

**GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30pm in the**  
**Village Hall Goldhanger**

**Cllrs Present**

Cllr J Bourn, Cllr H Reynolds, Cllr Bishop, Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Ellis, Cllr Sargeant, Cllr Unsworth

1 member of the public

Parish Clerk

029/26	<b>To appoint a Chairperson for 2026/2027</b> Cllr Sargeant proposed Cllr Bourn as Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Bishop. Carried unanimously. Cllr Bourn signed the declaration of acceptance of Office	
030/26	<b>To appoint a Vice Chairperson for 2026/27</b> Cllr Bourn proposed Cllr Reynolds as Vice Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Ellis. Carried unanimously. Cllr Reynolds signed the declaration of office.	
031/26	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> No apologies received	
032/26	<b>To receive any Declarations of Interest</b> No declarations received	
033/26	<b>To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes	Clerk
034/26	<b>To receive information on outstanding items included in the above minutes</b> Items outstanding are pension compliance forms, Vat claim, review banking options and Assertion 10. These were all noted on the outstanding action list and would be dealt with as soon as possible	Cllrs/clerk
035/26	<b>Public Questions – an opportunity for members of the public to raise matters with the members</b> None	
036/26	<b>Chairmans Announcements</b>	

	<p>A resident had confirmed that she had been planting bulbs around the village sign, in addition to the flower beds behind the bus stop</p> <p>Cllr Ellis had repaired the bus shelter shingles recently, however a bus had knocked into them and caused more damage</p> <p>The closer arm bolt on the phone box had fallen off and Cllr Sargeant had repaired this.</p> <p>The IT policy had been drawn up and circulated – see relevant agenda item</p> <p>Allotment documents comments were being reviewed</p> <p>Data Protection policy was in progress</p>							
037/26	<p><b>Reports from District Councillors and ECC Councillors</b></p> <p>Nothing received and Cllr Thompson had sent her apologies for this evening</p> <p>The Annual report from the MP had been received and circulated</p>							
038/26	<p><b>Planning Decisions by MDC</b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p> <p><b><u>To consider any other planning issues</u></b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b><u>Enforcement</u></b></p> <p>It had been reported that a ‘cart lodge’ on a concrete base had been built at a residence adjacent to Goldhanger House without any planning permissions.</p> <p>It had also been reported the grade 2 listed ‘mill house’ within the conservation area has erected a flagpole and flies a flag without any planning permissions.</p> <p>It was agreed to report these to MDC for their advice.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>						
039/26	<p><b>To receive the financial statements and authorize accounts for payment on May Payment schedule</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td>£221.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>55.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GVH</td> <td>102.00</td> </tr> </table>	Salary	£221.44	HMRC	55.20	GVH	102.00	
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	<p>Insurance 26/27                      576.38</p> <p>Payments were unanimously agreed for Payment</p>	Clerk/HR
040/26	<p><b>To agree meeting dates for 2026/2027</b></p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month with the exception of the June meeting which would subject to hall availability be on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 26.</p>	
041/26	<p><b>To Appoint any committees, working parties or representatives</b></p> <p>Finance Rep Cllr Sargeant Allotments Rep Cllr Cheeseman</p>	
042/26	<p><b>To consider any correspondence received</b></p> <p>An application for an allotment had been received and Cllr Cheeseman reported that another allotment had now been taken</p>	
043/26	<p><b>To consider any matters concerning the playing field and play area</b></p> <p>The Clerk was requested to source some signs regarding 'no dogs permitted in children's play area' A resident had mentioned about overhanging branches from an Oak tree located within the park into their garden. The Council had no objection to this being cut back</p>	Clerk
044/26	<p><b>To consider any Highway Matters and public rights of way</b></p> <p>a) <b>Parking Issues</b> – concerned residents had noted various untaxed and uninsured cars on the Hall Estate which now seemed to have moved b) <b>Flooding and Drainage</b> – Nothing to report c) <b>Highways and Speedwatch</b></p>	

	<p>Speedwatch report had been distributed. There were 75 vehicles recorded over 35mph in a 30 mph limit, majority being on the Maldon Road</p> <p>A new recruit is being trained to join the team. The report emphasized the role of the team is to act as a visible encouragement to not speed from a safety perspective, not to get them speeding points or fines.</p>	
045/26	<p><b>To consider matters concerning Marigold Wood</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
046/26	<p><b>To consider matters concerning the bus shelter and defibrillators</b></p> <p>Although the replacement of the missing/damaged bus stop shingles had been completed by Cllr Ellis, on the 29<sup>th</sup> April a bus had caused repeat damage, breaking a batton and dislodging the recently replaced shingle.</p> <p>Cllr Ellis offered to source further materials to alleviate further damage</p> <p>The Clerk was requested to contact the bus company regarding this incident</p> <p>Also the casing of the defibrillator needed some hammerite which Cllr Cheeseman offered to do</p>	<p>SE</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>CC</p>
047/26	<p><b>To receive any publications since last meeting</b></p> <p>Noted</p>	
048/26	<p><b>Clerks Report</b></p> <p>The Clerk advised that there were quite a few tasks now outstanding and that she was trying to address them in priority order.</p> <p>She notified the Council that she would be on leave from 27<sup>th</sup> May until the 8<sup>th</sup> June. It was agreed to move the meeting to the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026. The Clerk was requested to check with booking officer that the date was free</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>She also advised that new email set ups had been sent around and further instructions would be forwarded once she had completed her own one.</p> <p>One thing that she was trying to work out was the migration of old emails that were council related to save individuals having to forward relevant emails to the new email. The chair and clerks emails as they were not linked into personal emails should be a lot easier</p> <p>There were also a couple of HMRC tax issues that needing verifying, that had come to light recently</p>	
049/26	<p><b>Assertion 10 Compliance</b></p> <p>This was being progressed and although had not been completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> March it was moving in the right direction.</p>	Clerk/Cllrs
050/26	<p><b>To receive membership of various organisations.</b></p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to continue membership of the RCCE, EALC and join Councilwise for 2026/27</p>	Clerk
051/26	<p><b>To review Data Protection/IT policy for 2026/2027</b></p> <p>The data protection policy was being progressed and the IT policy had been circulated and was agreed subject to a couple of amendments</p>	JB
052/26	<p><b>To review Allotment tenancy and terms and conditions</b></p> <p>The Clerk had sourced some further detail for the Council to update the draft. A further draft would be circulated in due course. The Clerk did emphasise the need for proper recording of checks at the site, similar to what she felt is required for our playground area.</p>	JB
053/26	<p><b>To receive details of the Essex Village of the year award and New Award for the Essex Playing field and Playground award.</b></p> <p>This was noted</p>	
054/26	<p><b>To receive Insurance Renewal 2026/27</b></p>	

	It was noted that there was an increase in the renewal and agreed that quotes would be obtained earlier in the year next year for comparison when the next renewal comes in. There is very little time between renewal dates, meeting dates for payments to investigate once the renewal comes in.	Clerk and Council
055/26	<b>To Consider any items of information for inclusion on a future agenda</b> Nothing	
056/26	<b>To close the meeting</b> With no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm Next Meeting Provisionally 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 subject to confirmation by the Village Hall Bookings Officer	

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Chair Date \_\_\_\_\_