

BRADWELL-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 21 October 2024 at 7.30pm at Bradwell Village Hall.**

PRESENT: Cllr M Neall Cllr P Davidson Cllr J Noble Cllr M Martin
Cllr J Meehan Cllr H Baker Cllr D Allen

Members of the public: None

CHAIRPERSON: Cllr M Neall

23-24/286 WELCOME to the Bradwell-on-Sea Village Council Meeting of 21 October 2024.

The chairperson reminded everyone in attendance and who will be participating in the meeting that they may be filmed, recorded, photographed, or otherwise reported about. Bradwell on Sea Parish Council did not record this meeting.

23-24/287 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

23-24/288 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

23-24/289 DISPENSATIONS

To consider member's applications for dispensations.

23-24/290 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: The Clerk to make amendments to the draft minutes and bring forward to approve as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2024.

23-24/291 PUBLIC FORUM

- Cllr Baker requested an update on the delivery of the dog bins. Cllr Neall advised that he had contacted Maldon District Council and provided them with the What3Words of the desired locations of the waste bins but was yet to receive a response and he will follow this up.
- Cllr Baker suggested that there was a requirement for the council to nominate a councillor to act as liaison between the council and the St. Thomas' church. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.
- Cllr Davidson reminded the council that the invasive brambles and ivy, between St. Thomas' church and Cage Row needs clearing and presented the council members with pictures taken of the overgrowth.
Cllr Baker commented that suggestions had been made to keep this clear and a working party could form to clear the brambles with prior permission from the warden, David Thorpe. Cllr Baker will speak with David Thorpe and suggest some dates.

23-24/292 To ratify the appointment of Ms. Kelly Andrews as Parish Clerk/RFO to Bradwell on Sea Parish Council. RESOLVED: The councillors agreed the appointment of Ms. Kelly Andrews as Parish Clerk & RFO. Unanimous decision.

23-24/293 FINANCE

- a) RESOLVED: To receive the bank reconciliations as at 30th September 2024. Agreed. Unanimous decision.
- b) RESOLVED: To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/2025. Agreed. Unanimous decision.
- c) RESOLVED: To approve the payment of Accounts for September 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

23-24/294 PLANNING

Applications received from Maldon District Council.

To respond as a consultee.

No planning applications received from Maldon District Council.

Appeals

No appeals received from Maldon District Council.

Decisions advised by MDC

24/00657/TCA – St. Cedds Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School East End Road

Bradwell-on-sea Southminster

T1-Wild Cherry – Fell, T2-Prunus Avium - Fell

Allowed to proceed.

23-24/295 HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- a) To report any new highways or public footpath defects and to report any repairs or updates on existing defects.
- Cllr. Baker reported that a resident had offered to clear the footpath from Wallum Farms to Bacons Chase.
- Cllr Neall advised that he continuing to report the defects to Essex County Council Highways.
- Cllr Noble requested a list of the previously reported defects from the Essex County Council Highways website.

23-24/296 GROUNDSMAN

- a) Report from the groundsman
- Village Hall – The grass cutting, strimming and tidying had been carried out as required.
 - Posts around the carpark washed and treated with wood preserver as in previous years. The seat in field washed and treated with preserver.
 - There has been vandalism to the village hall wall on the playground side, with graffiti and numerous holes made, the seat on the field has slats broken and one of the posts supporting the chain leading into the field has been deliberately smashed. I have made a temporary repair to the post with an angle iron support.
 - The churchyard – Grass cutting, strimming and tidying carried out
 - War memorial – dead heading of roses continues although very few flowers left now. Site kept clear of litter.

Cllr Allen had observed that despite the recent litter pick, there was more litter on the verges leading from Bradwell Power Station to Trusses Road. A further voluntary litter pick will be arranged for the weekend.

Cllr Noble advised that David Thorpe will work to remove the ivy from the gravestones in the churchyard.

23-24/297 VILLAGE HALL & PLAY AREA

- a) Update from the village hall committee. RESOLVED: The clerk had not received a report from the committee.
- b) Update/reports on any findings on Councillors weekly checks of the hall. Any immediate repairs to be decided on. RESOLVED: As previously mentioned during the meeting, vandalism had been reported to the Village Hall and the areas outside.
- Cllr Davidson will look at the damaged and missing tiles for repair to the roof.
- Roger will repair the vandalised bench, and the broken wood will be removed immediately to prevent any further vandalism of danger to the public.
- Cllr Noble will send the Clerk a list and updates of the checks carried out prior to the meetings.

23-24/298 VILLAGE HALL/PARK CHECKLIST & VILLAGE HALL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

RESOLVED: To receive an update regarding the routine checklist and maintenance schedule of the village hall.

23-24/299 NOTICES, MEETINGS AND TRAINING COURSES.

Training courses offered by the EALC for councillors can be booked via the Clerk.

To receive and consider reports on and minutes of meetings attended or information relating to meetings coming up.

Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils – Wednesday, October 9th, at 7 p.m. at St Lawrence Village Hall – Cllr. Neall reported that he had attended the meeting and spoke with Ginette from Essex Community Speedwatch who had explained that there were not enough interested residents within villages to train as speedwatch volunteers but perhaps they would form a small group of volunteers who would travel around the Maldon area to carry out speedwatch in surrounding villages instead.

Cllr Neall also reported that, due to the change in government, there will be a 97% increase to the National Planning Policy Framework, however there are no published figures yet.

Cllr Neall advised that Bradwell on Sea Parish Council had not paid their subscription to the Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils. The Clerk will pay this subscription as soon as she has access to the bank accounts.

Bradwell LCLC – Wednesday 2nd October, 7pm via Zoom – Cllr Noble reported that the site Director, Alan Walker, had explained that there had been no significant safety, security or environmental events at the site since the last meeting.

There had been several incidents relating to fly tipping within the Site Licence boundary and on the approach road.

This was also another successful breeding year for the Peregrine Falcons.

The Sizewell A Environment team organised a Beach Clean and collected 10 bags of rubbish.

There is a Site Demonstration exercise planned for the 11th December 2024.

There were also ~60 compliance and maintenance routines completed last month.

In the longer term, a revised 10-year strategy, agreed with the Executive and Regulators for the Management of Bradwell Site through Care & Maintenance which seeks to achieve periods of inspections incrementally increasing in duration based on intelligence gleaned to date.

There was an update from the Environmental Agency (EA) Inspector, who stated that there were no significant matters of concern.

The question regarding sea defences with respect to global rising tides was raised again, particularly in the Tollesbury area. [Previous meeting note: Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) does not have a sea defence plan and 'Sea Defences' are the responsibility of the Local Authority.) The LCLC await a further update at the next meeting.

23-24/300 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

RESOLVED: Cllr Neall advised the council that there were potential plans for a new wind farm of 40 turbines in the area between Bradwell and Southminster.

Cllr Neall also reported that he is still compiling his report of highway defects in the area the report is currently 50 pages.

Cllr Neall explained that there had been some cause for concern for the residents regarding the planned road closure by UK Power Networks in East End Road between the 28th October and 4th November. Cllr Neall has assured residents that they will be able to gain access to their properties.

Cllr Meehan confirmed that she had contacted UK Power Networks and they have said that access will be allowed for residents and emergency vehicles.

23-24/301 VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR

RESOLVED: Councillors were advised and assured that to gain access to the defibrillators it is necessary to call 999.

The locations of the defibrillators within Bradwell will be publicised and Brad Luff will be asked if he would deliver an educated meeting to residents on the correct way to use defibrillators in an emergency.

The funding to purchase a further defibrillator for the village will be researched.

23-24/302 VILLAGE HALL LEASE

RESOLVED: An update from the committee had not been received.

23-24/303 BRADWELL ON SEA PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

It has been noted that the website does not include up to date information and documents. RESOLVED:

The Clerk will send Cllr Neall the details of the old website and he will organise its removal.

23-24/304 VILLAGE HALL FIELD VANDALISM

A resident has reported acts of vandalism caused to property on the village recreational field and to the outside of the village hall.

RESOLVED: The Groundsman and Cllr Davidson reported that there had been acts of vandalism to the Village Hall and the bench and posts on the recreational field.

Cllr Neall identified that the property requires more protection. Cllr Davidson will investigate a method of prevention of members of the public being able to climb on the boiler roof.

Cllr Baker will speak to the headmistress of St. Cedd's School to address this.

Cllr Neall will create a Facebook explaining the costs of repair following the recent vandalism and this is paid from the public purse.

Please also see agenda item 23-24/296 and resolutions in agenda item 23-24/297

23-24/305 BIO-DIVERSITY DUTY

RESOLVED: The Clerk explained to the councillors that under the Environment Act 2021, public authorities in England, including parish and town councils, must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This is known as the 'biodiversity duty'.

The duty requires public authorities to:

- consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity
- agree policies and specific objectives based on their consideration
- act to deliver their policies and achieve their objectives.

23-24/306 REMEMBRANCE DAY – SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER

Remembrance Day will be observed on Sunday 10th November with a service at St. Thomas' Church

RESOLVED: Cllr Neall will lay the wreath on behalf of Bradwell on Sea Parish Council.

23-24/307 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room of Bradwell Village Hall. However, this may change dependent on planning applications received or other urgent business that may arise.

23-24/308 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

If Councillors wish motions to be included on the next Agenda, they need to be sent to the Clerk before Friday the 8th of November.

23-24/309 CLOSURE

To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.19 pm

Kelly Andrews Clerk to the Council

Signed: Chairperson.....Date.....