



BRADFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Bradfield Parish Council Meeting held in St Lawrence Church, The Street, Bradfield, CO11 2US on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7:30 pm.

Present:	Councillors Cunningham, Knights, Osbourne, Points, Scott, Weal and Webb.
In the Chair:	Cllr Burton (Chairman)
Clerk:	Apologies given owing to sickness.
Also present:	6 members of the public, 0 members of the press Essex County Council Representative – Cllr Pat Murray

The meeting was recorded for minute taking purposes.

76/26 Apologies for Absence

None

77/26 Members' Declaration of Interests

Members received an Other Registrable Interest from Cllr V Osborne regarding item 6, Councillor Co-option, as the applicant Oscar Osborne is his son and would not take part in any discussion or vote.

78/26 Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** that the Minutes and the Confidential Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4th August 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Knights wished for his objection to the accuracy of the minutes be recorded.

79/26 Public Participation

The Chairman made a statement in response to recent comments on social media. She confirmed that the Tendring District Council Local Plan had been considered on 3 March 2026 under agenda item 13 and that the Council had approved and submitted an 11-page consultation response, recorded at minute 209/25. Before that meeting, every household in Bradfield had been leafleted so residents were aware of the consultation and could submit their own comments. Two Horsley Cross residents attended the March meeting, raised concerns during public participation and heard the Council's discussion. The Tarchon Interconnector was included in the Council's consultation response.

The full response remains available on the Council website under "About Bradfield", in the Local Plan and Conservation Area section. As the matter was not on the published agenda for this meeting, it could not be debated or decided. It will be placed on an appropriate agenda when Tendring District Council begins a further relevant consultation. The statement was for clarification only and the matter was not opened for further discussion.

80/26 Councillor Resignation

Members received Councillor Scott's resignation with effect from 4th August 2026 with regret. The Chairman recorded the Council's thanks for his approximately 20 years of service, on and off, and said his resignation was a considerable loss to the Council. Mr Scott had offered to continue providing IT assistance if required.

81/26 Councillor co-option

The Chairman reported that there are two vacant councillor seats. Tendring District Council Elections have advised that only one vacancy could be filled by co-option at this meeting; the second vacancy will proceed through the election process. Further information was awaited. The two applicants each addressed the Council about their background, experience and reasons for seeking co-option. Following proposals, seconding and a vote by show of hands, Oscar Osborne was selected.

Members **RESOLVED** to co-opt Oscar Osborne, who signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

82/26 Town Planning Applications as per Schedule Issued by Tendring District Council

Members considered the below schedule of applications:

26/01113/LBC Thatched Cottage Wix Road Bradfield	Application for Listed Building Consent - Installation of Electric Vehicle Charger	No comment
26/01112/FULHH Thatched Cottage Wix Road Bradfield	Planning Application - Installation of Electric Vehicle Charger	No comment

83/26 District and County Councillor reports

District Cllr Tanya Ferguson's written report had been circulated to members and published on the Council website.

County Cllr Pat Murray congratulated the newly co-opted councillor and reported on Essex County Council's first 100 days, including highways, potholes, signs and other works. He referred to action taken regarding an obstructed footway and invited members and residents to contact him about local matters.

County Cllr Murray also spoke about concerns surrounding the Wethersfield site and associated transport arrangements, and referred to County Council-funded security patrols. A member questioned language suggesting potential prosecution or child-abduction risk in relation to persons being dropped near schools. County Cllr Murray clarified that simply being dropped outside a school was not an offence and that his reference was to action if an offence such as an attempted abduction were to occur.

A resident's concern was raised about the uneven footway from Mill Lane towards the telephone box, which causes difficulty for people with limited mobility. County Cllr Murray agreed to look at the location and check the position with the relevant highways team. County Cllr Murray also outlined his wider county roles, including involvement concerning Southend Airport and the Suffolk and Essex coast, and said he worked constructively with former County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi.

84/26 Clerk's Report

Members noted the clerk's report.

85/26 Working Group Reports

Members received updates from the following working groups:

- Public Rights of Way** – Councillors were reminded to report overgrown or obstructed paths to the Clerk for action.
- Housing Needs** - Laura Atkinson's village walk-around was scheduled for Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 2.00 pm and expected to take approximately two hours. As two members

of the working group would be unavailable, another councillor indicated that they might attend. The Chair would speak to the Clerk.

86/26 Amenities

- Members received update noting no additional maintenance carried out. The zip wire and hip-hop equipment repairs remained in progress. The Clerk had inspected the equipment and would arrange for an expert check.
- No additional works to be actioned at this time.
- Members received update regarding the replacement of the hip hop of funding opportunities that have been explored.
- Members received three quotations for the supply and installation of an outdoor table-tennis table at Bradfield Recreation Ground, ranging from £956 to approximately £4,000. In view of recent damage and an attempted removal of picnic tables, members considered that the table-tennis table should be secured to a concrete base. Manufacturer specifications and quotations for the base were required before a decision could be made. Advice should also be sought from someone with table-tennis experience about the best location, taking wind into account, defer until next meeting.

87/26 General Power of Competence

Owing to the clerk's absence, this item be deferred until next meeting.

88/26 Finance

- Members received the monthly finance reports including budget update and monthly bank reconciliation figures (*previously circulated*).
- Members **RESOLVED** to approve payment of invoices received in accordance with the 2026/2027 budget.
- Members noted emergency expenditure by the clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman as specified in Financial Regulations Section 4:
 - £6.50 – two replacement shackles for the repair of the car park height barrier
- Members received budget update previously circulated by the clerk and raised no questions.

89/26 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda

- Table Tennis Table Quotations
- Hip Hop Repair
- General Power of Competence

90/26 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the council is to be held on **Tuesday 6th October 2026 at 7.30pm** at **Church Room at St Lawrence Church, The Street, Bradfield, CO11 2US.**

The Chairman closed the public meeting at 8.04pm.

Signed

Dated