

BRADWELL WITH PATTISWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFRESH 2024 - REPORT

CONTENTS

	Page
Background	2
Demographics	2
Vision – welcome changes	3
Vision – changes to resist	3
Access to Health Assets	4
Healthcare – GP surgeries	4
Healthcare – Hospitals	5
Education	5
Housing	6
Law and Order	8
Communications	8
Employment	9
Environment	10
Pavements and Lighting	10
Community	11
Recreation and Leisure	11
Village Hall	11
Transport	12
Church	12
Young people	13

Nb Vision and Young people are dominated by **Highways** issues

The Neighbourhood Plan includes an Action Plan – suggested items to be included in the Action Plan are indicated by the word ACTION

Background

This paper summarises the feedback from residents to the questionnaires which were provided to every household in the Parish. The Questionnaires were distributed between 9 September and 29 September to 232 households. The closing date for return was 1 November 2024. 99 households (42.7% compared to 44% in 2016) returned questionnaires. 13 households returned blank questionnaires, so 86 households (37.1%) returned valid questionnaires, which have been analysed.

Demographics

Bradwell with Pattiswick Questionnaire response - demographics - at 1 November 2024									
	under 18	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	over 80	TOTAL
Bradwell F	6	4	2	11	12	18	13	2	62
Bradwell M	1	3	3	3	9	14	11	5	48
Bradwell ?									0
Pattiswick F	2			1	2	1	1		5
Pattiswick M					1	1	1		3
Pattiswick ?							1		1
Rural F	2		1		3	4	2		10
Rural M	1	2		1	2	4	4	1	14
TOTAL	12	9	6	16	29	42	33	8	143
									155
TOTAL M	2	5	3	4	12	19	16	6	65
TOTAL F	10	4	3	12	17	23	16	2	77
Response	8%	6%	4%	10%	19%	27%	21%	5%	100%
Population			Response						
All females	268	48.29%	87	56.49%					
All males	287	51.71%	67	43.51%					
Total	555		154	27.75%					
	Under 16	16-64	65+		Under 16	16-64	65+		
Population	90	334	133		16.22%	60.18%	23.96%		
Response	Under 18	18-70	71+		Under 18	18-70	71+%		
	12	102	41		7.79%	66.23%	26.62%		

Population data from 2021 Census

The response is broadly representative of the population, although fewer under-18s responded than in 2016 and more 71-80 year olds responded.

The age profile of the residents has aged from 2016

[In Bradwell (Braintree) the proportion of the population who are aged 65+ has increased since 2001, changing from 11.1% to 25.05%.]¹

More males are retired and fewer are self-employed and more females are retired and fewer are employed

¹ Local Insight Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion Ltd.

FINAL

The age profile of the residents of the Parish suggests the parish is becoming a retirement village – 25% of residents are over 65 years old and 49% of respondents are retired. The number of under 18s has declined.

[The population aged 65+ in England represents 18.41% and in Essex 20.62%.]¹

Vision – welcome changes

The 155 respondents were given free range to indicate changes they would welcome
[Numbers indicate individuals who volunteered this as one of their top three priorities]

Speed limit on the A120 reduced to 30mph	25
A120 to be re-routed	18
Easier / safer access / roundabout / traffic control A120 The Street junction	8
Speed restriction through village to 20mph	11
Stop all HGV traffic through village	10
40mph speed limit on Church Road from Bradwell to the Church	5
Better kept public footpaths	9
Improved parking (around The Street / Forge Crescent)	8
Extend double yellow-lines to full length of Wadud's boundary	6
More events at the Village Hall	6

Vision – changes to resist

The 155 respondents were given free range to indicate changes they would resist
[Numbers indicate individuals who volunteered this as one of their top three priorities]

More housing development	83
Expansion of the quarry / new quarries	21
Building on green belt / farmland	5
Development of land behind Rectory Meadow	5

Rationale for resisting change

Infrastructure is inadequate to support growth – roads, healthcare, education	31
A village should stay a village	18
Too much traffic already on A120	11
Too much traffic already through village	10

Access to Health Assets

The distance from Bradwell to Leisure Centres, the nearest dentist, the nearest GP surgery, the nearest A&E Hospital and the nearest pharmacy is twice the average for Essex and also twice the average for England.²

The distance from Bradwell to unhealthy assets – fast food outlets, gambling outlets, pubs and tobacconists - is also more than twice the average for Essex or England.²

49.28% of people in Bradwell (Braintree) have very good health. This is similar to the proportion in England (48.49%) and similar to the proportion in Essex (48.57%).

A further 36.46% of people in Bradwell (Braintree) have good health. This is similar to the proportion in England (33.71%) and similar to the proportion in Essex (34.32%).(Self-reported general health)³

Healthcare – GP surgery

The number of people attending the Braintree surgery has declined (was 51.45% in 2016, is 33.82% now), while the number of people attending the Coggeshall surgery has increased (was 39.13% in 2016, is 55.15% now). Small numbers attend Silver End, Kelvedon, Halstead and Benfleet – they would like to be able to register at Coggeshall..

Braintree GP Surgery	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Getting to the surgery is easy		18	13	10	5
Getting an appointment is easy		6	8	13	19
GP services are adequate		5	15	13	13

The responses to the Questionnaire for the Braintree surgery are shown above. In percentage terms there is little difference between the 2016 responses and today's.

Coggeshall GP Surgery	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Getting to the surgery is easy	10	39	14	11	1
Getting an appointment is easy	10	21	20	16	7
GP services are adequate	7	27	19	13	6

The responses to the Questionnaire for the Coggeshall surgery are shown above.

The sample size for the Kelvedon and Silver End surgeries was less than 5%.

There remains dissatisfaction with the Braintree surgery, while there continue to be many complimentary comments about the Coggeshall surgery.

There is still a perceived need at all surgeries for more GPs, more appointments, better arrangements for getting appointments, availability of GPs at nights and at weekends and more home visits (7.93% of households have no access to a car or van).

No one mentioned the 111 service.

² Local Insight Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion Ltd.

³ Census 2021

Healthcare – Hospitals

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Braintree Hospital					
Getting to the hospital is easy		21	14	9	5
Getting an appointment at the hospital is easy		8	16	19	6
Outpatient services are adequate		11	19	16	2
Colchester Hospital					
Getting to the hospital is easy		10	5	6	4
Getting an appointment at the hospital is easy		4	9	9	3
Outpatient services are adequate	1	6	8	6	3
Chelmsford (Broomfield) Hospital					
Getting to the hospital is easy		23	11	16	6
Getting an appointment at the hospital is easy		8	18	21	9
Outpatient services are adequate		14	21	17	4
Do not use	53				
When emergency medical assistance is required, it is a	3	46	46	16	6

The responses to the Questionnaire for the three hospitals are shown above.

There is clearly a need for more NHS dentists (11 respondents), much more so than in 2016 (2).

Similar numbers of people are using Braintree Hospital, opinion of outpatient services and the ability to get an appointment at Braintree Hospital have declined.

More people are attending Colchester and Chelmsford (Broomfield) hospitals. Opinion of getting an appointment has got worse. Outpatient services at Colchester and Chelmsford hospitals are perceived as worse – more respondents are dissatisfied.

Additional Healthcare facilities suggested by respondents included making greater use of Braintree Hospital – A&E, walk-in Centre, non-urgent / minor injury unit.

There was general concern that the mandated requirement to build more houses in the District should be matched with expansion of, and improvement to, healthcare services.

Education

Bradwell with Pattiswick - Questionnaire - Education	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
There is sufficient access to quality primary education for young people	1	24	7	16	3
The education provided by Honywood School is of a high standard	3	21	14	5	4
The education provided by Alec Hunter Humanities College is of a high standard		7	25	1	1
There is adequate provision for nursery children		13	17	17	1
There is adequate provision for adult education		14	18	10	

The perception is that access to quality primary education has declined slightly.

The perception of the quality of education provided by Honywood School and Alec Hunter has not changed.

Respondents suggested access to education could be improved by better and cheaper bus routes and times (School buses do not serve Bradwell and Pattiswick). Students have to use scheduled bus services, which are often over-crowded.

Housing

The following tables provide data on the type of housing and tenure in Bradwell with Pattiswick

Type of housing⁴

	Bradwell No	Bradwell %	Essex %	England %
Detached	121	52.84	30.54	22.91
Semi-detached	80	34.93	31.45	31.48
Terraced	20	8.73	19.89	22.96
Flats	1	0.44	14.95	17.07

Housing tenure⁴

	Bradwell No	Bradwell %	Essex %	England %
Owned outright	91	40.27	36.33	32.53
Mortgaged	72	31.86	32.69	28.78
Shared ownership	0	0.00	0.84	1.01
Council House	8	3.54	7.24	8.30
Housing Association	13	5.75	6.89	8.79
Private rented	44	19.46	15.92	20.46

In Bradwell (Braintree) the proportion of owner occupied housing at 72.12% is higher than the proportion in England (62.32%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (69.86%).

The proportion of social rented housing in Bradwell (Braintree) is 9.29%. This is lower than the proportion in England (17.09%) and lower than the proportion in Essex (14.13%).

In comparison, the proportion of privately rented housing in Bradwell (Braintree) is 15.04%. This is lower than the proportion in England (18.24%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (13.98%).

The proportion of dwellings built in Bradwell (Braintree) between 2020 and 2024 was 7.59%. This is higher than the proportion in England (3.50%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (3.82%).

⁴ Census 2021

FINAL

The proportion of dwellings built in Bradwell (Braintree) between 2010 and 2019 was 10.13%. This is higher than the proportion in England (7.10%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (7.01%).

The proportion of dwellings built in Bradwell (Braintree) between 2000 and 2009 was 10.13%. This is higher than the proportion in England (7.10%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (7.32%).

For comparison, the proportion of dwellings in Bradwell (Braintree) built prior to 1900 was 11.39%. This is lower than the proportion in England (15.06%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (7.28%).

Over the past 25 years, the rate of build in Bradwell has been significantly higher than in Essex or England

Understandably, therefore, 73% of respondents volunteered “no housing development” as their top priority for the future of the Parish

For those who accepted that some development may be required, the majority would only accept a couple of houses a year. There was more sympathy for one or two isolated houses way outside the village envelope, ideally starter homes to encourage young families.

[An infill estate of seven houses in Hollies Road has already been granted planning permission but has yet to be developed, which could satisfy demand for the next five years.]

House turnover in Bradwell is lower (at 5%) than the national average (10-12%)⁵ suggesting a stable community

Bradwell with Pattiswick Questionnaire - Housing					
Pattiswick and rural properties	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
There is a broad mix of housing	2	15	10	8	1
Some new housing development is required in Bradwell with Pattiswick	2	16	7	7	4
	1-5 per year	6-10 per year	11-15 per year	16-20 per year	>20 per year
Number of new properties in the next 5 years	4	7	3	1	3
Sufficient properties for young people to rent or buy		1	15	10	10
Parish is protected from unsuitable development	3	4	10	10	8

Bradwell Village	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
There is a broad mix of housing	9	64	20	7	3
Some new housing development is required in Bradwell with Pattiswick	1	11	21	37	34
	1-5 per year	6-10 per year	11-15 per year	16-20 per year	>20 per year
Number of new properties in the next 5 years	18	1			
Sufficient properties for young people to rent or buy	4	17	38	35	8
Parish is protected from unsuitable development	7	10	20	39	24

⁵ 2011 and 2021 census

There is a significant difference between the response from Bradwell Village and Pattiswick and the outlying hamlets. The residents of Pattiswick and the outlying hamlets appear more relaxed about a few additional houses. These would be owner-occupied, starter homes or family homes. There is universal objection to any more significant housing developments anywhere.

Law and Order

There were 31 total crime offences in Bradwell (Braintree) between Jun-2023 to May-2024, with the overall crime rate being 52.9 per 1,000 population. This is lower than the average across England (118.1) and lower than the average across Essex (107.9).⁶

The overall crime rate in Bradwell (Braintree) has decreased from 56.2 per 1,000 people between Sep-2018 to Aug-2019 to 52.9 per 1,000 people between Jun-2023 to May-2024.⁴

The rate of reported anti-social behaviour crime in Bradwell (Braintree) has decreased from 13.5 per 1,000 people between Sep-2018 to Aug-2019 to 4.3 per 1,000 people between Jun-2023 to May-2024. Nevertheless, dogging around the Church, Bluebell Wood and Sheepcoats Lane remains an issue. **ACTION**

Bradwell is perceived as a safe place to raise a family (less than 1% disagree.)

53% (same as in 2016) of respondents consider the police presence to be inadequate; only 15% (10% in 2016) consider it to be adequate.

Opinion was equally divided on the adequacy of police response to needs (17% agreed; 21% disagreed)[same as 2016].

All respondents said there should be a Neighbourhood Watch scheme (1% disagreed).

ACTION

Communications

Internet speeds have improved significantly since 2016, nevertheless, there remains disappointment at the speeds on offer 30% are unhappy with their broadband speeds and 62% of respondents would apply for faster speeds if they were available.

The (Universal Service Obligation) USO is set to improve broadband availability by giving homes and businesses the legal right to request a decent and affordable broadband connection defined as a download speed of at least 10Mbit/s and an upload speed of at least 1Mbit/s. People who do not have access to a decent service are able to request one under the USO as set out by the Government in legislation.

⁶ Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion Ltd.

In Bradwell (Braintree), the average broadband download speed of 142.36Mb/sMbit/s is slower than England (153.25Mb/sMbit/s) and similar to Essex (140.95Mb/sMbit/s).

Note: 8 Megabits(Mb) is roughly equivalent to 1 Megabyte(MB) ⁷

Over half of the respondents never access the Parish Council web-site – no change.

Less than 10% would not welcome a free Parish Magazine, however, the number of people offering to help with its production has fallen from 17 to 8 and only one left their contact details.

Half of the respondents access Bradwell Facebook, which appears to be the favoured medium for communication within the Parish..

More people have e-mail addresses now, even so 9% still do not.

Employment

For the adult population who responded

	Student	Employed	Self-employed	Retired	Disabled
Male	1	21	12	32	
Female	2	26	11	33	1
Total	3	47	23	65	1
%age	2	34	17	47	1
Census 2021					
	12	217	69	115	10
%age	3	51	16	27	2

All 12 young people who responded were at school – one at nursery school.

In Bradwell (Braintree), the proportion of those retired and economically inactive is 24.63%, which is higher than in England (21.48%) and similar to Essex (24.15%).⁸

47% of respondents said they were retired.

In Bradwell (Braintree), the proportion of those in the managers, directors and senior officials occupational group is 18.71%, which is higher than England (12.89%) and higher than Essex (14.54%).⁹

The perception of employment opportunities has worsened (34% agree there are plenty of employment opportunities – was 52%) yet the need for more employment opportunities has declined (from 23% to 18%).

Suggested employment opportunities were apprenticeships, rural-related employment to reflect Village Life and “seed bed” type start-up units.

⁷ Ofcom

⁸ Census 2021

⁹ Census 2021

Environment

This is a new category.

23% of respondents agreed that footpaths were kept clean, however, 46% disagreed.

Footpaths are generally well-signed, but footpath maintenance leaves room for improvement. **ACTION**

40% agreed that roads are kept clean, while 31% disagreed

Pavements and Lighting

The perception of the adequacy of the pavements on the A120 is worse with 55% still thinking the pavements are inadequate.

Similarly, the perception of the adequacy of the pavements in Bradwell Village has worsened, 47% still think the pavements are inadequate. 25% think the pavements are adequate

Specific points include Forge Crescent (crumbling footway), A120 footpaths are too narrow and require repair (outside "New House") and are made worse by overgrown hedges and the footpath down to the Playing Field requires attention. **ACTION**

The lack of adequate footpaths / cycleways to Coggeshall / Braintree forces pedestrians / cyclists to use their cars, which does not help with Climate Change.

The absence of footpaths on The Street / Tippets Wade / Church Road and on Hollies Road is considered dangerous.

The perceived adequacy of street lighting on the A120 has declined - 30% (was 16% in 2016) consider the lighting inadequate in part due to faulty lights at the junction with The Street. **ACTION**

38% think the lighting is adequate – was 62% in 2016.

Residents on the A120 complain of the lighting being too harsh and intrusive into their homes.

Perception of the adequacy of the street lighting in Bradwell Village has declined from 49% to 39%; while 27% still think it is inadequate.

Consideration should be given to extending street lighting along Church Road. **ACTION**

Community

The proportion of people taking part in any civic engagement in Bradwell (Braintree) is 51.15%. This is higher than the proportion in England (45.19%) and higher than the proportion in Essex (45.20%).¹⁰

Only 12% of respondents think Bradwell does not have a good sense of Community

80% are content with the recycling facilities and only 8% (mostly in Pattiswick) are not.

Previously, 63 people were prepared to help with an emergency, now only 52 would volunteer.

9 people asked for a Village Shop, while others would like a traditional Public House.

Recreation and Leisure

Bradwell with Pattiswick - Questionnaire - Recreation and Leisure					
	Agree strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Bradwell with Pattiswick is well supplied with leisure facilities		46	52	35	7
Bradwell with Pattiswick has sufficient open spaces	15	88	29	5	1
There are adequate well-signed public footpaths	3	66	33	30	6
Peoples recreational needs are adequately met		47	70	18	3
Young peoples recreational needs are adequately met		26	52	43	8

Satisfaction with the leisure facilities has improved (33% satisfied, was 10%; 30% dissatisfied, was 53%)

Satisfaction with Open Spaces (75% satisfied) and well-signed public footpaths (50% satisfied; 26% dissatisfied) remain unchanged.

Few people (15%) believe recreational needs are not adequately met.

17 adults (up from 5) think a Youth Club is required, however, none of the young people asked for one.

Many ideas to improve recreational facilities were suggested, however, none were supported by more than 3 respondents.

Village Hall

Village Hall				
I attend events at the Village Hall	Fortnightly	Monthly	Occasional	Never
	8	15	77	40
I would be willing to help with Village Hall activities	Yes	No		
	26	78		

¹⁰ Local Insight Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion Ltd.

FINAL

Attendance at Village Hall events appears to have remained unchanged. 26 people said they would be willing to help with Village Hall activities, some left their contact details – thank you.

Most popular activities are: Social Nights /evenings (18), Bingo (17), Christmas activities (16), Quiz (16), Easter Egg Hunt (13), Music nights (9), National Celebrations (7), Wine and Cheese / Wine tasting (6), Murder mystery (5), Dog Show (4)

Suggestions for additional activities included: Race nights (4), Major sports events (3), Exercise/fitness class for adults (3) **ACTION**

Transport

In Bradwell (Braintree), 7.93% of households have no access to a car or van. This is less than the proportion without access to a car or van in England (23.54%) and less than the proportion without access to a car or van in Essex (15.88%).¹¹

In 2021, there were 7 lone pensioner households with no car or van (Census 2021)

27.31% of Bradwell households have 3+ cars or vans (Essex 12.7%; England 9.12%) and 36.56% have two cars/vans (Essex 30.64%; England 26.06%) while 28.19% have one car or van.

67% of respondents never use the bus service and 32% never use the rail service (unchanged from 2016).

Only three people use the rail service daily, two of these commute to London (via Kelvedon).

Residents are heavily dependent on cars for transport – to doctors, hospitals, schools, shopping, employment and further afield – **and the A120 is the main route to Braintree / Chelmsford and Colchester.**

Satisfaction with public transport has declined markedly since 2016, only 27% consider public transport to be adequate (was 40%). The main issues remain the same - the high cost of rail travel and the reliability of the bus service and in the recent survey, the (lack of) frequency of the bus service (was every 20-30 minutes, is now every 40 minutes).

Church

This is a new category.

30% think it is very important and 32% think it somewhat important to keep Bradwell Holy Trinity open.

Only 12% of respondents are interested in learning more about the Christian faith

¹¹ Census 2021

FINAL

51 people are likely to attend services once or twice a year, 21 monthly and 5 weekly. The rest (57) are likely never to attend church. Three attend church elsewhere.

39 people are interested in supporting the church through attendance, 14 through giving and 14 by volunteering.

[In Bradwell (Braintree), there are 45.50% of the population with no religious belief. This is greater than the proportion in England with 36.67% with no religious belief and greater than the proportion in Essex with 42.05% with no religious belief. 48.56% claim Christianity as their belief in line with England and Essex – other religious beliefs are negligible.]¹²

Young people

Our young people attend school, out of school they tend to stay at home, except when visiting friends. To visit their friends they walk, cycle, catch a bus or get a lift. They enjoy reading, sports/sports training, walking along public footpaths, watching TV, listening to music and walking with their family. Only half use the playing fields (there are no playing fields in Pattiswick) – the swings and slide are popular. They are members of Clubs in Braintree, Earls Colne, Coggeshall and Chelmsford. In general, they are content with the facilities offered in Bradwell. Half enjoy cycling. They are concerned about poor street lighting, and litter. **90% are concerned about speeding cars both on the A120 and through the village.** They would like a swimming pool, **a mirror by Brunswins Cottages to improve the visibility of on-coming cars** and better internet speeds at the top of the village. **They would like improvements to road safety – access from Bridge Hall Road to the eastbound bus stop on the A120/Hollies Road junction.**

This last request has greater urgency now a small development of family homes in Hollies Road has been granted planning permission.

Our young people attend schools in Braintree, Coggeshall and Colchester – they catch the bus on the A120 which requires they cross this very busy road – is this safe?

Our young people enjoy cycling and cycle to visit friends – how safe are our roads for cyclists?

Other ideas for improvement from our young people: Public toilets; tennis courts; shop, café, bike track.

END

Tony Dunn
Chair

Bradwell with Pattiswick Parish Council / Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

¹² 2021 Census