

Belchamp St Paul and Belchamp Otten Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 7.30pm at The Community House, Gages Road, Belchamp St Paul.

Present: Councillors David McKee (Chairman), Robin Lock, David Middleditch, Tony Money and Hannah Rumsey (Acting Clerk).

2996 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest Apologies were received from Cllrs Dominic Curran, Alex Bills, Sarah Mardon, Holly Chaplin, Ruth Carter, Peter Schwier (Essex CC) Iona Parker (Braintree DC), and John Douglass (Clerk). No declarations of interest were made.

2997 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME (5 minutes) No matters were raised.

2998 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2024 The minutes were unanimously approved.

2999 Matters arising from the November PC meeting (not covered separately on the Agenda) Thanks to Cllr Lock for arranging Christmas tree removal after Christmas.

3000 Essex County Council matters Emails received from Cllr Peter Schwier (Essex CC) had previously been circulated to Councillors.

3001 Braintree District Council matters Report by Cllr Iona Parker (Braintree District Council) will be forwarded to Councillors and published on the website as District Councillor's Report.

3002 Finance – Approval of receipts and payments since October

RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS & BALANCES

Transaction Date	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
18/10/2024	E.ON NEXT LTD A-E2BE2511-001	5.63	
24/10/2024	NFU MUTUAL DISS BALANCE	20.95	
01/11/2024	MISS P BOWERS	884.40	
01/11/2024	MR P J HESKETH	148.16	
01/11/2024	J C DOUGLASS	237.55	
01/11/2024	BITTEN & GIBSON	143.64	
19/11/2024	E.ON NEXT LTD A-E2BE2511-001	33.81	
21/11/2024	MRS A ACTON	69.00	
02/12/2024	MR FRED EADY LITTER PICKING	69.00	
02/12/2024	J C DOUGLASS	329.68	
02/12/2024	HAVERHILL FIRST RESPONDERS - DONATION	50.00	
17/12/2024	E.ON NEXT LTD A	17.73	
23/12/2024	ANGLIAN WATER	49.11	
30/12/2024	SAM PERELLA ELECTRICIAN	40.50	
30/12/2024	J C DOUGLASS	237.55	
30/12/2024	MRS A ACTON	69.00	
08/01/2025	MR P J HESKETH P3	33.99	

Current account balance at 14TH January was £2,610.78

Deposit account £5,088.39

PFMC account £5,389.75

32 -Day Notice account £11,400.73

- Interest as previous £20+ per month.

- **2025/26 budget and precept** The proposed budget and precept was circulated to Councillors by Cllr Chaplin, the RFO, in an email dated 16/1/25. These matters will be considered by Councillors at an extraordinary meeting to be called shortly.

3003 Vacant BSP Councillor seat No responses currently.

3004 Strimming/clearing the ditch in front of Savilles at Cole Green, BSP The Chairman has not yet made contact with former Cllr Pheby but will do so over the coming weeks.

3005 PFMC – Review of Terms of Reference - update Nothing to report as yet.

3006 Local Development Code Working Group – update Cllr Rumsey gave a report on the two exhibitions that were held on the 7th and 8th of January in Belchamp Otten and Belchamp St Paul respectively. 12 members of the public were reported attending each event. For anyone that was unable to attend, Cllr Rumsey uploaded all of the posters to the Parish Council website and posted a link to this page on the village Facebook page.

3007 Speedwatch update No update due to absence of Cllr Curran. Cllr Lock brought up the topic of delivery vans parking and/or driving on the green via the access lane at the top of the Village Green. Cllr Lock to ask what the residents would most like to see - kerbing would be expensive and would not prevent delivery men from driving up onto the kerb, otherwise a larger “no parking” sign was discussed. Issues regarding some solutions may arise due to it being for access only.

3008 Defibrillators Belchamp St Paul – Cabinet heater repaired at a cost of £40.50. Belchamp Otten – Battery & pads replaced (invoice awaited).

3009 Flooding in local streets No incidents reported by the public. Cllr Rumsey to try to report flooding by Bevingdon that occurred recently. Notice made about flooding at Wakes Hall at the bottom of Pollards Green Lane where the drain is full. Clerk asked to report this again to Essex Highways.

3010 Belchamp Otten village sign Cllr Rumsey gave report about voting opportunities that were made at the Local Design Code Exhibitions, held on the 7th and 8th of January, as well as via a voting slip that was distributed to every house in Otten on the 9th January to be returned by Monday 13th to a voting box inside the Otten telephone box or to The Old Rectory. Total votes are currently tallying at 23 for painted cast aluminium/polyurethane and 27 for pierced wrought iron/metal. General consensus is to keep to the same design with maybe some minor updates and to make sure it was long lasting/durable.

3011 BDC emergency planning review Awaiting annual report from BDC. Emergency Officer Peter Hesketh suggested the school as being the most suitable emergency site. The chairman will ask for a review.

3012 Correspondence Report circulated to Councillors 6/1/25. Important correspondence included: The BDC Waste Collection Survey.

3013 Planning – New Applications / Decisions

A 24/02270/HH Ashwicken Lodge, Vicarage Rd, BSP – Rear Extension – Granted 12/12/24.

B 24/02317/P14JPA Hole Farm, Knowl Green, BSP – Roof solar panels – Approved 18/12/24.

C 24/02147/HH Glebe Cottage, Cole Green, BSP – Fabric repairs – Granted 22/11/24.

D 24/02427/HH 2 Hobarts Hall, B Otten – extension and parking spaces – Granted 15/1/25.

E 24/02710/FUL Shearing Place, BSP – self build replacement rural workers dwelling - Determination by 27/2/25.

F 25/00016/TPOCON Coles Farm, The Street, B Otten – Tree works – determination by 17/2/25.

G 25/00035/HH 1 The Myrtles, The Street, B Otten – Demolition of existing extension & replacement with new extension – determination by 4/3/25.

3014 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME (5 minutes) No matters were raised.

3015 Any urgent matters and proposals for future agenda items No matters were raised.

3016 The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 March 2025 at 7:30pm in The Community House, Gages Road, Belchamp St Paul.

The meeting closed at 8:18pm.

Signed(Chairman)

25 March 2025