



# 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 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7:30 pm.**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillors Coley (Vice Chairman), Cunningham, Osborne, Scott, Weal, and Webb
<b>In the Chair:</b>	Cllr Burton (Chairman)
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mrs Marie Snell
<b>Also present:</b>	Essex County Councillor Guglielmi and Tendring District Councillor Ferguson 1 member of the public

### 153/24 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Gunter and Points were accepted.

### 154/24 Members' Declaration of Interests

None

### 155/24 Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 154/24 Public Participation

None

### 155/24 Town Planning Applications as per Schedule Issued by Tendring District Council

Members considered the below schedule of applications:

<u>24/01811/AGRIC</u> Bradfield Hall Steam Mill Road Bradfield	Application to determine if prior approval is required under Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for extension of an existing steel-framed agricultural building for the storage of potatoes.	No comments
<u>24/01878/FULHH</u> 2 Heath Farm Windmill Road Bradfield	Householder Planning Application - Single storey rear extensions	No comments
<u>24/01908/FULHH</u> Glendoveer Wix Road Bradfield	Householder Planning Application - Timber frame double garage cart	No comments

## **156/24 Budget Setting 2025/26**

Members considered the budget for the 2025-26 financial year.

Members considered the estimates for income and expenditure for the 2025/26 financial year as recommended by the Finance Committee. The clerk confirmed that following the Finance Committee meeting, the tax base has been confirmed at 496.8. Members **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation on total estimated budget of £105,330.

The budget has been set to allow the council to retain all its current provision.

## **157/24 Precept 2025/26**

Members **RESOLVED** that on an estimated budget of £105,330, the council precept to be submitted to Tendring District Council for £71,500 having an impact of £143.92 for a Band D equivalent household per annum or £2.76 per week, this represents an 0.4% increase on 2024/25 requirement.

## **158/24 District and County Councillor Reports**

Cllr Guglielmi referenced the Local Government Reform (LGR) which is being discussed by members of Essex County Council soon, the resolution to potentially accept the government's invites to be a primary authority for local government, with combined mayoral authority. The deadline is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January and the request will go in the name of Essex, Southend and Thurrock, the recommendation will seek to postpone the May county elections, to be considered in the evolution programme. The lowest tier of local government does not feature greatly within the recommendation and the council has commissioned data to be sought regarding Essex and what options can be looked at from one major combined authority to set up 3-4 geographical authorities. This will be debated in the coming months. Cllr Guglielmi also briefed members of the Tendring, Colchester border as being part of the Local Plan for the area and stripped back to the regional area.

Cllr Ferguson stated focuses within Tendring District Council are on the LGR, other some grant funding regarding groundworks which parish councils can explore for relevant projects.

## **159/24 Clerk's Report**

Members noted the clerk's report.

## **160/24 Village Defibrillators**

Members discussed the recommendation made by Ray Ablett, Manningtree First Responders and **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendations made at the cost of £492 (inclusive of VAT which can be reclaimed by the council) simultaneously at Ram and Hoggett and to replace pads at Village Hall costing £87.00.

## **161/24 Working Group Reports**

Members received updates from the following working groups:

**a) Recreation Ground and Play Equipment Working Group** – The working group met with the clerk at the area on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and discussed the proposed project. The clerk is going to make contact with the three quote providers, Proludic, Playquip and Sovereign with a view to beginning the works in the near future. Cllr Coley stated the difficulty in the need to use multiple contractors and that the coordination of this is key, this is something the clerk is working on currently.

**b) War Memorial Working Group** –

Cllr Osbourne advised that ongoing discussions are continuing and the consequence of such a decision of the works will dictate the position of the council to be advised on at a

future meeting. Cllr Coley stated the council has made many attempts to have this work commenced on restoring the memorial but the church need to advise of their intentions.

**c) Village Hall Carpark Working Group**

No progress to date but discussions are needed with members of the Village Hall Committee and Cllr Burton asked for the working group to discuss action points.

**162/24 Amenities**

- a. Cllr Burton advised Dependable Dave has cleared some footpaths and that the dog waste bin has been restored on Dairyhouse Lane.
- b. Members discussed necessary works to be carried out by reputable local contractor and Cllr Burton advised that Dependable Dave is aware of works needed which have been agreed but dryer weather is required.

**163/24 Finance**

- Members noted the monthly finance reports including monthly bank reconciliation figures.
- Members **RESOLVED** to approve payment of invoices received in accordance with the 2024/2025 budget.
- No emergency expenditure by the clerk, Chairman or Vice Chairman.

**164/24 Housing Needs Survey**

Members received information from Cllr Coley regarding potential housing needs survey to be conducted within the village in the future to assess what, if any housing requirements there are, to be conducted by Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE). RCCE will print and provide letter and envelopes with the replies to be analysed by RCCE. A comprehensive report is then derived and the assessment made. The council would need to carry out administrative tasks of sending out the surveys and volunteers would be needed.

The works based on 496 dwellings and an average return of 30%, the cost for a survey for Bradfield would be approximately £380 to conduct. Cllr Coley felt this is a worthwhile survey and will give a 5 year snapshot of the area in housing needs. Cllr Guglielmi advised this has been carried out in other areas of Tendring, the results of the housing needs that evidence the needs for further development where appropriate. Cllr Coley advised a representative is willing to attend a council meeting to talk with members on this further should members feel this is necessary. Members **RESOLVED** to proceed with the survey and action further steps in order to initiate this process.

**165/24 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda**

- Cllr Burton – VE DAY80 – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025
- Clerk - Grass Cutting quotations

**166/24 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the council is to be held on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm at Bradfield Village Hall, The Street, Bradfield, CO11 2UU.**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.04pm.**

**Signed**

**Dated**