

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at The Haywain Public House, on Thursday 22nd May 2025 on the rise of the previous meeting

In Attendance:

- Councillor I Smith (Chairman)**
- Councillor T Monger (Vice Chairman)**
- Councillor N Stock**
- Councillor K Hodgkiss**
- Clerk – D Sauka**

Meeting commenced @ 19.17pm

15 members of the public attended.

87/1. Apologies to be received and accepted

Cllr C Guglielmi
Cllr C Barrett

87/2. Members Interests

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, other Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interests
None

87/3. Reports

a) County Councillor - April & May Reports entered into records and put on website

b) District Councillor

Cllr Fairley reported that main priorities now is devolution and local government reviews. Lots of meetings, with a high amount of work between Tendring district councillors and County Councillors, and all other councils that will be involved in what will be the new unitary for Essex. Trying to get a meeting organized with TDALC to give a full report to the Parish Councillors of what will be happening, timings and how it is looking to work, but it is still a complicated process. TDC have concerns, but important they pass on to Parish councils who then pass on to parishioners. Cllr Smith stated that the next TDALC is to be held w/c 26th May.

Cllr Fairley stated that other work ongoing National infrastructure projects and progress on those. Main concerns for Little Bromley relate to water, and emergency plan if something should go wrong. Stated that Little Bromley should contact Anglia Water directly to ask what the process should be if an issue is picked up and how they are to deal with it. This should encourage them to look at what they are putting in the DCO, in terms of comments Traffic remains a huge concern, a cumulative impact of all the projects and looking at the construction simultaneously and it's total traffic and noise impact and disruption on the residents and village. TDC have stated that work hours should be from 8am until 6pm and nothing outside of those hours. DCO's are looking at 7am until 7pm, with exceptions on top of that. Enforcement of this would be extremely difficult finding out who is making the noise or working outside of hours. National Grid construction traffic route has not yet been finalised, suggested that LBPC push to find out information as to where that traffic route is to go. (will they use the intended permanent haul road, or use Five Estuaries / North Falls route) TDC has flagged this as a concern, and LBPC should push TDC for answers on this.

Cllr Fairley stated that she organized a meeting between Jacob Jaarsma, LBPC and Ardleigh PC, regarding worthwhile possible benefits there could be to the villages (Report of meeting sent to Clerk) going forward.

Responses on the Planning Inspectorate website with questions that the planning hearing is bringing forward, anyone can look at what sort of questions are being asked, and responses that Essex / Tendring responses to questions. If residents have any questions to be raised Cllr Fairley will be happy to raise them.

North Falls next hearing is the 17th June for issue specific hearing, 18th June online open hearing. Anyone can register and raise any issues.

c) Parish Councillors – Cllr Stock stated that the Bromley 10K run that happens every year is such a well organised event, that hundreds of people from miles around enter. He congratulated the organizers on another successful event, that is a credit to the village. The event raises a lot of money which is put back into the community. Well done.

Cllr Smith also thanked the organisers of the 10K run, the villagers that do a superb job with the village planters throughout the year, and those that did the recent litter pick.

d) Footpath Warden

Sign post insecure and leaning into field along Shop Road on pathway towards St Mary's Church, has previously been reported. Last reported in November 2024. Has already been looked at and is on the to do list. Cllr Hodgkiss proposed all the outstanding Footpath & signpost issues be amalgamated and sent to TDC – She agreed to work with the Footpath Warden on this.

e) Police Report - None

87/4. To agree Minutes of the PC meeting held on the 20th March 2025

Cllr Smith Proposed minutes to be correct, 2nd Cllr Monger- Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith

87/5. To agree 2024 / 2025 Accounts

Cllr Smith Proposed accounts to be correct, 2nd Cllr Monger- Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith

87/6. To agree 2025 / 2026 budget

Cllr Smith Proposed budget, 2nd Cllr Monger - Unanimously agreed
Signed by Cllr Smith

87/7. St Mary's Church

- **Churchyard Planting (LBPC Conservation fund)**

Postponed until spoken to Reverend J Saxon

- **Memorial Garden**

Reverend John Saxon was due to attend the meeting on the 15th May, but was previously engaged when meeting was moved to 22nd May 2025. Hopeful to attend July 2025 meeting. Sent a list of regulations – to be put on website.

- **S137 Grant monies – Grass Cutting**

Postponed until spoken to Reverend J Saxon

87/8. War Memorial

- **Update** Still awaiting a decision from the Secretary of State.
- **Looking tired – requested £30 for planting**
Cllr Smith proposed that we give £30 towards the upkeep of the War Memorial
2nd Cllr Monger – Unanimously agreed.

Cllr Stock stated that the War Memorial looked good decorated with Union Jack bunting for the VE80 celebrations.

87/9. Invoices to be paid

- Clacton Business Services (accounts) - £120
 - War Memorial - £30 (if agreed from 87/8)
 - Bromley Messenger - £200
 - Village Planters (R Knott) - £175
- All agreed as correct. Proposed Cllr Smith, 2nd Cllr Stock, Unanimous Clerk to post online for nominated Councillor to release payment.

87/10. Planning / Determinations

- Cllr Stock stated that LBPC has formally responded to the targeted consultation process for National Grid. (published on website) Cllr Stock proposed that we formally endorse and support the responses that were made at this public meeting.
Also a response was made to in respect of TDC regarding local plan. Attended a presentation where the Government dictated District Councils are required to massively increase housing numbers, which has disrupted TDC current planning program. They have also targeted Little Bromley as potentially having to have substantial new housing within the village. (response published on website)
Cllr Stock proposed that we agree responses. 2nd Cllr Smith. Unanimously agreed.

87/11. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Stock stated that a neighbourhood plan is like the Local Plan, but for a small Community. They are relatively new, as came into place in 2011. There used to be village design statements but they did not have any planning weight. A Neighbourhood Plan does have weight and must be considered by the Planning Authority. It can't be used to stop development, but it would give us a say in what happens within the village. A lot of work goes into drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan, and a lot of Parishes have spent a great deal of money getting professional help setting this up. Cllr Stock stated that he proposes not spending any money on this if it can be avoided. This would have to go to a village referendum, therefore everyone within the village would get to vote whether they agree with it or not. It is not just the Parish Councils idea of what a development should and should not look like. Cllr Stock suggested that we start the process of drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan which would give LBPC the opportunity to put down in a public document, everything that is great, and what we value and cherish, and want to preserve in Little Bromley. Tending Planning is relatively local and they understand more about our village than when we have a much larger Planning authority (due to devolution). Stated that it could do the Parish no harm in starting this process. Formally proposed that we request TDC to delineate the boundary of LB as the geographical area for the Neighbourhood Plan. Ardleigh has a very detailed 100-page document, highlighting all their assets, amenities and facilities, which LB has none of. Therefore development within a village that doesn't even have any pavements, is ridiculous. To

recognise that there should be some development and have a say in where it is to go. There are already recognised places within the village, and it would allow us to have some form of control over it.

It was formally proposed by Cllr Stock and seconded by Cllr Smith that:

- Cllr Stock formally request Tendring District Council to initiate the process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Little Bromley and request that they assist us.
- That the Neighbourhood Plan area should be contiguous with the parish boundary, and that we consider the extent of the area to be appropriate for the purposes of creating a Neighbourhood Plan as it represents the full geographical extent of the village and civil parish of Little Bromley.

Agreed unanimously.

87/12. Bus Stop / Shelters – Love your Bus Grant Fund

Unsuccessful in the grant for love your bus stop, as it aimed towards improving what you already have. We are still looking to address the name change from Post Office. Clerk has been in contact with Cllr Guglielmi, who is willing to support the bus stop sign. Also looking at having a hard standing base to the right of Wisteria Cottage to accommodate the bus stop pole and future bus shelter..

87/13. P.O.W.E.R – People Opposing Widespread Electrical Ruin Campaign Group

- Village Signs to be upgraded (report in Parish Assemble meeting)

87/14. The Great Grid Upgrade

Cllr Hodgkiss ran through the 4 projects.

- **National Grid - Pylons and Proposed Substation**
Norwich to Tilbury Pylons project and siting of another substation near existing substation, now known as the East Anglian Connection Node. In February/March We had a targeted statutory consultation, which the PC responded to (see 87/10). Relating to minor proposed changes within the village.
- **Five Estuaries Windfarm -**
New substation and cabling across Tendring from the land fall site near Clacton. This is the most advanced of the 4 projects. It has been through the examination authorities which finished in March 25. The examining authority will then submit their findings and conclusions to the Secretary of State by the 17th June 25 for its decision.
- **North Falls Windfarm -**
New substation and cabling across Tendring from the land fall site near Clacton. This is currently in the examination phase which is expected to conclude by the 28th July 2025 . There are various Planning Inspectorate meetings being held on the 17th /18th June which can be attended virtually by anyone via Teams. These are interesting and informative but can be lengthy, giving a good insight into the process. Speakers at hearings include local Landowners who have various concerns. Attending gives opportunities to put your own views across.

Communication was received by the PC recently from North Falls stating that they are doing drainage / soil investigations in the parish over a 6 week period from the 12th May 25, also measuring the depth of existing ditches.

- **Tarchon** - Interconnector between the UK and Germany
To link the 2 countries power energy systems. Proposed a 25 acre converter station within or near Little Bromley. This is to convert DC and AC power. On shore cabling from Harwich coming across Tendring to the converter station, then further cabling from the converter station across to the substation. There has been an opportunity to provide feedback in relation to the non-statutory consultation, which closed on the 7th April. LBPC did respond (can be found on website).

Updates can be found on the POWER & LBPC websites.

87/15. Correspondence

None

87/16. Urgent items

Member of the public wanted to discuss traffic calming through the village, as there has been a couple of recent incidents, whilst walking by the Old School House, and Mulley's Farm, neither have footpaths. Obvious that no one takes any notice of the speed activated signs, and the road has become increasingly busier over the past couple of years. Residents have also reported problems coming out of their driveways (within the 30 mph limit) which is dangerous. Cllr Smith stated that Cllr Guglielmi had already spoken with Essex Highways, who would not lower the speed limit from 40 mph to 30mph along from the A120. As policy states there has to be houses on either side to reduce limit to 30 mph. Cllr Stock stated that this only seems to be the policy in Essex. In Suffolk 2 miles away even if it is an "A" road the limit remains 30mph in place. Cllr Stock proposed that we speak again to Cllr Guglielmi to see if he can make any proposals going forward. Also to explore any traffic calming measures throughout the village. 2nd Cllr Smith. Unanimous.

Cllr Stock to speak with Cllr Guglielmi.

Member of public also suggested speaking with Great Bromley and Ardleigh Parish Councils to see who they get to do speed watches.

Speed activated sign by Harlequins is now not working, battery may have gone. Cllr Smith proposed Clerk to contact highways and Gt Bromley & Ardleigh 2nd Cllr Monger. Unanimously agreed.

87/17. Public Participation

None

87/18. Next meeting date

Thursday 17th July 2025 @ 7.30pm

Meeting Closed @ 19.59

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Name:.....

Position:.....