WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Council Meeting of Wrabness Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at Wrabness Village Hall.

Present:	Cllrs Bowers, Cole, Francis, McGowan (Vice Chairman), and Totman
In the Chair:	Cllr Colley
Clerk:	Mrs Marie Snell
Also present:	1 member of the public, 0 member of the press. Tendring District Council Representative, Cllr Tanya Ferguson Essex County Council Representative, Cllr Pat Murray

3720. Apologies for Absences
Cllr Southall-Edwards

3721. Declarations of Members' Interests
None

3722. Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 Minutes)
None

3723. Approval of Minutes
Members received the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 22nd July 2026 2026 (*previously circulated)* and **RESOLVED** to approve them as a true record, signed by the Chairman during the meeting.

3724. Matters Arising from the Minutes
None

3725. Town Planning
Members received new applications had been received as advised by Tendring District Council.

26/01261/VOC Oakfield Wood Burial Ground Ash Street Wrabness	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Drawings) of application 21/01863/FUL to make the single storey rear extension two storey.	**Noted**
26/01263/VOC Oakfield Wood Burial Ground Ash Street Wrabness	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Condition 2 (approved drawings) of application (23/01215/FUL) to enable the increase of the single storey rear extension to a two storey extension.	**Noted**

Members received update about Tendring District Council processing of the following recent planning applications previously considered by the Parish Council:

Application Ref	Address	Application	Status
None			

3726. Village Event

Members received debrief from Cllr Colley following Wrabness Village Fete Committee held on Saturday 15th August 2026. Cllr Bowers expressed it was successful; a meeting is to be held by the committee next week; there it will be heard what monies have been raised but thanked the organisers for their efforts. Cllr Colley thanked all for the clear up post event and members felt it would be appropriate to repeat the event next year.

3727. Council Policies

Members **RESOLVED** to agree the adoption of Tendring District Council's Social Media Guidance as reviewed and adopted by the Standards Committee.

3728. Councillor Email Addresses

Cllr Pat Murray joined the meeting at 7.45pm. Members considered the quotations for adoption of council .gov email addresses in accordance with proper practice and advice from the clerk, relating to GDPR guidelines, data protection and safeguarding. Members discussed and **RESOLVED** to pursue with the migration to council email addresses. Members **FURTHER RESOLVED** to proceed with Hugo Fox at £17.49 +VAT, to include up to 10 mailboxes, the migration to be free of charge, with the domain hosting to be free of charge indefinitely.

3729. Councillor/clerk Reports

Members received updates from council members regarding the following village matters and agreed for necessary works:

Highways – Cllr Totman reported that correspondence has been sent regarding the bus shelter to Essex County Council and cited legislation that parish councils have powers to provide bus shelters. Until a response is received from Essex Highways, no further update. Cllr Totman referenced parking at Station Road, it remains unchanged and cited legislation relating to dangerous parking and classified as an obstruction, where the police can be contacted. Cllr Colley advised of the NEPP's and ECC's advice in compiling a portfolio of bad parking to send. Cllr Murray advised there are red lines being installed on dangerous spots, Tendring DC and Essex CC are working together, for parish councils to write copying in council representatives for application. Cllr Colley noted two potholes have been repaired in Wheatsheaf Lane with others hoped to be repaired.

Wrabness Playing Field – Very well utilised over the summer holiday. The zipwire is working fine, the clerk will follow up with the inspection package adopted. Cllr Cole queried if some dogs may be using the area but could be foxes.

Station Masters Garden – Cllr Francis advised nothing to report.

Village Green and Trees– Cllr Bowers offered that it is very dead following a hot summer, the poor soil quality, the tree is likely to continue to struggle, and a local tree surgeon has suggested to move the tree. The tree be removed and cared for by a local resident to then grow and thrive, this to take place in autumn.

Public Health – Cllr Colley offered the defibrillator batteries have been replaced with a maximum lifespan of 4 years.
Clerk's Report – Noted
Transport –
Footpaths – Cllr McGowan stated that he has tried to contact Cllr Murray, and will send an email regarding footpaths within the village and requested to liaise with the clerk regarding the reporting. Cllr McGowan also offered just past the old Wheatsheaf, the layby is constantly fly tipped in, there are cameras and signage relevant to perpetrators. There appears to be fly tipping elsewhere in the village which has been reported to Tendring District Council. Cllr Francis reported the sign at the bottom of Stone Lane, and queried if this is still missing, Cllr Colley explained this can be reported on the Essex County Council portal which will be actioned. Cllr Totman asked how cutting back of footpaths is actioned and whether there is a grading process, used to be actioned by rangers, this service has been cut but volunteers are taking on work.
Village Hall – Meeting to be held on 10th September 2026.
Kiosk – All is well, looking good.
Foreshore – Cllr Bowers expressed pretty poorly attended this summer.
Website – All fine
TDALC –. Should be a meeting soon.
District and County Councillor Reports – Cllr Ferguson reported the LGR has been paused, TDC will be holding May elections in 2027. The Local Plan is within its public consultation with local centres available to view at Harwich (1912 Centre, 28th September), Weeley (Village Hall, 30th September), Lawford (Village Hall, 2nd October 2026), running until 19th October 2026 and encouraged all to take part in the consultation. Lots of work taking place at TDC with scrutiny and interesting projects in children's health and mental health. Now that LGR has paused, TDC will be full scale ahead on works and feels the future is bright. A member of the public left the meeting at 8.38pm.

Cllr Murray reported a 100-day plan, first steps in reforming the country showcasing what Essex County Council. Potholes are being repaired within the district together with meetings with the bus companies with delay and overcrowding concerns and how these can be improved. With the pausing of LGR, ECC staff are less concerned over their employment futures. Cllr Ferguson left the meeting at 8.42pm. Cllr Colley thanked Cllr Pat for his report.
Cllr Cole left the meeting at 8.44pm. Cllr Murray left the meeting at 8.46pm.

3730. Grant Applications
Members received grant applications from local organisations and **RESOLVED** to award the following amounts:

Organisation	**Project for grant**	**Amount requested**	**Amount awarded**
Wrabness Playing Field Management Comm.	To pay for hire of village hall morning 31/10/26 and advertisement in local paper for jumble sale. Funds made towards maintaining Wrabness Playing Field	£87.00	£87.00
Wrabness Art Club	The refurbishing of the board in the Station Garden with new pictures.	£310.00	£155.00

3731. Finance

- Members received financial reports and confirmed the account balances as at 3rd September 2026:
  Current Account: £4322.58
  Deposit Account: £7075.06
- Members received budget update in accordance with the 2026-2027 adopted budget. Cllr Totman queried why the parish council pays for the dog waste collection and Cllr Colley offered reasoning as directed by Tendring District Council.
- To receive information regarding NJC Pay Award 2026-2027 which totals £39.15, backdated to 1st April 2026 and to advise that the clerk salary will increase by 3.3% in accordance with the award.
- Members **RESOLVED** to approve payment of invoices received in accordance with 2026-2027 budget:

INCOME	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	CQ No.
Wrabness Hall Form Sponsorship (re Village Newsletter)	£185.00	Parish Clerk Salary September including pay award back pay	£284.35	1358
		Wrabness Village Hall (Meeting Venue hire September)	£20.00	1359
		Cllr Colley reimbursement (defib)	£324.00	1360
		Wrabness Playing Field Management Committee – Grant Award	87.00	1361
		Wrabness Art Club – Grant Award	155.00	1362

3732. Items for the next agenda

- TDC Local Plan
- Working Budget appointment (Budge Setting recommendation)

3733. Date of Next Meeting

The Chairman confirmed that the next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 14th October 2026 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm or at the rise of the Personnel Committee Meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Signed **Date**