

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Little Braxted held at the Braxted Bakery, Witham Road on Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Kit Speakman, Chair of Parish Council and three members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. To Agree and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 5th May 2021

The meeting agreed and approved the minutes of the meeting held on 5th May 2021
as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave a report on the past year in the Parish:"Once again it is my pleasure to recap the events of the past year.

From a Parish Council point of view it has again been a relatively quiet year with initial meetings still on Zoom and Covid still dominating a large part of the year. We were glad to get back here to the Bakery for face to face meetings.

The Parish Council continues to monitor planning applications and have written several times to Maldon District Council on planning matters. Essex County Council continue to rebuff our requests for additional HGV signage and we are in constant contact with Highways regarding the new A12.

We remain grateful to the Essex Community Foundation grant funding to enable us to continue to employ a part-time litter picker. In just a few hours each week, Heather makes a real difference to the volume of litter in the verges and hedgerows, and we hope this will continue. Since lock-down there has continued to be an enormous amount of litter discarded on the road-side, particularly face coverings!

Funding from the Little Braxted Community & Education Trust, via Essex Community Foundation, has also given us significant funding towards our village Jubilee Party combined with Great Braxted at the Pavillion on 3rd June and our thanks to Gordon for delivering the letters and tickets in his own time. We hope this will be well attended by residents of both parishes.

As a Parish Council we rely on many residents who put so much of themselves into helping us. I would particularly like to thank Mandy Chapman for organising Neighourhood Watch, and John Aldis for maintaining the War Memorial and the grounds of St Nicholas' Church. Thank you also to those involved in the Remembrance Sunday service at the Cenotaph which was extremely well supported. Without the band of the Salvation Army there this year, we were lucky to have John Gilbert leading the singing to try to keep us in tune!! It was great to see so many young people involved in the scouting community in attendance too.

It is good to see the Green Man open once again, and we remain grateful to them for enabling our external defibrillator to be placed on their outbuilding wall.

Finally, I am deeply indebted to my fellow Councillors for the time they willingly give and also thank Gordon, our Parish Clerk, who goes above and beyond to help us drive the Parish forward. His knowledge, enthusiasm and attention to detail are invaluable."

4. Public Forum

There were no questions or comments from those present.

5. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.06pm