WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Council Meeting of Wrabness Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at Wrabness Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Bowers, Cole, Francis, McGowan (Vice Chairman), Southall-Edwards, Totman

In the Chair: Cllr Colley

Clerk: Mrs Marie Snell

Also present: 3 member of the public, 0 member of the press.
Tendring District Council Representative, Cllr Tanya Ferguson

3734 Apologies for Absences

3735 Declarations of Members' Interests
None

3736 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 Minutes)
A resident spoke regarding the grass verges in the village, cut recently. They were about to collect the litter by his property, but the grass verge cutting shredded such litter which made the litter pick impossible. Cllr Colley advised the meeting that the grass is cut by Essex Highways and the parish council has no prior warning but can request. The resident also asked why the entire verge need to be cut, which should protect wildlife, and requested to Essex Highways that a revised length be requested. Cllr Colley offered that such policy is set by Essex Highways and advised the resident to contact Cllr Murray as ECC Rep.

A question was raised regarding wildfires and noticed increase in crop fires and grassland fires, with next year expected to be the same if not worse. With a fire in Harwich Road this year, the resident asked if the parish council could think about:
- Purchase firefighting equipment, fire beaters for example
- Purchase of water, access offered to those in need
- Education of the need to avoid fires eg bonfires

Cllr Colley provided information about preventative measures such as information in the village newsletter rather than the purchase of such equipment which people are not trained to use. Cllr Colley thanked the residents for their views.

2 members of the public left the meeting at 7.43pm.

3737 Approval of Minutes
Members received the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 9th September 2026 (*previously circulated)* and **RESOLVED** to approve them as a true record, signed by the Chairman during the meeting.

3738 Matters Arising from the Minutes
Min Ref 3729 Bus Shelters – Members noted information received from Cllr Murray (ECC) regarding bus shelters and that the bus shelter is owned by WPC and can therefore be discussed further for action under separate minute.
Min Ref 3728 Council Email Addresses – Members received update that the

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domain has been adopted and awaiting confirmation of email set up.
Min Ref 3683 – Council Banking – Members received banking switch update that the current account has switched with the savings account (TSB) imminent.

3739 Town Planning

Members received new applications had been received as advised by Tendring District Council:

26/01392/FULHH 1 Harbour View Black Boy Lane Wrabness	Householder Planning Application - Proposed two storey and single storey extension and sail loft.	**Cllr Bowers had concerns over loss of privacy.**

Cllr Totman proposed to allow the member of the public present to speak, who had offered to allow context. Cllr Southall-Edwards and members **RESOLVED** to agree the member of public to speak, Cllrs Francis and Colley objected. Cllrs Cole and Francis abstained. The resident spoke offering information on the application 26/01392/FULHH.

After lengthy discussion, members **RESOLVED** no objection subject to privacy of neighbouring properties.

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
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.	Awaiting decision
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.	Awaiting decision

3740 Tendring District Council Local Plan

Cllr Totman made comments regarding sustainable connections, strategic forward planning for water and as such should be objected to and expressed that WPC had been listed as a comment rather than an objection (representation made in March 2026) which is false. Accordingly, this consultation asks for comments regarding the legalities of the plan rather than mere objections to the proposal but Cllr Totman offered this plan cannot be facilitated in 5years as stipulated in the proposed plan. Cllr Ferguson offered stance of the Government and the Planning Application process. A resident left the meeting at 8.47pm.
Members discussed at length and **RESOLVED** to make representation within the public consultation by 19th October 2026. Objection to the legalities regarding infrastructure sustainability (through information sought from Anglia Water and foul drainage concerns) to be added as an appendix and posted on council website.
Cllr Cole voted against and Cllr Southall-Edwards abstained.

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3741 Wrabness Bus Shelter

Members received information from Cllr Murray (ECC) that the bus shelter is believed to be owned by Wrabness PC, however it does not feature on the council's asset register nor has there ever been a formal/legal handover of asset. Members discussed and agreed for the council to follow this up with ECC for full clarification. Cllr McGowan advised the bus shelter is out of the Wrabness boundary, the advice sought is misleading and is actually within Ramsey and Parkeston boundary. Cllr Colley offered that the parish council could informally maintain it but was sure it is a ECC bus shelter.

3742 Councillor/clerk Reports

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

Highways – Cllr Totman nothing to report

Wrabness Playing Field – Cllr Cole nothing to report but asked when the inspection will take place, of which the clerk has chased with Playquip.

Station Masters Garden – Cllr Francis offered works are ongoing.

Village Green and Trees – Cllr Bowers considered following the fun day, how the area is which seems ok but wondered to open the area up and move the wild area over, would this be better to cut the wild park closer to the hedge and allow the area (near the manhole area) to wild slightly. Members **RESOLVED** to procced with the movement and expansion of the wild area. Members thanked local resident Graham Watkins for all his efforts on the Village Green.

Public Health – Cllr Southall-Edwards nothing to report

Clerk's Report - Noted

Transport – Cllr McGowan referenced another accident on Harwich Road and queried speed limits, with 25 accidents within this area. Clerk to contact Cllr Murray for support.

Footpaths – Cllr McGowan offered no report.

Village Hall – Cllr Francis explained the scarecrow trail is set for the spring, Wifi is being considered with other events coming up. Solar panel initiative is supported by the parish council with a request for formal support for the village hall to procced with such an application.

Kiosk – Cllr Colley offered it looked pleasant through the summer.

Foreshore – Cllr Bowers offered its coming up to close for the winter in the next few weeks.

Website – Cllr Colley reported the new website address is www.wrabnessparishcouncil.gov.uk

TDALC – Cllr Southall-Edwards advised a meeting on 29th October but is unable to attend led by the leader of Tendring District Council, but Cllr Colley hopes to attend. At a recent meeting, there was a further presentation regarding the Local Plan and was well attended.

District and County Councillor Reports – Cllr Ferguson expressed interesting conversation at Full Council between ECC and TDC regarding LGR (Local Government Reorganisation) which has been paused, Essex and other authorities have been removed completely from the LGR. Because of such, the Local Plan will be submitted, TDC can resume their usual work with lots of work going into LGR and Local Plan which has resulted in inevitable derailing of some work. The new waste disposal contract has started and felt this has been positive, though some people are yet to receive their additional box. Various meetings regarding training with ECC, nothing further to report. The road closure A120 at 9.00pm, lorries going through Ramsey and Parkeston are very fast, advised for WPC to publish warning to road users. The road signage is also severely damaged by such diversions.

Cllr Cole left the meeting at 9.05pm.

Cllr Ferguson left the meeting at 9.20pm.

3743 Budget Committee

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Colley, Bowers and McGowan, to include

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the parish clerk for the draft setting of the 2027/28 budget on Monday 16th November 2026, 7.00pm, to be agreed by the Full Council at November 2026 or January 2027 meeting.

3744 Finance

- Members received financial reports and confirmed the account balances as at 5th October 2026:
- Current Account TSB: Closed.
- Current Account Unity: £3694.23.
- Deposit Account TSB: £7084.42
- Unity Savings Account £0.00 (Awaiting closure of Deposit Account TSB to switch to this now open account).
- Members **RESOLVED** to approve payment of invoices received in accordance with 2026-2027 budget:

INCOME	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
		Parish Clerk Salary October	£245.20
		Wrabness Village Hall (Meeting Venue hire October)	£20.00
		Lawns etc – Late Summer Treatment	190.00
		Graham Watkins – Village green works	9.97 10.19

3745 Items for the next agenda

3746 Date of Next Meeting

The Chairman confirmed that the next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 25th November 2026 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22pm

Signed **Date**

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