



**Minutes of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council, held at
South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay
on Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 7pm**

Present: -

Councillor M Dear – Chair
Councillor A Boyce
Councillor L Cowles
Councillor D Sarbutt
Councillor L Thomas

Also in attendance: -

Mrs Mylène Linwood, Clerk & RFO to the Village Council
One member of the public

25/119 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Jackson and Cllr Crowe

25/120 Declarations of Interests

No declarations with regards to items on the agenda were submitted.

25/121 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on 4th June 2025, were received, and duly signed by the Chair of the meeting as a true record of the meeting

25/122 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters, which are of mutual interest. No decisions to be made.

One member of the public attended and expressed an interest in becoming a Cllr.

He noted that in the 70+ years that he had lived in the area he had noticed changes for the worst, particularly the inconsiderate parking arounds the schools and dangerous driving around the shopping parade where there are a lot of pedestrians.

25/123 Finance

a) The following payments were unanimously approved:

Month	Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
July	Standing Order	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk salary June 2025	£804.44
July	Standing Order	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk reimbursement for EE data connection for CCTV. (11 May – 10 June 2025)	£18.48
July		Heelis & Lodge	Internal Audit for year ended 31 March 2025	£260.00
July		Cllr S Crowe	Cllr expenses: Fun Day 2025 – Sweets and line to hang banner	£7.37
July		South Green Memorial Hall	Hall Hire – meetings April, May, June 2025	£173.25

July		Mrs M Linwood	Home working allowance Q1–April, May, June 2025	£200.00
July		Billericay Nurseries	Flower beds: watering and maintenance	£1150.00
July		Mrs M Linwood	Clerk expenses: Stamps & envelopes	£17.59
*Received after agenda published – payment approved to meet payment deadline				
July		Billericay Nurseries	Watering June 2025	£252.00
			Total	£2883.13

The Clerk updated those present with the account balances: Current Account: £75859.10 Reserves Account: £50875.42

25/124 Annual Audit 2024-25 Internal Report

- a) The 2024-25 report had been received from Heelis & Lodge and distributed to Members
All accounts and Council practices were found to be in good order, with no recommendations.
Thanks were give to the Clerk for all the work involved with preparing the audit.
- b) All agreed that Heelis & Lodge provide an excellent audit service and approved they should be appointed again as the Village Councils internal auditor for 2025-26.

25/125 Annual Governance and Accountability Audit – 2024-25

The Clerk confirmed that all the necessary documents have been sent to PKF Littlejohn ahead of the deadline of 1st July 2025 for the final stage of the Village Council annual audit.

25/126 Planning Applications

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
25/00367/ABAS	Bus Shelter Jct Of Gatwick View And Linkdale Billericay Essex	Consent to display illuminated advertisements on a digital real-time passenger information screen located within the bus shelter (In shelter - high on end panel)	No objection
25/00784/FULL	147 Noak Hill Road Great Burstead Billericay Essex CM12 9UJ	Existing dropped kerb of 7m to be extended by an additional 2m, taking the maximum length to 9m.	No objection
25/00757/FULL	8 The Hoe Billericay Essex CM12 9XB	Part single and part two storey front and rear extensions, increase in roof height, and alterations to elevations	No objection
25/00797/SCOPE	Land East of Southend Road Gret Burstead Billericay Essex	EIA Scoping Opinion for residential led development. delivering in the region of 1.100 homes, along with a range of compatible supporting non- residential uses (yet to be defined), infrastructure and landscaping.	(See attached document)

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
25/00830/FULL	2 Mill Cottage Southend Road Great Burstead Billericay	Demolition of single storey extension and construction of a single storey side extension. Replace existing single storey rear extension with single storey infill extension	No objection
25/00831/LBBAS	2 Mill Cottage Southend Road Great Burstead Billericay	Demolition of single storey extension and construction of a single storey side extension. Replace existing single storey rear extension with single storey infill extension	No objection

25/127 Purchase of Village Council Laptop

Members approved a budget of £500 for the purchase of a laptop to enable Cllrs to view planning applications documents at meetings and reduce the need to print plans out. As the Planning Rep Cllr Cowles will keep and manage the laptop and store planning records on the laptop. The Clerk and Cllr Cowles to liaise to organise the purchase.

25/128 Planning Developments - sewerage and water capacity

The Clerk had contacted MP Richard Holden and his team for advice on how to submit the FOI. The team were very helpful providing information on this important topic that has recently been discussed in Parliament. Housing Development companies are not required to consult with water companies when connecting up pipe work to the existing water and sewage system.

The clerk has submitted on behalf of the Village Council a 'Freedom of Information' request to Basildon Borough Council to ask: 'Has Basildon Borough Council consulted with Anglian Water and Essex and Suffolk Water companies on the following housing developments?'

- A) Maitland Lodge, Southend Road, CM11 2PT – 47 houses
- B) Land at Southend Road – 99 houses
- C) Fairview, Coxes Farm Road, CM11 2UB – 76 bed Care Home
- D) Land North of Kennel Lane – 200 houses
- E) Hygro Farm, Kennel Lane, CM11 2SU – 5 houses
- F) Ganel Road – 10 houses
- G) Oak Hill Farm – 4 houses
- H) Land at Greens Farm Lane, Billericay – 310 houses
- I) Land East of Southend Road – 1100 houses

25/129 Councillor Vacancy

The member of the public who attended the meeting was given a Cllr application form. The form needs to be completed and returned to the Clerk. Cllrs will then review the application form at a Village Council meeting with the applicant present to be co-opted.

25/130 New Bench

The following locations were suggested by Cllr Boyce as places where the addition of a new bench would be helpful to the public: Grass verge at the beginning of Hickstars Lane service road, near the bus stop or on the grass verge opposite South Green Junior School.

The site close to the bus stop in Hickstars Lane service road was most favored by Members. Clerk to put a request into Basildon Borough Council.

25/131 Compactor Bin – Contractor Renewal

Clerk updated Members that she had met with a representative from Future Street the company providing the bin to discuss on site a better location for the bin to avoid it getting hit by delivery lorries.

The Clerk has also written to Tesco head office to ask if anything can be done about the delivery lorries hitting both the bin and now so many of the newly installed safety bollards.

It was agreed the bollards along South Green shopping parade would be a standing item on Village Council meeting agendas until the matter is resolved.

The new 1-year rental contract is being prepared, and an additional cost of £100 was agreed to have the addition of an ashtray on the bin (and deter the top of the bin being used as a makeshift ashtray). The company had also offered a trial of a normal style bin, however after receiving information from Basildon Council that they are in the process of replacing old bins currently it was decided to not be necessary for the Village Council to pay another rental on a bin that was not a compacting bin and would need to be added to Basildon Council's collection schedule.

25/132 Village Council / St Mary Magdalene Church Fete – Saturday 5th July 2025

The event working party had met again on 25th June 2025 for a final recap before the event.

It was confirmed that a bad weather plan had been put together should it be needed.

The Church representatives advised that due to the sad incident in Chalkwell recently where a tree fell causing fatal injury, one of the trees in the Church grounds would be coned off as a precaution.

The donation to the Explorer Scouts was discussed to consider an amount suitable for helping all day with the car park. It was agreed that a donation on £100 would be given to the Explorer Scouts Group and when the amount raised from their collection bucket in the car park the Village Council could round that up to £200.

All Cllrs confirmed they would be able to attend.

25/133 Training

No training requests were received.

25/134 Social Media

The following suggestions were put forward as possible ideas to add to the Village Council Twitter page:

- Village Council / Church Summer Fete
- Compactor Bin to be re-sited to avoid further damage
- Land East of Southend Road 1.,100 potential homes
- No meeting in August for recess, next meeting 3rd September 2025

25/135 Date of the next meetings –

To note there will be no meeting in August due to recess.

3rd September, 1st October, 5th November, 3rd December 2025.

The ABLC AGM will take place on 17th July 2025, all Cllrs are welcome to attend.

25/136 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8:06pm

Minutes agreed and approved:

Signed:

Date:

25/00797/SCOPE

Land East of Southend Road

EIA Scoping Opinion for residential led development. delivering in the region of 1.100 homes, along with a range of compatible supporting non-residential uses (yet to be defined), infrastructure and landscaping.

The Village Council strongly OBJECT to this planning proposal.

The impact of this quantity of houses will have a terrible negative impact and completely change the character of the existing settlement.

There are also several health and safety implications the addition of these houses will bring to both the residents already living here and all the proposed new residents.

Health Services:

This development will put additional pressure on infrastructure that is already at breaking point. There is no longer a doctor's surgery in South Green, so patients have had to merged within the other doctors' surgeries in Billericay and they can no longer take on anymore new patients.

Basildon Hospital - which serves Basildon and the neighbouring towns and villages is already struggling to meet the needs of these residents. Adding more residents is going to cause serious implications for people needing treatment, and there being no space or resources to treat them.

There are no dental practices taking on new NHS patients within the parish or the wider area of Billericay.

Education:

The schools within the area are at capacity or oversubscribed.

Road Safety:

The volume of traffic on the Southend Road will increase. The Southend Road is already an extremely congested road; journeys times can be double or trebled due to traffic being at a standstill. More homes and cars in this area is going to exacerbate the problem.

The junction of Southend Rd/ Greens Farm Lane is very dangerous; there have been many serious accidents. Many collisions have also occurred at the junction of Southend Rd / Barleylands Rd.

More cars on the road at these junctions is going to raise the risk levels.

The Village Council would request that a traffic survey is done as a matter of urgency.

Emergency Services:

Has the access of Fire and Police services in an emergency been properly reviewed.

Billericay Police Station has now closed and residents of Billericay and the neighbouring villages have to rely on services travelling from other stations. Have additional Police resources been considered for all the additional homes.

Utilities Services:

Has the impact on water supply and the sewage system been properly investigated? The cumulative effect of the hundreds of new houses currently being built and then a further 1100 could put too much pressure on the system and cause big problems in the future.

Loss of green belt land

The government states that the "fundamental aim" of the green belt "is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land

permanently open” around urban areas, and to preserve the character of existing settlements and encourage development within existing built-up areas.

The excessive scale of proposed planning applications for this area will certainly create an urbanising effect on what is currently open countryside and cause the irreversible loss of green belt land and agricultural land.

Environmental impact:

The emissions from all the extra vehicles that this development would bring, will affect the air quality for residents across Billericay with potential to cause health issues.

The construction on this open countryside will cause the loss of natural habitats for plants and wildlife in the area and in turn contribute to climate change.

The Village Council are strongly opposed for the development of this site and yet more houses in this area, and ask that the planning department take into consideration the many other developments within close proximity to this site.

Cumulative effect with other development sites:

The cumulative effect of the all the other large planning applications within the Parish of Great Burstead and South and around Billericay must be considered when this application is reviewed.

The continued process of reviewing housing development applications in isolation of each other, is leading to a disastrous outcome for the future of Billericay and the surrounding area.

Developers and the Planning Authority must consider not just the construction of the houses, but the people who will be living in the area after. Will anyone want to live in an area where it is impossible to commute anywhere because the roads are too congested; where you cannot see a doctor when you are ill, because doctors’ surgeries are too oversubscribed to accept new patients; and where children can not go to local schools because there are now more places.