

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
Wednesday 20th February 2019 in the Village Hall, Main Road, Broomfield.**

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| 19/117. | <p>Members attending</p> <p>Chairman Cllr Barnes</p> <p>Councillors Cllrs Blake, Daden, Faulds, Jones, Hubble, Howell, Matthews, Mercer, Thomson.</p> <p>Also present The Clerk, County Councillor Aldridge for item 19/130</p> <p>Resolved. Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Garwood, Fletcher, Steed. Proposed Cllr Barnes seconded Cllr Mercer and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Cllrs Jones, Thomson and Hubble were thanked for a very successful senior's lunch which all agreed was an excellent event.</p> |
| 19/118. | <p>To approve the minutes of Broomfield Parish Council's Meeting 19th December 2018.</p> <p>Resolved. The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 19th December 2018 are accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Barnes seconded Cllr Hubble and carried unanimously.</p> |
| 19/119. | <p>To receive any Declaration of Interest from Councillors.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> |
| 19/120. | <p>Public Question Time.</p> <p>There were no members of the public present.</p> |
| 19/121. | <p>Receive report from County Councillor Aldridge for items not on agenda.</p> <p>No update this month.</p> |
| 19/122. | <p>Receive report from City Councillors for items not on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Knight was unable to attend.</p> |
| 19/123. | <p>To note financial reports for November 2018.</p> <p>To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for January 2019.</p> <p>To note cashbook, income and expenditure for January 2019.</p> <p>To note payroll for January 2019.</p> <p>Resolved: The Council approves the financial records for January 2019 noting the closing balance and reconciliation of £80,438.13. Proposed Cllr Jones seconded Cllr Mercer and carried unanimously</p> |
| 19/124. | <p>Consultations</p> <p>The Chelmsford park and ride consultation was noted. The Council considered that the park and ride was too expensive for shoppers at the weekend and this use should be encouraged to relieve congestion at the weekend. The Clerk will reply on behalf of the council requesting that they review their pricing policy.</p> <p>The Community Libraries consultation was noted. Cllrs Mercer and Thomson have made a response on behalf of the council confirming that the social uses remain of value.</p> <p>The Essex Pension Fund Administration Strategy consultation was noted.</p> |

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| 19/125. | Update on Broomfield Place consultation. The Committee has been drafting ideas for consultation and will meet again on March 7 th at 5.00 p.m. The Council is awaiting a response from Essex County Council about granting permission to conduct investigations on the site. |
| 19/126. | To note minutes from the following Committees: |
| 126.1. | Finance Committee. No meeting. |
| 126.2. | The Broomfield Village Hall Committee minutes were noted. |
| 126.3. | The Village Amenities Committee minutes were noted. |
| 126.4. | The Property & Planning Committee minutes were noted. An update on the Local Plan Examination has been prepared for Broomfield Times and will be circulated to councillors for information. The Examiner has expressed reservations about defining green corridors in general and in Boreham specifically. A response is expected in March, but this may be delayed as amendments are considered. |
| 126.5. | Planning application. CC/CHC/03/19 Broomfield Primary School The construction of a detached single storey building to provide 4no classrooms, new hall, group room, kitchen facilities, plant room, reprographics and associated ancillary facilities to allow the expansion of the existing school from a 1.5FE to a 2FE Primary School (increase of 105 pupils). Demolition of redundant caretaker's house and removal of existing temporary class base. Provision of new cycling and scooter parking facilities within main school site. Relocation of existing car parking spaces from main school site to north east corner of school playing field together with upgraded vehicular access and new pedestrian access. Provision of 8no. additional car parking spaces The Council has reservations about the concept of renewing the existing school rather than creating a new purpose-built design. However, there are no comments about the design as presented but the council has concerns about the movement of people across the road. Consideration should be given to improving visibility at the pedestrian crossing. |
| 126.6. | Planning application. 19/00084/FUL 45 Glebe Crescent, Broomfield, CM1 7BH Single storey side extension. No objection. |
| 126.7. | Broomfield Times working group. The Council thanked Cllr Matthews for producing another excellent edition. The copy deadline for the next edition will be 19 th April. This will be the last edition prior to the annual assembly, so committee reports and provisional accounts will be required. |

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| 19/127. | To receive reports from Representatives to outside bodies/charities. No reports this month |
| 19/128. | To note the parking enforcement figures for December and January. The enforcement figures were noted. |
| 19/129. | The meeting was suspended to allow the public to participate in the following item. |
| 19/130. | <p>Traffic management</p> <p>The discussion was opened with a review of the Neighbourhood Plan findings which identified traffic management as a very high priority, with the provision of a cycleway as a key element in the needs of the Parish.</p> <p>Cycleway</p> <p>Essex County Council have agreed to support an initial assessment of a proposed route, but may wish to pursue other routes. Whatever route is chosen, it is most important to separate cyclists and cars. Any cycleway that follows the B1008 will have to negotiate the complex junction at Rectory Lane.</p> <p>Broomfield Hospital</p> <p>It was appreciated that the main contributor to traffic congestion was the Hospital, and without significant change to working patterns or access, there is unlikely to be any real improvement. The Council were reminded that the Hospital's policy is to reduce on-site parking by encouraging staff and visitors to use the park and ride, but it was understood that the frequency of service was not suitable for staff at hospital.</p> <p>The Council recognises that the Hospital wishes to reduce parking and traffic movements, but consideration could be given to improving short-term parking to allow visitors and patients to attend when necessary. Currently, the traffic entering the hospital backs-up beyond the B1008 roundabout as drivers struggle to find parking. The Hospital approach road and roundabout could be redesigned to keep waiting traffic off the B1008 and be part of a northern village gateway.</p> <p>Road design and traffic management</p> <p>The B1008 Main Road is a key PR1 feeder road for Chelmsford and as such there is limited scope for introducing traffic calming measures. There is an expectation that the introduction of new routes will permit the road to be downgraded to PR2 which will make it easier to pursue other options.</p> <p>It was noted that the junction at Rectory Road is not designed to channel traffic along Chelmer Valley Road, and improvements here could direct through-traffic away from the B1008 as part of a southern village gateway.</p> <p>With a high volume of traffic flowing along Main Road, it was seen as something that divided the village. The Council considered that more formal crossing points would help to knit both sides of the village by easing pedestrian access and make the road less attractive for passing traffic. The development of village gateways would also make a clear statement about the nature of the village through which the cars are passing.</p> |

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| | <p>Speed reduction</p> <p>The Council has two poles and one speed indication device, but it is not moved regularly. It is known that passive speed registers lose their value when drivers become familiar with them, so provision should be made to move it between sites and consideration given to installing more siting poles.</p> <p>Following the realisation that the B1008 speed limit had been raised to 40 mph through a traffic order and should be 30 mph throughout the parish, a previous submission to reduce the limit from 40mph has been resubmitted to the Local Highways Panel.</p> <p>Attention must be given to School Lane, with consideration given to speed reduction measures and the possibility of banning southbound vehicles on the B1008 from making a right turn. Although the second idea would reduce westbound traffic on School Lane, it raised a concern that other routes would be used as shortcuts instead.</p> <p>Public transport</p> <p>The Council considers that bus travel is too expensive to tempt commuters out of their cars and a scheme that allowed unlimited travel or fixed-fee stage travel would make public transport more attractive. It was noted that County Council were already consulting on currently subsidised but underused routes. However, the Parish Council would be interested in finding ways to subsidise bus travel for residents. It was also thought that the current pricing for the park and ride should be reviewed to make it more attractive to weekend shoppers.</p> <p>Highway planners are fond of reminding road users that roads only exceed their capacity because everyone wants to use them at the same time. A change of working hours to spread the load on the road will help but that would require a major shift in public attitudes which may be beyond the scope of a Parish Council to enact. A more practical solution would be to promote car sharing schemes.</p> <p>Cllr Jones left the meeting.</p> <p>Resolved. The Council will suspend standing orders to extend the meeting. Proposed Cllr Barnes and carried unanimously.</p> <p>In summary, the Council considers that their main goal must be to reduce the volume of traffic through the village and will take the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write to County Council Highways requesting that main road is downgraded from PR1 to PR2 2. Request an update on the cycle path feasibility plan. 3. Request a feasibility study on the redesign of Hospital Approach. 4. Request technical expertise (through Cllr Aldridge) from County Council. Highway Planners on the development of cycleways, provision of affordable bus schemes, Pegasus crossings and cycleways. <p style="text-align: right;">Meeting closed 9.40 pm</p> |
| <p>19/131.</p> | <p>Date of next meeting April 17th 2019</p> <p>Date of first meeting of the new council. 7th May (subject to availability of venue)</p> |