



# BRADFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in Bradfield Village Hall, The Street, Bradfield, CO11 2UU on

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 7:30 pm.**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillors Coley (Vice Chairman), Cunningham, Gunter, Weal, Points and Scott.
<b>In the Chair:</b>	Cllrs Burton (Chairman)
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mrs Marie Snell
<b>Also present:</b>	Essex County Councillor Guglielmi No members of the public

*Prior to the beginning of the meeting, Cllr Burton spoke on the recent passing of Geoff Sellers, owner of the village shop and an integral member of Bradfield Community.*

### **135/24 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Webb and Osborne were accepted.

### **136/24 Members' Declaration of Interests**

None

### **137/24 Minutes**

Members **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024, were accepted and approved as a correct record, signed by the Chairman.

### **138/24 Public Participation**

None

### **139/24 District and County Councillor reports**

Members noted report from Cllr Guglielmi with no report from Tendring District Council representative. Cllr Guglielmi included a link for Essex Highways information within the report which should be useful. Cllr Burton expressed the importance of the storm information and that this is beneficial for the wider community. Cllr Guglielmi advised the recent District Council meeting showed the proposal to set up an investigation to gain data on Tendring District regarding the farmers and the amendment put forward to write to Prime Minister to get assessment from DEFRA and NFU, looking at what the impact of inheritance tax will have on the Tendring District and move forward following this gain of information. Cllr Guglielmi advised the Local Government Review is imminent and expecting more information regarding this with devolution information and impacts this will have on the district and county. Cllr Gunter expressed there is a variation on opinions regarding this topic. Cllr Coley reminded that at last meeting he had asked for a talk from Gary Guiver (Director of Planning at TDC) as a council, and Cllr Guglielmi advised this is something that will be arranged in talking with parish councils collectively. Cllr Burton informed the meeting that Gary Guiver has initiated talks with local councils, this information received as Tendring District Association of Local Councils representative which members discussed of plans for the district.

#### 140/24 Clerk's Report

Owing to a newly appointed clerk, there was no clerk's report at this meeting, but this will be resumed in the new year.

#### 141/24 Payroll Services

Members considered quotation from DM Payroll Services and **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation at the cost of £205 per year with a one off set up fee of £30. This to include the processing of payroll, PAYE, National Insurance and pension.

#### 142/24 Chairman's Report

Members received information from Chairman of Bradfield Parish Council including feedback from TDALC. There was a presentation on the Tendring Orbital Coastal Route, and an Emergency Planning Resilience Act, Cllr Gunter asked if the council should have an emergency plan which the clerk stated that there is no legal requirement to have such. Changes within EALC with a new Chairman with higher standard of training expected to be offered.

#### 143/24 Dog waste Bin in Dairy House Lane

Members discussed the expenditure of purchasing new dog bin on Dairy House Lane and **RESOLVED** to the cost to replace. Cllr Guglielmi advised that in Lawford, they purchased a larger size owing to not always being collected on time, the need for larger size is advised.

#### 144/24 Working Group Reports

Members received updates from the following working groups:

**a) Recreation Ground and Play Equipment Working Group** – Cllr Coley advised now the clerk is in post it would be good to coordinate costings for the equipment and associated quotations and have these agreed for TDC application for S106 request. Cllr Gunter advised there is some graffiti on the playground which needs to be addressed and some caps that have been damaged and needs to be replaced, potential source from Playquip.

**b) War Memorial Working Group** – Cllr Coley advised the group has come to the conclusion, the project has gone as far as it can with the previous clerk actioned to ask the church if they have any intention of progressing the project, that the parish council would support that with queries raised over responsibilities.

**c) To commence the new Village Hall Carpark Working Group** from Bradfield Rovers Football Club working group in the consideration of extending the car park. Cllr Burton asked if any information had been gained regarding this which members informed the price was quite high but with various options of surfacing. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

#### 145/24 Amenities

None

#### 146/24 Town Planning Applications as per Schedule Issued by Tendring District Council

Members considered the below schedule of applications:

<a href="#"><u>24/01734/OUT</u></a> Erection of 3 dwellings. West Manston Windmill Road Bradfield.	Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered)	Cllr Coley queried if there is an identified need for this type of build, with concerns from members of loss of established biodiversity unless they effectively
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		create biodiversity within the area. Members <b>RESOLVED</b> to object to this application and submit comments to the Planning Authority.
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#### 147/24 Finance

- Members received the monthly finance reports including monthly bank reconciliation figures.
- Members received confirmation from a Cllr Weal that they have verified the bank reconciliations and signed both reconciliations and bank statements.
- Members **RESOLVED** to approve payment of invoices received in accordance with the 2024/2025 budget.
- Members noted no emergency expenditure by the clerk, Chairman or Vice Chairman as specified in Financial Regulations Section 4.

#### 148/24 Remote Voting

Cllr Burton informed the meeting of the information received regarding this open consultation of members of the public and local authorities. Members discussed participating within meetings remotely and proxy voting. Cllr Cunningham said having taken part in virtual meetings, there are concerns for this to continue, there could be dominating figures with other people potentially missing the chance to speak with members physically. Cllr Scott mentioned about hybrid meetings which allows for people to attend and make a council quorum and then if they have a valid reason people can attend virtually. Cllr Coley stated that equipment needs are complex, together with more people having the potential of attending should it be offered virtually. Cllr Gunter advised this is a personal opinion based consultation, the issues are regarding proxy voting which suggests a pre-determination which councils are based on in conduction of the organisation. Cllr Guglielmi advised it is a similar dynamic to 2020 with virtual meetings, when this was announced as a consultation, it was warmly received with concerns raised regarding proxy voting. Members felt there should be framework in place for people that can attend meetings in person should, and this should be taken on board when this is considered. At ECC members are allowed to take part in some meetings virtually but are not permitted to vote. Cllr Burton encouraged members to take part in the survey individually.

#### 149/24 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda

- Cllr Scott – Streetlight in the village out by the bus stop which Cllr Burton advised this is a work in progress and is being managed.
- Cllr Coley – Recent Senior Housing Enabling Officer meeting with Cllr Guglielmi, which suggested all parishes should have a housing need survey and this could be discussed at the next meeting.
- Cllr Guglielmi – Another initiative is land release funds and details on this are to follow with some land within the parish able to be utilised for this with grants available. There is then not the necessity to create a Neighbourhood Plan with a cheaper way of reflecting on the village needs.

#### 150/24 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the council is to be held on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30pm at Bradfield Village Hall, The Street, Bradfield, CO11 2UU.**

**The Chairman welcomed the new clerk and closed the public meeting at 8.22pm.**

**Signed**

**Dated**