



Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council
COUNCIL MEETING



Minutes of the meeting of Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council
Tuesday 17 February 2026, Messing Village Hall, 7.30pm

		PRESENT
Chair	Councillor R Suckling	Yes
Councillors	Councillor Mrs J Hughes	Yes
	Councillor R Strudwick	Yes
	Councillor Mrs M Irons	Yes
	Councillor Mrs C Baxter	Yes
	Councillor A Harding	Yes
	Councillor Mrs M Lindsay	Yes
	In attendance	Clerk

1 12/26 **APOLOGIES:** None

2 13/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) **RECEIVE** declarations of interest regarding the agenda: Cllr Mrs Baxter declared an interest in item 7b (18/26) as Chair of Messing Allotment Association (MAA).

3 14/26 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a) **RECEIVE** reports from City and County Councillors: An online catch-up meeting had been held with Cllr K Bentley on 5 Feb as he is working more in London at present and not as available to attend evening meetings. The clerk had circulated notes of the meeting. Cllr Bentley has offered online meetings until the elections in May.
- b) **RECEIVE** public comments relating to the agenda or matters for future consideration: None

4 15/26 **MINUTES - APPROVE** minutes (previously circulated) as a true record

- a) minutes of the meeting of the council held on 20 January 2026 were **APPROVED** on proposal of Cllr Mrs Hughes, seconded Cllr Harding, all agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

5 16/26 **GOVERNANCE**

- a) Updated parish actions list **RECEIVED**. The clerk reported that an IT policy is required before the end of March to be compliant with Assertion 10 of the audit process. The gate posts have been delivered and Cllr Strudwick will draft a work plan for installation. Cllr Suckling will attempt to contact the solicitor regarding the allotment land registration.
- b) Parish Council calendar **RECEIVED**. Potential date of 29 May to be pencilled in for the Annual Parish Meeting.
- c) Cllr Harding reported that he will be having a change in circumstances that will need to be reported on his declarations of interest form. The clerk will send the form to Cllr Harding for completion and then submit to the MO at CCC. The parish council website links to the forms on CCC's website.
- d) It was agreed that there were no changes required at this time so the current Orchard Group Terms of Reference were **APPROVED** on proposal of Cllr Harding, seconded Cllr Mrs Baxter and all agreed.

6 17/26 **PLANNING – CONSIDER**

- a) Appeal A1530/W/25/3375872252418 change of use of agricultural field to dog walking field – Dismissed
- b) New application 26/00119/OUT outline application for Crown Estates Land at Feering. All acknowledged and thanked Cllr Mrs Hughes for her time spent on this. Clerk to find out if CCC has responded and send our response to Simon Cairns, Cllr Bentley and Cllr Ellis once it is finalised by Cllr Suckling. Clerk to draft update leaflet for delivery to all residents to include information about meetings with Tiptree, Crown Estates application and Kings Dene development in Kelvedon.
- c) Other applications received after agenda publication. Appeal APP/A1530/W/25/3375455 construction of a 2-bed bungalow/chalet at Stonefield Farm – Dismissed
- d) Meeting with Tiptree 4 February – the clerk had circulated notes of the meeting. It was acknowledged that Tiptree Parish Council had a different understanding of the lifespan of the current and emerging Local Plans and the notes of the meeting would be updated to reflect this.
- e) Parish Open Meeting 7 February – was well attended with different residents from the October meeting and well received. All thanked Cllr Suckling for preparing and delivering an excellent presentation. The clerk will post the

updated presentation slides on the website. Cllr Harding had met with a resident who had been unable to attend the Open Meeting and all thanked him for this.

7 18/26 PARISH MATTERS

- a) Orchard – parking for school staff in the orchard will not be going ahead due to planning conditions. Councillors agreed that if a similar request is made in the future, it will be held over to for final agreement at a monthly meeting and not pushed because of time constraints.
- b) Allotments – invoice for 6 months (April-Sep 2026) to be sent to new Plotholder 9.
- c) Play area – there is a loose drain cover near the main gate, Cllr Suckling will raise at the next VH meeting. Sovereign Play will carry out the next operational inspection of the play equipment during w/b 23 February.
- d) Defibrillators – Cllr Suckling checked both earlier today and all fine.
- e) Potholes – are submerged in New Road because of recent wet weather and now very dangerous. Clerk will look at costs for 2 warning signs to be used in New Road. Clerk to contact Estate Office at Messing Park to ask them to clear ditches to improve drainage from the road and try to find landowner of the other side of New Road.
- f) Devolution and Local Government Re-organisation – awaiting government’s decision on number of unitary authorities.
- g) S106 form – need to create a ‘wishlist’ of projects for the next 3-4 years, incorporating any needs of the VH committee. Cllr Suckling to contact Cllr Ellis to discuss.
- h) Biodiversity schedule – Cllr Mrs Hughes had circulated her first draft of this and all thanked her for her efforts. This can be added to in time. Clerk to add link to reporting biodiversity records to the website.
- i) Litter pick – the clerk to create an availability poll for Sundays in April/May.

8 19/26 CLERK’S REPORT was RECEIVED and NOTED

Clerk is on leave from 23-27 February and then 23 March-1 April. Cllr Suckling will be the out-of-office point of contact.

9 20/26 FINANCE

- a) Orchard finances were **RECEIVED** and **APPROVED**.
- b) Finance report was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.
- c) Bank reconciliation for the month of January 2026 was **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Irons and Cllr Mrs Baxter.
- d) Accounts for payment were **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Irons and Cllr Mrs Baxter.

10 21/26 BRIEF REPORTS OF MEMBERS – S106 list

11 22/26 NEXT MEETING - confirmed Tuesday 17 March at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.43pm.

PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL - FEB 2026

Staff 3	Salary & office allowance (Feb)	£963.64
HMRC	PAYE (Feb)	£124.75
Pension Fund	Pension contributions (Feb)	£322.26
Staff 3	Expenses	£25.51
UTB	Transfer from Reserves to Current account	£3,000.00