

BRADFIELD ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT BRADFIELD ST GEORGE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 9th JULY 2025

Present: Cllrs P Squirrell (Chairman), C Stainer, T Wright, J Peck, A Therin, & G Mulley
C Hibbert (clerk). WSC Cllr S Mildmay-White.
No members of the public.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES

P Cllrs. C Croot and S C Cllr Soons. Apologies **ACCEPTED**.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

N/a.

3. INTERESTS

3.1 To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest on any item in the agenda; GM and CS declared an interest in items 5.3 and 8.3 as Trustees of the VHMC.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 14th MAY 2025. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 14th May 2025 were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** and signed as a true and accurate record.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Suffolk County Council report. The meeting **NOTED** the report provided by S Cllr K Soons; a copy of this report will be uploaded onto the website.

5.2 West Suffolk Council report. The meeting **NOTED** the report provided by WS Cllr S Mildmay-White, a copy of which will be uploaded onto the website. Discussion followed about the housing targets in the emerging local plan, local government reorganisation and the availability of up to £500 locality grant funding (potentially for the new noticeboard at item 7.1 below).

5.3 Village Hall report. The meeting **NOTED** the report provided by the Chair of the VHMC, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

6. PLANNING AND APPEALS

6.1 To receive planning notifications. None received.

6.2 To consider planning application DC/250757/HH link extension to join the main dwelling to the garage; single storey extension to garage. Following discussion, it was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that there was no objections to this proposal.

6.3 To consider planning application DC/25/02730 - Installation and operation of a Solar Farm together with all associated works, equipment and infrastructure at Valley Farm Hessett Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0AH The meeting considered the location of this proposal outside the parish boundaries and the projected number of vehicle movements associated with the development during construction. There was also general discussion about use of agricultural land for solar proposals. By majority it was agreed to **COMMENT** that there was some concern about the underlying principle of the proposals and the impact of large scale solar farms on the countryside in terms of loss of agricultural land and visual impacts. Specifically in relation to Bradfield St George, concern was expressed about the likely impact on the local road network of the traffic to be generated during construction, given that the village is one of the designated HGV routes associated with the project.

7. TO CONSIDER

7.1 Purchase of new noticeboards; quotes for a new noticeboard to advertise Village Hall events were received, considered and rejected. It was **AGREED** that VHMC should provide a spec and further quotes should be considered at the next meeting. The availability of locality grant from WSC was **NOTED**.

7.2 Request for support with bus service extension to Bradfield St Clare It was **AGREED** that the Council should express **SUPPORT** for the proposal to extend existing bus service routes to Bradfield St Clare.

Signature.....

7.3 Neighbourhood Plan enquiry; the meeting discussed the benefits of neighbourhood planning and the level of parish resources, expertise and commitment required to promote a neighbourhood plan. It was **AGREED** that there was no interest at the present time in joining neighbouring parishes to explore pursuing a joint neighbourhood plan.

7.4 Proposal to set up PC Whatsapp group It was **NOTED** that a PC WhatsApp group had been set up to bring matters requiring urgent action to councillors’ attention / agree meeting dates etc. Those present were reminded that formal PC decisions must be taken in meetings and that all correspondence using this method of communication would be subject to freedom of information requests. It was **AGREED** to adopt the WhatsApp Use Policy attached.

8. FINANCES

8.1 To receive and approve the financial summary to 30 June 2025; the finance summary for the full year ending 30 June 2025 (attached) was received and **APPROVED**.

8.2 To receive and approve the bi-monthly financial summary for May-June 2025; received and **APPROVED**.

8.3 To approve payments to be issued; the following online payments were **APPROVED**.

Detail	Cheque no/online authorisation	Payment	Net	VAT	Gross
1.	BT	DD	29.13	5.83	34.96
2.	BT	DD	29.13	5.83	34.96
3	VHMC	online	20.00		20.00
4	CH	online	539.68		539.68
5	HMRC	online	121.80		121.80
6	CHT	online	361.00	72.20	433.20
7	Lloyds	DD	4.25		4.25
8	Lloyds	DD	4.27		4.27
9	ICO	DD	47.00		47.00

8.4 To receive SALC internal audit report 24 25 and agree any actions required. The internal audit report (copy on website) was received and **NOTED**. The recommendation to adopt a freedom of information act policy has been actioned.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS The following correspondence was received and **NOTED**:-

9.1 SALC e bulletins June/Jul 2025;

9.2 Residents' Survey - Local Government Reorganisation

9.3 West Suffolk Local Plan 2024-2041 – Examination – Inspectors’ Report

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 10th September 2025 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signature.....

Attachment 5.3

Bradfield St George Village Hall Chairperson's Report to the Parish Council May & July 2025

Since my last report in March there have been a variety of activities in the village hall. There were successful Bradfield Nights in April, May, June and July. In April and May the main courses being supplied by Casper and in June and July Arnaud and Thomas (Cardale) cooked the food on the BBQ. In June the weather was not good, and it was cold and showery but, being British we made the best of it and ate BBQed food inside! However, in July it was a lovely evening for sitting outside and, although not many people were there, most sat outside. The highlight of Bradfield Nights so far in 2025 was in May when VE day was celebrated. The turnout was good with many people getting into the spirit by dressing up for the occasion in 1945 style. There were many people in uniform and the Women's Land Army were out in force! NR and DS judged the costumes with TD winning 2 free meals at a BN this year. A good night was had by all, to the backdrop of wartime music. We tried, as far as possible, to serve food in the style of 1945, but without spam or dried eggs! We had pies for main course followed by spotted dick or treacle sponge, with custard, of course!

After the quiz night on Saturday 19 July, the next event is the Beer Festival on Saturday September 6th. There being no quiz or BN in August.

At our next committee meeting as well as planning for the beer festival we will be also planning to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Village Hall.

Private bookings continue to come in for a variety of family events, including birthdays and wakes.

We have a new regular booking for a choir on Monday nights, although they are somewhat erratic in attendance, as well as the long-standing yoga on Tuesdays and monthly on Thursdays.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers, who are not on the committee, but help greatly to make Bradfield Nights the success that they are. Without them, BNs would not be able to continue in their current form.

CS-Chairperson

July 2025

Signature.....

Attachment 7.4 WhatsApp Use Policy

Bradfield St George Parish Council is an elected body which makes decisions in duly convened public meetings. In between meetings, information is shared between members and the clerk by email correspondence. It is appreciated that from time to time members and clerk of Bradfield St George Parish Council need to share various pieces of information and news within the team speedily. With this in mind a dedicated Bradfield St George PC WhatsApp group has been established.

All members of the Council are welcome to join the group and we encourage you to join to receive the latest updates on scheduling of extraordinary meetings and any particularly urgent matter which needs to be brought to members' attention quickly.

The clerk will be responsible for the group as group admin and with your consent will add your phone number to the group. There is no obligation to use this channel of communication. Please be aware that the number you provide below will be visible and available to the rest of the group. You can opt to leave the group at any time and if you leave the Council's membership/employment your number will be automatically removed from the group.

WhatsApp Etiquette

Here are some tips to ensure everyone gets the most out of the Bradfield St George PC WhatsApp group:

- Understand that members of Bradfield St George PC give their time voluntarily; the clerk is employed for a few hours each week; it may not always be convenient or possible to respond within a particular timescale.
- Understand that Bradfield St George PC is a public authority and as such all communications on this group (and other mediums) are subject to Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Data Protection legislation.
- Remember to be considerate and respectful to others
- Please be polite and observe the same level of courtesy as you would do if you were speaking to someone face to face
- Please refrain from commenting or sharing content (including videos or pictures) that could be interpreted as inappropriate, demeaning or inflammatory
- Please only discuss work related or business matters on the group and use alternative groups or chats for personal discussions
- Please do not share or discuss personal information of any residents or colleagues (this including names, contact numbers etc)
- Please do not share confidential information about any residents or individuals on the group
- Understand that the discussions will be moderated by the group admin and any inappropriate activity may lead to further investigation and potential action under the disciplinary procedure/ grievance procedure/ The Suffolk Code of Conduct.

If you have any queries or concerns about the group or its content please discuss this with parishclerk@bradfieldstgeorge.uk.

Signature.....

Attachment 8.1

**SUMMARY RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ending 31/3/26**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2025/26</u>		<u>Variance</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	
	£		
Precept	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00
Allotment rents	45.00	80.00	-35.00
Misc receipts	0.00		
Grnt	0.00		
Santander interest	23.26	90.00	-66.74
VAT	196.08		196.08
	<u>5,764.34</u>	<u>5,670.00</u>	<u>94.34</u>

<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Misc	12.77		-12.77
Admin Misc -	83.82	100.00	16.18
Audit fees	183.00	250.00	67.00
BT line VH	87.39	435.00	347.61
Clerk's salary(inc tax)	0.00	2,775.00	2,775.00
Clerk expenditure	0.00	90.00	90.00
Donations	0.00	100.00	100.00
Footpaths	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grass cutting	114.50	500.00	385.50
Insurance	0.00	350.00	350.00
PCC	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repairs/maintenance	0.00	350.00	350.00
SALC Training	0.00	100.00	100.00
Payroll service	19.00	40.00	21.00
Subscriptions	228.42	230.00	1.58
Stationery	0.00	50.00	50.00
VAT	57.89		-57.89
Vhall hire	20.00	120.00	100.00
Grants	0.00	100.00	100.00
Contingency	0.00	0.00	0.00
defib	0.00	80.00	
bin			
	<u>806.79</u>	<u>5,670.00</u>	<u>4,863.21</u>

<u>Reconciliation of R. & P. Book</u>		<u>Santander account</u>	
Balance b/f 01.04.25	£7,309.04	Balance b/f 1/4/25	£9,205.10
Receipts	£5,741.08	Receipts	£23.26
Payments	-£806.79	Payments	
	<u>£12,243.33</u>		<u>£9,228.36</u>
TOTAL - 2A/cs	<u>£21,471.69</u>		

Bank Reconciliation balances as at
 Lloyds Balance as at 30.06.25 £12,243.33
 less unrepresented cheques

Santander balance as at 30.06.2 £9,228.36

TOTAL Bank Reconciliation £21,471.69

Signature.....