

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 15th September 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

21/187	<p>Members attending.</p> <p>Chair: Cllr Mercer, others present Cllr's Faulds, Hance, Scott, Daden, Steed, Blake, Thomson, Need. County Councillor Mike Steel.</p> <p>Two members of the public were in attendance.</p> <p>Council Clerk Mark Hembury</p> <p>Resolved Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Bleet, Howell, Barnes and Hubble</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Blake and seconded Cllr Steel Unanimously approved.</p>
21/188	<p>Declarations of interests</p> <p>None received</p>
21/189	<p>To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th August 2021.</p> <p>Resolved The minutes of the Full Council meeting are accepted as a true record.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Faulds and seconded Cllr Hance. Three abstentions, all others in agreement.</p>
21/190	<p>Public Question Time.</p> <p>The two members of the public present stated they were happy that matters relating to School Lane have been progressed and are being taken seriously.</p>
21/191	<p>Receive report from County Councillor for items not on agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Mike Steel presented the following report</p> <p>Mid and South Essex Hospital Trust: (includes Broomfield Hospital)</p> <p>Due to Covid, the No of patients waiting for more than 52 weeks for treatment increased to 8,557 in March 2021 as opposed to May 2020 figure of 2,209. The Aug 2021 figure has fallen to 4,277 and MEHT are aiming for 1,900 by Dec 2021. However, a difficult winter is expected and this may change. 90% of staff are fully vaccinated, but waiting lists have been hit by the pandemic effect on staff, but this is improving with new guidance.</p> <p>A&N consultation</p> <p>Open until 3rd Oct – down to remaining 2 choices – Hamburger or T-Junction. Search on essexhighways.org/</p> <p>Residents invited to have their say on the library service</p> <p>Two online sessions are taking place on Monday 20 September for residents to discuss their views and ideas with the Council's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Louise McKinlay. In these sessions Cllr McKinlay will outline ideas for key principles to help guide the service and its future</p> <p>Cllr McKinlay wants to see libraries at the heart of our communities which is why they plan to invest in, enhance and protect the library service. Talking to residents and library users about the key principles for the service is the first stage in the commitment to making this happen.</p> <p>Residents wishing to attend the sessions can register their interest via the following links. They will then be contacted by email with full joining instructions prior to the event they have registered for:</p> <p>Morning session 11:30-12:30, 20th September: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/have-your-say-on-the-library-service-tickets-169622719119</p>

Evening session 18:00-19:00, 20th September: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/have-your-say-on-the-library-service-tickets-169624544579>

New cycle path

Cycle path West of main road in construction - **Section 2** ([Broomfield Hospital Cycle Scheme](#)) continues northwards from the end of Goulton Road on a new off-road facility across a mixture of agricultural land and existing footpaths to the junction with Nash Drive and ultimately Broomfield Hospital. This will provide a new, safe link for people who cycle between the hospital, Chelmer Valley High School and the surrounding residential areas. Some potential flooding issues have been highlighted which Highways are addressing by adding some drainage work which has added a month to the first phase. Plan is to try and have the Hospital to the council playing field section done by half term. Then complete the rest of the scheme by end Nov

LHP have completed a study which does not support cycleways along Broomfield Road and gives green light BPC proposal for route to the East of Broomfield Road.

Village Gateway:

Following the Hospital Approach roundabout improvements, LHP can look at the Northern Village Gateway on Main Road under LCHE142002. At this stage of the financial year the Panel has fully committed its budget but the gateway would be an ideal scheme for 2022/23, subject to a Panel funding recommendation.

It might be worth waiting for any parish boundary adjustments before doing this as the positioning may change

PROW 51

PROW 51 (Public Right of Way) 51 is a Byway, more accurately known as a BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic). The public have the same rights on BOATs as on surfaced country lanes which means that walkers, horse riders, cyclists, horse-drawn vehicles and motorised vehicles can use BOATs. As it's officially a highway, vehicles using BOATs must be fully taxed, MOT'd and insured.

I understand that a group wishing to use PROW 51 found it was partially blocked and decided to do some clearance. They have the right to do that – although they should exercise safety measures as this is a public place.

Part of PROW 51 cuts through the river and island. A temporary closure notice was requested by the landowner (across the river – 29 July effective) and granted by Highways. It was extended after the 21 days period and now lapses on 17th sept.

ECC highways are in the process of putting safety measures in place – depth markers. In the meantime, the landowner has requested a 6 month temporary closure (TTRO) to Highways and a permanent closure to the Byways Working Group. Both will add their recommendations for presentation to Andrew Cook (Director Highways and Transportation for a decision this week).

The requests have been supported by the Environmental Agency, Essex Wildlife Trusts and H&S.

It should be noted that closing or restricting BOATs is notoriously difficult as it involves removing the rights of motorised users who are very active in resisting and appealing any such requests.

Hospital Approach roundabout improvement works – 31 Aug to 19 Nov 2021:

	<p>Whilst the ECC Highways presents the worst case disruption (in order to give some flexibility), I have been informed by NHS that the works will be less disruptive. I have posted this on the local Facebooks:</p> <p>17 to 21 Sept – possible night time closures (8pm to 5am)</p> <p>21 Oct to 5 Nov – restricted access via Hospital approach with some traffic diverted via Court road</p> <p>8 to 16 Nov – night-time closures with 2 way traffic lights and all hospital and estate traffic diverted via Court Road</p> <p>All timings subject to change with weather conditions etc.</p>
21/192	<p>Receive report from City Councillors for items not on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Daden reported that Housing remains a main focus, a number of refugees have been taken in and £7m has been allocated to assist. Additional developments have been approved for more homes. Bloor Homes – awaits the transport assessment.</p> <p>Policy Board Working Group – Army and Navy – still looking at dealing with certain issues.</p> <p>Roselawn Farm fires are under investigation.</p> <p>There have been issues during cutting back along Mill Lane.</p>
21/193	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Letter regarding ditches – Mr Warboys</p> <p>This matter was covered during the report made by Cllr Steel.</p> <p>Cllr Mercer asked for a letter to be written to the landowner of the remaining ditch that needs to be cleared, Mr Day, New Barn Lane.</p> <p>Cllr Blake suggested an approach be made to Rob Venables for an estimate of the cost for the clearance of this ditch, which will be followed up by the Clerk.</p>
21/194	<p>Consultations</p> <p>None received</p>
21/195	<p>Reports from Councillors on outside bodies</p> <p>Local Highways Panel – Councillor Daden reported that there was a meeting tomorrow. Nothing on the agenda related to Broomfield.</p> <p>Woolards Charity – Councillor Faulds reported that the AGM was on 11th May and a further meeting would be held on 11th October.</p> <p>Broomfield Hospital Liaison – Councillor Blake reported that there had been no meetings since the expansion of the Trust. There may be a need to re-start the group and decide on the best way to do this.</p> <p>Football Sports Clubs – Councillor Daden reported that the Football Club now has 32 teams and a girls team has started recently. There are further ground maintenance works planned for the spring.</p> <p>Elderly Care Homes – Councillor Hubble – Not present.</p>
21/196	<p>To note financial reports for August 2021.</p> <p>To approve the bank statement and reconciliation for August 2021.</p> <p>To note cashbook, income and expenditure for August 2021.</p> <p>To note salary payments for August 2021.</p> <p>Resolved The Council approves the financial records for July 2021 noting the reconciliation figure of £175,028.72. Proposed by Cllr Faulds and seconded by Cllr Need. Agreed unanimously.</p>

21/197	<p>To approve the Local Government pay award effective from 1st April 2020.</p> <p>Resolved The Council approves the Local Government pay award effective from 1st April 2020 and backdated to to that date. Proposed by Cllr Daden and seconded by Cllr Steel. Agreed unanimously.</p>
21/198	<p>To confirm the Jubilee Celebration Working Group Terms of Reference</p> <p>Resolved The Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Jubilee Working Group as published. Proposed by Cllr Daden and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Agreed unanimously.</p>
21/199	<p>School Lane. The issue of excess speed has been highlighted as a concern at this location. A report has been prepared identifying improvements that could be implemented to improve the safety of pedestrians and road users alike.</p> <p>Resolved The Council approves of the School Lane report and the initial allocation of £20,000 to support the implementation of safety measures. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Need. Agreed unanimously.</p>
21/200	<p>To consider the proposal from Essex Highways for devolution of selected responsibilities to the parish.</p> <p>Cllr Blake stated that there was only limited devolution being offered, and not necessarily what residents wanted.</p> <p>Cllr Daden stated that not enough money was being offered.</p> <p>Cllr Need stated that the burden was placed on the Parish Council and the precept would need to increase.</p> <p>Cllr Steel stated that consideration would need to be given to public liability insurance due to responsibility for footpaths.</p> <p>Resolved There being no proposer for the motion, the motion failed.</p>
21/201	<p>To consider the valuation report regarding rental payments for office space.</p> <p>Resolved The Council considers that the rent paid to the Village Hall Charity for office space is appropriate and does not need to be amended. Proposed by Cllr Hance and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Agreed unanimously.</p>
21/202	<p>To consider the best way of distributing meeting agendas and associated documents to members.</p> <p>Members reported the following issues –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inability to download emails Size issues on their screens Linking reports and documents to the agenda items is required Inability to view PDF previews <p>The Clerk will prepare proposals to deal with the issues raised for the next meeting.</p>
21/203	<p>Currently a number of community events held within the Village Hall such as a coffee morning and stay and play are organised and funded by the Village Hall Charity. Consideration is to be given as to whether the Parish Council should fund these events directly.</p> <p>Motion The Council approves the direct funding of events for the benefit of the Community held in the Village Hall.</p> <p>This agenda item is a duplicate included from the previous meeting in error.</p>

21/204	To note the governance document circulated by Chelmsford City Council Members noted the document.
21/205	To confirm the appointment of Councillor Hance as the Youth Champion. Resolved The Council approves of the appointment of Donna Hance as Youth Champion. Proposed by Cllr Steed and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Agreed unanimously.
21/206	To confirm the appointment of Councillor Need as Renewable Energy Champion. Resolved The Council approves of the appointment of Jason Need as the Renewable Energy Champion. Proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Faulds. Agreed unanimously.
21/207	To receive an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Blake asked members for any comments on the Design section and Green Spaces section to be forwarded to him.
21/208	To approve named signatories for the CCLA deposit fund. Resolved The Council approves Councillors Bleet, Mercer and Barnes as named signatories for the CCLA deposit fund, authorising investment on behalf of Broomfield Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Need and seconded by Cllr Steed. Agreed unanimously.
21/209	To note minutes from the following Committees:
21/210.1	Finance Committee 25 th August (draft) The Committee Chairman was not present.
21/210.2	Broomfield Village Hall Committee 6 th August (draft) The Committee Chairman reported that a report on staffing will be going to the Trustees Meeting on 29 th September.
21/210.3	Village Amenities Committee 11 th August (draft) Nothing further to add.
21/210.4	Property & Planning Committee 1 st September (draft) Nothing further to add.
21/210.5	Communications Committee – none since 5 th August
21/211	Matters for the next meeting
	Councillor responsibilities – Passenger Transport Schools – Cllr Hance Faith Groups – Cllrs Steed and Mercer Proposals for the Youth Council School Lane – update IT provision for Councillors CCTV The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.