



Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council held in Broomfield Village Hall on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

25/124	Members attending. Chair: Cllr Bleet, Cllrs Perera-Morris, Garfield, Faulds, Boreham, Odelana, Thomson, Taylor and Travis. Also present, Mark Hembury – Clerk and Village Hall Events Manager plus individual on work placement. Also present Cllr Mike Steel, City and County Councillor. Resolved. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Howell, Scott and Barnes. Proposed by Cllr Bleet, seconded by Cllr. Faulds. All in agreement.
25/125	Declarations of interests None received.
25/126	To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th September 2025. Resolved. The minutes of the Full Council meeting are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr. Faulds and seconded by Cllr. Taylor. All in agreement.
25/127	Public Question Time. No members of the public present.
25/128	To receive a report from the County Council for items not on agenda. Cllr. Steel presented the following report – Beaulieu Park station opens 26th October Network Rail has built the new station for Chelmsford on behalf of Essex County Council in partnership with Chelmsford City Council. This is the first new railway station to be built on the Great Eastern Main Line in over 100 years. The Councils successfully secured £218m of funding from the Government's Housing and Infrastructure (HIF) fund together with £34m contributions from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership and the developers of Beaulieu, Countryside and L&Q. It has 2 car parks totalling around 700 spaces, but it is located to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport, with an on-site bus terminal and bike racks. Highways Issues It's that time of year when our service teams have to grit roads if necessary. There are 5,100 miles of roads in Essex, and 40% of them are gritted. You can find out more about the service www.essexhighways.org/winter-travel and even track the gritting trucks. It's also that time of year when restrictions on cutting hedges/trees are lifted. Most of these are on privately owned land, and housing associations, farmers and home owners are responsible for the maintenance and have a duty of care to cut back if overhanging the highway. I do keep an eye on local roadworks and act if there is likely to be an issue, e.g., I got recent road closures on Hospital Approach amended because of the chaos it created. Note the closure of Wheelers Hill & Cranham Road due to commence 20th October for 102 days. If you are wondering about the reason, it is because the consultation for the Longfield Solar Farm received many comments about the roads' suitability for bringing in materials, so a condition was added to widen them.

	Kings Arms and Church Green parking Several residents have contacted me to complain about parking on the DYLS, parking on the green spaces, in addition to previous complaints about noise nuisance generated by the Kings Arms. As one of the City Cllrs, I have pushed for more enforcement on the parking restrictions, but that is causing people to avoid them by parking on the greens. We can't ticket cars on the greens, as they belong to the PC – CCC do have an open space policy on their own greens and do put up bollards on their own greens, but this green belongs to the PC. I have asked SEPP to repaint the DYLS and have sent several reminders. don't generate enough business, so they advertise extra entertainment and become a destination pub. Pylons Despite the negative feedback from 4 consultation exercises, NGET push on to blight our rural Chelmsford with ugly pylons. And the Labour Govt are making sure that the planning pathway is smooth and limits the ability to object. NGET submitted an application for a DCO 29th August 2025. The Planning Inspectorate has now accepted this for examination. The application documents are available to view on the Planning Inspectorate's website. This includes a Consultation Report providing responses to the feedback submitted during the 2024 statutory consultation and the targeted consultations earlier this year. There will be an opportunity to register as an interested party with the Planning Inspectorate. Registering means you will be able to have your say on the application and take part during the examination. I continue to use all democratic avenues to oppose the pylons that will go through 9 of my 11 parishes! I am also working with the Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk Pylons group to formulate and lobby for response from ECC, City Council, parish councils, our combined parish council group and MPs along the route. Local Govt Reorganisation – LGR - Update ECC/12 DCs/Southend Unitary/Thurrock Unitary have made a single application but with 4 options – two 4 Unitaries, a 5 Unitary option and a 3 Unitary option. The favoured option from ECC is the 3 Unitary model of north, mid and south Essex. The Govt will then decide on whether to consult on these 4 options (or fewer) which will run from Nov 25 to Jan 26 Music Licences Because of the traffic chaos around the Gt Leighs Racecourse, on the weekend of 4th July, Essex Police requested a reduction in attendance licence from 30,000 to 5,000. I attended and spoke at the licence review, having met with the racetrack event organisers before the review meeting and arranged a call with the police requesting the review, and speaking to City Council Licencing Officer and Public Nuisance Officer. The decision was to reduce the licence for "music led events" to 10,000 but events of over 5,000 will trigger the requirement for an event management plan and additional
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	conditions. If the racetrack can demonstrate events over the next 2 years, do not result in the same problems, they may apply for an uplift. LW, GW and CGR residents will be aware that Wheelers Hill have applied for an increase of licence from 3,000 to 5,000. I know that when this first started operating, there traffic plus public nuisance issues, but improvements were made. The application represents a significant increase and I have made comments to the Licencing dept and so will be able to speak at the meeting.
25/129	To receive a report from City Council for items not on the agenda. See item 25/128 above.
25/130	Correspondence Cllr. Bleet raised an issue brought to her regarding Nash Drive and a request for a 'school street'. Cllr. Bleet stated she would be writing to the resident to ask for a meeting.
25/131	Consultations None.
25/132	Reports from Councillors on outside bodies Local Highways Panel – Councillor Steel (County and City Councillor) see 25/128. Woollards Charity – Councillor Faulds reported they now have access to the bank account. Broomfield Hospital liaison – Vacant Football Sports Clubs – Events and Fundraising Manager. The Events Manager reorted that everything is running smoothly, no issues. Elderly Care Homes – Events and Fundraising Manager. No new update. Transport – Councillor Thomson reported that the bus stop at Skerry Rise has been cleaned. There are no changes in the timetable to concern us. The Greater Anglia rail franchise is due to be taken back into government ownership. Schools – Vacant Police – Councillor Scott. No report North West Parishes – Cllr. Bleet reported that the newly formed Chelmsford Association of Local Councils would be meeting on the 15th at Great Baddow – 7pm.
25/133	To note financial reports for September 2025 To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for September 2025 To note cashbook, income and expenditure for September 2025. To note salary payments for September 2025. Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for September 2025 noting the current account reconciliation figure of £119,354.83. Propoosed by Cllr. Garfield and seconded by Cllr. Faulds. All in agreement.
25/134	To consider how to implement and monitor the various projects proposed within the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that the previous spreadsheet created by Cllr. Blake, would be sent by Cllr.Bleet to Cllr. Travis for updating. It should be noted that due to Essex Highways and the Local Highways Panel having no capacity for any new requests, any of the transport related issues within the Neighbourhood Plan would not take place at present.
25/135	In order to provide initial support to the setting up of a Community Land Trust to provide housing at Saxon Way in line with the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan, the following motion is for consideration.

	Resolved. The Council will support the setting up of a Community Land Trust for the land at Saxon Way as described in the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan. We will pay for accommodation at the Village Hall for meetings for the first year, allow the CLT to apply for small grants for start up costs and support by publicising the CLT to encourage recruitment, via the Broomfield Times and our email distribution. The sum of £1000 will be included within the budget for the year 2026-7 for this purpose. Proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Faulds. All in agreement.
25/136	To receive an update on the issues of parking and noise associated with the Kings Arms Public House. Cllr. Bleet reported that a meeting of local residents would be arranged to discuss the issue. The Environment Committee is currently looking at the issues surrounding parking.
25/137	To receive an update on approaches made to Essex County Council and Chelmsford City Council regarding the possible transfer of management to the Parish Council of open spaces within the Parish. The Clerk agreed to contact Keith Nicholson and Paul VanDamme from Chelmsford City Council with an invitation to attend the next Council meeting on 12th November to discuss the subject. In the meantime, the Environment Committee would consider what open spaces might wish to be considered.
25/138	To consider the proposal to set up a Youth Council within the Parish. A presentation followed from Donna Hance, Events Manager and Leon, a work placement student working with the Parish Council. It was explained that two separate Councils would be formed, one for ages 5-11 which would meet each half term. The second Council would be for ages 11-18 and would have a Chair and Vice-Chair. It was suggested that finance to support this would be required of £400 and £600 respectively. Advertising would be through the local schools and social media. We could ask for videos of what the young people actually want in the village. There would be a need for DBS checks for those Councillors involved. The Parish Council expressed their enthusiasm for this initiative and asked the Events Manager to take it forward.
25/139	To receive an update from the Clerk on matters arising from previous meetings.
25/140	To note minutes from the following Committees:
25/140.1	Finance and Personnel Committee – No recent meeting
25/140.2	Environment Committee – Draft minutes from Wednesday 17 th September. These were noted.
25/140.3	Property & Planning Committee – Draft minutes from Wednesday 1 st October awaits
25/140.4	Communications Committee – No recent meeting
25/140.5	School Lane Working Group – No recent meeting.
25/141	Matters for the next meeting Trees – Churchyard Update on Kings Arms Open Spaces update. The meeting ended at 9.06 p.m.