

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at The Pavilion on 9th July 2024 at 8pm

Present:

Councillor C Knapman (Vice Chairman), Councillor L Holt, Councillor E Miles the Clerk and 2 members of the public

24/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Collins and Cllr Davis.

RESOLVED: that the apologies from Cllrs Collins and Davis be noted by the council.

24/24 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th May 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24/25 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

24/26 General Power of Competence

RESOLVED: that Great Braxted Parish Council meets the criteria specified in paragraph 2 of the Parish Council's (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and resolves in accordance with Section 1 to adopt this power to the end of the term of the Council in May 2027.

24/27 Maldon District Councillor Update

No update was provided to the Council.

24/28 Public Participation Session

A member of the public made a request to leave the height of the hedge untrimmed along High Ridge (from the pedestrian gate to the corner of Tiptree Road and Sextons Lane).

RESOLVED: that the clerk will request a quote to face back the hedges on both sides and trim the height on the inside and outside around the field, with the exception of the hedging around the playground and the hedge from the pedestrian gate to the corner of Tiptree Road and Sextons Lane.

Cllr Holt advised the ditches along Tiptree Road required clearing.

RESOLVED: that the clerk will contact the landowner to request the ditches are cleared along Tiptree Road from Braxted Park Road to Clark Cottage/Granville Close.

A member of the public advised two members of the community had been watering the trees planted on the field in 2023.

Cllr Knapman advised he will thank the persons involved.

A member of the public asked if the grass on the field could be cut slightly shorter.

RESOLVED: that the clerk will ask the grounds maintenance team if this is possible.

24/29 Pavilion Refurbishment

The Vice Chairman provided an update on the pavilion refurbishment project noting:-

- All project tasks have gone out to tender for the phase two works.
- A quote comparison sheet will be completed showing all received tenders which the council will consider at an extraordinary meeting and agree the contractors for the works.
- The grant funding has been received from the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

24/30 Planning

To consider any planning applications published on the MDC planning website between the circulation of the agenda and the meeting:

24/30/1 Braintree District Local Plan 2041

Councillors discussed the Local Plan and how it would affect Great Braxted.

RESOLVED: that the Councillors will send the clerk any comments they would like to make by the 20th August 2024 so a response can be submitted.

24/30/2 Planning Decisions

FUL/MAL/24/00285 Extensions and alterations to the farmhouse, including demolition. Erection of outbuildings including garden annexe, cart lodge with home office above and stables. New driveway location and associated works. Ashmans Farm Braxted Road Kelvedon Colchester. **APPROVED**

RESOLVED: that the decision was noted.

24/31 Braxted and Blackwater Conservation Group (BBCG)

The Clerk advised the BBCG had been in touch with the council to confirm Essex County Council had refused permission for planning application ESS/42/23/BTE, submitted by Brice Aggregates, to relocate a plant site using conveyors over the Braxted Road. The reason for the refusal was 'due to the industrialisation of a greenfield location that would cause harm to local amenity and the appearance, quality and character of the landscape and countryside without any overriding justification or benefit'.

Resolved: that the update was noted and the Clerk will add this information to the Council's Facebook page.

24/32 Environment

24/32/1 Field Ploughing/Hedge Cutting

See minute 24/28 above for the resolution made.

24/32/2 Unknown Tommy Statue

Cllr Knapman advised a number of residents had enquired about installing a permanent Tommy statue in the village and the council considered a report summarising the type of statues available.

RESOLVED: that the council will continue to use the existing wooden statue and will consider purchasing a new statue when this needs to be replaced.

24/33 Finance

24/33/1 Accounts for Payment

The Council approved the following payments made between the 21st May to the 30th June 2024:-

<i>Date</i>	<i>Supplier</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Total</i>
21/05/2024	BRP Associates	Professional services in relation to pavilion project phase 2	£ 1,750.32
24/05/2024	ID Mobile	Mobile phone bill for May 2024	£ 6.00
29/05/2024	Mrs L Townend	May salary	£ 247.60
29/05/2024	Mrs L Townend	Apr/May expenses	£ 101.90
29/05/2024	HMRC	May payment	£ 62.00
29/05/2024	Cllr Knapman	Playground expenses	£ 22.94
29/05/2024	The Play Inspection Co.	Playground inspection fees for '25, '26, '27	£ 702.00
04/06/2024	Traer Clark Architect Ltd	Professional services in relation to pavilion project phase 2	£ 1,028.50
10/06/2024	DW Wallace	May grass cutting	£ 555.00
10/06/2024	Cllr Knapman	Playground expenses	£ 80.54
14/06/2024	Mr M Taylor	BBCG grant	£ 200.00
18/06/2024	SLCC Essex Branch	AGM and Training Day	£ 25.00
18/06/2024	Roger Clark	Deposit for fencing	£ 600.00
24/06/2024	ID Mobile	Mobile phone bill for June 2024	£ 6.00
24/06/2024	Cloud Next	Home hosting fee 24/25	£ 59.98
28/06/2024	Mrs L Townend	June salary	247.80
30/06/2024	Unity Bank	Q1 Bank charges	£ 18.00
01/07/2024	HMRC	Q1 tax payment	£ 185.60
TOTAL:			£5,899.18

RESOLVED: The accounts for payment listed above be approved for payment.

24/33/2 Bank Reconciliation

Prior to the meeting Cllr Holt verified the bank statements and reconciliation to the 30th June 2024.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the bank statement was reconciled on the 30th June 2024.

24/33/3 Budget Comparison

The council received the budget comparison to the 30th June 2024.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the budget comparison to the 30th June 2024.

24/33/4 CCLA Account

Councillors received a report regarding the benefits of opening a Public Sector Deposit Fund with the CCLA.

RESOLVED: that the Council agreed to open a Public Sector Deposit Fund with the CCLA, using the existing signatories (Cllrs Collins, Davis, Knapman and Miles) and deposit £85,000 into the fund.

24/34 General Announcements

No announcements were made.

24/35 Items to be Included on the Next Agenda

The following items will be added to the next council agenda:

- Ditch clearing
- Hedge trimming quotes

RESOLVED: that Members will send information for future agenda items to the clerk.

24/36 Date of Next Meeting

The Clerk advised the next meeting will be held at 20.00 on the 10th September 2024.

24/37 Chairman Closed the Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.44

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Cllr R Collins

Chairman