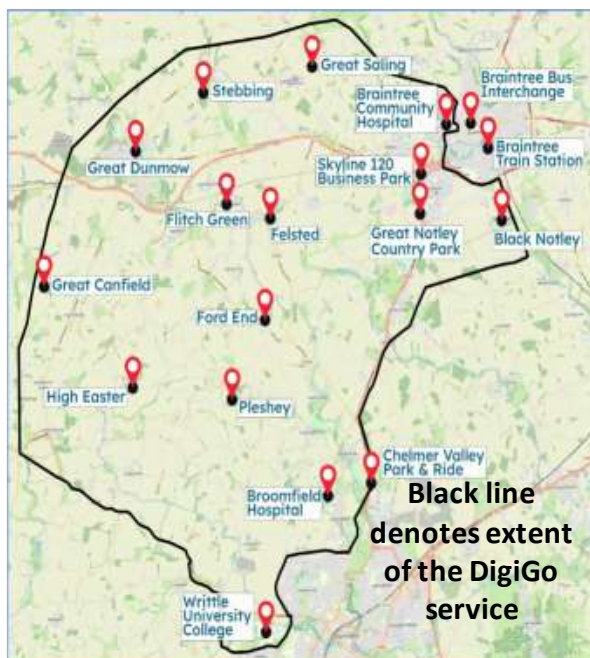




Broomfield Parish Council

**Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th October 2022 at 7.30 p.m.**

22/91	Members attending Chairman: Cllr Mercer Other members: Cllr's Thomson, Perry, Faulds, Steed, Howell, Spiller, Daden, Blake and Barnes. Also present: Clerk, Mark Hembury, County Councillor Mike Steel, Donna Hance (Village Hall Charity) and two members of the public. Resolved. Apologies were accepted from Cllr's Bleet, Scott and Bowman. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Barnes. Unanimously approved.
22/92	Declarations of interests None received.
22/100	To receive a presentation from artist Michael Condron of the new public artwork being prepared for the Channels Estate Cllr Mercer proposed that this item be brought forward in the agenda order – seconded by Cllr Steed and unanimously agreed. A presentation was provided by artist Michael Condron and there was an opportunity for questions to be asked.
22/93	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th August 2022. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Thomson. One abstention, all others in agreement.
22/94	Public Question Time. Two members of the public were present. Members were asked to consider the reasons for a retrospective planning application made in respect of 58 Main Road, Broomfield, an HMO. It was stated that the conversion of the property was intended for short-term accommodation for NHS staff. A potential further application would be submitted and an invitation was extended to members to visit the premises to inspect what had been done.
22/95	To receive a report from our County Councillor for items not on agenda The following report was received – DigiGo has expanded and merged the 2 regions!



DigiGo is a transport service piloted by ECC for 2 years. The service comprises 6 electric mini-buses operating from the Braintree GRIDSERVE electric forecourt. Using the TravelEssex app, passengers select their pick up (a short walk from your location) and drop off points. (If you can't cope with Apps, there is a phone call alternative). The service now covers a wide rural area. The charges are similar to public transport but the service approaches that of a taxi! And concessionary fares and conditions apply. They operate 7 days a week, 7am until 10pm. All the mini-buses have wheelchair access. I see this as an answer to public transport in low demand areas where bus companies find it uneconomic to operate. The area now served has been extended to include Great

Dunmow, Stebbing, Great Sailing, Great Canfield and surrounding areas. It doesn't cover all of Broomfield, but does extend to the hospital – so putting CVHS in reach. So, whether you are a pupil living in a rural area who can't get a school bus, someone who needs to get to a medical appointment, or a shopper, please make use of the facility and make the pilot a success. Residents can visit www.digigo.uk to learn more. Book a DigiGo journey today via the TravelEssex app, or visit www.digigo.uk for more information!

Broomfield School Crossing Patrol

Still no applicants for the role. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact us at schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk or gillian.palmer@essex.gov.uk, stating Broomfield (or contact me). The role generally suits people with a positive and friendly attitude with good communication skills who are active and reliable.

RIDE LONDON ESSEX 2023

ECC have approved the event for next May 28th. They have signed up for just one year. The route has not been finally decided yet but, is likely to be the same as last time. There will be just one day, rather than the 3 days. Feedback from the public has been split 50:50 but in my opinion the businesses were badly affected last time. I have been making quite a fuss about this and I am demanding that businesses do not have to close like they did last time. I can't stop the event happening, but I have joined the Steering Group and have been promised much better comms than last time and mitigation plans. I have submitted a list to RideLondon and Highways that includes all the businesses on the route, and RideLondon are contacting them to work out mitigation plans.

Residents can learn about the plans for 2023, ask questions and speak to members of the RideLondon-Essex team: Monday 31 October, 5-8pm - Writtle University College, Lordship

Road, Chelmsford, CM1 3R (further dates to be announced). Or keep up to date <https://www.ridelondon.co.uk/news-and-media/latest-news>

Essex Highways Survey

You should have received an invitation to fill in the survey on ECC Highway's services. Last September we invited all Parish & Town Councils, and individual District, City and Borough Councillors and County Members within Essex County Council's area, plus a range of other private and public organisations, to offer their view on the priorities and satisfaction levels associated with the specific services provided by Essex Highways. The responses you provide feed in to our planning cycle and help us to consider how we can best use our limited resources to meet current and future demands.

Thank you to all those who responded, your views are extremely important to us.

We would now like to invite you or your organisation to complete this years' survey. It is open from Tuesday 11th October 2022 to Wednesday 4th January 2023.

To access the survey please click on the following link [Essex Highways User Survey](#) or scan the QR Code below with a Smartphone

The deadline for this survey to be returned is Wednesday 4th January 2023.

If you have any further questions about the survey process or the questionnaire itself then please contact us via email to: EssexHighways.UserSurveys@essexhighways.org

Chelmsford City Council

It is with very great sadness that I share the news of the death of Cllr John Galley, the Mayor of Chelmsford, who passed away 11th Oct after a short illness.

John has been a City Cllr and Parish Cllr for many years and also deputy Leader under the last administration. He took the role of Mayor in May 2022.

Other Matters

I attended the 4th mediation meeting between BPC and the Angel Pavilion 12th Oct 2022.

School Lane

Latest version of Local Highways Panel application

I think this needs splitting into 3 issues:

1. Concerns about safety due to congestion around the school - and what Highways can do
2. Concerns about safety due to congestion around the school - and what the school can do
3. Speed at non school times

1. Concerns about safety due to congestion around the school - and what Highways can do
I spoke to Nicola again. Her suggestion was about widening the path on the corner. She mentioned one-way as a possible option to facilitate that, not as an end in its own right. Having spoken to Nicola again, and Highways engineer, the one way option doesn't look feasible because of the angle of both of the junctions, meaning a vehicle from the north would struggle to turn right at the second junction, or if the one way the other way, a vehicle exiting school lane to go north would struggle. Might be possible with extensive, expensive reworking of the whole island. But the engineer also thought that to have easily accessible one way, would speed up traffic at the junction, as they do not face opposing traffic.

There may be other options to improve safety - railings, path widening, maybe 20mph past the school (variable or permanent). I need to re-write the LHP request on this basis, outlining the congestion concerns and making some acceptable suggestions. Please send me the Word version, so I can edit it.

School Streets may be a longer-term option. I have spoken to the Sustainable Travel Planning Officer and will be having another meeting with him. The Essex School Streets programme is very much in development, so he can't give me any concrete information as yet. We were looking at a possibility of one in Chelmsford as part of the DfT funded Active Travel Plans (I am the Steering Group Chairman), so I know a bit about them. Basically, you close off the road outside the school for 1/2 hour each end of the day. It is unlikely to be popular with residents and as the process includes public consultation, it is difficult. Anyway, they are some years off.

Getting a School Crossing Patrol sanctioned was a step forward, but it is disappointing that no one has applied for the job!

2. Concerns about safety due to congestion around the school - and what the school can do
The Sustainable Travel Planning Officer has offered to support any Essex school to develop their School Travel Plan. He sent me a short factsheet about this, which you're welcome to share with school – and suggest that they action this. I think we checked, and the school does not have an active travel plan.

The school needs to be involved in this, as one of the main issues is parents parking near the school. It was also suggested to me that maybe parents/staff at the school could have an SCP rota?

3. Speed at non school times

Previous speed surveys have shown there not to be a speed problem on School Lane

Past the school: 2015 Avg 27mph 85th decile 30mph, 2018 Avg 27mph 85th decile 31mph

On the 60mph zone on the mid part of the straight approaching the chicane: 2019 Avg 33mph 85th decile 38mph

Highways will not consider these to be sufficiently high to recommend action.

There may be higher speeds recorded, but this is a police issue. I have tried extremely hard to get the police to attend. They said they would (I had to escalate to the DCCI and to the Commissioner). I am still waiting for feedback on any attendance.

I can arrange another speed survey – in a couple of places. Please tell me where you want them. But they will be required a few 10s of metres from any traffic calming or change of limit. If they show higher speeds, there may be a case for action.

In term of the statement that cars speed up for the chicane – the point of the chicane is to cause vehicles to wait. Some drivers may accelerate to get through, but that is a common problem with chicanes. But it would be worse without it. (I have informed the police on this). I don't know what else you would do about this.

We will not be able to have 30mph or 40mph along the current derestricted length – it doesn't meet policy on housing density – if you want more detail, check the guides here: [LHP Members' Guides \(essexhighways.org\)](https://www.essexhighways.org/members-guides)

BTW - Painting and cleaning of signs is not an LHP matter – and all you can do is report as a defect.

The Chelmsford LHP is overwhelmed with requests and there is a long queue (about 6 years). There are 14 members on the panel and jointly allocate the funding, so it is a negotiation. Actually, I do quite well and have been accused of my division being over represented. I have been a panel member for 4 years, but was active before that.

The Parish Council is willing to put in £19K, so have the advantage of being able to jump the queue! However, schemes are much more costly than you would expect because of design costs, utility searches, road permits, utility moves, traffic plans – there is a cost guide at the same LHP website. It says “Change of single speed limit which is uncontentious and where minimal infrastructure is required - £15K” School Lane would be more complicated because it

	has many side roads, and you need to deal with those side road and decide if they return to derestricted, or continue on 20mph. Cllr Steel made the offer of arranging for a new speed survey to be conducted.
22/96	To receive a report from City Councillors for items not on the agenda. Councillor Daden reported that proposed improvements to car parking on the hospital site had been discussed. An access road would cost £1.2 million, but would not provide the benefit that would be hoped for. It was understood that the money would be from a Sec.106 payment made by Bloor Homes. Cllr Blake stated that if the access road was not built, residents of Broomfield should be consulted regarding how the money should be otherwise spent.
22/97	Correspondence Noe received
22/98	Consultations None received
22/99	Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – Councillor Daden reported that the last meeting had been cancelled due to the Queen’s death. Woollards Charity – Cllr Faulds reported that at the September meeting a virtual ward had been set up and a donation of £2000 had been made. At the next meeting in November a report would be considered that stated that 46 families in Broomfield were in need of support. Schools and Shadow Council– Councillor Bowman provided the following report – School Report I have been invited to become a Trustee at Chelmsford Valley High School, and after a meeting with other Trustees at the school, I am pleased to say that I will be starting in the role very soon. I hope that this does not mean that I have a conflict of interests? Personally I believe that being a Trustee and acting as school liaison would help to cement our relationship with the school and the parish. I have not heard from Broomfield School since I sent my original email. I will try to arrange a meeting with the Head teacher when I return from holiday. Chelmsford Garden Community Shadow Council We have now formed a committee of six, and had our second meeting on the 13th October. Roy Perry has also been included in the committee. The setting up of a new parish council will be quite a challenge, and everything needs to be in place by 1st April when the new parish council will take over, which doesn’t give us a lot of time. Some funding will be provided by the City Council as there are a few overheads such as the setting up of a parish council website that need to be met. We will also be working closely with other stakeholders such as other parish councils, developers, management companies etc. We have all been given an area of responsibility, mine being the recruitment of the new Clerk. Any pointers or recommendations would be gladly received! Transport – Cllr Thomson reported that a revision of bus timetables was due to take effect at the end of the month. Local routes 70,370 and 42B were involved but she was unsure at this time what changes would take place. An update would be provided at the next meeting. Licensed Premises – Cllr Perry stated that the issue of the trees at the Angel Pub was still on-going and awaited a response from within the management of the chain operating bthe premises. Police – Councillor Scott. No report received.
22/101	To note financial reports for August 2022. To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for August 2022. To note cashbook, income and expenditure for August 2022.

	To note salary payments for August 2022. Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for August 2022 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £21,102.70 Proposed by Cllr Barnes and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Approved unanimously.
22/102	To note financial reports for September 2022. To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for September 2022. To note cashbook, income and expenditure for September 2022. To note salary payments for September 2022. Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for September 2022 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £96,638.19 Proposed by Cllr Barnes and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Approved unanimously.
22/103	Conclusion of external audit This was noted.
22/104	Broomfield Parish Neighbourhood Plan
22/104.1	Resolved The Council approves the attached draft Neighbourhood Plan for the purposes of carrying out public consultation in accordance with Reg.14 of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Faulds. All in agreement.
22/104.2	Resolved. The Council approves of any spelling, grammatical or other errors being corrected in agreement with the Council Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Spiller. All in agreement.
22/104.3	Resolved. The Council approves of a separate local needs assessment being commissioned from the Rural Community Council for Essex to be carried out during the consultation period on the draft Neighbourhood Plan, subject to arrangements determined by the Planning Committee. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Thomson. All in agreement.
22/105	Health and Wellbeing Plan This matter was deferred to the next meeting.
22/106	Warm Welcome Proposal Resolved. The Council approves of the grant of £2,300 to the Village Hall Charity for the provision of a Warm Welcome scheme, as set out in the document attached. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Steed. All in agreement.
22/107	Response to Local Plan consultation Resolved. The Council approves of the response drafted by the Planning Committee in response to the Local Plan consultation. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Faulds. All in agreement.
22/108	To receive an update from the Clerk on matters arising from previous meetings. The Clerk provided the following update – The one-year bond has now been opened with the Cambridge and Counties Bank with a Deposit of £85,000. A further request has been made for a DigiGo presentation at one of the coffee mornings. Members are asked to nominate any potholes in need of repair for notification to Cllr Steel. Having been sent details of the contact for the Special Constable Support Scheme, I have made a request for further information and now await a response. Members were reminded of the need to undertake Code of Conduct training. The email with training details will be re-circulated.

22/109	To note minutes from the following Committees:
22/109.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – Draft minutes from 24 th August. These were noted.
22/109.2	Environment Committee – Draft minutes from 10 th August. These were noted.
22/109.3	Property & Planning Committee – Draft minutes from 7 th September. These were noted.
22/109.4	Communications Committee – No recent meeting
22/109.5	School Lane Working Group – A further meeting is planned, date awaits confirmation.
22/110	Matters for the next meeting Community Speedwatch Consideration of the again establishing the hospital liaison meeting The meeting closed at 9.36 p.m.