Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council meeting held at East Mersea Village Hall on Thursday 21st May 2026.

Present: Cllrs Jeff Mason (chair), Emma Green, David Sunnucks, Alex Richardson, who was welcomed on to the council, Clerk Sue Pullen, City Cllrs Martin Parsons, Robert Davidson and two members of the public

44.26 Apologies for absence: Cllr Margaret Lawford

45.26 To Elect Chairman and RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) Cllr Mason was unanimously elected as chairman and the clerk as RFO for this year. The Declaration Acceptance of Office forms were completed and signed with other forms to follow.

46.26 The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2026 were agreed and accepted by all (except Cllr Richardson who was not present) as a true record and signed by the chairman.

47.26 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Emma Green for application no.260631

48.26 Public Participation Session: Nothing further

49.26 City Cllrs Report: The calendar for recycling is due to change. Action is needed for implementing the rules of the Water Policy as jet skiers continue to be a nuisance. Complaints can be sent to Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioner.

50.26 Audit 25/26 – confirmation and signing of the AGAR report will take place at the June meeting following circulation of appropriate documentation.

51.26 CCC Local Plan and LGR – updates as in the previous meeting. There is a new Head of the Planning Department owing to ill health.

52.26 West Mersea Plan – will be circulated for discussion at the next meeting and for the parish council to formulate its comments. Reply will be sent to Cllr Akker accordingly.

53.26 Historical Buildings in East Mersea – Following the suggestion for East Mersea to compile a register of Historical Buildings a volunteer will investigate relevant information and Mersea Museum will be contacted to help in assisting with any records it holds in producing an accurate list.

54.26 RCCE Affordable/Low-Cost Housing: A timetable of events was circulated for reference. Rural Housing are trying to engage with Colchester City Council for appropriate funding for the project to move forward. Possible assistance from our City Cllrs might be in order. Cllr Richardson stated that he had opposed the creation of a new envelope centred on the village hall and that he had a number of questions and concerns about the Affordable Housing Survey and its Report.

55.26 Email and website changes progress was delayed owing to elections but will be resumed again.

56.26 Village Party: It was agreed to postpone hosting a party until next year.

57.26 Caravan Parks – There still appears to be no result for Away Resorts' application for 10 more caravans. A mistake on the website will be pointed out to CCC.

58.26 Planning Applications and Decisions:

260067 Proposal: Advertisement consent for one non-illuminated sign at Fen Farm, Moore Lane – **Refuse**

260525 – To determine if prior approval is needed for a proposed erection of a storage building for agricultural use at Mersea Island Vineyard, Rewsalls Lane – Prior Approval is Required **(Approved).**

260631 Proposal: Loft conversion and front porch at Wayside Elm, East Road – the

Signed _____ *Thursday June 11th June 2026*

parish council has no objections to this application
260446 Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use from Agricultural Building to small boat storage at Reeves Hall, Meeting Lane – Prior Approval Required **(Approved).**

59.26 Schedule of payments to be made:

May 2026	Salary	488.37
May 2026	EALC & NALC subs	117.36
May 2026	Aubergine website and email set-ups	670.80
May 2026	Insurance	515.50
	Total	£1,792.03

The next meeting will be held on 11th June 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Signed _____ *Thursday June 11th June 2026*