failed to be truthful on both this application, and the previously refused application. This</i>		

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leads the Parish Council to doubt the intentions of the applicant for this piece of land. In essence, the applicant has placed a hard surface over an area of green field (previously intended for stabling and horses), and is wanting to use it for parking a large trailer / truck, and possibly the storage of vehicles. It is accepted that some engineering operations (like surfacing) may be permitted if they preserve openness and don't conflict with Green Belt purposes, however the Parish Council does not believe this is the case for this application. Thus, the application does not fall within one of the greenbelt exceptions, and creates a situation of encroachment into the countryside, and as such is contrary to EFDC Local Plan policies SP5 and DM4, and should be refused.

EPF/1311/25 HH	3 Church Cottages, Rosary Cottage, Church Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PS	Erection of a two-storey side extension and a part single, part double-storey rear extension. NO OBJECTION
EPF/1302/25 & EPF/1314/25	41, Berwick Lane, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PY	Single storey rear extension with internal remodelling, and listed building application for the same. NO OBJECTION
EPF/1282/25	56 Epping Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9SQ	Prior approval for additional storey on the principal part of the bungalow with windows only on the front and rear. The Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this Prior Notification application, subject to the neighbouring property number 52 not raising any concerns regarding loss of light, privacy or overlooking.

2. To **NOTE** any planning applications that have been responded to via the Clerks delegated powers

NIL

3. To **NOTE** any planning applications upon which EFDC do not accept comments

EPF/1210/25	3 Church Cottages, Rosary Cottage, Church Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PS	Proposed 6.00m deep, single storey rear extension with a maximum roof ridge height of 3.85m and height to eaves being 2.85m.
EPF/1395/25 Prior Approval	12, Surrywood, London Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PH Prior approval Part 1 Class A.1(ea): Larger home extension	Prior approval for a 6m deep single storey rear extension off the original wall of the house, height to eaves 2.60m maximum height 3.20m.
EPF/1005/25 DRC	Blossom House, Berwick Lane, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PZ	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (details of foul & surface water disposal) & condition 4 (flood risk assessment and management & maintenance plan) on planning permission EPF/0893/20 (Proposed demolition of an existing dwelling)

4. To **NOTE** any other planning matters

1. Potential unauthorised Traveller Encampment, near The Drill House, Stanford Rivers – This has been reported to EFDC by EFDC Cllr Mary Dadd. The Clerk has been in contact with EFDC enforcement who have advised that they will be conducting a site visit, and if indeed this is found to be a breach of planning, the relevant appropriate action will be taken.
2. Proposed upgrade to existing radio base station installation – Ongar Radio Station. No concerns.
3. Proposed siting and operation of a tower crane (Linked with an Enforcement Appeal APP/J1535/C/24/3350190 on ENF/0223/23) - 43, London Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PH APP/J1535/W/24/3350572 – Noted that the appeal date was set for 6th August 2025 – 10am and EFDC Offices. The Chairman and Cllr Adams confirmed they would be in attendance. The Clerk advised she would provide a summary file for each of them on the history of the case.

5. To **NOTE** any planning decisions by EFDC

None.

P14.1375 TOOT HILL VILLAGE HALL

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- a) **Solar Panels for Roof** – The Clerk is still awaiting a copy of the receipt required to source quotes for buyback of energy for the grid. She has chased this on numerous occasions, and it was hoped it would have been received before this meeting.
- b) **Accident** – Whilst the Clerk was on annual leave, she received a text to advise that a hall user had fallen from one of the hall chairs, as the chair had broken upon seating. The Clerk immediately asked the hall user to complete an accident report and take pictures, and contacted both Cllr Tallon and the Chairman to visit site and meet with the hirer if possible. The Chairman had provided a brief overview of his involvement and attendance earlier in the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that swift action had been taken, and that the Parish Council completed annual risk assessments on the hall, however this hadn't specifically included looking at the underside of each Chair. The Chairman had arranged for each of the Chairs to be fully inspected, with 12 chairs found to need either repair or to be removed. The defective chairs had been located outside the hall. Councillors were very concerned for the welfare of the individual involved, however thankfully this individual had not seemingly received any serious injury as she was present at an event at the hall on the following day. Council agreed that this was indeed an unfortunate accident, however risk assessments were completed, and ongoing measures had now been put in place to complete annual checks of the chairs. It was **AGREED** to send a bouquet of flowers to the attendee, and to write to the group who hired the hall advising what measures had been put in place following the incident.
- c) Request for new dustpan and brush - new one now available at the hall.
- d) Annual Gas Boiler safety check due before 22nd July – Clerk is arranging.
- e) Five Year electrical Inspection due in July – Clerk confirmed this was completed earlier in the day.
- f) Urns in the hall - the Clerk has been advised that the two urns in the hall failed a PAT test (not completed by the Parish Council). It is not a legal requirement that PAT testing is completed on electrical items in the hall, however Councillors were asked if they wish to replace them. The Council has a legal duty to make sure items are safe, which it was comfortable it complied with given these urns were only purchased in 2023. It was **AGREED** not to replace the urns, leaving only one in situ.
- g) Fire Blanket village hall – Following notification from a hall hirer that a fire safety blanket must be replaced every 10 years, the Clerk had liaised with its fire inspection company who state that as they had completed an inspection of the fire blanket as part of their annual risk assessment, it would be deemed safe to use. As a precautionary measure, the Chairman had purchased a new fire blanket and replaced it at the hall.

P14.1376 TOOT HILL VILLAGE SHOW

Councillors were reminded that the Community Speedwatch equipment was required in time for the show, along with any NHW items that may be available and general Parish Council information. The Clerk, the Chairman and Cllr Adams would be managing the stall.

P14.1377 NEWS AND VIEWS

Next issue being sent w/c 21st July 2025.

P14.1378 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The following payments were **AGREED**.

Reference	To	For	Amount
BACS	Adriana Jones	Clerks Salary June & July 2025	£1,167.92
BACS	HMRC	PAYE June & July 2025	£292.00
BACS	HMRC	Employers NI June & July 2025	£93.88
BACS	D Wickham	THVH Cleaning and phone box tidy May & June 2025	£235.57
D/D	EDF	Toot Hill VH Electricity Supply Apr and May	£88.64 (£4.22 VAT)
BACS	Earth Anchors	Notice Board and Sign – Toot Hill	£808.74 (VAT £134.79)
BACS	A Jones	Reimburse cost of new Gazebo	£75.99 (VAT 12.67)
BACS	St Margarets	Grant for 24/25 & 25/26	£1,200.00

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	Church		
BACS	Thornwood Grounds Maint	Various Grounds Maintenance works – 2 months, plus installed flower boxes and cut layby nr Traceys Farm	£1,603.20 (VAT £267.20)
BACS	AquaCert	Annual Legionella Test	£70.19 (VAT £11.70)
BACS	RCCE	Annual Membership	£84.00 (VAT £14.00)
BACS	Sam Ward	Damage Deposit Return hire 12/7	£50.00
BACS	Defib Shop	Defib Pads THVH	£95.94

Bank Balances as at 30th June 2025

Unity Current Account 4775	£ 4,512.22
Unity Deposit Account 4788	£ 46,164.94

INCOME:

- £ 84.00 – Essex Silk Painters hire 10/5
- £ 28.00 – Pilates hire April
- £269.50 – Ongar Wildlife Society hire April – Dec 2025
- £ 48.00 – Including Sport Hire 29/4
- £ 56.00 – Pilates Hire May
- £207.90 – High Country Floral Club – hire April-Nov 2025
- £ 84.00 – Essex Silk Painters hire June
- £120.40 – Ward – private part hire 12/7
- £ 26.00 – St Margarets Church Hire 2/7
- £324.77 – Interest Deposit Account to 30/6

b. The Chairman reviewed the bank reconciliation up to 30th June 2025 alongside the bank statements.

P14.1379 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS/EVENTS

Councillors **NOTED** the date of the next meetings:

- 11th September 2025
- 13th November 2025

P14.1380 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Colemans Farm Appeal - APP/J1535/C/24/3345636 - Use of the land to provide tourist accommodation with four pods sited – no update.
- Possibility of electric charging points at the hall (Cllr Saridja)
- Virtual meeting attendance equipment
- 2 barns on hills

Meeting closed 19.46

Signed

Date