

**BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the July Meeting of Broomfield Parish Council  
Held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
in the Village Hall, Main Road, Broomfield at 7.30pm**

Before the meeting opened Cllr Steed spoke of two valued servants of the council; ex-Councillor Ian Hughes and Retired Clerk Jim Woodcock. The Chairman called for two minutes silence to reflect on their passing. The Clerk will write to both families expressing the Council's condolences.

**18/65**

**Members attending**

Chairman Cllr Barnes

Councillors Cllrs Blake, Daden, Hubble, Matthews, Steed, Thompson.

Also present The Clerk, City Cllr. knight (from item 18/76)

**Resolved.** Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Tranquada, Howell, Jones, Fletcher, Garwood, County Councillor Aldridge. Proposed Cllr Steed seconded Cllr Daden and carried unanimously.

**18/66**

**To approve the minutes of Broomfield Parish Council's Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018.**

**Resolved:** The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018 are accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Blake seconded Cllr Hubble and carried unanimously.

**18/67**

**To receive any Declaration of Interest from Councillors.**

Item 18/75. Cllrs Barnes, Hubble, Matthews, Steed and Thompson declared non-pecuniary interests as members of the Cottage Gardener Society.

The Clerk advised the Council that membership of the society constituted a non-pecuniary interest as they would receive no specific financial advantage by voting for, or against any motion relating to the society. Members declaring a non-pecuniary interest could take part in the debate and cast a vote.

**18/68**

**Public Question Time.**

There two were members of the public present.

A resident reported that the community speedwatch was inactive due to lack of volunteers and the police have requested their equipment back if it is not used. The Council was asked if it wished to support the venture in any way. Although it was agreed that speeding along the Main Road was no longer perceived as a problem, there have been incidents reported in School Lane. It was agreed that the matter would be reported in the next Broomfield Times with a request for volunteers to step forward. It was further agreed that the equipment would be made available for the local children to explore and understand its uses.

A resident noted that the land allocated for allotments was provided for that purpose alone and there should not be any fragmentation in the designated purpose of the

	<p>land. Cllr Daden confirmed that the land was gifted by Charles Ridley for the perpetual use of the parish as allotment land and reminded the Council that this generosity should be respected and the land should not be used for commercial purposes.</p> <p>The Council were also reminded that changing the use of the barn would incur costs that would reduce the achievable revenue. The facility was being used as a trading centre which dispenses advice as well as garden sundries at reduced costs and provided an occasional social hub. With the agreement of the committee, item 18/75 was considered at this point.</p>
<b>18/69</b>	<b>County Councillor Aldridge was unable to attend.</b>
<b>18/70</b>	<p><b>Cllr Knight attended.</b></p> <p>Cllr Knight reported that the Chelmsford Local Plan has been passed to the inspector and a decision is expected in a few months.</p> <p>There are outstanding matters to be considered within the Chelmsford Development Plan. Cllr Knight attended a meeting of the North East Garden Village consortium and reported that their proposals were compelling, but serious consideration will be needed to manage the infrastructure requirements within the Local Plan. It is known that other Authority's Local Plans have been rejected as unsound where inadequate attention had been given to infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Cllr Knight reminded the council that he would not be able to participate in a discussion on topics that fell within the development plan. Cllr Blake confirmed that the council would not be considering any new proposals for land use until the plan had been approved.</p>
<b>18/71</b>	<p><b>To note financial reports for June 2018.</b></p> <p>To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for June 2018.  To note cashbook, income and expenditure for June 2018.  To note payroll for June 2018.</p> <p>The Council noted receipt of the financial records for approval at the August Finance meeting June 2018. It was noted that the reconciliation figure of £41,747.69 agreed with the closing balance of the June bank statement page 493.</p>
<b>18/72</b>	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p>The letter from Chief Executive of CCC about Natural Foundations was noted.  The letter from Chairman of Mid-Essex NHS Trust was noted.  A request for publicity for community policing team was noted.</p> <p><b>Consultations</b></p> <p>A request for responses to CIL questionnaire was noted.</p>
<b>18/73</b>	<b>Clerk's report.</b>

	The Clerk confirmed that an application to fund the purchase and installation of a defibrillator had been submitted with a response due in four to six weeks.
<b>18/74</b>	<b>To note minutes from the following Committees:</b>
	Before considering committee work, the Chairman recorded his thanks for the work done by the Village Games Committee in delivering a successful event. He specifically thanked Cllr Hubble for her work in co-ordinating and leading the committee and presented a floral arrangement.
74.1.	<p><b>The minutes of the Finance Committee were noted.</b></p> <p>It was confirmed that the note about joint working on the library was a speculative discussion and there was no formal plan to take over the facilities, or to collaborate on service delivery.</p> <p><b>To consider a method of formalising budget implications of existing and future plans.</b></p> <p>The council already has a number of potential projects that have been agreed in principle and which are awaiting funding, land or opportunity. Cllr Mercer noted that there was a need to collate the information in the parish plan, the results of annual parish meetings, and the projections of spend for Community Infrastructure Levy funding. There will also be matters emerging from the neighbourhood plan.</p> <p><b>Resolved.</b> It was agreed to form a working group led by Cllr Mercer to research and collate the information. Proposed Cllr Mercer seconded Cllr Blake and carried unanimously.</p>
74.2.	<p><b>Broomfield Village Hall Committee.</b></p> <p>Meeting held Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Minutes not yet circulated. The Clerk reported that the audit report had been received and raised no matters of concern. The accounts and audit will be circulated for consideration by the finance committee in August.</p> <p>Council were advised that contracts for the venture cycleway have been agreed and the start date will be in September.</p>
74.3.	<p><b>The minutes of the Village Amenities Committee were noted.</b></p> <p>(See item 18/75)</p>
74.4.	<p><b>The minutes of the Property &amp; Planning Committee were noted.</b></p> <p>Cllr Blake reported that Essex County Council have confirmed that there will be no housing development on the land adjacent to Broomfield Place and the community can consider alternative uses.</p>
74.5.	<p><b>Broomfield Times working group.</b></p> <p>Cllr Matthews confirmed that the deadline for contributions is Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July.</p>

<p><b>18/75</b></p>	<p><b>To consider applying for planning permission to convert the barn from allotment use to B8 commercial use (storage)</b></p> <p><b>The Council agreed to move this item forward to be considered after 18/67 as there were members of the public present.</b></p> <p>The Council considered two reports prepared by the Clerk; one presented to the December meeting of the Village Amenities Committee, and one summarising the costs and benefits of the proposal. The Council also reminded itself of representation made to the December Village Amenities Committee by the Cottage Gardeners Society (CGS). It was agreed that the CGS was not making enough use of the space to fully justify their occupation of such a large space, but there was no strong case for converting the barn for commercial storage.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about converting the property to document storage as the need for paper retention will diminish as electronic storage becomes acceptable to the professions.</p> <p>On analysis of the financial implications, it was considered that a known expenditure of £1,500 - £2,000 against a projected income of £2,000 - £4000 did not make economic sense. It was acknowledged that there was a need to get better use from the space, but that should be a social benefit not a financial one. In summary, the council needs to explore ways in which the barn can be used as a social asset rather than an income stream.</p> <p>It was noted that the land was purchased from a public beneficiary for the perpetual use of the parish as allotment land. This sale of land for this purpose should be respected and the land should not be used for commercial purposes.</p> <p>The Council noted the contribution that the Cottage Gardeners have made in the past and looked forward to their future contributions to community life.</p> <p><b>Motion.</b> The Council will seek planning permission to convert the barn to storage space available for rent. Proposed Cllr Steed and seconded by Cllr Barnes. With one vote for and six against <b>the motion failed.</b></p>
<p><b>18/76</b></p>	<p><b>Use of land adjacent to Broomfield Place.</b></p> <p>To consider researching alternative uses for Broomfield place that will provide the maximum social benefit while retaining open space and amenity.</p> <p>Following the decision on Broomfield Place, it was noted that there is an opportunity to adapt the land for social benefit. It was not considered appropriate to discuss plans before the outcome of the examination in public was known. However there would be some preparatory work to be undertaken. This could be done by a working group with a small devolved budget and chaired by Cllr Barnes.</p>

	<p><b>Motion.</b> The council approves the establishment of a working group with a budget of £500 to research and report on residents' views on potential uses for the land adjacent to Broomfield Place.</p> <p><b>Resolved.</b> An amendment was proposed to insert the words "retaining open space and amenity" between "uses" and "for". Proposed Cllr Mercer seconded Cllr Steed and carried unanimously.</p> <p><b>Resolved.</b> The council approves the establishment of a working group with a budget of £500 to research and report on residents' views on potential uses retaining open space and amenity for the land adjacent to Broomfield Place. Proposed Cllr Daden seconded Cllr Blake and carried unanimously.</p>
<b>18/77</b>	<b>There were no reports from Representatives to outside bodies to consider.</b>
<b>18/78</b>	<b>There were no parking enforcement figures available.</b>
<b>18/79</b>	<p><b>To consider the provision of a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event in 2019.</b></p> <p>Following the debriefing on the Funday, it was considered that a future event should be more inclusive and combine events from the church, cottage gardeners, schools, cricket club, football club, hospital and any other interested parties. If it were agreed that the Parish Council was not intending to make money from the event, it could be used as a framework for other organisation's fundraising.</p> <p><b>The Council agreed to extend an invitation to all potential partners for a joint event to be held next year.</b></p>
<b>18/80</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting and items for next agenda</b> September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting closed 9.20.</b></p>