

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
Wednesday 21st November 2018 in the Village Hall, Main Road, Broomfield.**

Before the meeting opened, the Chairman recorded the death of Skip Catley in a road traffic accident. Cllr Daden spoke briefly in remembrance and the council observed a minute's silence.

18/99	<p>Members attending Chairman Cllr Barnes Councillors Cllrs Blake, Daden, Jones, Hubble, Howell, Matthews, Mercer, Thomson,. Also present The Clerk, City Cllr Knight, County Council Aldridge, three members of the public.</p> <p>Resolved. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Garwood, Steed, Fletcher. Proposed Cllr Barnes and carried unanimously.</p>
18/100	<p>To approve the minutes of Broomfield Parish Council's Meeting 19th September 2018. 18/83 declaration of interests line 1. For 'allotment holders', read 'cottage gardeners'.</p> <p>Resolved: With the above amendment, the minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 19th September 2018 are accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Barnes seconded Cllr Mercer and carried unanimously.</p>
18/101	<p>To receive any Declaration of Interest from Councillors. There were no declarations of interest</p>
18/102	<p>To note the resignation of Cllr Tim Tranquada. Cllr Barnes thanked Cllr Tranquada for his hard work and contributions to the community. Cllr Jones expressed his disappointment that Cllr Tranquada did not get support for his proposals to manage the council's assets and the disproportionate advantage offered to some groups.</p> <p>Resolved. The council will advertise for a co-optee to fill the vacancy. Proposed Cllr Barnes seconded Cllr Thomson and carried unanimously.</p>
18/103	<p>Public Question Time. A resident reported on conversations with residents who had consistently misunderstood the decisions made by the council concerning the barn and the potential purchase of a vehicle. Concern was expressed that the facts were being distorted to make a point at the council's expense. It was recommended that the Parish Council and Cottage Gardeners should concentrate on considering the use of shelf space and adequate use of the barn.</p> <p>A resident noted the decision to purchase a vehicle and expressed concern that there was no commitment to use the barn to store it. The council were reminded that they should be considering the greater good of the community rather than the interests of a particular group or organisation. Councillors must not put the wishes of interest groups ahead of the need of the whole community.</p> <p>Tribute was paid to Cllr Tranquada for his many contributions to the well-being of the village and his practical work in improving the overall standard of the community.</p>

<p>18/104</p>	<p>Receive report from County Councillor Aldridge for items not on agenda.</p> <p>Reflecting on the death of Skip Catley, Cllr Aldridge reported that the Safer Roads team will investigate the accident and will make recommendations to reduce the risk of similar incidents. He was asked if he would support the Parish Council if a previous request for additional safety measures were resubmitted to the Local Highway Panel.</p> <p>There is no new information on Broomfield Place.</p> <p>There are seventy libraries in the county and all have been experiencing a decrease in footfall. County Council have classified their libraries into four tiers, tier one being the best used and tier four being the least used. Broomfield Library is in the lowest tier of libraries, and there is little justification to keep the building open. The Parish Council should consider what uses could be found for the building and were also advised to stake their claim if they had an alternative use. Any proposals should be given as part of the consultation.</p> <p>It was noted that use of the building as a children’s centre would be a separate matter from its use as a library; it is possible for the centre to be kept, but the library service could be withdrawn. It is important to understand the social use of a library may not be reflected in the number of borrowings and the Council should consider how the social benefit can be maintained.</p>
<p>18/105</p>	<p>Receive report from City Councillors for items not on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Knight reported that he had a request for parking restrictions at the Saxon Gate housing estate. The Government Inspector has started work and the strategic growth area work for Broomfield will be heard shortly.</p> <p>The Parish Council was reminded that the Fire Fighters Delivering Differently meeting would be on Friday 23rd.</p>
<p>18/106</p>	<p>To consider a response to the proposals for Broomfield Library</p> <p>The Clerk reminded the council that the consultation has not started and care should be taken to avoid predetermination by adopting a view or position before the results are known.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council has considered the potential uses for the site for many years. There is a good opportunity for the council to take the facility and develop it for the benefit of the residents. Either by amending the use of the existing building, or disposal of the site and extending the Village Hall structure and usage. The Councillors would like to have more detailed understanding of the costs and non-library uses. The Clerk will liaise with the librarian.</p>
<p>18/107</p>	<p>To note financial reports for August 2018.</p> <p>The bank statement and reconciliation for October 2018 was approved. The cashbook, income and expenditure for October 2018 was noted. The payroll for October 2018 was noted.</p> <p>Resolved: The Committee approves the financial records for October 2018 noting the closing statement and reconciliation figure of £116,622.36. Proposed Cllr Jones seconded Cllr Hubble and carried unanimously.</p>

<p>18/108</p>	<p>Budget and Precept</p> <p>To consider draft budget and proposed precept for 2019-2020</p> <p>The Council noted the budget and made the following proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cycle path is a desirable option which will need funding for a feasibility study. • Purchase night pasture. • Start building a reserve to endow any new parish created by development at Beaulieu Park. • Support a plan to adapt or develop the library. • New playgrounds in other areas of the parish. • Take control of existing playgrounds • Install SIDs and VASs • Broomfield in Bloom. • Planting trees. • Re-site the library into Broomfield Place. • Road safety. Consider ways of improving traffic management by setting examples and nudging behaviour.
<p>18/109</p>	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>The Council confirmed that the Parochial Church Council's request to use Church Green on - Saturday, 18th May for the May Fayre, Sunday, 23rd June for the Songs of Praise service, and Sunday, 14th July for the Pet Service has been approved.</p> <p>The invitation for community housing bids was noted.</p> <p>The Fire fighters delivering differently event on 23rd November was noted.</p> <p>A request for parking space allocation at the village hall was noted. The correspondent was advised that all parking inside the barrier was reserved for hall hirers, and parking outside the barrier was required for the public using the playing fields.</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>The Essex Pension Fund draft administration strategy was noted</p> <p>The Open Spaces Society consultation was noted</p> <p>The Essex Association of Local Councils Strategic Plan was noted</p>
<p>18/110</p>	<p>Clerk's report.</p> <p>The Defibrillator CIF submission has been made and is awaiting a decision by the assessment panel with the result expected by late November.</p> <p>Community Infrastructure Levy. The Council has received £29,302 in levy funding in addition to the monies expected from the Hospital Site Development.</p> <p>Two trees; a birch and a bird cherry in David Smith Field have been broken and must be replaced.</p>
<p>18/111</p>	<p>To receive the external auditor's report if available</p> <p>The external auditor is still reviewing the Council's Annual Return and raising questions about the accounting for VAT in the previous year and expressing concern that the council has not ticked the box declaring charitable transactions. The Clerk considers that these are recharges for work done by Trust Staff on behalf of the Council and the discussion continues.</p>

18/112	The minutes of the following Committees were noted without comment:
112.1.	Finance Committee.
112.2.	Broomfield Village Hall Committee.
112.3.	Village Amenities Committee. The formation of an Allotment Association will be taken forward in the new year.
112.4.	Property & Planning Committee. The Local Plan Examination is underway. Cllr Blake will provide an update later
112.5.	Broomfield Times working group. Winter edition has been published
18/113	To note reports from Representatives to outside bodies/charities. Notes of the Parish Transport Representatives Meeting were noted. A request for nominations to the post of Local Highways Panel Parish representative was noted. Cllr Daden volunteered to accept.
18/114	No parking enforcement figures were available for October.
18/115	To note progress on the provision of a village fun day 2019 Defer for later consideration.
18/116	Date of next meeting and items for next agenda December 19 th 2018 To set the Budget and precept. Use of the library. Village fun day. For the February meeting Road safety for meeting invite representative from highways and safer roads scheme via John Aldridge Frequency of meetings.

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.