

Helions Bumpstead Parish Council

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Minutes of the **HELIONS BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **10th JULY 2023 AT 7:30 PM.**

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT
S. Kehr	Chair	Yes
N. Turner	Vice Chair	Yes
S. Cunningham	Parish Councillor	Yes
R. Etheridge	Parish Councillor	No
A. Meldrum	Parish Councillor	Yes
N. Nicholson	Parish Councillor	No
A. Parker	Parish Councillor	Yes
D. Garrod	District Councillor	No
P. Schwier	County Councillor	No
L. Brown	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes

0 Members of public

23/60 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Etheridge.

Resolution: Approve apologise of absence.

Proposed: Seconded: - Unanimously agreed.

23/61 **Members' Declarations of interest**

None for this agenda.

23/62 **Public Forum**

None present.

23/63 **Minutes**

It was noted that on item 23/48 it should have stated "there was only 1 response from landowners who were unable to help."

Resolution: Approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th June 2023 as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Kehr **Seconded:** Cllr Turner - unanimously agreed.

23/64 **District & County Councillors Reports** (Appendix A)

Reports can be found in the appendix.

23/65 **Clerks Report**

None.

23/66 **Action Tracker** (Appendix B)
Clerk to give Chair access to the website.

23/67 **Finance** (Appendix C)
Resolution: Agree payments for this month, payments circulated to members prior to the meeting.
Proposed: Cllr Kehr **Seconded:** Cllr Turner – unanimously agreed.
Cllr Kehr appointed as authoriser.

23/67.1 **Grants**
None.

23/68 **New Planning Applications**
None.

23/69 **Flooding in the Village**
Cllr Turner has had notice that the Forestry commission are officially looking into planting up to 75,000 trees on Cllr Turner’s land.

23/70 **Playground**
Wait for the shelter to be fixed down.

23/71 **Highways and Footpaths**
A hedge owned by the Church has overgrown the footpath – Cllr Kehr to speak to a member of the PCC.

23/72 **Handyman Fund Projects**
Clerk to contact Mr. Cox regarding weeding the village green path.

23/73 **Emergency Plan**
As part of the emergency plan and the recent dry hot weather, it would seem pertinent to consider open bonfires a real danger to the village and brings into question what happens in case of wildfire. Cllr Parker and Cllr Meldrum to draw up a draft document and submit to the council for review.

23/74 **Matters to be Raised by Members for the Next Agenda**
None.

23/75 **Date of the Next Meeting**
11th of September.

23/76 **Meeting Close** @ 8:39 PM

Signed..... Dated.....

Clerk to the Council: Luke Brown
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Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward

Wethersfield Airfield & Housing Asylum Seekers

The Court of Appeal has unfortunately decided to dismiss Braintree District Council's appeal against the High Court's decision to not grant BDC with an injunction to stop the Home Office's proposal to provide accommodation for asylum seekers at Wethersfield Airfield, and their decision that the Home Office could rely on the use of permitted development rights (Class Q) as a way of getting around the need for planning permission. BDC is extremely disappointed with this outcome and now will reflect on the detail contained within the judgement and consider the council's position.

BDC will be proceeding with their judicial review permission hearing, which further challenges the Home Office's decision to use the site for this purpose. A Judicial Review requires permission from the Court and this hearing will determine whether the three judicial reviews (BDC, West Lindsey DC and a resident from Wethersfield) are granted permission to proceed with the judicial reviews. If permission is granted, the case will then go to a final hearing which would give an opportunity for us to further seek clarification on the interpretation of Class Q in the judicial review.

BDC continues to stand behind the community on the fact that the site is unsuitable for these plans and are doing all it can through legal routes to prevent it from going ahead. All updates can be seen in full at: www.braintree.gov.uk/wethersfieldairfield

National Grid – Norwich to Tilbury (formerly known as East Anglia Green Energy Enablement)

National Grid has opened a consultation on its [Norwich to Tilbury proposal](#). The eight-week consultation closes on Monday 21 August 2023. The project will see a new 400kV electricity transmission line built between Norwich and Tilbury. It will be made up mostly of overhead line and pylons, along with some underground cables and a new substation. Residents, landowners, businesses, individuals or groups can take part in the consultation. Cllr Lesley Wagland OBE, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning, said:

"We have continued to work with our city, district and borough councils and neighbouring county councils of Norfolk and Suffolk to discuss the Norwich to Tilbury project. We remain fully committed to our net-zero ambitions and appreciate this involves building infrastructure to connect renewable energy sources to the National Grid. However, we believe this can be far better achieved by viable alternative means, without the detrimental impact to our residents, businesses and the local environment that would be caused by the current proposals. We will continue to push for changes to the proposals, and I would urge the public to also have their say".

Residents can give their feedback by [completing an online form: https://norwich-tilbury.participatr.io/](https://norwich-tilbury.participatr.io/)

Feedback can also be emailed to contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com

Further information and their interactive map can be seen at: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation>

Councillor Community Grant (please circulate this information to those in the list below)**

Each District Councillor has an allocation of £1250 per year to apportion to organisations running projects that benefit residents of their ward. Any 'not for profit' organisation can apply for a grant. These may include:

- o Registered Charities
- o Constituted 'not for profit' Community or Voluntary Groups
- o Parochial Church Councils (anything that benefits the wider community)
- o Social Enterprises e.g., Community Interest Company, Co-operative
- o Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committees
- o Town & Parish Councils (anything that is not an ordinary or existing activity/function or a statutory obligation or duty and benefits the wider community)
- o Schools (anything that is not statutory/curriculum based and benefits the wider community)

There are many activities that can be funded with a Councillors Community Grant; however, some restrictions do apply. The Guidance Booklet for this can be found at:

<https://www.braintree.gov.uk/homepage/83/councillors-community-grants-scheme-guidance>

Cabinet Meeting scheduled 10th July 2023 to Debate the Future of Garden Waste Collection Service

Some of the key points in the Cabinet agenda for debate:-

The collection of garden waste is a discretionary service for which the Council may make a reasonable charge under the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012. For many years, the Council has provided a non-chargeable garden waste service.

The operating budget for garden waste in 2023/24 is £683,000 and this level of expenditure is no longer sustainable or affordable. The existing service is disproportionate inasmuch as it is funded by Council taxpayers irrespective of whether or not they use the service. Introducing a charge would mean that only those who use the service would pay for it and this would be seen as a fairer way of providing the service. Those who do not opt-in to the service have the option of home-composting or taking their garden waste to their local Household Waste and Recycling Centre. Others may choose to vary the frequency they cut their grass and leave some areas to rewild.

If approved, the proposed opt-in garden waste service would commence from Monday, 4th March 2024, and operate on a fortnightly basis over 50 weeks of the year, allowing for a 2-week suspension in the week before and the week after Christmas to ensure there is adequate staff cover over this period.

It is proposed to set an annual subscription of £55 p.a. in the first year (13 months) for a standard 180L bin, with an additional one-off charge of £34 for new or replacement bins. A 50% discount on the annual subscription price would apply to collections of any additional bins requested by customers i.e. £27.50 in 2024/25. An early bird discount of 50% is proposed for customers who sign-up by 30th November 2023 to encourage participation and help establish the likely level of demand for service so that resources can be managed accordingly.

Within the District, there are c.1,700 households that have remained on black sack collections as they are not suitable for wheeled bin collections. These householders would be offered a garden waste collection using bio-degradable sacks sold by the Council at a cost of £8 per roll of 20 including collection (no other sacks would be accepted). 3 sacks have equivalent capacity to a 180L wheeled bin.

In considering the level of charge, benchmarking was undertaken with other Essex & Suffolk Authorities, details of which are set out at Appendix 1 (*of the agenda*). Charges in Essex range from £37 p.a. to £90 p.a. but research by the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee puts the national average at £43, with 60% of annual subscriptions at between £40 and £60 for a 240L bin – either weekly or fortnightly

The meeting is open to the public and members of the public will be able to view and listen to this meeting via YouTube:- <http://www.braintree.gov.uk/youtube>

CLLr. Diana Garrod
Braintree District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

County Councillor Report

Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy

We are currently consulting on the Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy and would welcome views of your residents.

A switch to electric vehicles (EVs) can contribute to improving air quality and achieving our net zero goals. Although only part of the solution, EVs have a key role to play, alongside our work to encourage sustainable transport options, such as walking, cycling and bus travel.

To support the shift to EVs, we need to ensure residents, businesses and visitors to Essex can access a reliable, convenient, accessible and fairly priced network of charging points.

To help achieve this, the draft Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy sets out what we want the charging network to look like in Essex, what we can do to unlock funding, and how we can work with businesses and public sector partners to help meet demand.

Read more about the Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy in our [public consultation brochure](#) and have your say by completing our [short consultation survey](#).

For any queries on the strategy please contact the project team at ElectricVehicleStrategy@essexhighways.org.

Cllr Peter Schwier

APPENDIX B

Action Tracker

Council Meeting	Reference	Details	Status
July '21	21/150	Update website	Cllr Kehr to review website
June '23	23/48	Drapers Lane notice board repairs – Getting more quotes	Ongoing
May '22	23/31	Speak to the PPT regarding install of cricket nets – Committee formed.	Cllr Turner Ongoing
June '23	23/53	Footpath 21 – write to landowners	Cllr Kehr to action
June '23	23/53	Contact Adam Haylock regarding cutting the verges	Clerk to action

APPENDIX C
July

Date	Supplier	Description	Invoice	FPO/DD	Min Ref	Rec	Credit	Debit	VAT	Net
Opening Balance							41,028.99	-		-
	Employee	Salary - July	N/A	BACS				337.22		337.22
	Employee	Expenses - July	N/A	BACS				20.40		20.40
	Drax	Electricity	6692/7871	DD				54.59	2.60	51.99
	Malcom Cox	Cut down dead elms	71	BACS				1,300.00		1,300.00
	Malcom Cox	Grass Cutting	72/73	BACS				175.00		175.00
Totals								1,887.21	2.60	1,884.61
								39,141.78		