



Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

22/53	Members attending Chairman: Cllr Bleet Other members: Cllr's Mercer, Thomson, Perry, Bowman, Faulds, Steed, Scott and Howell. Also present: Clerk, Mark Hembury, Village Hall Charity employee, Donna Hance and Nicola Goulter, newly appointed member of staff for the Parish Council. Resolved. Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Blake, Barnes and Daden. Proposed by Cllr Steed and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Unanimously approved. An apology was also received from Cllr Mike Steel, Essex County Councillor.
22/54	Declarations of interests None received.
22/55	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th June 2022. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Mercer and seconded by Cllr Steed. Unanimously agreed.
22/56	Public Question Time. None
22/57	To receive a report from our County Councillor for items not on agenda. The following written report was received: <u>East Anglia GREEN – from Norwich to Tilbury - UPDATE</u> ECC ECC have now produced a response as follows which strongly objects to the current proposed route: Press Release: Essex County Council statement on National Grid's East Anglia Green project Cllr Lesley Wagland OBE, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning, said: "Essex County Council intends to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposals being put forward in the non-statutory consultation in respect of National Grid's East Anglia Green project. "The County Council, along with residents, districts and parishes have only had a very short time to respond to the proposed scheme and have had very little engagement prior to May 2022 on the proposals. "We have clearly expressed our ambition to be net zero by 2050 and the production of power from windfarms is a critical part of this, however, we have serious concerns not only about the route, but also how carbon heavy the proposed scheme of overhead pylons is. "We are of the view that there has been insufficient consideration of alternative approaches which would allow for the required infrastructure but without the sheer scale of the damage to the environment, landscape and the difficulties of this project going ahead, all at the same time as multiple large-scale infrastructure projects which have the potential to cause major disruption across the East of England. "We believe that new offshore generated electricity should be transmitted offshore, which is why we need an offshore grid. This is firmly in the interests of business - both

	offshore windfarms themselves and wider interests e.g. our Freeports - and would help to futureproof the network. Such an alternative approach could avoid all the physical constraints of an above or below-ground solution, retain ease of access for ongoing maintenance and provide a more direct point of connection for any current or future off-shore wind farms. This is a much better option and one which would be more likely to receive support from ourselves and residents. “We are working with the leaders of the city, district and borough councils through forums such as the Essex Leader and Chief Execs forum to share our concerns so that we respond with one voice and align ourselves with our colleagues in Norfolk and Suffolk. We will also be asking to meet with National Grid to discuss our concerns directly.” Cllr Peter Schwier, Essex County Council’s Climate Czar, added: “We welcome plans for renewable wind farms off the East Anglian coast, however, we are completely opposed to the transmission of the power generated via the proposed 50m high voltage pylons. These would be in the sky for generations to come and have a long-term negative impact on our wonderful Essex countryside as well as the county generally. “This pylon infrastructure is neither wanted nor needed considering the viable option of undersea power cables. These cables could transport power to where it is needed, helping future proof energy supplies and boost energy security, without adversely impacting on residents, businesses and communities across Essex.” The Full response runs to 49 pages, and is very comprehensive! Furthermore ECC proposed a motion to Council 12th July which outlines these objections and calls upon: • <i>Both the Government and National Grid to refocus the East Anglia Green Proposals on an offshore solution and engage in discussions with Essex and its neighbouring County Councils to achieve this.</i> <i>And National Grid to:</i> • <i>Provide this Council with all the information asked for in our response of 16 June by 30 August 2022.</i> • <i>Make publicly available full, open and transparent information on all options, including offshore and undergrounding, to enable evaluation and comparisons to be made by Essex residents, businesses, Councils and other stakeholders. This information to be publicly available for a period of at least 6 months before any Development Control Order (DCO) application is made.</i> The motion was moved by Councillor Bentley, Leader of the Council, and seconded by Councillor Steel. The motion was passed unanimously City Council City Council have now produced a response following their Policy Board of 14th July (which I attended and supported). This strongly objects to the proposal . Recommendation: • Chelmsford City Council (CCC) strongly objects to the proposals, as the consultation is considered premature and all potential options have not been fully explored and assessed. Notwithstanding the objection in principle, CCC also has very serious concerns about the preferred route itself.
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- City Council:
- Supports the transition towards a low or zero carbon economy in support of climate change and sustainability, including renewable energy production, where these are appropriately located and can be suitably mitigated
- Requests evidence to demonstrate that the proposed new reinforcement is needed beyond improvements, rationalisations or extensions to the existing transmission network.
- Would like to see a focus on more locally generated sustainable power generation as well as a co-ordinated approach across the country to meet our energy needs. The proposals are essentially about transmitting electricity supply across East Anglia to meet national energy demand.
- Supports efforts to find an appropriate corridor subject to all possible options being fully appraised and explained.
- Considers that the consultation is inadequate since only one final option is being proposed with very limited information provided on other options not taken forward.
- Questions the suitability of overhead transmission lines long term compared with an offshore solution taking into account the anticipated impacts of climate change.
- Would have expected to see fully considered proposals for alternatives including: 1. a strategic offshore link; 2. an onshore route containing a mix of overhead and underground cables in areas of high sensitivity

The full response runs to 31 pages

Homes for Ukraine Scheme Update 01.06.22

Key figures:

- In the Essex County Council area there are now 994 registered sponsors (34 new sponsors). The number of requests involves 2,250 individual guests.
- 1051 guests have now arrived, or 47% of those expected.

Member Led Carriageway Pothole Repair Programme

Of the 36 allowed, I have received notification from 5 Parish Councils for 13 holes:

Great Waltham	3
Pleshey	3
Little Waltham	3
Writtle	4
Chignal	4
Broomfield	<u>1</u>
	18

These came in first, and so I have entered them.

Further received from PCs:

Gt Leighs	1
Broomfield	2
Roxwell	2

Writtle 1
Little Waltham $\frac{1}{7}$

2 more requested from Broomfield resident

I have yet to receive a response from Highwood and Good Easter PCs (because of timings of meetings). These can go into my October batch.

Your identified potholes should provide us with road names and as much as possible, precise locations. You can use maps or 'What3words' or house numbers etc to help us identify locations.

These have to be carriageway potholes, and pavement defects are not included

- If possible, include at least two good photographs of each defect. It would be most helpful if one photograph is a close-up of the defect, and the second one shows the position of the defect in the road, relative to adjacent properties and identifying landmarks. Please do not put yourself or others at risk when taking photographs.
- Please be as accurate as possible – include road and village/town name but also, where possible, details of house number(s) or business(es) that the defect is adjacent to.
- Please note any other useful information that you think might help us. For instance, if the road is narrow or parking is tight; and so on.
- Please note if the defect is outside a 'higher risk' area – for instance if there is a children's nursery, school, college, or care home adjacent. Local intelligence will help us plan to do the works safely.

The work will be done in 2 tranches, starting 11th July and 10th Oct, for my division

RideLondon 2023

Update from Highways Cabinet member Cllr Lee Scott:

I wanted to take this opportunity to personally make you aware that the decision to re-enter a 1 year partnership with London Marathon Events as host county for Ride London 2023 has been published this week on the forward plan (ref FP/456/07/22). This proposed decision is for ECC to be host county for the **1 day** mass participation event held on a Sunday in May 2023 and we have asked that changes are made to the route in line with feedback already received.

London Marathon events are currently undertaking a full review into the 2022 event with an operational review and full discussion with stakeholders at the end of the month. London Marathon Events have also released a public survey which is live at the moment and has been circulated to all Parish and Town councils (see link below), the closing date for this survey is 5pm 18th July so please share the below link with your communities to help ensure we have the widest possible reach.

Be assured that I have committed Ride London to complete a full review of the 2022 route and LME supported by Essex County Council officers are producing a full engagement plan to ensure all communities are engaged in this process before a 2023 route will be signed off.

Please see below the link to the public feedback questionnaire now live on the Ride London website;

<https://forms.office.com/r/XxKjiMCRVP>

	School Crossing Patrol I am pleased to say that I have managed to get a School Crossing Patrol sanctioned for School Lane, Broomfield. The position is a permanent, term time only, part time role for approximately 7.5 hours per week. The current rate of pay is £11.35 per hour. No experience is necessary and full training and uniform are provided. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact us at schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk or apply online using the link https://www.workingforessex.com/apply/school-crossing-patrol-officer-vacancies-across-essex-261 stating Broomfield as the position you are interested in. Our roles generally suit people with a positive and friendly attitude with good communication skills who are active, reliable, and able to attend work on time, consistently during the school term. I have posted the advert on Facebook and attach it so you can display as well. School Lane Traffic I attended the Broomfield School Lane traffic working group on 7th July. There was much talk about a 20mph limit on School lane – which will be difficult to deliver as the criteria may not be reached. However, I have been giving this some thought, and I have also had some discussions with Highways. I also said at the meeting, that we need to be clear on the problem we are trying to solve. Previous speed surveys show that vehicles travel at less than 20mph past the school at school entry/exit times. Having observed the situation at exit time, my own view is that there is a concern about the number of pupils all exiting at the same time (360 pupils), many parents parking near the school and the general business of the area at that time. However, I have had some discussions with Highways about 20mph, and a suggestion is that an LHP request is made which outlines the issues, and suggests an investigation into the speed limit which should look at all aspects such as a permanent 20mph, a variable 20mph past the school, 3PR, School Street, School Travel Plan, or any other suggestion to lower the risk in the area. Offer of funding from BPC (£20,000) will very much assist with moving this up the queue. On submitting an LHP request, the first action would be to survey the speeds past the school – and I can also ask that the speeds at the top end are surveyed.
22/58	To receive a report from City Councillors for items not on the agenda. None received
22/59	Correspondence None received.
22/60	Consultations None received.
22/61	To consider the co-option of a Councillor to the current vacancy The Clerk provided a summary of the Parish Council Co-option Policy, and following a recorded written vote, Ray Spiller was duly selected as a Parish Councillor.
22/62	Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – Awaits update on future structure Woollards Charity – No recent meeting Schools – Councillor Bowman reported that she had visited Claire Goodchild from CVH, who had expressed that she was keen to be involved with the Parish Council and had discussed several different initiatives including buddy plans for OAPs.

	Transport – Councillor Thomson. It was agreed that the expansion of the GigiGo scheme would be desirable, but as Broomfield had a relatively good local bus service, this might not take place as DigiGo was intended for more rural areas. The Clerk agreed to follow up the request for a local DigiGo presentation. Licensed Premises – Councillor Perry reported that The Kings Arms was now up for sale. Councillor Scott was appointed as the link Councillor for the Police.
22/63	To note financial reports for May 2022. To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for May 2022. To note cashbook, income and expenditure for May 2022. To note salary payments for May 2022. Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for May 2022 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £23,371.25. Proposed by Cllr Mercer and seconded by Cllr Perry. Approved unanimously.
22/64	To amend signatories to the Parish Council Investment Account with National Savings and Investments. Resolved. The Council approves the new approved signatories mandate to include Councillors Bleet, Mercer, Blake and Barnes. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Steed. Agreed unanimously.
22/65	To review the Council Policy on Communication and Transparency Resolved. The Council approves the Communication and Transparency Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Bowman. Agreed unanimously.
22/66	To consider supporting the Road Safety Week 2022 Campaign Resolved: The Council approves of supporting Road Safety Week 2022. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Perry. Agreed unanimously.
22/67	To receive an update on the School Lane issue Cllr Bleet reported that the School Crossing patrol request was being progressed and the possibility of a job share was being explored.
22/68	To consider a request for a grant to set up a Broomfield Support Fund There being no proposal for this motion, it was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting and for a more detailed report to be submitted.
22/69	To receive an update from the Clerk on matters arising from previous meetings. The Clerk provided the following update – The wild flower area on the David Smith field now has a number of information signs to assist in identifying the various species growing. Nicola Goulter has been appointed as the replacement for Wendy Martin and started in post on 18th July. Three pot holes had been nominated for repair. The basket swing had been removed from the playground pending a decision to re-position it. The Allotment Association had successfully bid for a grant to assist with water harvesting. Donna Hance had provided a report covering a proposed Music and Food Festival. A request for a grant of £1000 had been submitted. Resolved: The Council approves of a grant of £1000 for the planned festival. Proposed by Cllr Bleet and seconded by Cllr Perry. Unanimously approved.
22/70	To note minutes from the following Committees:

22/70.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – Noted at Council Meeting of 20 th April
22/70.2	Village Amenities Committee – Draft minutes from 13 th July. Noted.
22/70.3	Property & Planning Committee – Draft minutes from 6 th July. Noted.
22/70.4	Communications Committee – No recent meeting
22/70.5	School Lane Working Group – Noted.
22/71	Matters for the next meeting Re-consideration of the support group grant. The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.