

Bradwell with Pattiswick Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held after the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 12 May 2025 at Bradwell Village Hall, Church Road, Bradwell

Present:

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

In attendance:

Mrs. Theresa Trotzer Wilson, Clerk & RFO
Cllr. Playle, County Councillor for Witham Northern
12 members of the public were in attendance

25-6/038 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair declared the meeting open at 8:11pm and welcomed those present.
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Kinder.

25-6/039 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members of the Council are subject to the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 (The Revised Code), adopted at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 13 May 2024. Appendix B requires Councillors to register and disclose pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. There were no declarations of interest.

25-6/040 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Twelve members of the public were present.

A resident raised concerns about the A120, Haul Road and the addition of more vehicles with the latest set of planning applications from Essex County Council (ECC). There were also concerns raised regarding the amendments to the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) planning applications and removal or variation of conditions.

The Chairman encouraged all residents to respond and comment individually to any planning application that is of concern to them and that the Parish Council would also be formulating a response. Cllr. Playle stated the deadline for responses was extended to the 27th May and that he has asked for a standalone meeting as the Liaison committee to discuss the future of Haul Road because it is not fit for purpose.

Another resident asked for useful suggestions for what they can individually do and how to bring this to the attention of the Environmental Agency (EA) and ensure they act appropriately.

A third resident raised concerns about interests between ECC and the IWMF planning applications, stating that ECC should not be making any further decisions on the changes, and it should be going to judicial review. Cllr. Playle and the Parish Council expressed their agreement that further decisions relating to the IWMF should not be made by ECC.

Other concerns were raised about potholes outside of the Parish along the A120 towards Coggeshall.

25-6/041 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Playle reported on the following:

- **Haul Road** – Cllr. Playle had raised the concerns relating to the physical accident between a contractor of the IWMF and a resident at Haul Road with the Bradwell Quarry and the IWMF. It was fed back that the individual who was involved in the incident no longer works at the IWMF. As previously stated, a meeting with the Liaison Committee at Essex County Council to discuss the future of Haul Road was requested.
- **Potholes** – A temporary repair was carried out on a pothole at Hollies Road. While driving to the meeting, Cllr. Playle noticed more potholes and will be asking Essex Highways to make the additional repairs as quickly as possible.
- **Devolution** – The Government has responded to Essex County Council's proposal of devolution with an interim submission. The final plan is due to be submitted in the Autumn.
- **Locality Budget for ECC** – Once the licence for the bench has been submitted and approved by Essex Highways, the funding can be secured for the bench as agreed with the previous Clerk.

Cllrs. Playle left the meeting at 8.50pm

No District Councillors were present.

25-6/042 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 APRIL 2025

Councillors received and considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 April 2025 and resolved to approve them as a true record.

The minutes were signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr. Lockey; Seconded: Cllr. Turner; All in favour, RESOLVED.

25-6/043 FINANCIAL REPORTS

- i. Councillors received and approved the financial statements to 30 April 2025.

Proposed: Cllr. Lockey; Seconded Cllr. Turner; All in favour, RESOLVED.

- ii. Councillors approved payments for April 2025. There were no queries.

Proposed: Cllr. Lockey; Seconded Cllr. Turner; All in favour, RESOLVED.

25-6/044 PLANNING MATTERS

New Applications/Variations:

- i. **25/00565/FUL**, Church Farm House, Compasses Road, Pattiswick Bradwell, Essex CM77 8BG
Proposed Agricultural Barn - Comments by 13 May 2025

Parish Council response:

Concern with the scale and size of the proposal.

- ii. **ESS/23/25/BTE** Planning Application for variations of conditions accompanied by an Environmental Statement Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree, CO5 9DF
Continuation of development of the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) permitted by ESS/39/23/BTE without compliance with conditions - Comments extended to 27 May 2025

Parish Council response:

The Council **objects** to the proposed removal or amendment of several planning conditions on the basis that they undermine previously agreed protections for local amenity, environment, and policy compliance. Specific objections include:

Condition 17 (visible plume): Objection – unclear what the plume consists of; visual and landscape amenity concerns remain.

Conditions 3, 27, 29, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 35: Objection – concerns over extended hours, noise, waste import scope, and potential conflicts of interest (ECC acting as applicant and authority).

Conditions 15, 19, 21, 23, 26, 51, 52, 54, 56, 61, 68: Comments and concerns – further clarification requested on phased submissions, temporary permissions, water processes, habitat plans, and amended wording.

The Council **requests further detail** before it can form a complete view on a number of the proposed changes, particularly those involving phased delivery, extended operational activity, and environmental controls.

- iii. **ESS/24/25/BTE**, Outline Planning Application accompanied by an Environmental Statement Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved (except for access) for the construction of a Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage Plant and Heat Offtake ('CCUS-HO') and associated stack, external pipelines, electrical cables, and landscaping works

Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree, CO5 9DF – Comments extended to 27 May 2025
Parish Council Response:

While the Council supports carbon capture in principle, it raised significant concerns, including:

Highways Impact: Potential increase in HGV traffic and cumulative impact on local roads; request for full traffic assessment and enforcement of routing agreements.

Air Quality and Emissions: Concerns over a second stack; potential breach of Condition 56 limiting stacks on site; request for clarification and long-term air quality monitoring.

Lack of Coordination: Urges planning authority to assess this application alongside related proposals (S.96a and S.73) to fully understand combined impacts.

The Council does not support approval at this stage and requests clarity on stack permissions, traffic impacts, and environmental protections before any decision is made.

- iv. **ESS/39/23/BTE/NMA13**, Non-Material Amendment Application Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree, CO5 9DF Non-Material Amendment to the Description of Development of planning permission ESS/39/23/BTE to remove reference to materials processed within the IWMF, together with the re-wording of Condition 29 to include reference to materials processed within the IWMF. ESS/39/23/BTE is an amended planning permission for the Rivenhall Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) – Comments extended to 27 May 2025

Parish Council Response:

Concerns were raised regarding:

Monitoring & Enforcement: Lack of clear mechanisms (e.g., GPS/ANPR) to detect HGV route breaches; need for regular reporting and accountability.

Signage: Support for signage installation, but request for confirmation that signs will be in place pre-operation and monitored for effectiveness, especially near Church Lane and Ash Lane.

Driver Induction: Call for regular re-briefing of drivers (including agency staff), multilingual materials, and induction tracking logs.

Transparency & Engagement: Recommendation for a public reporting mechanism, routine compliance reports to councils, and publication of the final routing scheme.

The Council requests stronger monitoring, pre-commencement signage, and community transparency before discharge of Clause 3.10.3 is approved.

- v. On land to the south of the A120 between Bannister Green and Bartholomew Green, in the county of Essex.EN0110021 - Hedgehog Grove Solar Farm - EIA Scoping Consultation and Notification Land to the south of the A120 between Bannister Green and Bartholomew Green, in the county of Essex. A solar farm generating station with a targeted export capacity of 98 MW, consisting of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and mounting structures, biodiversity enhancement, highway works for vehicular access, ancillary works (such as boundary treatments, security equipment and surface water management), and associated grid connection infrastructure including underground cabling to connect the development to the Braintree 132kV substation.

No Comment

- vi. **ESS/28/25/BTE**, Outline Planning Application accompanied by an Environmental Statement Land forming part of Rivenhall airfield, Bradwell Quarry, Coggeshall Road (A120), Braintree

Erection of low carbon greenhouses, alterations to the existing Rivenhall hangar to support a vertical farm, associated solar renewable energy generation and supporting enabling and infrastructure works.

Comments by 1 June 2025

Parish Council Response:

The Parish Council expressed general support for the proposed development of low carbon greenhouses, vertical farming, and associated renewable infrastructure, recognising its potential benefits in sustainability, carbon reduction, and local employment.

However, the Council raised the following concerns:

Visual Impact: Request for visualisations and height mitigation for greenhouses.

Solar Provision: Further detail needed on solar capacity, design, and integration with the IWMF.

Biodiversity: Concern over landscaping loss; call for replanting schemes and biodiversity net gain.

Traffic: Need for vehicle movement assessment and HGV routing assurances via A120 only.

Drainage: Clarification requested on water discharge, odour control, and environmental safeguards.

The Council supports the project in principle but recommends that approval be conditional on clearer detail and commitments in these areas

- vii. **ESS/31/25/BTE**, Removal/Variation of condition - Bradwell Quarry, Church Road, Bradwell, Essex, CM77 8EP – Continuation of development permitted by ESS/12/20/BTE without compliance with conditions 2, 12, 17, 32, 33, 39, 47, 53, 60 and 62 to allow changes to: the internal haul road; contractors' compound; water and silt management; areas of biodiversity; and restoration and aftercare schemes. ESS/12/20/BTE was planning permission for "Extraction of 6.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel (from Site A7 as identified in the Essex Minerals Local Plan 2014) including the retention of the existing access onto the A120, the processing plant (including sand and gravel washing plant), office and weighbridge, ready mix concrete plant, bagging unit, DSM plant, water and silt management systems. In addition, extension of the internal haul road into Site A7 and access for private and support vehicles to the Site A7 contractors' compound via Woodhouse Lane and Cuthedge Lane. Restoration of Site A7 to agriculture and biodiversity (species rich grassland and wetland)." Comments by 31 May 2025

Parish Council Response:

The Parish Council raised concerns regarding the nature of the application being submitted "without compliance" rather than as a clear variation of conditions. Key areas of concern included:

Lack of Clarity: Need for greater transparency on the scale and justification of proposed changes.

Infrastructure Changes: Requests for detailed plans on the realignment of the internal haul road and relocation of the contractors' compound, with consideration of environmental and public impacts.

Water Management: Clarification required on silt pond relocation and associated environmental safeguards.

Restoration Strategy: Concern over the impact of removing the Greenhouse Site from the existing minerals permission and how this affects the site's 10% Biodiversity Net Gain and long-term restoration plans.

The Council urged that further detail and a revised biodiversity strategy be provided before the application can be supported.

ACTION: CLERK

Applications determined:

None advised

25-6/045 PLAYINGFIELD

Cllr. Kinder was not present at the meeting but informed the Clerk ahead of time that there was nothing to report.

The Clerk advised that the annual RoSPA inspection would take place in May. The cost of this would be £80.00 plus VAT, with an additional fee of £4.00 per item over five. Last year the Parish Council was charged £20.00 for 5 additional items.

25-6/046 FOOTPATHS

The Footpaths' Officer reported that there was nothing substantial to report but that there was fly tipping off Haul Road track through the field. Cllr. Lockey would call the landowner and discuss.

25-6/047 VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

Cllr. Harding reported the following:

1. Potholes, outside the recycling centre in Bradwell in the area between the tarmac road and the concreted hardstand were reported to Essex Highways.
2. Anglian water – The construction on Links Road is on track.

25-6/048 LINKS SOLAR FARM

Previous Clerk had attempted to get in touch numerous times with the correspondent at the Links Solar Farm but as of yet has not heard any response or update. New Clerk will continue to chase and seek clarification.

ACTION: CLERK

25-6/049 PARISH MAGAZINE

The Parish Magazine responsibility and funding is due to be shared between Bradwell with Pattiswick and Stisted Parish Councils. An allocated budget for £400 was proposed to continue to support the magazine and keep it running and free for the residents. This would be a one-off payment as the new advertising rates will allow the magazine to fund itself. There are further discussions underway for additional fundraising later in the year in Stisted.

Proposed: Cllr. Deighton; Seconded Cllr. Harding; All in favour, RESOLVED.

25-6/050 THE HAUL ROAD

A letter detailing the concerns with Haul Road and its suitability was sent to the managing director of the IWMF. The response was that they would attend the June Parish Council Meeting to hear concerns from the Parish Council directly.

25-6/051 VILLAGE SIGNS

The outgoing Clerk had advised that the contact she had no longer undertook this work. The new clerk suggested approaching a Man Shed to see if they would be willing to undertake repairs to the Village Sign as part of a project. Cllr Turner stated he would get in touch with the Halstead Man Shed.

ACTION: CLLR. TURNER

25-6/052 LITTER PICK

Cllr. Turner reported on the Spring Litter Pick, noting a disappointing turnout. Members of the public said they were unaware of the event, despite it being advertised via the website, Facebook, parish magazine, and meeting minutes. Councillors agreed to explore better promotion methods ahead of the October Litter Pick.

25-6/053 RECTORY MEADOW

Nothing to report and no longer an ongoing agenda item.

25-6/054 CCTV AT CHURCH ROAD

An update on the CCTV at church road was received. Braintree District Council (BDC) informed the Clerk that they would like to add an additional camera when it was time to review them, overlooking the banks. Cllrs agreed they were happy for this to be installed. It was also clarified that the cameras are trail cameras and therefore fly-tipping still needs to be manually reported to BDC so that the CCTV can be checked for movement.

25-6/055 COUNCIL PHONE

It was **resolved** to the purchase of a Giffgaff SIM card at £6 per month (to be reimbursed to the Clerk) to provide a dedicated council contact number for official business.

Proposed: Cllr. Lockey; Seconded Cllr. Deighton; All in favour, RESOLVED.

Cllr Dunn left the meeting – 10:30pm

25-6/056 HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE PARISH

- i. Cllr. Lockey nominated Tony Dunn as an Honorary Freeman of the Parish of Bradwell with Pattiswick under the provisions of Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972. This honour recognises his longstanding contributions to the Parish Council, Village Hall, and the wider community. His efforts were instrumental in securing significant funding for the Village Hall, which would not have been possible without his dedication.

Proposed: Cllr. Evans; Seconded Cllr. Deighton; All in favour, RESOLVED.

- ii. Cllrs discussed the date and format for presenting the Honorary Freeman award to Tony Dunn, confirming it will take place at the July Parish Council Meeting. Under Section 249(4A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council may spend what it considers reasonable on the presentation. Invoice will be sent to the Clerk and presented at the June meeting.

25-6/057 INFORMATION EXCHANGE & AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Future agenda items:

- Village signs – quotes to undertake a repair and Halstead Man Shed
- Planning Application – detailed consideration of planning application
- PSPO – Consider how the Parish Council/residents should record incidents/evidence to provide to BDC
- Taking forward the Neighbourhood Watch Committee (if/when volunteers received)
- Follow up of incident and Haul Road and its ongoing suitability
- Banking and Signatories
- Approving the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

25-6/058 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on Monday 9 June 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Bradwell.

Items for inclusion in the agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk no later than **12 noon Friday 31 May 2025.**

The meeting closed at 10:41pm.