



Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council held in Broomfield Village Hall on Wednesday 8th May 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

24/1	Election of Chairman. There was one nomination for the position of Chairman, Councillor Margaret Bleet. Proposed by Cllr. Bowman and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in agreement.
24/2	To receive Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office The Council duly received the Declaration of Office made by Councillor Bleet which was signed by Cllr. Bleet and countersigned by the Clerk.
24/3	Election of Vice-Chairman There was one nomination for the position of Vice Chairman of the Council, Councillor Jo Bowman. Proposed by Cllr. Faulds and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in agreement.
24/4	Members attending. Chair: Cllr Bleet, Cllrs Thomson, Bowman, Perera-Morris, Scott, Howell, Blake#, Faulds and Odelana. Also present, Clerk, Mark Hembury and Events and Funding Manager Donna Hance. Resolved. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barnes, Taylor and Travis. Proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Odelana. All in agreement. Other absence: Cllr Boreham. One member of the public was in attendance, Mr Malcolm Taylor.
24/5	Declarations of interests None received.
24/6	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th April 2024. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting of 10th April 2024 are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr Bowman. All in agreement.
24/22	The Chairman of the meeting decided that agenda item 22 would be dealt with at this time - To consider a grant application request from Broomfield Scouts. Malcolm Taylor was invited to outline the reasons why the grant application had been submitted. Following his explanation, it was Resolved. The grant application for £1000 was proposed by Cllr. Faulds and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in agreement.
24/7	Public Question Time. No members of the public were present at this time.
24/8	To receive a report from the County Council for items not on the agenda. The following written report was presented by Councillor Steel – National Grid Norwich to Tilbury – Statutory Consultation: I am tabling a motion at the 14th May County Council meeting, to oppose the current NGET proposal - see full text below. It would be helpful if members of the public or Parish council attended and spoke during the public open session – see website https://www.essex.gov.uk/running-council/get-involved/council-meetings on how to speak at County Council meetings. Chelmsford City Council will be reviewing their response at the Policy Board 11th June. I have spoken to both Spatial Planning and Heritage Officer to understand the City Council response. Again, members of the public can attend and give their views. ECC Motion - National Grid's Proposed Norwich to Tilbury Project

Moved by Cllr Mike Steel and seconded by Cllr Lesley Wagland

'National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) have launched their third and statutory consultation, running until 18th June, following two non-statutory consultations in 2022 and 2023. ECC commented on the previous 2 consultations with a view that their strong preference was for an off-shore grid thus avoiding the harm to the local economy, environment and the health and wellbeing of their communities caused by 180km of 50m steel latticed pylons.

Following the previous consultations, little has changed in the latest proposal in terms of the route of pylons through Essex (except some minor shifting) and the addition of a new 400 kV East Anglia Connection Node ("EACN") substation, on the Tendring Peninsula.

This Council expresses its deep concern that the proposal by NGET remains unchanged given the opposition and that the latest proposals by NGET:

- Dismisses the Electricity System Operator (ESO) 2024 East Anglia Network Study that considers 9 alternative options and timescales, including off-shore and HVDC underground alternatives. All of these options are Norwich to Tilbury, and did not include an off-shore grid
- Dismisses the Hiorns Smart Energy Networks review published Nov 23, commissioned jointly by Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk County Council and challenged the delivery date of 2030, and suggested that the need for additional transmission capacity would be closer to 2035. Therefore, it would allow consideration of more acceptable options. All three county councils expressed their concerns that the currently proposed option will harm the local economy, environment and the health and wellbeing of their communities
- Dismisses the Offshore Coordination Support Scheme (OCSS) and reduces the consideration to just Norwich to Tilbury power transport, assuming that the power from the wind farms is already transported to Norwich, when the reality is that it isn't, but such contracts may be in place.

This Council therefore calls upon:

- NGET to reconsider their proposal of an exclusive Overhead Line (OHL) solution for Essex as presented in the statutory consultation, on the basis of the devastating effect of 50m of steel lattice pylons on residents, businesses, communities and the local environment, and that they further consider the alternative options from the ESO study and the case for delay from the Hiorns report.
- ESO and Govt widen the ESO Options report and not restrict the starting point for all options as Norwich, which has the pre-emptive effect of making the OHL solution the most economical, and restricts consideration of a strategic off-shore grid.
- ESO and Govt ensure that the OCSS is brought into consideration along with the extended timetable of the Hiorns report, which would then enable lower impact solutions for the residents, businesses, communities and local environment of Essex'

Essex Highways wraps up winter service after wettest recorded winter in 130 years

Essex Highways have wrapped up this season's winter service following the wettest recorded winter in 130 years. High levels of rainfall brought significant challenges, with frozen conditions and icy roads meaning additional work for crews. Working closely with local, city, parish, and town councils to overcome the winter conditions, including two major storms, this winter Essex Highways crews have:

- Carried out gritting runs across Essex over 80 times, spreading salt to melt away ice and stop it from forming into hazards
- used over 10,000 tonnes of salt to keep roads ice-free and safe following wet conditions
- gritted approximately 40% of the total road network in Essex, over 2,000 miles
- deployed 55 gritting lorries, including 10 new ones, along with two mini gritters
- covered each of the 51 gritter routes across Essex, ensuring critical routes remained safe and accessible for all highway users

The county's gritters will return for the 2024/25 winter season later this year. You can even track the gritters via the Essex Highways website!

Update on member Led Defects

As previously reported, I get to direct the extra defect teams for 6 weeks throughout the year. Below is a progress report on the defects I entered for the it round.

I need a photo and a Track-It ref number, if you want me to add to future work.

<https://www.essexhighways.org/track-it>

	Carriageway Defects			
1	Writtle – junction of Lodge Road and St John's Road	2910693		In Planning
2	Writtle outside funeral directors, opposite Rose and Crown	2910694		Completed
3	Writtle St Johns Road	2910695		
4	Writtle - Ongar Road (119) between Longmeads Close and Redwood Drive	2910699		Rejected - already going to be done under job no 2363638 on the 24/04/24.
5	Writtle – outside fish and chips shop – drain surround	2910701		
6	Great Waltham Great Waltham Junction Bury Lane/Mashbury Road/Barrack Lane	2910705		Completed
7	Main Road, Broomfield - drain and island	2910708	2910709	Both completed
8	Highwood The Street	2910713		
9	Roxwell Vicarage Road and The Street	2910714		:Rejected - works are to be completed on 19/04/2024 under job no 2357502
10	Howe Street Mill Cottage, which is next door to Mill House	2910716		Completed
11	Little Waltham On Cranham Road Opposite Domsey Lane turning	2910718		Completed
12	Great Waltham road to Brook Mead	2911371		Completed
13	Pleshey Road The entire length of Pleshey Road, from the junction near Dropshots to Walthambury Farm,	2911556		
	Pavements			
1	Broomfield Berwick Avenue in front of drive of 14 Berwick Avenue CM1 4AS	2910719		Completed
2	Great Waltham South Street	2910720		Completed
3	Great Waltham Chelmsford Road – on West side	2910721		Completed
4	Broomfield Erick Avenue, Chelmsford	2910723		
5	Broomfield Erick Avenue, Chelmsford	2910724	2910725	

Broomfield and Writtle LHP schemes agreed for funding in 24/25

- LCHE226001 – School Lane, Broomfield – SCP –addition of wig wags.
- LCHE212007 – Chignal Smealey – implementation of gateways and 40mph marking
- LCHE212015 – LW – 20mph past school + wig wags

	Dog Field I have submitted an enquiry to CCC Corporate Property Services on the request you raised with me at the last meeting. I will let you know what response I get.
24/9	To receive a report from City Council for items not on the agenda. See agenda item 24/8
24/10	Correspondence None received.
24/11	Consultations None received.
24/12	To review representation on external bodies and arrangements for reporting back. Councillors previously holding responsibility shown below. The current reporting arrangements were agreed and would continue. #Councillor Blake arrives. Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – see agenda item 24/8 Woollards Charity – Cllr Faulds reported that all Charity documents are now held in the Village Hall office, arrangements will be considered to transfer the documents to Counry Records storage. The AGM takes place nect Monday. Broomfield Hospital liaison – No further update. Football Sports Clubs – Donna Hance stated that discussions were ongoing with the Football Club regarding their use of the Village Hall car park. Elderly Care Homes – Donna Hance reported that the Madelayne Court would be holding the Summer Fayre in July, which we would be supporting. There is a new care home at the Hospital, which Donna would be contacting. Bridgemarsh has had a change of staff and clients, The clients often have more needs so can't always attend the village hall. Donna has been working with the ambulance service and they will have representatives at our summer fayre. A request has been made with regards establishing a community garden for the ambulance call handlers. Transport – Councillor Thomson reported that there will be minor changes on the X10 route towards Basildon. Changes to the current timetable will come in from 2nd June – some of the X30 buses won't go up the length of Broomfield Road but turn off towards Essex Regiment Way, precise details can't be found yet due to issues with the links on the website.

	Schools – Councillor Bowman. Will be making contact with the new head teacher at Chelmer Valley High School. Police – Councillor Scott. A meeting is planned for next Monday. An update is needed on the project to increase the provision for girls on the village hall site. North West Parishes Group – Councillor Blake reported that the Group are now more constructive in their approach and share much information. The Local Plan consultation has started, also the Reg.16 consultation on the Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan.
24/13	To note financial reports for April 2024 To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for April 2024 To note cashbook, income and expenditure for April 2024. To note salary payments for April 2024. Resolved. The Council approves the financial records for April 2024 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £117,045.85. Proposed by Cllr Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr Bowman. All in agreement.
24/14	To agree the terms of reference for Council and Committees. Resolved. The council approves the amended terms of reference document common to all committees as published. Proposed by Cllr. Blake and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in agreement.
24/15	To appoint members to each Committee and elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for each Committee. Finance and Personnel Committee – Councillors Barnes, Bleet, Bowman, Faulds and Blake, with the Chairman being Cllr. Barnes and Vice Chairman Cllr.Bowman. Proposed by Cllr.Scott and seconded by Cllr. Perera-Morris. All in agreement. Planning Committee – This would consist of six members, Councillors Blake, Thomson, Bowman, Barnes, Scott and Odelana with the Chairman Cllr.Blake and Vice Chairman Cllr. Thomson. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Bowman. All in agreement. Environment Committee – Councillors Faulds, Scott, Howell, Boreham, Perera-Morris and Taylor. Chairman being Cllr. Faulds. Proposed by Cllr. Blake and seconded by Cllr. Thomson. All in agreement. Communications Committee – Councillors Bleet, Blake, Barnes, Scott and Howell. Chairman Cllr.Bleet. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Bowman. All in agreement.
24/16	To agree standing orders for the year 2024 – 2025 Resolved. The Council approves the standing orders as published. Proposed by Cllr. Scott and seconded by Cllr. Faulds. All in agreement.
24/17	To agree financial regulations for the year 2024 – 2025 Resolved. The Council approves financial regulations as published. Proposed by Cllr.Bowman and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/18	Appointment of Clerk to administer dispensations in 2024 - 2025 Resolved. The Clerk as Proper Officer to the Council will be authorised, where in his view it is appropriate, to administer dispensations for members with disclosable pecuniary interests that would otherwise leave the council inquorate. Proposed by Cllr. Bowman and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/19	To review the inventory of land and other assets.

	Resolved. The Council approves the inventory of land and other assets as published. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Howell. All in agreement.
24/20	To note the internal auditors report for the financial year 2023/24 This report was noted. With regards to the recommendation made to consider increasing the level of fidelity cover, the Council believes that due to the nature of the control measures that exist for making financial transactions from the various bank accounts held by the Council, the increase in fidelity cover is not necessary.
24/21	To confirm insurance cover for the period 1st June 2024 – 31st May 2025. Resolved. The Council approves the quote for insurance as provided by Hiscox Insurance Company Limited for £4,926.41 Proposed by Cllr. Bowman and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/23	To consider a grant application request from Broomfield Village Hall Charity. Donna Hance gave a presentation to explain the need for the cooker replacement and the increase in costs due to the electrical work and new extractor that would be needed. Following this it was Resolved. The Council approves the grant of up to £10,000 for the replacement of the cooker and associated work required to the Village Hall Charity. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Bowman. All in agreement.
24/24	To review the Council list of subscriptions to other bodies. This was noted. No changes required.
24/25	To review the Council complaints policy. Resolved. The Council approves the Complaints Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Faulds and seconded by Cllr. Perera-Morris. All in agreement.
24/26	To review the Council Freedom of Information Policy as published. Resolved. The council approves the Freedom of Information Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Blake and seconded by Cllr. Bowman. All in agreement.
24/27	To review the Council Social Media Policy Resolved. The Council approves the Social Media Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Scott and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/28	To review the Council Equal opportunity Policy. Resolved. The Council approves the Equal Opportunities Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/29	To review the Council GDPR Policy. Resolved. The Council approves the GDPR Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Perera-Morris and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in agreement.
24/30	To review the Council Recruitment Policy. Resolved. The Council approves the Recruitment Policy as published. Proposed by Cllr. Bowman and seconded by Cllr. Blake. All in agreement.
24/31	To note the meeting dates for the coming year. These were noted.
24/32	To note the AGAR part 3 report from the external auditor for 2022/2023. This was noted.
24/33	To authorise additional signatories for the Parish Council current account. Following a discussion and explanation by the Clerk of the need to share responsibilities for authorising payments from the Council bank account, no additional signatories would be added at this time.

24/34	To approve the appointment of Steve Amann, a Highways Engineer, to the School Lane and Traffic and Transport Working Groups. Resolved. The Council approves the appointment of Steve Amann to the School Lane and Traffic and Transport Working Groups. Proposed by Cllr.Blake and seconded by Cllr. Perera-Morris. All in agreement.
24/35	Clerk's Update. The Clerk reported that the Electric Vehicle charging points should be installed on Tuesday next. A payment of £900 is due as a result of the Paglesham House development.
24/36	To note minutes from the following Committees:
24/36.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – draft notes from 27 th March. These were previously noted.
24/36.2	Environment Committee – draft minutes from 17 th April. These were noted.
24/36.3	Property & Planning Committee – draft minutes from 1st May. These were noted.
24/36.4	Communications Committee – no recent meeting
24/36.5	School Lane Working Group – Cllr. Bleet thanked Cllr. Odelana for the completion of a comprehensive grid that contains all information relevant to the Working Group. This is available on Sharepoint.
24/36.6	Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – no recent meeting.
24/37	Matters for the next meeting Planning and Infrastructure Plan schedule list for review Local Plan review response National Grid consultation response The meeting concluded at 9.25 p.m.