

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31st JULY 2024, AT 7.15pm**

In the Chair: Cllr. M. Cooper
Present Cllrs. Cllr. J. Barlow, Cllr. C. Groom, Cllr. P. Shipperley and Cllr. P. Snazell
Clerk: Mrs D. Jacob

County Cllr Peter Schwier
District Cllr David Holland

One member of the public present.

24/068 Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone, no apologies for absence received.

24/069 Declaration of Interests.

None.

24/056 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

A member of the public informed the Parish Council that 6 dedicated trees have died and require replacing. District Cllr Holland advised that funding could possibly be available for the purchase or new trees, however, the Parish Council raised concerns of who would water them on a regular basis in order for them to survive and the future maintenance of them. Item to be on the next agenda.

24/057 Ward and County Councillors to address the members if present.

Cllr Schwier updated on the DART III on demand bus service available. The work carried out by Trading Standard, National Grid consultation, Minerals Plan consultation. MG award Essex Pedal Power (Bikes refurbished to encourage cycling). Essex Highlights and the Community Initiatives fund.

Cllr Holland – discussed the National grid consultation and Braintree District Council Local Plan review deadline dates and procedure.

24/058 Minutes.

Item 1. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting (AGM) held on 21st May 2024, were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record, Chairman signed.

Item 2. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st May 2024 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record, Chairman signed.

Proposed by Cllr. Snazell, seconded by Cllr. Barlow, all in favour, resolution passed.

24/059 Planning Matters.

No new planning applications received.

Braintree District Council Local Plan Review. The submitted sites were discussed so that comments from the Parish Council can be sent in to meet the deadline date. All sites can be viewed on the BDC website www.braintree.gov.uk/planning-building-control/local-plan-review-2/3

Ref: WISP2307

Proposed use: Housing

Site Address: Land to the east of Church Road, Wickham St Pauls

Objection

Outside the village envelope

Back land development

Agricultural land grade 2

Previous history indicated objections from residents

Access concerns

No existing amenities or infrastructure (no public transport, no school, no GP surgery, no dentist, no shops).

No evidence of need for further additional housing.

Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

Signed (Chairman).....

24th September 2024

Ref: WISP2308

Proposed use: Housing

Site Address: Land to the rear of Wayside Cottage, Church Road, Wickham St Pauls

Objection

Outside the village envelope

Back land development

Agricultural land

Previous history indicated objections from residents

Access concerns

No existing amenities or infrastructure (no public transport, no school, no GP surgery, no dentist, no shops).

No evidence of need for further additional housing.

Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

Ref: WISP2309

Proposed use: Housing/self and Custom Build

Site Address: Land West of Church Road, Wickham St Pauls

Objection

Outside the village envelope

Back land development

Agricultural land grade 1

Please refer to previous Planning Inspectors decision

Access concerns

No existing amenities or infrastructure (no public transport, no school, no GP surgery, no dentist, no shops).

No evidence of need for further additional housing.

Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

BDC are launching the next round of engagement where you can share any ideas or suggestions of what you would like to be considered in the plan looking forward to 20241. This Could include housing, employment, green spaces, transportation, infrastructure community and education facilities, land you would like to see protected, or any other aspect of the community – in towns, surround villages and rural areas.

Your time to get involved direct to Braintree District Council.

By e-mail to planningpolicy@braintree.gov.uk

By Posts to: Planning Policy, Braintree District Council, Causeway Housing, Bocking End, Braintree, Essex CM7 9HB.

24/074 Matters Arising – Updates

There are a number of long-term items beyond our control and decisions that have not progressed and these are only being discussed at the meeting where there is a development.

Item 1. 30mph zone extension Park Road – update required by Highways. 30mph is not suitable for this road. It is rural in nature with few properties and a fixed speed limit would not be suitable for such a route. Road to remain distracted. To remove from future agendas.

Item 2. Previous minute Number 21/085 ‘Beware of Horses’ signs – Update required by Highways. With design team for assessment / validation.

Item 3. Old Road – ‘Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles’ sign, submitted 25 Aug. 2021 – Update required by Highways. This scheme was deemed unsuitable by the Design Team / Network Assurance. Properties / businesses along the route require access, and there is no evidence of HGVs using this route as a cut through. To remove from future agendas.

Item 4. Previous minute number 21/039 Verges. Erosion to verges on Old Road – Update required by Highways.

Item 5. Previous minute number 22/083 Water Leak in road. Water leakage in the road near the Village Hall - Anglian Water have confirmed that this is a Highway issue and has been reported to Highways ref; 2784998 on 5 July 2023 at 16.35pm. Cllr. Snazell has spoken to the Environmental Agency, Norfolk & Suffolk Water and agricultural team – Latest from Highways is that they are going to inspect the area, (No on-site meeting has taken place).

Item 6. Previous minute number 21/117 Manhole covers - update

Item 7. Previous minute number 22/079 The circular bench under the oak tree on the village green – to consider moving it near the large pond next to the village hall. Update.

Item 8. Previous Minute number 22/085 Extend the concrete post and iron rail where the fallen oak tree was. To protect the corner of the pond and stop erosion by traffic to install oak posts, only at this stage. Budget cost £100.00 Update.

Signed (Chairman).....

24th September 2024

24/075 RoSPA Play area Annual Inspection Report.

Received the inspection report and noted the recommendations and issues raised.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Snazell all in favour, resolution passed.

24/076 Fireworks on the Green 2024 – ‘Trafalgar Night’

The date was confirmed as Saturday 19th October 2024 at 7.30pm.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Barlow all in favour, resolution passed.

24/077 Christmas 2024.

Item 1. Christmas Light event and switch-on date Saturday 7th December at 6pm.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom, all in favour, resolution passed.

Item 2. It was agreed to ask Cox's if they would sponsor a Christmas tree, or swap for the loan of the Santa Outfit, if not the Parish Council would purchase one up to a maximum of £80.00

Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

24/078 Wickham St Pauls Consolidated Trust.

Progressing very well, funds have been invested, awaiting a further meeting date.

24/079 Parish Calendar 2025/2026.

To consider dates and to adopt the Parish Calendar, should meetings remain on a Tuesday evening.
It was confirmed and agreed that Parish Council meetings should remain on a Tuesday (Bi-monthly) commencing at 7.15pm in the Pavilion, subject to the Council being quorate.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

24/080 Local Council Award Scheme Foundation.

The Council award is due for renewal, it was confirmed and agreed that the Parish Council would like to reapply to try and obtain the award again.
Proposed by Cllr Snazell, seconded by Cllr. Shipperley all in favour, resolution passed.

24/081 Internal Auditor for 2024/2025.

It was agreed to appoint Jan Stobart as the internal auditor for financial year 2024/25.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Snazell all in favour, resolution passed.

24/082 Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Bramford to Twinstead Project

The council awaits with interest the decision from the Secretary of State.

24/083 Financial Matters.

- 1) Financial Statement for (Items to be approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).

	CHEQUE NO.	TOTAL
JPB Landscapes Ltd Inv. No. 1570 & 1589	002629	528.00
Richard Edwards Group (Inv. No. 53815)	002630	97.58
Wickham St Pauls Village Hall (Inv. No. 2409 For July)	002631	10.00
Pamela Nuttall (Welcome packs reimbursement for ink)	002632	25.40
D. Jacob (Salary for July)	SO	490.00
D. Jacob (Salary Difference for July)	002633	75.90
HM Revenue & Customs (For July)	002634	141.60
D. Jacob (Salary for August)	SO	490.00
D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for August)	002635	76.10
HM Revenue & Customs (For August)	002636	141.40
D. Jacob (Expenses for June and July)	002637	68.94

- 2) Monthly Budget Statement - Received and noted

Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Groom all in favour, resolution passed.

Signed (Chairman).....

24th September 2024

24/084 Items for next agenda

To consider replacing dedicated trees.

24/085 Date of next Meeting.

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 24th September 2024 (7.15pm)

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed (Chairman).....

24th September 2024