



Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council held in St. Mary's Church Hall on Wednesday 17th January 202 at 7.30 p.m.

23/180	Members attending. Chair: Cllr Bleet, Cllrs Odelana, Thomson, Bowman, Perera-Morris, Faulds, Boreham, Barnes, Scott, Taylor, Howell and Blake. Also present, Clerk, Mark Hembury Resolved. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Travis. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Blake. All in agreement. The Council wished to record their gratitude for being able to use the Church Hall for their meeting on this occasion.
23/181	Declarations of interests None received.
23/182	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20th Decemer 2023. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting of 20th December are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Barnes. One abstension, all others in agreement.
23/183	Public Question Time. No members of the public were present.
23/184	To receive a report from the County Council for items not on agenda. The following report was submitted by Cllr Mike Steel – LHP As far as I know it is still the intention to install flashing lights in school lane, active at school start/stop times – before end of the FY. Unfortunately, there have been no applications for the post, following the resignation of the last one. Next year's budget LHP has not yet been allocated. The lamppost SID/VAS scheme is still in the pilot stage. I am keeping abreast of it and will inform all my PCs when it goes live. I have just chased it again and got this response: <i>"Unfortunately, not until the units for the pilot scheme are displayed on site and they have been on site for some time, we not able to offer this option. As soon as I possibly can I will inform all those who have made enquiries with me about the use of light columns for VAS/SID's to be placed on and all the paperwork and web page will be changed accordingly."</i> The delay is because the PC on the pilot scheme is being slow to purchase the SID The lamppost scheme will go live on this website when ready Apply to install a VAS or SID illuminated sign (essexhighways.org) Until then, PCs can still choose to request and fund a SID post via this website. Bloor Homes Alternative Transport Proposal I have been in touch with both City Council and County Council Planning depts. Currently, City Council are waiting for Bloor to submit the S106 proposal. Planning consent is not granted until the S106 is signed so Bloor cannot commence their development until the S106 is signed, so it is in their interest to progress. Bloor will offer a draft S106 which CCC and ECC will comment on, making amendments where required – i.e., if you want to influence the proposal, you need to be talking to Bloor!.

Any proposal within the S106 agreement needs to meet the CIL tests – i.e., does the proposal address the issues caused by the development. The wording will likely mention a £1.35million contribution being required towards the implementation of an Alternative Transport Strategy, which includes bus services between Chelmer Valley P&R and the Hospital and alternative transport travel schemes in the vicinity of Broomfield Hospital. This wording would be sufficiently detailed to meet the CIL tests but open enough to have flexibility on the spend.

Outcome of subsidised Bus Services Consultation

Supported local bus routes are commissioned where commercial bus routes do not provide a service and where the conditions of the Local Bus Service Priority Policy are met. This includes a £5 cost per passenger journey (CPPJ) measure which is used to assess value for money for taxpayers.

Cabinet considered a report in summer 2023 which agreed that there should be consultation on the future of currently subsidised routes, dividing them into three categories: ‘successful’, ‘at risk’ and ‘low use’. The consultation ran from July to October 2023.

The majority of the bus network in Essex is operated on a commercial basis, but historically 15% of the network has been subsidised by the County Council where bus operators are unable or unwilling to provide them commercially. The supported services are known as the ‘supported local bus network’.

Recommendations that affect Bromfield and Writtle division:

Agree to procure the services listed at Appendix D using the ECC Dynamic Purchasing System for a period of two years with the option of two one year extensions.

10 Temple Grove to Pleshey Monday to Friday	To procure the service for 2 years with extension opportunities for 1 year plus 1 year with the fixed timetable retained and the flexible element removed.
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Agree to enter into one year contracts with the current provider for those contracts for the services listed at appendix E.

17/18 Great Dunmow to Chelmsford Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday	That the service be procured on the current basis until 2026 with extension opportunities for a further 1 year plus 1 year.
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Agree DigiGo for a further two years and note that ECC may extend this arrangement for two further one year periods.

Digigo

DigiGo is extending the service beyond the pilot for an extra 2 years! DigiGo is a fully electric shared public transport service which offers on-demand or pre-bookable travel in parts of Essex. There is no fixed route or timetable, which puts you in control of your journey. DigiGo is booked through the [TravelEssex](https://www.travel-essex.co.uk) journey planning app. Digigo covers much of my Broomfield and Writtle Division and extends into the northern part of Writtle. DigiGo operates 7 days a week, from 7am until 10pm. Fares are capped at £2 per journey, or concessionary passes apply. www.digigo.uk

National Grid (NGET) – Pylons

ESO (separate to National Grid Electricity Transmission) have begun their study - which will analyse onshore and offshore options. The review, which will be part of the ongoing Norwich to Tilbury pylon

	proposals, will take around 3 months and more information on its scope can be found here: http://www.nationalgrideso.com/.../offs.../east-anglia-study Reducing speed limits on residential roads – motion to full ECC Council on 12th December - to implement a Council-wide 20mph speed limit on residential roads as soon as is practically possible. Having been put to the meeting the motion was lost. I have since spoken to Safer Essex Road Partnership (SERP) Chair. They are still preparing the Road Hierarchy Review, and Speed Strategy. I know that they favour 20mph in appropriate locations – e.g., past schools (possibly variable/non-mandatory), or where road layout encourages lower speeds.
23/185	To receive a report from City Council for items not on the agenda. See agenda item 23/184
23/186	Correspondence None.
23/187	Consultations Essex County Council proposals on new divisions for Essex. This item was noted.
23/188	Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – see agenda item 23/184 Woollards Charity – Councillor Faulds reported that she had no update. Broomfield Hospital liaison – Councilor Blake reported that he had attended a Patient Participation Group meeting, along with County Councillor Mike Steel and a number of other representatives from various groups. The Integrated Care Board are not likely to do anything regarding new surgeries unless actually presented with plans. A further meeting is awaited with Dan Doherty. Football Sports Clubs – Events and Fundraising Manager. Donna Hance continues her work with both the football club and the care homes. Elderly Care Homes – Events and Fundraising Manager – see report immediately above. Transport – Councillor Thomson reported that recent changes to the timetables appear to have been well publicised. No update on when the next changes will take place. Schools – Councillor Bowman. No update. Police – Councillor Scott. Awaiting a response from Spencer regarding funding for girls activities. I have also asked for a briefing on incidents that have occurred locally.
23/189	To note financial reports for Decemer 2023 To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for December 2023 To note cashbook, income and expenditure for December 2023. To note salary payments for December 2023. Resolved. The Council approves the financial records for December 2023 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £25,256.41. Proposed by Cllr Barnes and seconded by Cllr Faulds. All in agreement.
23/190	To approve the appointment of Councillors Sharon Boreham, Shirley Perera-Morris and Carol Taylor to the Environment Committee. Resolved: The Council approves of the appointment of Councillors Sharon Boreham, Carol Taylor and Shirley Perera-Morris as members of the Environment Committee. Proposed by Cllr.Bowman and seconded by Cllr.Scott. All in agreement.

23/191	The Parish Council is asked to further consider developing a proposal to submit to Essex County Council regarding a plan to mitigate traffic concerns as an alternative to the Hospital link road. It was agreed that Cllr. John Blake would prepare a response to be sent to Kirsty Dougal. Planning Committee members and other Councillors would form a Working Group to put together proposals for traffic mitigation schemes. The first meeting would be at 6pm before the next Planning Meeting.
23/192	The following planning application has been received for consultation: a) 24/05009/TPO – Broomfield Hospital Approach - Description of works: T30 (T22 on map) Fraxinus (Ash) - Fell to near ground level. The Council agreed that they would make 'No objection' to this application.
23/193	There is currently one Speed Identification Sign (SID) located on Main Road at the southern entrance to the parish. The Council is asked to consider the purchase of an additional sign, to be placed on the existing pole at the northern end of Main Road. Quotes have been obtained from several potential suppliers. Resolved: The Council approves of the purchase of a SID device from Swarco at a cost of £3,825, expenditure to be allocated to the Highways Earmarked Reserve. Proposed by Cllr. Howell and seconded by Cllr. Odelana. All in agreement.
23/194	There is currently a set order of meetings each month for the Full Council, Planning, Environment and Finance Committee meetings. The Council is asked to consider if changing the order in which meetings occur would be advantageous. Before any change to the order of meetings could be considered, the Clerk would have to check the availability of the hall for hire for the relevant dates throughout the year.
23/195	It is proposed to include an item on Finance at a meeting later in the year, to provide an explanation for Councillors who may not be familiar with all aspects of Council Finance and to ensure that Councillors are confident in understanding the monthly financial information presented to them. Members are asked for their suggestions as to what any future agenda item should include. It was agreed that a presentation would be planned for approx. a month's time.
23/196	To receive an update from the Clerk on matters arising from previous meetings. The Clerk was able to report that Playground repairs had been completed – the flag had been replaced on the ship and the scramble net and climbing rope had been replaced. The Clerk was able to report that agreement had been reached with the Chelmer Housing Partnership to remove a fence panel at the end of the lane leading onto the car park and finally, that having contacted the Bridgemarsh Residential Home, there are no plans for its closure.
23/197	To note minutes from the following Committees:
23/197.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – draft minutes of December 20th These were noted.
23/197.2	Environment Committee – no meeting held in January
23/197.3	Property & Planning Committee – no meeting held in January.
23/197.4	Communications Committee – No recent meeting

23/197.5	School Lane Working Group – Chairman to provide update. Cllr Bleet reported that a Speedwatch meeting has been arranged for 27 th January and that a meeting of the School Lane Group would be taking place on Monday 29th January.
23/197.6	Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – no recent meeting.
23/198	Matters for the next meeting Review of changes The meeting concluded at 9.05 p.m.