Broomfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Broomfield Parish Council held in Broomfield Village Hall on Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

Members in attendance	G Garfield (Chair), A Faulds, D Howell, N Kiddier, S Perera-Morris, A Thomson, S Boreham, D Grewal, G Wadeson, A Odelana
Members not in attendance	M Bleet, C Taylor, G Scott
Others in attendance	A Wood, Clerk and RFO

As Cllr Bleet was not in attendance at this meeting, Cllr Garfield took the Chair.

FC26/125 **To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Bleet, Scott and Taylor.
Proposed: Cllr Garfield
Seconded: Cllr Faulds
All Agreed.

FC26/126 **To receive Councillors declarations of interests and dispensations requests**
Cllr Kiddier advised that he is involved in the Community 360 Campaign and the loss of the service and therefore may have interests to declare at future meetings.

FC26/127 **To approve the minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on 14th October 2026**
The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Garfield as a correct record.
Proposed: Cllr Garfield
Seconded: Cllr Faulds
All Agreed.

FC26/128 **Public Participation session**
No members of the public were in attendance.

FC26/129 **To receive a report from the County and City Council for items not on agenda**
Cllr Steel was not in attendance but had submitted a report in advance (See appendix).

FC26/130 **To receive reports from Councillors on outside bodies**

- Cllr Faulds had nothing to report on the Woollards Charity at this time. The Community Land Trust is due to be incorporated and training on this is taking place next week.
- Cllr Thomson advised that there were no major updates for buses at this time.

FC26/131 **To receive any matters for report (but not for resolution)**

- A discussion took place about Community 360 service going into administration with immediate effect and the effect it will have on the community and those specifically using the village hall. Cllr Kiddier is involved in the campaign to create an alternative service, and this was fully supported by the other councillors. Other community transport options were raised, and this topic will be added to the next agenda for a fuller discussion.

FC26/132 **Parish Council finances**

a) To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for October 2026

b) To note cashbook, income and expenditure against budget and balance sheet for October 2026

It was **RESOLVED** to receive, note and approve the above reports (a and b) for October 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Garfield
Seconded: Cllr Grewal
All Agreed.

FC26/133 **Specific projects and discussions**

a) To provide an update on the Action Plan (Cllr Bleet)
This was deferred to the next meeting.

b) To discuss the issue of street lighting along the cycle path to CVHS
The issue with the lack of lighting was discussed and the main problem is that the path is not currently adopted by Essex Highways and therefore is not maintained by them. The Clerk had requested that the parish council could undertake the repairs, but this was declined by Essex Highways as it is "outside their scope of their current commission". It was noted that this was an entirely unacceptable situation and the Parish Council and Cllr Steel will continue to lobby for the repairs to be completed. It was noted that the adoption of the cycleway should have taken place as soon as the works were completed.

c) To discuss a '1100 years of the unification of England' event (12th June 2027) (Cllr Bleet)
This was noted.

d) To discuss the Village Survey and results
Cllr Bleet requested this be deferred to the next meeting.

FC26/134 **To note minutes from the following Committees**

a) Finance and Personnel Committee – no meeting in October.

b) Environment Committee – Draft minutes from the 21st October were presented.

c) Planning Committee – An update from the 4th November meeting was presented by Cllr Garfield. A response to the presentation by Bloor Homes was read out and councillors agreed that the Clerk should email Mr Willsher on behalf of the council.

FC26/135 **Councillor training and development update**

a) **Trustee training** – The Clerk advised that she is in the process of arranging in-house Trustee training for councillors and will report back at the next meeting.

FC26/136 **To receive an update from the Clerk**

- The Clerk advised that the December Environment Committee has been cancelled.
- Cloudy IT training is being organised for councillors and dates were discussed.
- The Clerk asked councillors to be aware that within the insurance policy there was a personal accident age limit of 80 years.

FC26/137 **Items for inclusion in the next agenda**

- Action Plan update (Cllr Bleet)
- Village Survey and results (Cllr Bleet)
- Community 360 transport issue

FC26/138 **Chair to close the meeting**

Cllr Garfield closed the meeting at 8.20pm

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm

FC26/129 Cllr Steel's report (as provided)

ECC Report

LGR
The latest

- LGR Plans Shelved Until 2029: The contentious "five unitary council" model originally announced in March 2026—which faced fierce legal opposition and a successful judicial review challenge from Essex County Council—is officially pushed back until at least 2029.
- Business As Usual for Local Councils: All 15 existing local authorities across Greater Essex will continue to operate as usual within their current two-tier system framework.
- Boundaries Reaffirmed for May 2027 Elections: Local district and borough elections scheduled for May 2027 will proceed as normal using the existing council boundaries.
- Devolution Moves Separately: Despite the halt to local government reorganisation, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) confirmed that it is actively processing the Greater Essex Devolution Agreement. Steps to establish a Mayoral Strategic Authority for Essex remain on track, separate from council restructuring.

Further updates regarding the broader reorganisation framework are expected to be delivered by the government in the new year.
In terms of elections, this means:

- May 2027 – Chelmsford City Council elections
- May 2027 – Parish Council elections
- May 2028 – Unitary elections – with Cllrs to run as shadow until March 2029 when they take control
- Mayoral elections – possibly May 2028

Although there are rumours that LGR may go back to 2030!

More info at Government's press release

They also announced all areas with previous decisions will receive £450,000 per the number of previously announced I read that as each of the 5 Unitary areas will get £450K which in our case has to be shared between 3 Districts and part ECC. I don't know how that compares with what has actually been spent.

Mill Lane PROW
As reported previously, I have met with both landowner and ECC, and a plan to do a minimum restoration of the ground o the filed side of the stile, was presented. This approach has the benefit of being approved by the environment Agency, so can be implemented quickly. The landowner was of the view that this approach fell short of a more extensive restoration but agreed to review the plans which would be provided by ECC. However, given the concerns raised by the landowner, and further discussions amongst the PRoW Team on the scale of the erosion, ECC have decided to refer the matter back to the Structures team who will need to address the bridge wing walls and the wider erosion issues. Given the unsafe situation of the existing access, ECC have no option than to temporarily close the footpath, something they have been resisting as much as possible. They will be approaching the landowner with this premise and asking if alternative temporary arrangements can be made for access.

Goulton Road Cycle Path
As per my emails:

- I have been trying to sort this out since the cycle path was installed.
- The cycle path has not been adopted yet. Until it has, no one (ECC Highways or PC) can maintain the surface, the solar flush lights or the bollards.
- At the moment, the cycle path sits on private land. There are some issues with ownership and permission.
- I am also trying to help the 2 residents at the access point who want to move the PRoW to the cycle path, as cyclist use their front garden. This can't be done until the cycle path is adopted.

This clearly sits with ECC Highways who are remiss in not sorting this out.
The last KPIIs presented to the Place Scrutiny Committee show that Highways are up to date with all adoptions!!!!!

Pylons
NGET have now submitted planning applications for (enabling works) temporary compounds in advance of the decision on the DCO.:
26/01209/FUL – Land north of Beaumont Otes Chignal Road Chelmsford
26/01210/FUL – Land north of Brittons Hall Farm, Mashbury Road, Chignal St James
26/01194/FUL – Centre of pond 183m from Wits End, Bishops Stortford Road, Roxwell
26/01225/FUL – Land south east of Lowley Farm, Goodmans Lane, Gt Leighs
26/01193/FUL – Land south of Windmill House, Chelmsford Road, Gt Waltham
26/01227/FUL – Land south west of Little Stonage Farm, Essex Regiment Way, Gt Waltham (sic)

The City Council planning system is notoriously slow for viewing documents so I arranged some direct download links for the associated documents. These are still live, but the closing date for comments has passed.
26/01209/FUL - 26-01209-ful
26/01210/FUL - 26-01210-FUL
26/01194/FUL- 26-01194-FUL
26/01225/FUL - 26-01225-FUL
26/01193/FUL - 26-01193-FUL
26/01227/FUL -
https://chelmsfordcity.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/SustainableCommunities/DM/IgAa2od144VWS5_8N1SBKlR_Af6DSitgn0VctVhn8Aez0yY?e=VL630a
I have objected to them all as follows:
I object to the enabling works application on the basis that until the DCO is determined, there is no reason for such works other than National Grid are working in advance, and at risk, in order to meet Govt timescales (and avoid financial penalties). Until the DCO is determined, there is always the chance that the enabling works will not be required, and any associated damage to the environment will not be necessary. My understanding is that timescale and financial consequences to NG) are not planning issues and should not be considered.

I have submitted a case to Chelmsford City Council Planning dept that these applications should be considered by Planning Committee rather than delegated to officers. I have had to do this under the new National Scheme of Delegation for Planning Applications which come into force on 31 October 2026. The Government's intention is that most planning applications should be determined by planning officers, with Planning Committees focusing only on the most significant proposals.

Planning Applications will be dealt with as 2 Categories

Schedule 1: Always Delegated to Officers
These applications cannot be referred to Planning Committee and must be decided by officers. Examples include: Householder applications (extensions, fences, etc.)

- Minor commercial developments
- Minor residential schemes (fewer than 9 dwellings or under 0.5ha)
- Permission in Principle applications
- Non-material amendments
- Certificates of Lawfulness
- Discharge of Conditions
- Prior Approval applications
- Most Reserved Matters applications (except very large schemes)

Schedule 2: Presumed Delegated, but May Go to Committee

- Listed Building Consents

- Applications linked to Listed Buildings
- Larger planning applications
- Retrospective applications
- Large Reserved Matters applications (500+ dwellings)
- Advertisement consents
- Tree Preservation Order (TPO) works
- Variations of conditions on Schedule 2 permissions

If the enabling works are deemed as Scheule 1, then my request will be declined.
If deemed as Schedule 2, the request will go to Gateway process which is determined jointly by the Head of Planning, and the Cabinet Member for Planning.
I have not had a decision yet.
Should I be informed that City Council Planning Officers will decline the applications, I will withdraw my "call-I" request.

CCC report

Wheelers Farm Licence
I attended and spoke at the hearing.
Despite numerous objections from myself, adjacent parish councils, and residents, the 2 licence applications were granted.

22/00181/ENFB Land At Roselawn Farm Main Road Broomfield Chelmsford – planning appeal
The appeal has been dismissed. The decision notice can be viewed on our website at https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk.
Enforcement notice 22/00181/ENFB ('the Notice'), subject of this appeal, was issued by the Council on 18 June 2025 and was set to take effect on 23 July 2025

FC26/132 Cashbook for October 2026

Date: 05/11/2026	**Broomfield Parish Council**	**Page: 1**
Time: 09:47	**Cashbook 5**	**User: A.WOOD**
	Unity Trust Current Account	**For Month No: 7**

Receipts for Month 7 — **Nominal Ledger Analysis**

Receipt Ref	Name of Payer	£ Amnt Received	£ Debtors	£ VAT	A/c	Centre	£ Amount	Transaction Detail
	Balance Brought Fwd :	**128,751.25**					**128,751.25**	
6/10	Banked: **01/10/2026**	**400.00**						
6/10	BCGS		400.00		1210	210	400.00	Barn rent
10/20	Banked: **01/10/2026**	**330.23**						
10/20	Redwood Bank		330.23		1090	110	330.23	Interest
10/21	Banked: **02/10/2026**	**321.34**						
10/21	CCLA Interest		321.34		1090	110	321.34	CCLA Interest
10/29	Banked: **22/10/2026**	**4,633.57**						
10/29	Broomfield Village Hall		4,633.57		4900	110	4,633.57	Refund BVH payroll M7
10/18	Banked: **23/10/2026**	**600.00**						
10/18	Broomfield Village Hall		600.00		1115	110	600.00	Clerk's services to BVH
	Total Receipts for Month	6,285.14	0.00	0.00			6,285.14	
	Cashbook Totals	135,036.39	0.00	0.00			135,036.39	

Payments for Month 7 — **Nominal Ledger Analysis**

Date	Payee Name	Reference	£ Total Amnt	£ Creditors	£ VAT	A/c	Centre	£ Amount	Transaction Detail
02/10/2026	CouncilWise	9/15	230.40		38.40	4050	100	192.00	V Halls Course DH
02/10/2026	High Speed Training	9/18	516.24		86.04	4050	100	430.20	Various training
02/10/2026	Unity Trust Savings Account	TFR	100,000.00			216		100,000.00	Tfr to Unity Trust Saving A/C
05/10/2026	Daisy	10/11	82.96		13.83	4140	110	69.13	Telecoms
05/10/2026	J & M Payroll ADMIN	9/20	78.00		13.00	4125	110	65.00	Payroll fee
05/10/2026	Broomfield Village Hall	10/2	248.40		41.40	4082	500	207.00	Coffee morning
05/10/2026	Broomfield Village Hall	10/5	1,056.00		176.00	4080	110	880.00	PC Office rent
05/10/2026	Broomfield Village Hall	10/6	32.40		5.40	4081	110	27.00	Hall hire PC Mtg
05/10/2026	Broomfield Village Hall	10/4	248.40		41.40	4082	500	207.00	Stay & Play
05/10/2026	Broomfield Village Hall	10/3	362.26		60.38	4082	500	301.88	Lunch Club
09/10/2026	Essex Digital Copiers	10/14	73.18		12.20	4095	110	60.98	Photo copier maintenance
09/10/2026	Link CCTV Systems	10/8	476.74		79.46	4098	110	397.28	Maintenance Nov-Feb27
09/10/2026	Rural Community Council Essex	10/15	80.00			4060	100	80.00	Gov & Finance event
09/10/2026	Worknest	10/1	2,845.57		474.26	4121	110	2,371.31	Year 3 subscription
14/10/2026	O2	10/7	24.60		4.10	4085	110	20.50	Telecoms
16/10/2026	VALDA Energy	10/16	26.80		0.14	4505	500	26.66	Barn energy
16/10/2026	CouncilWise	10/9	72.00		12.00	4050	100	60.00	Biodiversity course DH
16/10/2026	NALC	10/10	60.00		10.00	4120	110	50.00	Local council award scheme
16/10/2026	Corporate Multipay	TFR	296.52			225		296.52	TFR
21/10/2026	J & M Payroll ADMIN	10/27	78.00		13.00	4125	110	65.00	Oct Payroll
23/10/2026	J & M Payroll ADMIN	10/29	17,493.73			4000	100	9,237.01	M7 Payroll
						4020	100	1,092.35	M7 Payroll
						4030	100	2,198.44	M7 Payroll
						4900	110	4,633.58	M7 Payroll
						4065	100	332.35	Cllr Bleet
23/10/2026	Trade UK	9/11	12.18		2.03	4260	210	10.15	Angle grinder
30/10/2026	Soc of local clerks	10/30	138.60		23.10	4050	100	115.50	VAT Course
30/10/2026	CouncilWise	10/18	36.00		6.00	4050	100	30.00	War memorials DH
30/10/2026	High Speed Training	10/17	24.00		4.00	4050	100	20.00	Lone working
31/10/2026	Service charge	FEE	11.20			4075	110	11.20	Service charge
	Total Payments for Month		124,604.18	0.00	1,116.14			123,488.04	
	Balance Carried Fwd		10,432.21						
	Cashbook Totals		135,036.39	0.00	1,116.14			133,920.25	