



## Little Braxted Parish Council

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### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Little Braxted held at the Braxted Bakery, Witham Road on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Kit Speakman, Chair of Parish Council and three members of the public.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **2. To Agree and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**

The meeting agreed and approved the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 as a true record.

#### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman gave a report on the past year in the Parish:-

“Once again it is my pleasure to recap the events of the past year.

The Parish Council continues to monitor planning applications, of which there have been few this past year. Essex County Council continue to rebuff our requests for additional HGV signage advising not to access the A12 via Witham Road, so we have purchased and erected our own, which appears to have made a difference. We are in constant contact with Highways regarding the new A12 and have been assured that our direct access to the A12 at the Witham North junction will remain..

We remain grateful to the Essex Community Foundation grant funding to enable us to continue to employ a part-time litter picker. In just a few hours each week, Heather makes a real difference to the volume of litter in the verges and hedgerows, and we hope this will continue. The Council has recently increased the area being litterpicked to include Little Braxted Lane, Rivenhall from the A12 to the river.

Funding from the Little Braxted Community & Education Trust, via Essex Community Foundation, gave us significant funding towards our village Jubilee Party combined with Great Braxted at the Pavillion on 3rd June 2022, which was well attended by residents of both parishes. We have been unable to access similar funding for the Coronation event, but have provided coronation mugs for all our children in education. There are some spare mugs to purchase if you would like a memento.

The Little Braxted Community & Education Trust, via Essex Community Foundation funded a second defibrillator which is sited at the Braxted Bakery, and will in 2023/24 fund two speed activated signs warning drivers to slow down through the village. The regular speed checks undertaken on our behalf by Maldon District Council have

resulted in a number of drivers having to attend a speed awareness course and these signs will provide additional impetus to reduce speeds.

As a Parish Council we rely on many residents who put so much of themselves into helping us. I would particularly like to thank John Aldis for maintaining the War Memorial and the grounds of St Nicholas' Church, and Sarah Howard for use of the Bakery for our meetings. Thank you also to those involved in the Remembrance Sunday service at the Cenotaph which was extremely well supported. Without the band of the Salvation Army there this year, we were lucky to have John Gilbert leading the singing to try to keep us in tune!! It was great to see so many young people involved in the scouting community in attendance too.

Finally, I am deeply indebted to my fellow Councillors for the time they willingly give and also thank Gordon, our Parish Clerk, who goes above and beyond to help us drive the Parish forward. His knowledge, enthusiasm and attention to detail are invaluable."

**4. Public Forum**

There were no questions or comments from those present.

**5. Closure**

The meeting was closed at 7.05pm