

# Helions Bumpstead Parish Council

Parish Clerk/RFO: Kevin B. Money

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup>. January 2026 at 7pm in the village Hall

Present: Cllrs. S. McGrath (Chair), N. Turner, S. Cunningham, R. Etheridge, R. Kirkland, N. Nicholson, A. Parker, ECC Cllr P. Schwier, BDC Cllr D. Garrod and Kevin B. Money Clerk/RFO to the Council.

There was 1 member of the public present.

**001/2026 Apologies for Absence** None received

**002/2026 Declarations of interest**

To declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda. **None Declared**

**003/2026 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>. December 2025**

**All Agreed**

**004/2026 Public Forum**

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting in order to speak with respect to items on the agenda

Roof on bus shelter has been repaired. The chairs and fence post will be moved ASAP. By the Bottle banks broken glass has been deposited

**005/2026 Essex County Councillor Report**

Council to supply pot holes to Peter Schwier

- HBPC - Water Lane Gully clearing
- Street lights over Christmas were kept on overnight
- ECC Budget
- ECC - 'Green' rating for Essex underlines Essex County Councils record on road improvement
- ECC - Stansted Airport expansion set to help Essex prosper
- ECC- Essex secures over £68m in government funding to support bus services
- Essex - Last chance to have your say on Local Government Reorganisation
- ECC Highway Highlights Nov-Dec 25
- 74 Libraries in Essex

**006/2026 Braintree District Councillor report**

BDC Cllr D. Garrod report can be found at

<https://helionsbumpsteadparishcouncil.gov.uk/parish-council-minutes/>

Consultation on BDC Budget for 2026-2027. Ends 31<sup>st</sup>. January 2026

**Councillor Tom Cunningham** – Cabinet Member for Digital and Corporate Services

**Councillor Mark Platt** - Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport

Mayor elections delayed to May 2028

**007/2026 Sports Pavilion** – It has been agreed at their AGM to dissolve the committee who managed & maintained the pavilion since its construction some 30 years ago & to recommend and ask the Parish Council to take over this Village Asset wef 01/01/2026

A discussion following the Parish Council meeting to see how the pavilion can be maintained. The pavilion requires some painting but it is not subsiding. Cllr N. Turner to circulate any discussions between himself and pavilion representatives.

**008/2026 BDC Local Plan** As mentioned in BDC report (item 006/2026)

**009/2026 Highways, Roads and footpaths**

Water lane has had works undertaken in recent weeks. Large potholes have been repaired.

Can the road markings (reflectors) be replaced along Water Lane?

a) Culverts update – Cllr N. Nicholson

Rose Cottage culvert sleeper has been agreed that the owner pays for the removal of the sleeper.

**010/2026 Defibrillator** – update Cllr S. McGrath

The defibrillator has been regularly checked and is in working order

**011/2026 Recreation Ground Mower servicing**

The mower has no significant broken parts to repair. Matt Vickery to look into repairing and servicing the mower

**012/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response**

No planning applications have been submitted

**013/2026 Finance**

a) To receive the Bank Reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. December 2025

Councillors noted the Bank Reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. December 2025

b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget for 2025/2026

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget for 2025/2026

c) To approve the payment for Accounts for January 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements **All Agreed**

**014/2026 2026-2027 Budget** - Councillors to finalise the 2026-2027 budget

Cllr S. McGrath proposed a 2026-2027 expenditure budget of £16290. This results in a Precept demand from BDC of £13260: Using the BDC Tax base figure of 182.82 made the Band D property figure of £69.86p pa. An increase of 94p per year or 1.36%. Cllr N. Turner seconded. **All Agreed**

The RFO to submit the 2026-2027 Precept form ASAP

**015/2026 Items for the Next Agenda**

Cllr N. Turner apologies for February meeting

Road mirror opposite Sages End Road

**016/2026 Date of the Next Meeting** - Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. February 2026 at 7pm

**017/2026 2026 meeting dates:** 09.03: 13.04: 11.05: 08.06: 13.07: 14.09: 12.10: 09.11: 14.12.26

**018/2026 Closure of the Meeting** To close the Meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.30pm and wished everyone a happy Christmas

Signed

*Nicholson*

N. Nicholson

9<sup>th</sup>. February 2026