

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at The Haywain Public House, on Thursday 17th July 2025 @ 19.30pm

In Attendance:

Councillor I Smith (Chairman)
Councillor C Barrett
Councillor N Stock
Councillor K Hodgkiss
Clerk – D Sauka

Meeting commenced @ 19.30pm

8 members of the public attended.

88/1. Apologies to be received and accepted

Cllr T Monger (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Guglielmi

88/2. Members Interests

- To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, other Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interests – None
- Form for Monitoring Officer – Cllr Stock and Cllr Hodgkiss have written a letter for councilors to sign regarding abstaining from disclosing their personal address. Will await response from Monitoring Officer.

88/3. Reports

a) County Councillor – ECC June & July Reports on website

b) District Councillor

Councillor Fairley stated that regarding Devolution – there is lot of work still being done internally. Looking at electing a Mayor for Greater Essex on 7th May 2026. Shadow unitaries in 2027 for how Essex is going to be split up. 2028 losing the District and County Councils.

Meetings with Planning consultant for Tendring - Jacob Jaarsma once a fortnight, relating to the infrastructure projects / Five Estuaries response from the Secretary of State that has been published and can be found on the Planning inspectorate website

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010115/EN010115-001825-Five Estuaries Information request 11 July 2025.pdf>

Secretary of State went back with loads of questions, regarding their DCO submission, which proves that they are giving it attention. National Grid DCO is due to be submitted mid-August, and scheduled for 1 month for the Planning Inspectorate to validate it, then 2 weeks for local Authority to respond. Local impact document due in December 2025. Mid December / January will be first preliminary planning hearing, for which Local / Parish Councils and residents should be aware. Enabling them to react to issues that concern them personally. Parish Councils may wish to look at setting up a workshop with

Jacob Jaarsma to help in terms of arguments they have. Also important to go through submission with him, to consider responses on concerns impacting Little Bromley. Also, thoughts on Parish Councils attending meetings to give personal representation or have a consultant making representation on behalf of the Parish. ie Impact on Village, traffic for example.

c) Parish Councillors - None

d) Footpath Warden - Nothing new to report. All reports that have been submitted on ECC website have not yet been actioned.

e) Police Report – Nothing received (Hopefully attending next meeting)

88/4. To agree:

- Minutes of Parish Assembly meeting held on the 22nd May 2025
Cllr Smith Proposed minutes to be correct, 2nd Cllr Barrett- Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith
- Minutes of the AGM meeting held on the 22nd May 2025
Cllr Smith Proposed minutes to be correct, 2nd Cllr Barrett- Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith
- Minutes of the PC meeting held on the 22nd May 2025
Cllr Smith Proposed minutes to be correct, 2nd Cllr Barrett- Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith

88/5. Footpath Maintenance

Cllr Hodgkiss suggested as a Parish should we consider if we wanted to take on the responsibility for maintenance of the footpaths / bridges / Sign Posts ourselves. ECC has a Public Rights of Way maintenance / Parish Council Partnership for this, providing training, insurance coverage and funding/Grant. To be looked into further as issues that have been raised with Essex Highways are not being dealt with. Cllr Stock proposed that Cllr Hodgkiss investigate further and report at the next meeting. 2nd Cllr Barrett. Unanimously agreed.

88/6. St Mary's Church

- **Churchyard Planting (LBPC Conservation fund)**
Intent was to receive monies from the Road Rally people for a specific purpose and planting within the churchyard was established. Rally did not go ahead within the last 2 years, therefore will review for next meeting.
- **Memorial Garden**
Rev John Saxon (Parish Vicar for Little Bromley and the 8 surrounding Parishes) stated that he had been Vicar for nearly 2 years. In that time, he has had 2 families enquire for internment of ashes within St Mary's churchyard, which he considers a lovely place. There is currently no official area for those cremated remains to be interred yet. Cllr Smith stated that Memorial Garden has been on our agenda for several years, with no resolution. Rev Saxon stated that the diocese sets the rules, and there should be a designated area set out for this. There have already been discussions as to where this should be, (halfway along the southside of the churchyard against boundary – Church being on the right) and he is sending his

proposals to the diocese. He is suggesting 2 internments per plot with set sized plaques to be agreed beforehand.

Cllr Stock asked how long the process would take. Rev Saxon stated that he has to give 28 days' notice for anyone to object to the proposal. If no objections it will then go to the Chancellor who will make a judgment on the objections / support, then to be agreed afterwards by PCC– up to 3 months, definitely by end of the year.

Apologised for the length of time it has taken.

Cllr Stock proposed that we thank the Reverend for coming this evening and giving an update on the situation, and resolve as a Parish Council to support the proposals that have been outlined. 2nd Cllr Smith, unanimously agreed.

- **S137 Grant monies – Grass Cutting**

Rev Saxon stated that the onus on keeping the churchyard tidy as people expect is down to volunteers and church members, and any monies are gratefully received. In other Parishes this is normally supported by the Parish Councils.

88/7. War Memorial

Cllr Barrett stated that the War Memorial has officially been added to the list of buildings of Special Architectural and Historic interest, and has been listed as Grade II. The application process began on the 4th June 2024 which took just over a year.

Cllr Stock, thanked Cllr Barrett for her tenacity and congratulated her on the favorable outcome.

88/8. Little Bromley Village Fund (Formally Amenities Fund)

It was discussed that the constitution of the Little Bromley Village Fund (LBVF) states that one of the trustees of the LBVF should be a member of the Parish Council, which is currently not the case, and also that records of decision making and financial activity do not appear to be available anywhere in the public domain.

It was noted that there is a proposal from LBVF (as set out in the Messenger) to give financial support to the P.O.W.E.R group towards the cost of their website, with the remainder of the monies being given to St Mary's Bell Fund, then close the account.

It was proposed by Cllr Stock, seconded by Cllr Barrett and unanimously resolved that:

- **The Clerk to contact LBVF to propose a meeting be held with a Little Bromley Parish Councillor present, and**
- **That Cllr Smith be appointed a trustee of the LBVF as a representative of the Parish Council, in accordance with the constitution of the LBVF.**

Cllr Smith agreed to the appointment

88/9. Invoices to be paid

EALC - £99.41

Agreed by Cllr Smith, 2nd Cllr Barrett, Unanimous

Clerk to post online for nominated Councillor to release payment.

88/10. Planning / Determinations

Application No: [25/00938/FUL](#)

PROPOSAL: Planning Application - Erection of single storey stable block and change of use of meadow/grassland to equestrian use and grazing land.

LOCATION: Jennings Farm, Ardleigh Road, Little Bromley, Essex
Unanimous to support

APPLICATION NO: [25/01012/FULHH](#)

PROPOSAL: Householder Planning Application - Single storey side extension and porch (following removal of existing garage).

LOCATION: Meadow View, Shop Road, Little Bromley, Essex
Unanimous to support

88/11. Traffic Calming through village / Speeding

VAS sign is not working outside Harlequins. Clerk contacted Highways who stated that they had no record of the 2 VAS signs in Little Bromley, therefore they did not maintain them. The clerk confirmed this was not true, as it had been discussed. at the time of installation that LBPC would not maintain the signs including the batteries which cost in the region of £500 that would need to be replacing approx every 5 years. Advised she should contact their support unit. Awaiting a response.

88/12. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Stock stated that at last meeting we resolved to initiate the process. Confirmed he had emailed TDC and received a response that they are starting the process. He is looking into having the Parish of Little Bromley designated as the plan area, and will have to explain why we believe this to be a plan area. When this has formally been agreed by TDC, we can move onto the next phase. Stated that LBPC don't really have any assets apart from St Mary's Church, War Memorial and Book Exchange. Ongoing.

88/13. Bus Stop / Shelters

Clerk sent email to Cllr Guglielmi asking for an update – Still awaiting a response. Cllr Barrett in correspondence with Hedingham Bus Services regarding the name of the Bus Stop, as it still states Post Office.

88/14. P.O.W.E.R – People Opposing Widespread Electrical Ruin Campaign Group

Member of POWER Group attended stating that National Grid, North Falls and Five Estuaries projects are at various stages of planning/pre-planning. There is also the Tarchon converter station. POWER will refresh and reposition the signage around village before the Tendring Show. Tendring Show is a good opportunity to remind visitors of the issues surrounding the village with the 3 proposed projects plus Tarchon. Looking to relocate the larger banner to a more permanent position. Requested funding from LBVF for the upkeep of the website, which is an important tool to keep residents updated regarding the projects. Stated that if anyone would like to be involved, please get in touch. Cllr Stock stated that the signs do stimulate discussion and brings the situation to a wider audience.

88/15. The Great Grid Upgrade

- National Grid - Pylons and Proposed Substation
Decision late 2026 after various Planning Inspectorate meetings

- Five Estuaries Windfarm - Underground Cables and Proposed Substation
Currently with Secretary of State for consideration – expecting a decision in September
- North Falls Windfarm - Underground Cables and Proposed Substation
Nearing end of its planning inspectorate examination and assigned to Secretary of State for development – Decision expected in January 2026
- Tarchon – Meetings being held with ECC & TDC. Expecting to hear something fairly soon about the location of converter station and getting their application submitted.

Cllr Hodgkiss stated that we should start to think about design guide – expecting to receive on the 18th August the combined Five Estuaries and North Falls design Guide, that will start the 6 week engagement period for the actual design for the sub-stations. Following on, 1st week in September will be public information event, which the public can comment on the design. There will be various stages for the design guide for consultation which will probably be finalized in December 2025. Since last PC meeting, Councillors have attended various meetings with ECC & TDC in connection with the infrastructure projects and community benefits. It is still unclear at present what Community Benefit Funds will be, and what will be available. It is important to think about what we should be proposing for Little Bromley. If anyone has ideas, please contact the Parish Council

88/16. Correspondence

Email received regarding the Defibrillator (located outside the Haywain) as to the maintainance. Clerk stated that there should be new pads every 2 years unless used (then replaced ASAP). Pads cost around £60 per set. Also looking into maintainance.

88/17. Urgent items

None

88/17. Public Participation

Member of the Public remarked about lorries travelling through the Village again. Cllr Stock stated that he contacted Highways regarding signage for restriction lorries, and was told there was no available funding at present. Cllr Smith stated that this has been looked into in the past with no results. In addition, some of the Village Highway signs have been knocked sideways, and are in need of setting upright. Cllr Smith willing to contact Essex Highways again regarding signage and posts

88/18. Next meeting date

Thursday 25th September 2025 @ 7.30pm (change of date due to holidays)

Meeting closed @ 20.52

Signed:.....

Dated:.....25th September 2025

Name:.....

Position:.....CHAIRMAN