

Bredfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Bredfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall

on 27th January 2025 at 7:30pm

Parish Councillors present: Nik Bestow; Vince Buckman; Hilary Harker; Anne Henderson, David Hepper (Chair); Tony Richardson; Lynn Taylor together with District Councillor Hedgley & County Councillor Bryce. There were 2 members of the public present

1/270125 Apologies and approvals of absence

There were no apologies.

2/270125 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Buckman declared a Pecuniary interest in respect of Item 18 on the Agenda. Dispensation was granted for him to remain as the financial aspect was insignificant.

3/270125 Approval of the Parish Council Minutes from the meetings held on 25th November, 9th December 2024 and 14th January 2025

These Minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chair.

4/270125 Reports may be received from the District and County Councillors

County Cllr Bryce's December report and District Cllr Hedgley's January report had been received and were available to view on the website.

Cllr Hedgley highlighted the planned increases to car parking charges in East Suffolk and confirmed there was no further update on progress with Devolution at present.

Cllr Bryce confirmed that Suffolk County Council had responded to the government to confirm that they wished to join the Priority Devolution Programme but there was no detail at present.

5/270125 Members of the public are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on the agenda, to include correspondence from residents

See Item 8 on the Agenda.

6/270125 Actions brought forward from previous meetings

Item 4/251124 – Pathways in Pump Close

County Cllr Bryce confirmed that she could offer funding from her Locality Budget for the PC to obtain quotes to have the paths skirted back. Cllr Richardson questioned whose responsibility it would be for injuries if the PC carried out this work. *Cllr Bryce will check and get back to us.*

Item 6/251124 - Highways Drain Flushing in the Village

Cllr Hepper had been in contact with Highways. He confirmed that a Road Sweeper had visited the village and that the gulleys would be cleared in March.

Item 7/251124 - Update on costs for a review of safety at A12 junction and clarification from County Cllr West whether Sizewell C Funding was available - County Cllr Bryce

Cllr Bryce supports our concerns with safety at this junction. She has raised the matter with cabinet member responsible for Highways who agreed that the junction was dangerous and would prioritise funding for the white lining and repairing of the sign. Highways have a long term aspiration for a speed limit review but no timescale was available. There was no update on costs or Sizewell Funding at present.

Item 7/251124 - White Line marking at junction of A12 from Woodbridge Road – Clerk & Chair

This had been reported and is on the Highways future works list.

Item 10/251124 – Updating of Councillor responsibilities on Website – Cllr Bestow. This had now been completed.

Item 10/251124 – Removal of legal charge and restriction on the titles of the BJMO – Clerk & Cllr Hepper

Forms had been completed and forwarded to the Land Registry to update their records with the Clerk's contact name and address. A completed form had been received from Valencia Communities to remove the legal charge and this would be sent to the Land Registry once a suitable period of time had lapsed to enable them to update the contact details.

Item 21/251124 – Submission of Precept request for 2025/2026 – Clerk
This was submitted on 4th December 2024.

7/270125 To note progress on the following planning matters:

- **DC/24/2459/FUL** - Retrospective Application - Replacement of the previous 2.75 metres high chain link wire fence with a new 2.5 metres high twin wire welded mesh fence: The Playing Field , Bredfield Village Hall – **Permission granted**
- **DC/24/4220/FUL** - Proposed single storey flat roof side extension, 2 bay cart lodge and external alterations to the existing bungalow - Fairways, Ufford Road, Bredfield – **Discussed at meeting on 9th December 2024 – Application Permitted**
DC/24/4462/VOC: Variation of Condition No. 1 of DC/23/2650/VOC - Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/20/1801/VOC - Variation of Condition No. 2 on application DC/18/3474/FUL - Proposed removal of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling on same location - Wyndways , Dallinghoo Road, Bredfield – **Discussed at meeting on 14th January 2025**

8/270125 To discuss SCC Complaints Team's response to our complaint on the handling of The Forge Development DC/23/2693/FUL

Cllr Richardson proposed that we escalate our complaint to Stage 2 of SCC's process as he felt our concerns had still not been adequately addressed, this was supported by a member of the public. Both Cllr Hepper and County Cllr Bryce set out their opinion on how the system works. After discussion the majority of PC agreed to proceed with Cllr Richardson's proposal and he will draft a response for approval by all Councillors. *Cllr Bryce will take forward to the Cabinet Member for Highways.*

The applicant has submitted an Appeal for the refused application which will have a Public Hearing. This will be discussed at a PC Planning Meeting on 10th February. A new application has been submitted for demolition of the commercial buildings which will also be on the Agenda.

9/270125 Bredfield Jubilee Meadow and Orchard

To receive an update from the BJMO Committee including Minutes of any recent meetings and recommendations for the future – see Report from Stewart Belfield on the website. Cllr Harker is now included in emails for the BJMO Committee and she confirmed that any meetings they hold will take place in the Church Room. The PC is still awaiting paperwork for the County Wildlife Site recognition award – *Cllr Harker to chase.*

Receipt of £800.00 Grant from Cllr Hedgley's Enabling Communities Budget

Thanks were expressed to District Cllr Hedgley for this Grant towards the interpretive noticeboard.

To discuss the appointment of a Secretary for the BJMO Committee – No interest has been received for this position.

To agree any BJMO expenditure required in the next two months – No proposed expenditure at present. CIL funding maybe available for any additional costs for the noticeboard above the £800.00 grant received.

10/270125 To discuss proposal by Highways on Traffic Calming measures and whether additional signage [white lines or slow markers] is required

Highways have proposed installing a gateway on the Dallinghoo approach and 30mph roundels on the Debach, A12 Woodbridge Road and Ufford Road entrances to the village. No 30mph roundel will be positioned on the Hasketon road entrance as the limit is approximately 50m from a junction, vehicles will be decelerating, and there is no evidence of speeding. The costings are still awaited. Following further discussion, it was proposed that a 'slow' sign could be added to the C309/Debach entrance. *Cllr Hepper to contact Highways to discuss amending proposal. Clerk to write to resident's of Wyndways and Moat Farm to advise of the PC's proposal.*

11/270125 To note progress on repair to damaged Signpost at junction of Ufford Road/The Street

As a result of the strong winds at the beginning of January the signpost had fallen over, partly due to erosion. This has been reported to Highways, been inspected and added to the future works programme as it is their responsibility. Thanks were extended to Cllr Harker and her husband for the temporary repositioning of the sign. *Cllr Buckman will also take a look whilst we wait for Highways to carry out repairs.*

12/270125 Neighbourhood Development Plan Full Review

Following discussion on the information contained in Cllr Hepper's report from the virtual meeting with ESC Planning Officers, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with a full formal review of the NP. *Cllr Hepper will proceed with the short term plan of setting up a Steering Group and this will be advertised via Mailchimp and on the parish notice boards.*

13/270125 To receive an update on the bus funding proposal submitted to the Enhanced Bus Partnership

Cllr Bestow confirmed that our bid was unsuccessful. Further funding may be available in 2025/26. It was suggested that First Service 70 (Ipswich / Grundisburgh / Woodbridge) may be suitable for amendment to stop at Bredfield however this would be of no benefit to the village based on the following:

There are 6 buses each day in each direction.

The last bus in either direction would be around 6pm.

The bus stops at the Turban Centre in Woodbridge rather than the Station.

Assuming 15 minute to walk from the Turban Centre to the station and cross the bridge all of the buses fail to connect with trains to Ipswich and on to London.

14/270125 To discuss the DEFRA Property Flood Resilience Grant Fund for residents affected by Storm Babet

Cllr Hepper has delivered information leaflets with a covering letter to all seven properties in the village who had been affected by Storm Babet making them aware of the Grand Fund.

15/270125 To receive an update on Suffolk's Community Thermal Imaging Project within Bredfield

Cllr Harker had received training on use of the Thermal Imaging equipment and will be collecting it this week, it needs returning on 11th February. Details about the project had been sent to residents via Mailchimp and 21 households had signed up to take part. Cllr Bestow will be assisting Cllr Harker with this project and a report will need to be completed upon completion regarding advice given to residents.

16/270125 To receive an update on the recent Community Partnership Forum Meeting

The last meeting was held in Bredfield village hall on the 9th December and Cllr Bestow had attended. We were given 20 Emergency leaflets which were left in the village shop.

The meeting was well attended, mainly, it seemed by representatives from Martlesham and Kesgrave. There was a presentation by **ITFC Club Foundation** on their Community Engagement

projects which is seeking to extend its reach outside Ipswich (part of the Premier League charity work). As well as football they run a Dementia café, Oral wellbeing education and do work at Hollesley Bay. They are interested in addressing rural isolation.

The Partnership agreed to fund a music / dance activity (in conjunction with **Snape**) at Kesgrave High School to discuss the intergenerational divide.

Kesgrave are seeking funding from **Sizewell C** to improve the road layout by Kesgrave High School.

Cllr Bestow suggested we should also seek funding for improvements to the A12 junction

Next meeting is on 24th Feb at Charsfield.

Cllr Hepper will be circulating a questionnaire regarding the future of the Road Safety Forum for councillors to approve before submitting to ESC.

17/270125 To discuss email received regarding condition of Village Footpaths

Thanks were expressed to Anne Ackerley who had walked and checked the 3 routes on our circular walks leaflet. Signposts have been cleared to make them more visible and direction markers added in a few places where posts have been replaced by SCC. Areas of concern have been reported on the SCC website. Two footpaths were discussed, firstly the path near the Gas Station/A12 and it was agreed that the flooding problem had been resolved. The second, beyond the Church towards Boulge, was across a field which has been ploughed with no footpath reinstated. *Cllr Hepper will contact Strutt & Parker to report this to the landowner..*

18/270124 To discuss Clerk's Holiday Pay/Entitlement

It was brought to the attention of the PC that the Clerk's contract of employment did not show the holiday entitlement per year. Following advice from SALC on the statutory entitlement it was agreed to amend the contract and that when the Clerk is on annual leave access to check emails would be granted to a Councillor. The Clerk confirmed that due to family commitments she would be absent for the March meeting and Cllr Bestow agreed to take the Minutes. *Clerk & Chair to update Contract.*

19/270125 Finances – To note all payments recently made and to consider and approve future payments due

All invoices were approved for payment as per breakdown in reports document circulated and available to view on the website. An additional income item had been received since this report had been completed of £81.25 from the Village Hall for the 4th Quarter Waste Contribution, this was noted. We are still waiting a refund of £112.40 from HMRC for overpayment of PAYE tax which SALC have confirmed will not be received until after year end.

20/270125 Finances - To consider the Bank Reconciliation and Finance Report

Cllr Bestow had circulated these to all councillors and confirmed the Parish Council are on target to balance the books at the end of the year. The Bank Reconciliation and Finance Report were both unanimously approved. There is likely to be additional CIL monies for the village should the changes to the Wyndways application be approved.

21/270125 Actions taken under Delegated Powers - None

Next meeting Monday 31st March 2025 at 7.30pm.

Future dates also confirmed as follows:

Friday 25th April 2025 – APM Monday 19th May 2025 – AGM

Monday 29th September 2025 Monday 21st July 2025 Monday 24th November 2025

Monday 26th January 2026 Monday 30th March 2026

Clerk will book the village hall for these dates.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.