

BRADWELL-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bradwell-on-Sea Annual Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 19 May 2025 at 7.30pm at Bradwell Village Hall.

PRESENT: Cllr M Neall (Chairperson) Cllr P Davidson Cllr M Martin
Cllr H Baker Cllr D Allen

Members of the public: Three

CHAIRPERSON: Cllr M Neall

25/1 WELCOME to the Bradwell-on-Sea Village Council Annual Meeting of 19 May 2025.

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.

25/2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Meehan - Holiday

25/3 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON

RESOLVED: To elect the Cllr H Baker as Chairperson of the Village Council for 2025/2026. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

Cllr Baker received and signed the Chairpersons Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Baker then chaired this meeting.

25/4 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

RESOLVED: To elect Cllr M Neall as the Vice Chairperson of the Village Council for 2024/2025. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

Cllr Neall received and signed the Vice Chairpersons Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

25/5 TO RE-APOPT ALL COUNCIL POLICIES

RESOLVED: To readopt all council policies. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

Documents can be found at <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellonseaparishcouncil/policies-procedures/>

25/6 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2025. Unanimous decision.

25/7 PUBLIC FORUM

A resident, of 25 years, reported that he had noticed a considerable increase in the speed of traffic through the village and explained that he struggled to understand why a 40-mph limit is not in place along Waterside Road. He further explained that, in his opinion, he felt that the road being a 60-mph limit was now seen as a speeding challenge for motorbike riders who visit the village on a Wednesday evening and travel along this road in excess of 60-mph.

The resident also questioned speed limits at various points in the village, particularly around residential areas and the residential care home.

The resident further explained that when motorbikes visit on 'Bike Night', which is a gathering at Waterside each Wednesday night, that the noise is extremely loud and that the speed at which the motorcyclists travel is dangerous. He often vacates his property on a Wednesday to avoid the disturbance but finds pulling out of his driveway very difficult with fast approaching motorbikes. The 60 mph stretch of road along Waterside Road includes blind bends and junctions.

Cllr Neall advised that the fault does lie with the speed limit signs and that speed awareness officers only sit at Maldon Road and Mill End. Cllr Neall advised that although Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Councillors do not have a lot of power, he will make a report to Essex County Council Highways and speak to the landowner of where the Wednesday night bike gatherings are held.

The resident questioned if he compiled a petition and patrolled the village with signatures, would the parish council support this.

The clerk advised that an agenda item will be placed on the June agenda to enable the councillors to

decide.

25/8 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Following the resignation of Cllr. Noble, Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council are waiting to fill the casual vacancies by co-option process. The Clerk advised that the election officer at Maldon District Council had been notified of Cllr Noble's resignation and had advised that the parish council must now wait to see if there is a call for election before continuing with the next stage of co-option.

25/9 FINANCE

- a) RESOLVED: To receive the bank reconciliations as at 31st March and 30th April 2025. Agreed. Unanimous decision.
- b) RESOLVED: To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/2025 and 2025/2026. Agreed. Unanimous decision.
- c) RESOLVED: To approve the payment of Accounts for April and May 2025 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/10 PLANNING

Applications received from Maldon District Council.

To respond as a consultee.

25/00423/LDP

Claim for a lawful development certificate for the proposed siting of a caravan.

Cherry Tree Cottage, East End Road, Bradwell-on-Sea

RESOLVED: Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council supported this planning application. Unanimous decision.

Appeals

NONE RECEIVED

Decisions advised by MDC

25/00183/WTPO

T1 Horse Chestnut – Crown lift up to 3m and crown reduction by 4m.

6, Caidge Row, East End Road, Bradwell-on-Sea

APPLICATION APPROVED

For information only.

25/00398/PN

Prior notification of campsite to be opened between 12th April 25 and 15th of October 25 under the 60-day rule (for no more than 42 consecutive days).

Battles Field East End Road Bradwell-On-Sea Essex

PLANNING APPLICATION NOT REQUIRED

25/11 HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- a) Cllr Allen reported that, due to the overgrown hedging and verge vegetation, visibility to exit the junctions safely at both Woodyards and the junction at the fuel garage onto Maldon Road is very limited.
- b) Cllr Martin reported that the pothole outside of Down Hall residential care home has not been repaired.
- c) A resident reported that the footpath between the fuel garage and Marks Farm has become very overgrown making it difficult to walk along.

25/12 GROUNDSMAN

- a) RESOLVED: A report had not been received.

25/13 VILLAGE HALL & PLAY AREA

- a) Roger Scurrall reported that Bradwell Bay Football Team had informed the committee that they will not be renewing their agreement to train and play football matches at the recreational ground for the forthcoming season. The ground maintenance was partly to blame and that the

team have found better facilities.

Cllr Neall added that although the condition of the field was a contributing factor, there are physically better facilities at the new proposed grounds and that there are other issues at the village hall which were a contributing factor for the decision to move.

Roger Surrell reported that they had received enquiries from adult teams to use the recreational ground.

- b) The Village Hall door has been vandalised.
- c) The benches are awaiting replacement.
- d) The installation of two security cameras are still to be carried out.

25/14 VILLAGE HALL/PARK CHECKLIST & VILLAGE HALL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

RESOLVED: The checklist will be carried forward to the next meeting for councillors to review.

25/15 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 9th July 7pm Dengie Village Hall - Cllr Neall & Clerk to attend.

Dengie Climate Action Partnership – Thursday 19th June. Venue to be confirmed

25/16 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

RESOLVED: The District Councillor reported that there was nothing further to report following last month's update.

25/17 VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR

RESOLVED: Cllr baker advised that St. Cedd's Primary School had agreed that the new defibrillator can be installed on the external wall at the entrance to the school office.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will purchase a new defibrillator with lockable cabinet at the cost of £950 plus VAT. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/18 VILLAGE HALL LEASE

RESOLVED: Cllr Baker requested that Roger Scurrall provide the parish council with some suggested dates of a further meeting to assist in the renewal of the village hall lease.

25/19 CHURCH WALL DAMAGE

The church wall needs repair due to severe damage caused by a public bus colliding into the wall.

RESOLVED: Work has started on the church wall.

25/20 BASKETBALL HOOP

RESOLVED: To proceed with the purchase of a new basketball hoop through the insurance claim. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/21 BIO-DIVERSITY DUTY

RESOLVED: Cllr Baker reported that the newly planted hedges are doing well and are now established.

25/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16th June 2025 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.

25/23 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 6th of June.

25/24 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1(2), the public and press be excluded from the meeting for agenda items 25/25 to 25/27 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

25/25 CHURCH MANAGEMENT PLAN

RESOLVED: The church management plan had been circulated to councillor prior to this meeting for their review. The councillors agreed to adopt the reviewed church management plan and the clerk will send a copy to the church wardens. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/26 EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS

RESOLVED: To review the employee contract for the groundsman and the responsibilities required to maintain the village property and assets and to carry forward to the next council meeting. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/27 VILLAGE HALL LEASE

RESOLVED: The council will await suggestions of meeting dates from Roger Scurrrell to meet with the village hall committee members to discuss the terms of the latest edition of the Village Hall Lease. Agreed. Unanimous decision.

25/28 CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.01pm

Kelly Andrews Clerk to the Council

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