



Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 16th August 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

23/77	Members attending. Chair: Cllr Bleet, Cllrs Thomson, Taylor, Howell, Bowman, Blake[#] and Odelana[#] Also present was the Clerk, Mark Hembury and County Councillor Mike Steel. Resolved. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barnes, Faulds, Perry, Travis and Scott. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Howell. All in agreement.
23/78	Declarations of interests None declared.
23/79	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19th July 2023. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting of 19th July are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Thomson. All in agreement.
23/80	Public Question Time. No members of the public present. [#]Cllr Odelana arrives.
23/81	To receive a report from the County Council for items not on agenda. The following report was given by Cllr Mike Steel – Highways: There is another “Member Led scheme” whereby each County Cllr gets to submit 36 holes on a no-quibble basis and they get fixed. This is done in 2 batches – July and October. I have already submitted 24 (against my 18 for the July allowance) of which 2 are in Broomfield – Broomhall Road and opposite School Lane. I get the chance to put another 18 in October. I do drive around the division quite a lot, but I don’t see them all – so location (what3words preferable) and photo to me please. Cllr Thomson asked about the speed of crossing lights for pedestrians – Cllr Steel would investigate and respond. Email details for John Simmons would be sent to the Clerk to investigate the matter of ‘SID’ signs within the parish. Volunteering: One of the very impressive things about my rural division is the extent to which people volunteer to support their community. On 3rd July, ECC launched their brand new ‘summer of volunteering’ campaign across Essex. This is aimed at encouraging residents across the County to volunteer this summer and help to reverse the decline in volunteering that we have seen, post pandemic. It is also a chance to highlight and celebrate some of the fantastic work that takes place across Essex. Please encourage residents to start volunteering. If anyone is looking for a new volunteering opportunity there are many varied volunteering opportunities now on offer at Essex County Council, which you can sign up to via our volunteering webpage: https://www.essex.gov.uk/jobs-and-apprenticeships/volunteering If you know a local volunteer group, which you feel deserves recognition, you can nominate the group for a Kings Award for Voluntary Service. The award is given to volunteer groups across the country to recognise the incredible work they do. Nominations can be made at: https://kavs.dcms.gov.uk/make-a-nomination/about-nominating/

Recycling centre vehicle bookings - user survey:

Essex County Council is trialling a booking process for its network of 21 Recycling Centres. In Autumn 2022 we carried out a user survey which helped to inform the design of the pilot expansion and extension earlier this year. In order to inform our review of the trial, we are currently inviting users to provide us with their feedback on the booking process and their experience on-site. Booking service users will be provided with a link to an optional short survey displayed in the booking confirmation email and on the booking confirmation screen. We will also send a direct email invitation to those residents who have given consent to be contacted. We recognise that this optional survey activity will not capture users who have not yet used the booking service or who use the telephone booking service. However, it is important to note that this survey does not replace public consultation – if it is proposed to retain a booking process in the long term, the council are committed to carrying out a public consultation that will be open to all residents and organisations to respond to.

Bus Services:

Essex County Council (ECC) is reviewing its support for 162 local bus services. We want your help to ensure that our future bus network is ready to meet new levels of passenger demand and is providing value for money. ECC is therefore conducting this public consultation regarding these local bus services. This consultation will commence on 13 July 2023 and close on 5 October 2023. The survey pertains to bus services which are paid for by Essex taxpayers. It does not cover services/journeys operated commercially by transport providers. This review covers all 12 districts in Essex with the view of assessing whether to continue providing the service and in what capacity; or whether to look for alternative solutions. To access the consultation please follow this link:

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/2023>

National Grid – Pylons- 2nd non-Mandatory consultation

Both Essex County Council and Chelmsford City Council will respond. I am also part of the North West and South West Parishes Group who are coordinating the responses of member Parish Councils. I am also in discussion with our MP, Kemi Badenoch. We are aware that the Electricity Systems Operator (ESO) announced that it would launch a 'Study' to assess objectively the options for Norwich to Tilbury and other proposed network reinforcements across East Anglia. I understand the Study will consider the costs and deliverability of the different options. This will include the offshore option. However, the recent NG non-statutory consultation does not take this into account. National Grid have stated that if the recommendations from the ESO Study should indicate alternative infrastructure options, they will review and engage with the impacted communities appropriately.

After this consultation and following the completion of the ESO Study there will be a further stage of consultation next year, where National Grid aim to show finalised proposals.

Chelmsford North East Bypass

The full CNEB scheme comprises a new 4.6km single carriageway (Sections 1A and 1B) and dualling of a 1.2km stretch of the A131 (Section 2). The single carriageway section is split into a southern section (Section 1A) and a northern section (Section 1B). These two sections will meet at an intermediate roundabout which will connect the bypass with a proposed new Northern Radial Distributor Road (NRDR). The NRDR will be a new east-west road which will be delivered by the developer consortium as part of the Chelmsford Garden Community and will link Essex Regiment Way in the west with CNEB to the east.

Due to cost increases ECC is renegotiating with Homes England and has received indicative confirmation that its proposals have been accepted. ECC will now be required to deliver Section 1A of CNEB by March 2026 under the proposed amended HIF GDA. Section 1A will see the first part of the bypass completed by March 2026, alongside the opening of BPS in

	2025; together these schemes will directly unlock 6,000 homes. The remainder of CNEB is expected to then be completed with the benefit of future developer contributions of which a significant amount has already been secured in principle This revised approach to delivering CNEB will potentially impact on the planning of allocated housing sites including the Chelmsford Garden Community. While under this approach ECC will not be required to deliver the later stages of the bypass, completion of the full bypass is recognised by ECC and Chelmsford City Council as the key infrastructure project to support continued sustainable growth north of Chelmsford. ECC will continue to work actively with Chelmsford City Council, Braintree District Council and developers to determine how and when the full scheme can be delivered as soon as practicable as well as reducing impacts on allocated housing sites Note that following concerted engagement by ECC Homes England have provided subject to contract confirmation that the CNEB scheme can be delivered in phases commencing with construction of Section 1A and that the timetable for delivering Section 1A is extended until 2026. Construction of the remainder will take place in the future if and when alternative funding has been secured. LHP and other Highway matters: School Crossing Patrol: School Crossing Patrol in place in School Lane which is working well. There is an LHP scheme, LHCE226001, to add “wig-wags” at school times. This has been approved for funding and should be implemented 23/24. 20mph Ref your agenda item 23/91 – 20mph schemes – I have previously stated that we are awaiting the Draft Road Hierarchy Review, which will be followed by the Speed Review. I do not have a date for when this might be issued. By all means contact Highways Cabinet member, Cllr Lee Scott, in terms of a meeting and/or a view on 20mph initiatives. However, I believe his response will be that there is no comment until the Reviews are published,. Church Green I am trying to arrange a meeting between SEPP< your deputy Clerk, and myself, to look at the parking issues in church Green
23/82	To receive a report from City Council for items not on the agenda. No report received.
23/83	Correspondence A request had been received to place a banner on Angel Green to advertise the Farleigh Hospice Garden Fete taking place in September. No objections were raised and the Clerk would respond to notify approval.
23/84	Consultations None received. #Cllr Blake arrived.
23/85	Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – Councillor Steel reported above – 23/81 Woolards Charity – Councillor Faulds. No update. Broomfield Hospital liaison – Councilor Blake. Email contact details would be sent to the Clerk to establish contact with the hospital.

	Football Sports Clubs – Events and Fundraising Manager. No update. Elderly Care Homes – Events and Fundraising Manager. No update. Transport – Councillor Thomson. Changes in timetables took place with effect from 23rd July. Further changes will take place on 3rd September. Some bus fares will face an increase. Schools – Councillor Bowman.No update Police – Councillor Scott. No update
23/86	To note financial reports for July 2023 To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for July 2023 To note cashbook income and expenditure for July 2023. To note salary payments for July 2023. Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for July 2023 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £4,528.95. proposed by CllrBlake and seconded by CllrBowman. All in agreement.
23/87	To approve a change of signatories for the CCLA account. Resolved: The Council approves of adding Councillors Jo Bowman and Angie Faulds and the removal of Ros Mercer as signatories to the CCLA account. Authorising signatories Cllrs Margaret Bleet and John Barnes. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Thomson. All in agreement.
23/88	To consider a change to the Full Council meeting dates. Resolved. The Council approves of removing the scheduled August Council and Committee meetings from the diary of meetings with effect from the August 2024 meeting. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Howell. Five in favour, one against.
23/89	To consider creating an Earmarked Reserve for anticipated spending on the Neighbourhood Plan. Following a discussion, it was agreed that this matter would be deferred until the September Council meeting.
23/90	To receive an update on Planning related matters including the local pylons project consultation from Councillor Blake. A meeting of the Planning Committee would take place the following evening, Thursday 17th August,for a detailed consideration of the response to be sent to National Grid.Cllr Blake reminded all members that they were welcome to attend and participate. #Cllr Blake leaves.
23/91	To approve of a communication being sent to Essex County Council highlighting evidence of 20 mph schemes approved in other Local Authorities nationally and further, to request a meeting with Councillor Scott, cabinet member for Highways. Resolved. The Council approves of contacting Essex County Council with evidence of 20 mph schemes nationally and to request a meeting with Councillor Scott. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Howell. All in agreement.
23/92	To receive an update from the Clerk on matters arising from previous meetings. The Clerk reported that the Play in the Park event held on the Thursday 10th August was a great success, with a large number of parents and children attending. A basket ball hoop will be fitted shortly to the playground area. The potholes in the lane leading in from Main REoad have now been repaired and pedestrian friendly signage has been laid on thye surface. A replacement flag for the playground ship will be arriving shortly. We have been notified that the new village sign will be delivered shortly.

23/93	To note minutes from the following Committees:
23/93.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – draft minutes from 26 th July. These were noted..
23/93.2	Environment Committee – draft minutes from 9 th August not yet available.
23/93.3	Property & Planning Committee – draft minutes from 5 th July. These were noted.
23/93.4	Communications Committee – No recent meeting
23/93.5	School Lane Working Group – No recent meeting.
23/94	Matters for the next meeting Cllr Odelana pointed out that the Village Gateway sign at the southern entrance to the parish is obscured by vegetation. The Clerk would report this and look at options to deal with the vegetation.