Hullbridge Parish Council

Extra Ordinary Full Council
Full Council Minutes

Held on Monday 26th October 2026

7.30 pm

The Windermere Centre, Windermere Avenue, Hullbridge, SS5 6JR

Members present: Cllr Kevin O'Brien (Chair); Cllr David Elwell (Vice Chair); Cllr Conner Agius; Cllr David Flack; Cllr J. Hampstead; Cllr Ian Kenlin; Cllr Angelina Marriott; Cllr J. O'Brien; Cllr S. Walsh, Cllr P. White.

Staff present: Mrs Nicola Harding (Clerk); Mrs Julie Mullett (Assistant Clerk).

2 members of the public were present including;
Rochford District Council Deputy Leader - Cllr Neil Hookway
Rochford District Council - Cllr Tina Hughes

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending.

86/10/26 **Apologies for Absence**

86.1/10/26 – Apologies from Cllr K. Charters and Cllr S. Naish were *noted.*

87/10/26 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

87.1/10/26 – None.

88/10/26 **Public Participation**

88.1/10/26 – RDC Cllr Tina Hughes thanked Hullbridge Parish Council for the invitation to attend the meeting and introduced Cllr Neil Hookway. At the request of the Chair, Cllr Hookway, in his capacity as Deputy Leader of Rochford District Council (RDC), provided an update on the current status of the Local Plan. Cllr Hookway advised that RDC was still awaiting a formal response from the Secretary of State regarding the Local Plan submitted by the District Council. He further explained that an extension to the Regulation 19 consultation period, currently ending on 31st December, was a possibility, although no confirmation had yet been received.

89/10/26 **Rochford District Council Local Plan**

Prior to the Council considering the motions and proceeding to a vote, the Chair provided an overview of the current situation, outlining Hullbridge Parish Council's role and responsibilities within the process.

Councillors received and considered the report prepared by the Clerk, with the Chair expressing thanks for the work undertaken in producing the report.

A comprehensive discussion ensued, covering a range of considerations, including the potential benefits and challenges of collaborative working with other Parish Councils; whether Rochford District Council would be pursuing a collaborative approach with neighbouring District Councils; budgetary

constraints and financial implications; ensuring best value for Hullbridge residents; potential alternative sources of funding; the limited timescales involved; the importance of clear and accurate communication with residents; and the potential implications of any forthcoming response from central government.

89.1/10/26 –
Motion 1 – Collaborative Working

Councillors considered and unanimously agreed Hullbridge Parish Council should, where appropriate, investigate working collaboratively with other parish and town councils within Rochford District to consider and respond to the Regulation 19 consultation on Rochford District Council's Local Plan.

Motion 2 – Independent Specialist Planning Advice

Councillors considered and unanimously agreed to investigate independent specialist planning advice in relation to the Regulation 19 consultation on Rochford District Council's Local Plan, including authorising the office to obtain quotations for the proposed work and report these, together with the associated budgetary implications, to Full Council for consideration and decision.

Motion 3 – Oversight of the Scope of Specialist Advice

Councillors considered and agreed unanimously to delegate to the Planning Committee oversight of the proposed scope of work and the preparation of the consultant's brief, with any recommendations regarding the appointment, expenditure, final scope of work and any subsequent decisions to remain subject to Full Council approval.

The above motions were carried, with Councillors agreeing that the Parish Council would await the formal response from central government before determining any further course of action.

Councillors further agreed the recommendation from Cllr Marriott that all communications on this matter on behalf of the Parish Council should be coordinated through the Parish Office or Chair, to ensure consistency, accuracy and clarity in the information communicated to residents and other stakeholders.

Meeting Closed 20.06
Cllr K. O'Brien - Chair to the Council

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____

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