

Bradwell with Pattiswick Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th September 2026 at 7:30pm in Bradwell Village Hall, Church Road, Bradwell.

Present:

Cllr. Glenn Lockey (Chair)
 Cllr. Adam Deighton (Vice-Chair)
 Cllr. Tony Dunn
 Cllr. Antony Harding
 Cllr. Michael Turner
 Cllr. Craig Evans
 Cllr. Lesley Kinder

In attendance:

Mrs. Theresa Trotzer Wilson, Clerk & RFO
 2 members of the public were in attendance.

26-7/081 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair, Cllr. Lockey, declared the meeting open and welcomed those present. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Councillor, Nathan Robins.

26-7/082 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Deighton raised a non-pecuniary interest in the Planning agenda. Cllr Harding declared a non-pecuniary interest in the grass cutting discussions.

26-7/083 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Comments on footpath bridge repair and additional solar farm in Cressing.

26-7/084 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

No District or County Councillors were present but Cllr. Nathan Robins provided a report ahead of the meeting on the following:

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

- Welcomed the Government's decision to withdraw Essex from the current LGR process and place it under review. Noted differences in perspective between Essex County Council and Braintree District Council (BDC) regarding reorganisation. Expressed concern over the public funds spent by district councils pursuing LGR ahead of judicial review outcomes. Confirmed BDC local elections will now take place in May 2027.

Braintree District Council Local Plan

- Moving to Local Plan Sub-Committee (17 Sept) and BDC Full Council (21 Sept), followed by public consultation. Cllr Robins highlighted his personal opposition to Green Belt development and concerns over the scale of proposed housing. The plan horizon has extended to 2043 (adding 2,000+ homes); BDC legal advice states further preliminary consultation is not required. Stressed the necessity of supporting infrastructure (roads, drainage, schools, healthcare). Encourage residents to attend the 21 September BDC Full Council meeting and engage in the upcoming consultation.

Waste Collection System Review

- Continues to receive resident feedback regarding new bin collection arrangements. Welcomed BDC's review, but expressed view that providing extra bins is insufficient; urged BDC to review collection dates and frequencies.

Community Tree Planting Grant Fund

- Highlighted BDC's new £75,000 grant scheme open to parish councils, schools, community groups, and private landowners (with permission).
- Funding Tiers: Small (£0–£1,000), Medium (£1,001–£5,000), Large (£5,001–£15,000). Up to 10% can cover native bulb planting. Requires a 2-year maintenance plan.
- Deadline: Midnight, Sunday 11 October 2026. Details on the BDC website.

ACTION: CLERK apply up to £100 of bulbs.

26-7/085 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2026

Councillors received and considered the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 13 July 2026 and resolved to approve them as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Deighton – Unanimous)

26-7/086 CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk provided a report on the following:

Highways & Footpaths

- Reference Number: 4025308
 - Issue: defective furniture on PRow
 - Location: footpath 33 Bradwell
 - Current status: works completed
- Reference Number: 4023147
 - Issue: defective bridge on prow
 - Location: footpath 34 Bradwell
 - Current status: works completed

Abandoned Caravan

A report was submitted to BDC for the caravan that was left along Sheepcotes Lane however before BDC could react to the report, the caravan was set on fire and attended to by the Fire Brigade.

Speeding Concerns

A highways-safety concern regarding speeding through the village and the impact of this on residents, children and animals was received. To be discussed at the appropriate agenda item.

RCCE Nature Recovery Support Initiative

Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) has launched a new initiative, funded by the National Lottery and Essex County Council, to support parish councils in meeting Environment Act obligations and creating local Nature Recovery Action Plans aligned with the Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

- **Support Offered:** Led by Nicky Joshua (RCCE), support includes habitat survey advice, community workshop facilitation, grant application guidance, monthly networking/site visits, and 1 year of free online GIS mapping software with training and local LNRS data layers.
- **Council Commitment & Costs:** Participation requires a commitment of council/community volunteer time. RCCE officer support is free, but parishes may need to contribute toward formal ecological surveys if required.
- **Launch Webinars:** Monday 19 October at 7:00 PM and Thursday 22 October at 2:00 PM (*Bookings via enquiries@essexrcc.org.uk stating preferred date, delegate name, and email address*).

26-7/087 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Evans reported more fly-tipping at the recycling point.

26-7/088 PLANNING MATTERS

New Applications:

- 26/01907/FUL – Hunters Gate, Hollies Road, CM77 8DZ**
Demolition of existing buildings, relocation of ancillary garage/workshop building and erection of 1 no. self-build 3-bedroom dwelling and associated works.
Comments due by 29th September – Council resolved no comment.
- 26/01927/VAR – The Compasses Inn, Compasses Road, CM77 8BG**

Variation of Condition 5 and 6 of permission 18/01203/FUL (as allowed under appeal reference: APP/Z1510/W/19/3224461) granted 06/09/2019 and varied under 21/00306/VAR for: Retrospective change of use of The Compasses Inn from public house (Use Class A4) to a venue for weddings and events (Use Class D1 and D2)

Variation will allow:

Condition 5 - With the exception of first-floor guest accommodation, weddings and events at The Compasses at Pattiswick shall take place only between 10:00 and 24:00, Monday to Sunday. The first-floor guest accommodation shall be occupied only by persons attending a wedding or event at the venue and by no more than six adults at any one time.

Condition 6 - The premises shall be used as a wedding and events venue, including associated overnight guest accommodation, and for no other purpose"

Comments due by 29th September – Council resolved to object to proposed variation of condition 5 & 6 and keep it strictly as a wedding venue.

(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Deighton – Unanimous)

Applications determined:

- i. **26/01542/DAC – Land Adjacent Hanwick Farm, Hollies Road, Bradwell**
Discharge of condition 5 (Levels) & 22 (Construction Traffic Management Plan) of 24/01837/VAR.
APPLICATION GRANTED – 25th August 2026
- ii. 26/01648/HH – Church Farm House, Compasses Road, Pattiswick
Proposed front porch & two storey extension to existing garage.
REFUSED - 14th September 2026
- iii. **26/01219/DAC – Land South of Coggeshall Road, Bradwell**
Discharge of condition 11 (Lighting Design Scheme) of 21/01772/OUT.
APPLICATION GRANTED – 25th August 2026

For Information:

The following applications are technical 'Discharge of Condition' (DAC) submissions relating to previously granted planning permissions at Bradwell Quarry and Rivenhall Airfield. Essex County Council handles these technical details directly with specialist officers, and the Parish Council has not been formally consulted.

- i. **ESS/12/20/BTE/36/01** | Bradwell Quarry, Church Road – Details pursuant to Condition 36 (Landscape Ecological Management Plan).
- ii. **ESS/12/20/BTE/62/01** | Bradwell Quarry, Church Road – Details pursuant to Condition 62 (Aftercare scheme for biodiversity).
- iii. **ESS/12/20/BTE/53/02** | Bradwell Quarry, Church Road – Details pursuant to Condition 53 (Aftercare Scheme for Woodland & Agriculture).
- iv. **ESS/12/20/BTE/45/03** | Bradwell Quarry, Church Road – Details pursuant to Condition 45 (Completion of Archaeological Fieldwork).
- v. **ESS/39/23/BTE/41/05** | Rivenhall Airfield – Details pursuant to Condition 41 (Noise Monitoring August 2026).

26-7/089 SOLAR FARM EXTENSION

- i. The initial briefing from EDF Power Solutions regarding the Cressing Solar Farm Extension was discussed. A public consultation was held on the 8th September. An information pack regarding community benefit plans should have been sent to the Clerk however the Clerk is yet to receive this. Clerk to chase
ACTION: CLERK
- ii. The council concluded that they will wait to discuss further until the official application is submitted and more details are available. A few comments were made regarding the recycling of old panels and that the electricity will be going directly to the national grid.

26-7/090 HIGHWAYS & SAFETY CONCERNS: THE STREET

- i. The correspondence received from a resident regarding highway safety, vehicle approach speeds, and pedestrian visibility on the blind bends of The Street was discussed. It was **agreed** to look into a speed traffic survey for The Street and bring quotes back to the next meeting. The objective is to look into having a discussion with the County Councillor to raise the issue of reducing the speed limit to 20mph. **(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Harding – Unanimous)**

ACTION: CLERK

- ii. The safety concerns and visibility issues caused by a signage obstruction at the junction entering the A120 near the garage were discussed. It was resolved that Cllr. Harding will speak with National Highways and ask them to remove these.

ACTION: CLLR. HARDING

- iii. A report of commercial signage obstructing the public footway outside Efesus was discussed and Cllr. Lockey agreed to see if this can be resolved with the owner directly.

ACTION: CLLR. LOCKEY**26-7/091 GRASS CUTTING**

An update on grass cutting expenditure to date was received. Due to dry weather conditions reducing the required frequency of grass cutting, council **resolved** to reallocate some of the unspent funds, totalling £140.00, toward the following churchyard maintenance tasks:

- Spraying the pathway
- Trimming and raking off dead vegetation in the wildflower area
- Clearing accumulated soil and debris along the churchyard boundary perimeter.

(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Dunn – Unanimous) *Cllr Harding abstained*

ACTION: CLLR. LOCKEY**26-7/092 HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD**

- i. An update regarding a collapsing brick tomb (the Sage family grave) at Holy Trinity Churchyard was received. No news as of yet.
- ii. It was **noted** that the PCC have informed the Council that the Tree Survey at the Church Yard was carried out and no actions required. A copy of the Tree Survey report was received.

26-7/093 TREE SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- i. A quote was received from Cllr. Kinder for £600-£700 to inspect and carry out works on the Walnut Tree in the Playing Field however the Clerk will seek two additional quotes and bring this to the October PC meeting.
- ii. The trimming of the fruit trees at the Playing Field was discussed and it was resolved to seek quotes for this as well.

ACTION: CLERK**26-7/094 PLAYING FIELD**

The monthly verbal report of action required on the playing field was **received** from Cllr. Kinder. The only thing to report was weeds growing out around the basketball courtyard and that this would need to be addressed. A price/quote is needed for new bollards (2) and a new padlock. Cllr. Lockey will ask EH Countryside to clean and grease the current bollards while the Clerk looks into a replacement.

ACTION: CLLR. LOCKEY and CLERK**26-7/095 PLAYING FIELD ACCESS – CERES PROPERTY**

An update on the status of the access to the playing field following correspondence with Ceres Property Agency was **received**. Ceres Property have stated that they did not notice any potholes on the track leading down to the playing fields, but they will look at getting the potholes near the entrance to the car park area sorted. Revisit again at the October PC meeting.

26-7/096 HAUL ROAD

Councillors discussed ongoing concerns regarding the Haul Road:

- **Site Access Trial:** Cllr Turner reported that following the resolution to permit early lorry access to the Haul Road and incinerator gates, no vehicles appear to be utilising the early entry facilities. Instead, numerous lorries continue to park on the A120 during the early morning hours.
- **Resident Access & Monitoring:** The Council discussed using the Haul Road, as well as the presence of traffic survey lines currently installed on the road.

26-7/097 **FOOTPATHS** - Nothing to report.

26-7/098 **20MPH SAFER STREETS INITIATIVE**

Cllr. Harding to speak to Cllr. Thorogood, Clerk to look into speed survey quotes and bring back to the next PC meeting.

26-7/099 **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REVIEW**

The Neighbourhood Watch Review was discussed it was **resolved** to purchase 6 signs for £15 and place these on the street posts privately owned.

(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Turner – Unanimous)

ACTION: CLERK

26-7/100 **EXTERNAL AUDIT 2025/26**

- i. The External Auditor Report and Certificate from PKF Littlejohn for the financial year ended 31 March 2026 was **received**.
- ii. The "except for" matter (qualification) raised in Section 3 of the AGAR regarding the response to Section 2, Box 11 (Trust Funds disclosure/sole managing trustee confirmation) was **noted** and it was **agreed** to ensure this is correctly completed for the 2026/27 audit.
- iii. It was **confirmed** by the Clerk that the *Notice of Conclusion of Audit* and Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the AGAR have been published in accordance with statutory requirements.

26-7/0101 **FINANCE**

- i. The financial statements to 31 July and 31 August 2026 were received, approved and signed by two councillors.
 - a. Bank Reconciliation to 31 July and 31 August 2026
 - b. Budget Monitoring Report

- ii. The following payments/transfers made in July and August were noted:

Payee	Gross	Description
Mrs. Trotzer Wilson	£736.22	Staff Wages
SSE Energy	£54.89	Streetlight power for June 2026
EH Countryside	£496.32	Grass Cutting
EALC	£150.00	Cllr Training
HMRC	£178.74	Quarterly D/D Employer NICs
Unity Trust	£14.00	Service Charge for July and August
WhiteBarn IT Services	£45.00	Swapped Outlook account to Local account
CouncilWise	£280.80	Cllr Training
Mrs. Trotzer Wilson	£702.45	Staff Wages
SSE Energy	£33.57	Streetlight power for July 2026
TOTAL	£2691.99	

- iii. The following income was noted:

Income Source	Amount	Description
EALC	£236.25	Councillor Training Bursary

- iv. The implementation of the NALC 2026/27 national salary pay award was authorised.

- v. The following payments were authorised:

Payee	Net	VAT	Gross	Description
Mrs. Trotzer Wilson	810.26	1.00	811.26	Staff Wages
SSE	34.93	1.75	36.68	Streetlight power for August 2026
PKF Littlejohn	210.00	42.00	252.00	External Audit Fee for 2025/26
TOTAL	£1587.56	£53.61	£1616.17	

(Proposed by Cllr. Lockey – Seconded by Cllr. Turner – Unanimous)

26-7/102 **INFORMATION EXCHANGE & AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Neighbourhood Watch Signs, Speed Survey Quotes, Tree Works Quotes for Walnut Tree and Fruit Tree trimming, Bollards at Playing Fields.

26-7/103 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting is due to be held on **Monday 12 October 2026** at **7.30pm** in **Bradwell Village Hall**.

The meeting closed at 20:49