



Little Braxted Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Little Braxted Parish Council held at the Braxted Bakery on Tuesday 11th March 2025 2024 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors: French, Howard, Jepson and Yeates

Also Present: District Councillor Morgan

In the absence of the Chairman Councillor Jepson was elected to chair the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Barke.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Howard declared a pecuniary interest in the payment for the payment for the hire of the Braxted Bakery. No other Members declared any interests in matters on the agenda.

3. To Consider any requests from Members for Dispensations

There were no requests from Members with pecuniary interests for dispensations to enable them to participate on the item in which they have a pecuniary interest.

4. To Agree and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 14th January 2025

The Council agreed and approved the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025 as a true record.

5. To Invite Members of the Public to speak on Matters Regarding and Affecting the Parish

District Councillor Morgan spoke on the forthcoming Local Government reorganisation and some of the options being considered for consideration in Essex. There would be no further District or County Elections and existing Councillors would serve until 2028 but there would be elections for “shadow” Councillors for the new authorities in 2027.

6. To Further Review the Siting of the Dog Bin

The Council reviewed the siting of the dog bin as the previous site had been considered unsuitable by the contractor. It was agreed that the Clerk attempt to resell the dog bin, failing which permission would be sought for it to be sited opposite Carters Lane.

7. To Agree to Purchase and Install Two Cast Iron Bells to Protect the War Memorial Grounds

The Council agreed to purchase and install two cast iron bells to protect the war memorial grounds, and for these to be positioned on the two corner abutting Beacon Hill.

8. To Note and Agree the Internal Auditor's Terms of Engagement

Having previously agreed to appoint the Suffolk Association of Local Councils as its Independent Internal Auditor for 2024/2025 the Council noted and agreed the Internal Auditor's Terms of Engagement.

9. To Receive Financial Statements as of 31st January and 28th February 2025

The Council received and noted the financial statements as of 31st January and 28th February 2025, with that for February including detailed income and expenditure, budget comparisons and a bank reconciliation supported by a bank statement, showing total funds as £7,064.15.

10. To Approve the following payments made between meetings

The Council noted following payments made between meetings:-

| Document Reference | Payable To | In Respect of | £ |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 900 | Maldon District Council | Replacement of cancelled cheque 890 | £210.23 |
| 901 | Maldon District Council | Speed Checks | £114.67 |
| 902 | G N Mussett | Clerk – February | £170.11 |
| 903 | H Bendall | Litterpicking – February | £75.73 |

Councillor Howard left the meeting.

11. To Approve the Following Payments

The Council approved following payments

| Document Reference | Payable To | In Respect of | £ |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| 904 | Information Commissioner | Renewal of Registration | £40.00 |
| 905 | The Braxted Bakery | Hire of Room for Meetings | £175.00 |
| 906 | G N Mussett | Clerk- March | £170,11 |
| 907 | H Bendall | Litterpicking – March | £94.56 |

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|-----|------|--------|---------|
| 908 | HMRC | Tax/NI | £188.40 |
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12. Clerks Report – for Information

a) Bridge Width Restriction

The Clerk reported that the permanent width restrictions at the river bridge were scheduled to be installed in July 2025.

b) Road Signs

Councillor Jepson raised the subject of the existing width restriction signs and their condition. The Clerk advised that he would check the signs but that in view of the additional signage proposed by Essex Highways in connection with the permanent restrictions it would be financially inappropriate to renew this Council's signage at this time. However he would report any Essex Highways signs which may have fallen into disrepair.

13. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.45pm.