



Great Bromley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Assembly for Great Bromley held at Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.20pm on Wednesday 17th May 2023

In attendance: Cllrs Nicholls (Chairman), Blowers and Hardy.

Also in attendance: TDC Cllr Wiggins and Lizzie Ridout (Clerk)

Members of the public: 2

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Cllr Mander, Cllr Smith and TDC Cllr Scott.

3. To note the confirmed minutes of the Parish Assembly held on Wednesday 19th May 2022, previously circulated.

The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

4. Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council

There has been good attendance of Parish Councillors at our meetings throughout the year. The highlight of the year was the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations that started with a Church Service where a very entertaining Sermon was given by the Reverend Canon Ann Easter former Chaplain to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. During the celebrations a Beacon was lit, a free BBQ and also a free Hog Roast all arranged and supplied by the Parish Council. All children at school were presented with a Commemorative Mug. During the celebration entertainment was supplied by Black Cactus Choir and the Motley Crew from Brightlingsea. I believe most residents enjoyed a wonderful celebration. A big thank you to all who helped too many to name.

This year there has been another celebration, the Coronation of King Charles the third. We celebrated the occasion with on Sunday 7th May with a Church Service following by tea and cakes in the Village Hall.

Speaking of 'Thank You' a special thanks to our two handymen, Lewis and Bill, they do a wonderful job around the village, which is greatly appreciated by our residents. We are still subject of various fly tipping. It seems all villages have the same problem. It is intended to have a village litter pick this year, details will be published in the Messenger please help. Our free village The Messenger continued to be delivered to all properties in the Parish. It is worth reading it to see what is happening in the village. Big thanks to the advertisers, the delivery people and to our editor Lizzie.

Our two District Councillors Ann and Gary have assisted residents with various problems, they also attend most Parish Council meetings, as does our County Councillors Carlo who is most supportive of the Parish Council. Carlo has worked very hard in getting various safety measures agreed by ECC Highways, we hope they will be implemented soon we do hope to see reduction in speed once the limits are in force.

Hamilton Lodge development has commenced some ground work and should be progressing with the building of the first houses very shortly.

New play equipment has been installed at Hare Green recreation field and I hope all the village will take a look and our children enjoy these new facilities. A thank you to councillors David Hardy, Rob Lord and their committee.

Our annual budget review has taken place resulting in very little change.

I am very pleased to say the Parish Council supplied a Christmas afternoon tea for our senior citizens and other nominated people.

The Corbeau Seats Rally has taken place with mixed views. I am sure this will be discussed by councillors in the near future.

Finally, I would like to thank all councillors for their support and hard work throughout the year.

5. Reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Wiggins advised that support from herself and Cllr Scott would continue with all issues related to Tendring District Council.

6. Reports from Appointed Officers:

- Tree Warden - Col M Frostick OBE

Although no significant tree planting projects have been undertaken this year, I am pleased to report that over 120 trees and hedging plants have been planted on private land at various locations in the village with tree warden involvement. Several of these trees were replacing those which succumbed to the drought conditions last summer. Landowners have also been busy planting considerable numbers of hedging plants as well as trees on agricultural land, which will make a positive improvement to the local landscape when they become established.

The significant number of trees and whips planted by Tendring District Council in Great Bromley as part of the 2020/21 TWIG project continue to thrive despite the 2022 drought last summer. Overall their survival rate is significantly higher than expected given the difficult conditions at planting and the weather extremes since. My thanks go to the landowners who have been managing these plantings and nurturing them when needed.

- Footpath Liaison - Cllr Mander

Overall footpaths have been kept clear and few reports received over the last year regarding access problems.

After repeated reports to ECC Rights of way the steps and bridges at Boudge Hill (footpath 17) have now been replaced.

Fallen tree over footpath 1 has now been cleared.

The Parish Council maintenance team have cut back overgrown scrub on Cock Lane bridleway and kept footpath 22 (off Colchester Road) clear of overgrown vegetation.

- Community Speedwatch Coordinator - Cllr G Smith

Community Speed Watch has continued over the passed twelve months with one hour sessions being held usually every fortnight at one of our three approved sites within the parish.

We have just three active CSW trained volunteer members who support this initiative and although I have actively sort further help via articles in the Bromley Messenger and posters in the Parish Council notice boards I have not been able to add to our numbers. Training is available for anyone wishing to join our team and if we had more members then more frequent sessions could potentially be held. All vehicles that exceed the relevant speed thresholds are reported to Essex Police and they take the appropriate action. Our efforts are generally very well received by residents who speak to us during these CSW sessions. We have encountered some frustration by residents at hour Hare Green site concerning the delays in the promised speed limit reduction on the Harwich Road but this is obviously out of our control.

- Bromley Messenger Representative - Mr R Perry

Income exceeded costs for the first time since the pandemic but only with he help of the grant from the Parish Council. Also it is reassuring to see an increase in the number of local businesses wishing to advertise in the Messenger and we now have had to start a waiting list for advertisers. It should also be recorded that without a dedicated team of deliverer volunteers the magazine could not exist. It is hoped that with the upturn in our revenues, that the Messenger will once again be self supporting.

7. Questions from Members of the Public

There were none.

8. Resolutions of the Parish Assembly

It was agreed to continue maintaining and improving services by the Council to the Community.

9. Date of the next Annual Parish Assembly

Wednesday 8th May 2024 at 7:20pm.

The meeting closed at 7.26pm.

