

MINUTES OF LODE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 29 – Monday 9th March 2026
Held at Meeting Room, St James’ Church, Lode.

Present: Councillor Rima Page, Councillor Fran Platten, Councillor Sarah Barrett, Councillor Ellis Weinberger, Councillor Tessa Shrubbs.

In attendance: District Councillor John Trapp, County Councillor Jonny Edge.

Members of public: 2

Clerk: Mrs S Chambers-Turner, Mrs S Collings (Training)

Meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

424. CHAIRMANS WELCOME

Councillor Platten opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

425. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

426. COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSTATION

None

427. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by Councillor Shrubbs, seconded by Councillor Platten and resolved by those present that the minutes of meeting 28 held on 9th February 2026 be approved and signed as a true record.

428. COMMUNICATIONS

It was agreed that Councillor Shrubbs would write the Lode Star report for the next edition.

429. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public was present to discuss

- Planning proposals for the Old Baptist Chapel

430. MATTERS ARISING/CLERK & COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- None

431. FINANCES INCLUDING APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

- It was proposed by Councillor Shrubbs, seconded by Councillor Platten and resolved that the bank reconciliation for February 2026 be approved.
- The following receipts were noted:
None
- It was proposed by Councillor Shrubbs, seconded by Councillor Platten and resolved that the outstanding accounts for March 2026 be settled. *Action: Clerk to set up payments for authorization.*

For this meeting					
BACS	S Chambers-Turner	Clerk Salary February			Confidential
BACS	JCS Bookkeeping	Payroll February	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00
BACS	MC Groundcare	Cemetery hedge works	£1200.00	£240.00	£1440.00
BACS	Cambridgeshire Acre	Membership	£74.50	£14.90	£89.40
BACS	Viking Direct	Office Supplies	£120.58	£24.12	£144.70
BACS	CAPALC	Training Wells	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00

432. PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

None

Planning Decisions

26/00021/TRE, Lode Baptist Chapel, High Street, Lode. T1 Ash tree – remove as declining with plans for replanting suitable trees within the property – approved.

25/01384/FUL, Frolic Farm, Lode Fen, Lode. Relocation of access door on plot 5 to side elevation along with revised car parking – retrospective – approved.

A late application was received, and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask for an extension of time to respond.

433. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Councillors Trapp and Cane provided a written report, which was circulated before the meeting. This included:

- A public consultation on Local Government Reorganisation
- Greater Cambridge Development Company consultation
- Licensing Committee
- Increase in Mepal Crematorium contingency budget

County Councillor Edge did not provide a written report before the meeting. But gave a brief update on:

- Business plan and budget
- Local Government Reorganisation
- Two new special schools for Cambridgeshire

Copies of the reports are available from the website or upon request from the Clerk.

434. COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

- a. The Risk assessment for 25-26 was reviewed and approved.
- b. The Asset register for 25-26 was reviewed and approved.
- c. **It was proposed by Councillor Platten, seconded by Councillor Weinberger and resolved that IT policy be adopted.**
- d. It was noted that a doodle poll had been created for Code of Conduct training. **Action:** *Councillors to indicate availability.*
- e. Discussion was held on the proposals for the Local Government Reorganisation. **It was proposed by Councillor Weinberger, seconded by Councillor Shrubbs and resolved that the Parish Council wished to continue to support option A (now option 2) and that the Parish Council would meet to complete the survey. Action:** *Councillor Platten to arrange a date for a meeting to complete the survey.*

435. ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPEN SPACES MATTERS

- a. It was noted that the cemetery hedge trimming had now been completed.
- b. The Clerk produced a master document for inspections of the play ground and recreational ground. It was agreed that Councillor Barrett and Councillor Weinberger would make amendments and circulate to all councillors.

436. COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a. Councillor Platten had written to Anglesey Abbey about a potential bus shelter for the B1102, but had not received a response. Furthermore, concerned residents has raised the suitability of a bus shelter in the proposed location. It was agreed that the matter would be investigated further to see what types of shelters are available.
- b. An update on the Swaffham Greenways was provided by County Councillor Edge. The Swaffham Greenway is expected to be submitted to the Joint Assembly in the Autumn of 2026, with planning being sought in early 2027. The expected delivery date is

Autumn 2027. However, the Bottisham Greenway is expected to be delivered in Autumn of 2026.

- c. The Longmeadow noticeboard requires attention as notices are not clear due to the Perspex. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Handyman to look to see what works are required to the value of £250.

437. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Any business and payments, to be considered at a Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

438. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held 7.30pm on 13th April 2026 at Fassage Hall , Lode.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed: *J.Platten*

13/4/26