

## **BELCHAMP ST PAUL & BELCHAMP OTTEN PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Belchamp St Paul Annual Assembly**

HELD ON TUESDAY 14 April 2026 at 7:30 pm at THE COMMUNITY HOUSE,  
GAGES ROAD, BELCHAMP ST PAUL

Present: Councillors David McKee (Chairman), Claire Middleditch, David Middleditch, and Jay Stevens.

In attendance: John Douglass (Parish Clerk), Cllr Peter Schwier (Essex C C), and Cllr Iona Parker (Braintree D C).

Two members of the public attended.

#### **1. Chairman's opening remarks, introduction of Councillors and apologies for absence.**

An apology was received from Cllr Dominic Curran.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. He thanked the Parish Councillors for their work over the past year.

#### **2. Consideration of the Minutes of the APA held on 8 April 2025.**

The minutes were reviewed and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **3. Matters arising.**

No matters were tabled.

#### **4. Annual reports:**

Chairman's Report - Cllr David McKee. The Chairman read his report to the meeting. It will be published in full on the website.

Footpath Warden's Report – Peter Hesketh. The Clerk read the report to the meeting. It will be published in full on the website.

Tree Warden - No Tree Warden at this time.

Emergency Officer’s Report – Peter Hesketh. The Clerk read the report to the meeting. It will be published in full on the website.

Playing Field Management Committee Report –Holly Chaplin. No report was available.

**5. Essex County Councillor Report – County Cllr Peter Schwier.** Cllr Schwier gave a summary of his report, and highlighted a number of achievements of Essex C C over the year, including the coming reorganisation into unitary councils, and the opening of the new train station at Beaulieu Park. Council elections are scheduled for May 2026. The report will be published in full on the website.

**6. Braintree District Councillor Report – District Cllr Iona Parker.** The Clerk summarised the report, noting that the BDC element of council tax has been held at the previous year’s level. Other aspects covered included development planning, the local government re-organisation, and the new waste and recycling system. The report will be published in full on the website.

**7. OPEN FORUM** - *When electors have the opportunity to raise questions and to comment on local issues.*

Areas discussed included the BSP playing field ownership and management, and methods of publicizing Parish Council meetings, agendas, and minutes.

The meeting closed at .....8:30 pm.....

Signed..... (Chairman)

April 2027

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