

MINUTES OF GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
MONDAY 17th MARCH 2025
AT THE PAVILION, THE PLAYING FIELD, CHURCH ROAD, GOSFIELD AT 7.15PM

Present:

Cllr Tricia Edwards (Chairman)
Cllr Richard Edwards also (RFO)
Cllr Jo Colyer
Cllr Carol Hough
Cllr Maggi Pawsey
Cllr Tony Strudwick
Cllr Bob Waters
Cllr John Willis
Mrs Diane Jacob (Parish Clerk)

County Cllr C. Siddall
Three members of the public

25/038 Welcome and Apologies for Absence. *The Chairman welcomed everyone, apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr Tony Farrelly (due to holiday) and District Cllr P. Schwier (due to illness).*

25/039 Declaration of Interests.

To receive any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests, or interests relating to items on the agenda. Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct.
None.

25/040 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

A member of the public updated the Parish Council that the footbridge (worst one) in the nature reserve has been repaired Parish Council to consider repairs to the other two (item to be on the next agenda). Serious damage to ferns etc has happened due to the muntjack to explore options of deterrent. The 5-year management plan is in progress and an item asking for resident's views will be in the Grapevine.

A member of the public asked about the speed surveys carried in Gosfield Road, accident information etc has been provided and given to Cllr Siddall

25/041 County and District Councillors to address the members if present.

County Councillor Chris Siddall – gave an update on the speed surveys carried out in Gosfield Road, the majority are well within the 60mph limit and consistent throughout the day. When on site traffic calming was discussed (carriage way signage) however the design engineer at Highways has said that this is not possible in that area. Highways Liaison Officer has said that this area is not a village/hamlet as not enough houses in the area to meet the criteria. Collision data etc has been taken into consideration and the proposed scheme (40mph) does not meet the criteria which must be evidence based and Highways will not go against policy. Cllr Siddall to follow up this decision with Tom Cunningham and speed data to be shared. Zebra crossing speed survey results also requested to be shared.

Devolution reform now together and agreed an outline plan. further meetings at Essex County Council will take place. LHP (Local Highway Panel) is being suspended as Essex County Council looking at how it will go forward in the future.

25/042 Minutes.

Item 1. To confirm receipt of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th February 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Colyer, all in favour resolution passed.

Item 2. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th February 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey seconded by Cllr Willis, Cllr T. Edwards, Cllr Waters, Cllr Strudwick, Cllr Hough, and Cllr R. Edwards in favour, Cllr Colyer abstained resolution passed.

25/043 Planning Matters

Item 1. Planning updates.

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against an enforcement notice issued by Braintree District Council on 2 September 2024. Petersfield Farm Petersfield Lane Gosfield Essex CO9 1PU

Alleged Breach: Appeal against the unauthorised material change of use of the land for the siting of containers for storage purposes and the construction of an earth bund along the Eastern boundary.

Awaiting notification of decision.

Ref: 24/02260/HH

Description: Installation of new driveway and dropped kerb.

Location: 18 Park Cottages The Street Gosfield Essex CO9 1TP

Application refused by Braintree District Council.

Item 2. New applications.

Ref: 24/02733/FUL

Description: Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development.

Location: Fallow View Barn Parkhall Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1SQ

No objection

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Willis, Cllr. T. Edwards, Cllr Waters, Cllr Colyer, Cllr Strudwick, Cllr Hough in favour, Cllr R. Edwards abstained, resolution passed.

Ref: 25/00373/FUL

Description: Change of use from annexe and dwelling to a single dwelling.

Location: 6 Woodland Way Gosfield Essex CO9 1TH

No objection

Proposed by Cllr T. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Colyer, Cllr Waters, Cllr Willis, Cllr Hough, Cllr Pawsey, Cllr R. Edwards in favour, Cllr Strudwick abstained, resolution passed.

25/044 Financial Matters.

Gosfield Parish Council approved accounts for payment, see separate page.

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Willis, all in favour resolution passed.

25/045 Matters Arising from previous minutes.

Item 1. Previous Minute No. 24/268 woodland known as The Lodge Plantation, Gosfield parcel of land for inclusion into the Nature Reserve, no further update by Cllr R. Edwards to contact solicitors, ongoing.

Item 2. Previous minute No. 24/268 Complaint letter to Clarion and BDC regarding affordable housing – Further clarification requested from Clarion, no update, it was noted that the property is back on the open market and to place an item in the Grapevine to advertise this.

Item 3. Previous minute No. 24/129 Open Space land at the top of Meadway – access gate to knee high fencing, still needs to be put in place – (ECC) public rights of way concerns regarding footpath 11, replacement of trees and to discuss the transfer of land. No update from BDC. The boundary was discussed and it was suggested by Cllr Strudwick that GPS points of the boundary need to be placed on a map as a reference for the future, this was agreed.

Proposed by Cllr Strudwick, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed.

Item 4. Highways – White Lines. White lines on the edge of the road near the kerb from the Kings head pub down to the Limes. Reported to Highways ref numbers 373559, 3731561 and 2946334 – no update by Cllr Siddall – ongoing.

Item 5. Highways – Blocked gully/drains. Ref: 3766624, and 35321973 What three words: puffed.rival.nurtures – no update by Cllr Siddall - ongoing.

Item 6. Car Park – It was confirmed that an application for financial assistance of £60,000.00 has been made to the Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund, await decision, also awaiting a decision from BDC regarding the S106 funding. All funding needs to be in place before works can commence.

Item 7. Skate Ramp previous minute 24/279 – To confirm that the acceptance documents have been returned to Sport England. The Crowdfunder website is currently work in progressing. Clerk has contacted suppliers to confirm a site meeting, still awaiting a date and photos for the website. All funding needs to be in place before works can commence.

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Signed.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 28th April 2025

Item 8. Gosfield Nature Reserve previous minute no. 24/277- Update 5 Year Plan will be on the next agenda, an item has been placed in the Grapevine asking for residents to submit their views and comments about the nature reserve a copy of the plan to be put on the website. Parish Council agreed in principle the draft 5-year plan. Cllr Strudwick and Cllr R. Edwards suggested a work plan for the next two years.

Proposed by Cllr Strudwick, seconded by Cllr R. Edwards, all in favour resolution passed.

Item 9. Public Footpaths 15 and 22 – E-mail received from Essex County Council Public Rights of Way, Parish Council not happy with content and tone of the e-mail so Cllr Siddall to follow up, no update from Cllr Siddall item still ongoing.

Item 10. Gosfield Wood – BDC are monitoring the situation - ongoing.

Item 11. Fairy Trail in Gosfield Nature Reserve, update by Cllr Strudwick that this is progressing hopefully to be open end April/early May. Cllr Siddall invited to open the fairy trail exact grand opening date to be advised at the next meeting, item to be on the next agenda.

Item 12. Previous minute No. 24/146 The Beacon – new one is currently being built and should be finished in April ready for VE Day event.

Item 13. VE Day Event 8th May 2025 – update work is progressing and events planned, tickets are available to purchase in the community shop. Party in the park, BBQ on the playing field, grants received for this, VE Day flag purchased for the Church and the new beacon will be lit.

Item 14. Allotments, Clerk has sent out e-mails to plot holders to tidy up the plots. Plots 3a and 3b have been rented out to a new tenant. The poly tunnel dimensions and shelving needs to be confirmed before purchase, item to be on the next agenda.

25/046 To adopt New Council Document/Policy.

Financial Regulations 2024 (New version issued by NALC to consider adoption) ongoing – item to be on the next agenda.

25/047 Street Lights.

Previous minute No. 24/251, 24/270, 25/012

To discuss and consider replacing the street lights with LED at a cost of £359.00 each ongoing – item to be on the next agenda.

25/048 Neighbourhood Plan.

Item 1. Update by Cllr Willis all comments from residents and the mandatory companies have been received.

Item 2. To review and consider and approve the final draft of the Gosfield Neighbourhood Plan. This was discussed and considered, both the Social Club Allotments and the Parish Council Allotments are not be included as voted on in November 2024 minute number 24/224, both are to be left out of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The open space land at the top of Meadway is to be included.

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Pawsey, all in favour resolution passed.

The two cycle routes, through the nature reserve and Park Lane to come out onto Russells Road to be included and to inform Greenstead Green Parish Council.

Proposed by Cllr. T. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Willis, all in favour resolution passed.

The final version of the Neighbourhood Plan to be e-mailed to all Cllrs when sending into Braintree District Council.

25/049 Fencing.

To discuss and confirm fencing from Hall Drive, right hand side near the substation. As saving has been made on the materials (cheaper than expected) for the newly installed fencing along the top of the Playing field. It was agreed for the fencing to continue from Hall drive, right hand side near the substation at a cost of £3,130.00

Proposed by Cllr Hough, seconded by Cllr T. Edwards, all in favour resolution passed.

25/050 Play Area.

To discuss weekly play equipment inspections and to consider quote. It was agreed to accept the quote from Braintree District Council to carry out weekly inspections and provide a report of the play equipment by a qualified person, at a cost of £867.88 per annum.

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Willis, Cllr T. Edwards, Cllr Waters, Cllr Colyer, Cllr Hough and Cllr R. Edwards in favour, Cllr Strudwick against, resolution passed.

25/051 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, village representatives, and Parish Council working groups.

Playing field management committee have held a Legionnaires meeting and Fiona Martin to carry out checks as required and in accordance with the Parish Council Legionnaires risk assessment.

Outside lights along the front of the pavilion to be hard wired in.

Pavilion walls have been cleaned.

The Pétanque court has now been completed.

Golf fund raising day to be arranged for September.

Wethersfield asylum centre accommodation has doubled in size.

25/052 Items for next agenda.

Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item, LGA 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified therefore the council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

New items to be sent to the Clerk.

25/053 Date of Next Meeting.

Parish Annual Assembly (Village Meeting) 31st March 2025 at 7.15pm

Parish Council Meeting Monday 28th April 2025 (7.15pm) date changed.

Meeting closed at **8.55pm**

Gosfield Parish Council
PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

Vouche Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
173 Software Licences	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	116	Subscription	Starboard Systems Ltd	S	345.60	69.12	414.72
174 Gosfield Speedwatch	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	117	Speedwatch batteries	Strand Europe Ltd	S	14.99	3.00	17.99
175 GNR Trees & Major Repairs	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	118	GNR tree work	Second Nature Tree Service	S	1,200.00	240.00	1,440.00
176 Councillor Training	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	119	Councillor training	Essex Association of Local	S	160.00	32.00	192.00
177 Telephone & Broadband	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	120	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	8.68		8.68
177 Telephone & Broadband	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	120	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	6.34		6.34
177 Car Mileage Allowance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	120	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	18.45		18.45
178 VE Day May 2025	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	121	VE Day Expenses	RBLI	S	50.83	10.16	60.99
179 Pavilion Water	23/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	122	Pavilion water	Anglian Water Business (W	Z	61.64		61.64
180 GNR General maintenance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	123	Plastic boards	Filcris Ltd	S	96.93	19.38	116.31
181 Water Costs	26/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	124	Allotment water	Anglian Water Business (W	Z	15.24		15.24
182 Stationery & Office Supplies	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	125	Clerk's computer	TechnoWorld	S	451.00	90.20	541.20
192 Neighbourhood Plan	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	126	Neighbourhood Plan support	LUC	S	2,311.20	462.24	2,773.44
193 Pavilion & Playing Field General	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	127	Toilet cleaning - pavilion	Alfie Martin	X	102.96		102.96
194 Toilet Sundries	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	128	Toilet products	Tesco Stores Ltd	S	16.36	3.27	19.63
195 Petanque Court	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	129	Petanque court construction	Jarvis M	Z	4,560.00		4,560.00
196 Village General Maintenance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	130	Bus shelter repairs	Jarvis M	Z	957.00		957.00
197 GNR General maintenance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	131	GNR work	Westover Woodlands	Z	610.00		610.00
198 Village General Maintenance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	132	Bus shelter repairs	Jarvis M	Z	820.00		820.00
199 Village General Maintenance	18/03/2025		Barclays Current Acc	133	HaHa Ditch	Charlie Jarvis	Z	37.50		37.50
Total								11,844.72	929.37	12,774.09