

BRADWELL-ON-SEA ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY held in
Bradwell-on-Sea Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 19 May 2025.

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

Members of the public: Three

CHAIRPERSON: Cllr M Neall

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Tillingham Village Council members.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from ECC W. Stamp and Cllr J Meehan

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2024.

The minutes were read and approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

There were no matters raised.

5. THE CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Chair, Cllr Matthe Neall, reported:

The 2024/25 municipal year on reflection has been another year of stability for the Council, and we have seen a number of projects completed and cleared from the working list. This has only been made possible by the hard work and dedication of the members of this council. There are still a number of tasks that we need to complete.

In September our previous clerk, Kevin Money decided to leave the council, and we were lucky enough to be able to find a new clerk quickly. Kelly has stepped into the role very quickly and been able to ensure that the council is able to be run smoothly. Thank you for your support to myself and the council.

I would also like to thank John Noble for his service to the council, due to John moving from the area he has resigned from the Council. John has been on the council for about the last 6 years. John has been a massive support to myself when I have been sitting in this chair. Holding me to account and providing support and his opinion. We didn't always agree but always found a way forward. I would think that all councillors would also be passing on their thanks to John for his hard work and dedication to the role of Parish Councillor for Bradwell on Sea.

As a council, we have been able to be financially responsible, ensuring that we have enough money available so that we can continue the functions that we need to complete, plus ensuring that the precept is kept as low as possible, so that we do not put the burden on the residents of the village.

Dialogue has continued with other groups within the village, although I would have hoped that some of the items would have been progressed further than they have, but discussions are continuing.

When I was elected as the MDC councillor for Tillingham Ward, 2 years ago, I said that I would only stay on the Parish Council and chair for 1 year, I have now been the chairperson of the Parish Council for the last 3 years and halfway through my second 4-year term on the council.

I hope that my fellow councillor are happy with the way that I have Chaired the council over the years. I feel that the council is fairly united, and we are all working within the skills that we have for the benefit of the council and the residents of Bradwell. I would like to thank all councillors that are working hard and doing different things to help the village.

As I said at last year's AGM the position of Chairperson should be shared each municipal year to ensure that all councillors have the opportunity to lead the council. Therefore, I will not be seeking re-election as chairperson of the council and will be handing over the reins. As ever, I will offer my support to whoever is taking over the role and I will always be available for advice if requested.

Again, I would like to thank you all for your support and help over the years, I hope that you are also be able to support the new chairperson, when they take over.

6. A BRIEF FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL.

The Clerk, Kelly Andrews, reported that:

Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council's accounts are prepared on a receipts & payments basis and the figures are subject to audit, which occurs during the months of May and June.

Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council opened the 2024/25 financial year with an account balance of **£18,054.50** and I am pleased to report that income and expenditure matched the predicted budget.

INCOME:

During the year, the total income received was £31,636.85 which consists of a precept payment from Maldon District Council and a refund in VAT.

EXPENDITURE: There was an overall expenditure of £21,695.

Bradwell-on-Sea is very fortunate as a village to own many facilities and assets, and these facilities must be kept in good repair and working order therefore much of the precept is allocated to maintenance. Aside from salaries, expenses are also made up of subscriptions to councillor and clerk training providers, making sure that all council staff are up to date with policies and procedures.

Looking at the financial year 2025/2026 I hope that grant applications will be sought to make improvements to the recreational facilities at Bradwell-on-Sea.

Lastly, I would like to thank all councillors of Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council for making me feel very welcome in my position as their new Clerk and I look forward to working with them all in the forthcoming year.

7. A REPORT FROM THE BRADWELL-ON-SEA VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

No report was provided.

8. THE MARY BROWN TRUST REPORT

Mary Brown Trustee, Jean Allen, reported that £1155.00 was spent on Christmas hampers, which were distributed to the widow and widowers of Bradwell-on-Sea and were very gratefully received.

9. MALDON DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Maldon District Councillor, Matthew Neall, reported that:

It has been one of my most important promises when elected, that I would be more visible through my ward. Whilst this is hard work with plenty of meetings, I think that I have been able to manage this well.

As you are aware, my ward covers Bradwell on Sea, Tillingham, Dengie and Asheldham Parish Councils, this means 19 different councillors and it use to be 2 different clerks, I am now very lucky that all the Parish Councils are now clerked by Kelly, which will make my life easier as I will have one point of contact for all 3, so this should ensure that you all get the same level of information.

I will endeavour to ensure that I continue to attend as many of your meetings as possible.

So, what have I been up to this year?

- Speaking at MDC meetings to ensure that the issues of the ward are addresses.
- Dealing with local residents with regards to social housing issues
- Dealing with residents planning applications and enforcement notices
- My personal attendance record at MDC is 90.77% for the 2 years I have been there having attended 59 meetings of a possible 65
- I have recently left the District Support Group and have returned as a Fully Independent councillor
- Working with other ECC Councillors on highways issues
- Plus, many other items of casework

I would like to thank Cllr Webb for raising the issue of the wooden road signs with BBC Radio Essex recently and for giving them my contact details so that I was able to respond directly to the issue.

One of the biggest challenges for MDC and the residents is the upcoming changes with regards to local government reorganisation and devolution. At the moment, elections are planned for next May, these will be for the new Essex Mayor and the shadow authority that will be in place for a year, before the other district, county and unitary councils cease to exist. This will mean a big change for residents and parish councils. At the moment, this is all that is known, but I will ensure that you are kept up to date when I can.

I would encourage all residents to attend your Parish Council meetings to make sure your voice is heard locally as all Parish Councils and District Councils should be working for the residents they represent and to contact me with items you feel MDC are not fulfilling locally so that I can help get them raised at MDC meetings.

As ever, I thank this councils support of me for the last year, and I am happy to be your representative at MDC.

10. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor, Wendy Stamp had circulated an annual report prior to this meeting. Her full report has been published on the Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council website and can be found by following the link: [56169698-60620121](https://www.bradwell-on-sea.gov.uk/56169698-60620121)

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

None

12. CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.14pm
Kelly Andrews
Clerk to the Council.

Signed: Chair.....Date.....2026