

HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

2024/25

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Chairman's Report

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to all my fellow councillors for their hard work and dedication over the past year. I would also like to encourage any residents of Hatfield Peverel who are interested in becoming more involved with the Parish Council to contact Sarah Gaeta, our Parish Clerk, to register their interest. Currently, there are vacancies on the Council, and you can find Sarah's contact details on the Parish Council's website.

Below is a brief overview of the work the Parish Council has undertaken and the projects we have been involved in over the past year:

Completed Projects:

- **Nounsley Play Area:** The improvements to the Nounsley Play Area have now been completed, and the playground is open for use by children throughout the village.
- **Gym Equipment:** Based on feedback received from a survey conducted via SurveyMonkey and voting slips, the Parish Council has installed outdoor gym equipment. This new facility is now available for use by people of all ages, providing access to high-quality gym equipment without the need for a gym membership.

Upcoming Projects:

- **Tennis Courts:** The Parish Council has also responded to residents' requests for tennis courts. Following consultations with the Lawn Tennis Association and our Project Consultant, we have developed plans for two new tennis courts, which will be located near the car park at the recreation ground. Work will begin in spring 2025, with completion expected by late June.

Funding for Projects:

Many of the improvements we are able to make in the village are funded through contributions from developers. When new development takes place, developers are required to provide financial support for local infrastructure and amenities. These contributions are known as Section 106 funds. Each year, the Parish Council identifies projects that would benefit the village, and we submit these for approval to Braintree District Council.

How You Can Get Involved:

The Parish Council is engaged in several initiatives and projects, and we are always looking for more residents to get involved. Currently, we have the following working parties and committees:

- Community Park Committee
- Community Events Committee
- Planning Committee
- Personnel Committee
- Environment Advisory Group
- Traffic Advisory Group
- Youth Services Working Party
- Section 106 Working Party

Acknowledgements:

Before I finish, I would like to express my gratitude to all the councillors for their time and commitment. As an unpaid role, being a Parish Councillor requires significant dedication, and I am very appreciative of all the effort that goes into making our community a better place. A special thank you also goes to Sarah, Carly and Janice for their support and hard work behind the scenes.

Thank you all for your continued support and engagement with the Parish Council.

Councillor Mark Weale - Chairman of Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

Environment Advisory Group Report

The EAG is tasked to consider those environmental concerns that affect us in Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley. We meet each month to try and resolve the environmental issues that face the parish. The group is made up of councillors, the Village Wildlife Champion, and the official Tree Warden for the parish. As well as myself, we have Cllrs Diane Wallace, David Broddle and Marel Elliston, the Village Wildlife Champion, Donna Goddard, and the Tree Warden, Lesley Moxhay. My thanks go to them all for volunteering their knowledge and services for the good of our parish.

As you can imagine, it has been another action-packed year for the team. A large chunk of our meeting time was spent trying to agree what we should put into the Wilder Village Plan. This document had been created using the feedback that we had received from the residents telling us how the environment should be protected. It started as a large, thirty-page document and the challenge has been to try and whittle it down into something that was more impactful. It has now been decided that we rename it The Environmental Plan. It will concentrate on addressing the top four priorities, plus exploring the duty of care that the council should adopt to conserve biodiversity within the parish.

One of the key results of this, and that everyone should have noticed, is the non-cutting of various parcels of land within the parish during the summer months. By not cutting the grass on a regular basis, the native plants were allowed to grow and flower. Not only did this provide colour, but it also made the areas more insect and birdlife friendly. The council was worried that unkempt verges might look “messy”. However, we carried out a survey last autumn, and 74% of the responses were positive. We plan on repeating this “no mow” exercise again this year.

It is disappointing to note that attendance at Donna Goddard’s working party declined during the year. It was decided to end this group as it was felt that it was unfair on the regulars to expect them to keep turning out. However, there are always ad hoc pieces of work that need doing. Contact the Clerk or Donna if you wish to get involved!

The three fields at Stonepath Meadow are being continually managed by the council. We are carrying on with our policy of creating three wildflower meadows. This means that the mowing of these fields needs to be carefully managed. We have planted young whips and hedges around the site. The nettle and brambles are being cut back so that the hedge can get itself established. We are also looking to see whether we can create an artificial pond for the site.

Following the installation of multi gym equipment on the rec the previous year, our attention switched to the Nounsley Play Area. You will have seen some brand-new equipment on the site. This includes a zip wire alongside the hedge. Although the zip wire was operational, there was a delay in waiting for the grass mound to seed. That has now happened, and the apparatus is a welcome addition to the village amenities. Note that all the Nounsley play area upgrades were paid out of S106 monies. There is some advantage in all the new developments in the village!

S106 monies were also used to put a brand-new fence around the allotment site by the church ground. Three sides were wood posts and metal strands, the fourth is a natural hedge. Early last Dec., a large group of volunteers went out and planted a long row of whips running parallel to the field. The site looks much tidier now.

Normal activities include: tree maintenance and planting, litter and dog waste bins refurbishment and replacement, attending to the duck pond surroundings, the cutting back/down of encroaching vegetation, on-going child play equipment inspection, the care of our benches, cemetery maintenance, etc. Note that we can only deal with trees that are on Parish Council land! Can any owners who have hedges bordering on the footpaths within the village please ensure that surplus vegetation is kept trimmed back. This does not only apply to our country walks, but also to those hedges alongside our pavements.

Most of the above duties are carried out by our contractors, David and Damon Wallace. We must thank them for their hard work and dedication in keeping our parish looking so pleasant. I know that they often carry out work, over and above, what is expected of them. A mention should also go out to our litter pickers. Please make their jobs easier by either taking your litter home with you, or by using the litter bins provided.

If you can think of any improvements regarding the environment, or facilities, within the parish, then please let our Clerk know. Who knows, the P.C. might be able to do something about it!

Councillor Ted Munt

Traffic Advisory Group Report

The TAG has met, formally, only once in the past twelve months owing to the loss both of Councillor members and co-opted members. The work of the TAG has continued on the basis of informal discussions, telephone conversations and emails between the co-opted Chair, and the Chair of the Parish Council, with any motions being taken straight to full Council. This has, necessarily, resulted in a reduction in the achievements of the TAG although the work volume has, if anything, increased.

We have continued to deploy the seven Speed Indicator Devices and Vehicle Activated Signs owned by the Parish Council. However, we no longer have the resources to relocate the units and for the time being they remain in the locations to which they were moved several months ago. We are in the process of obtaining quotes for several of the units to be serviced and updated in situ as the earliest ones are now some 15 years old. The ECC owned VAS unit remains at The Green where it has been for some two years although it is no longer maintained by ECC. With support from ECC Cllr Louis we were able to have the ECC owned VAS unit located near Crix repaired and it continues to reinforce the 50mph speed limit on the approach to the village from Boreham.

We continue to be involved in numerous traffic, speed, signage, highway and parking issues throughout the Parish. The Local Highways Applications covering a 20mph speed limit in the vicinity of the schools and for additional road painted speed warning signs on all entrance roads to Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley have been implemented, whilst that relating to a reduction in the speed limit in the vicinity of Letches Corner continues to make its way through the LHP system.

Consideration has been given to various requests for parking restrictions within the village, but none has yet been submitted to North Essex Parking Partnership. Some have failed to gain the necessary support from residents whilst the detail of others is still being discussed.

We have made numerous reports, to ECC and BDC, in respect of potholes, defective street lights, missing road signs and broken drain covers, and have followed up directly with the County Councillor responsible for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport in cases where we believe that an incorrect assessment has been made of the seriousness of the issue, or where we feel that remedial action has been unduly delayed. Permanent, or "make safe", repairs have been undertaken in Church Road, The Street, Maldon Road, Mowden Hall Lane and Bumfords Lane and on the Wellington Bridge.

We have made representations to ECC's Transport Infrastructure Team to have the bus information screens adjusted or moved in order to provide updates at the most frequently used bus stops in the village.

We continued to play an active role in discussions with National Highways and ECC on the proposals to widen the A12 although that work is currently suspended until a decision is made by the Government as to the scheme's future. We are also pressing ECC Highways and National Highways for effective diversions during the planned road closure at Langford in July/August 2025.

Finally, thanks to the very effective litter picking team, reports of fly tipping are regularly submitted to BDC who are equally helpful in quickly removing offending items. Our thanks go especially to Marel and Ron Elliston for their work in ensuring prompt reporting of all such instances. We are also very grateful to ECC Cllr Louis for his help and support with numerous issues over the past twelve months.

John Cockell, Chairman of TAG

Community Park Report

Over the course of this year progress has been made in establishing a vision for future use of the area and development of a management plan.

This will inform activity required in the short term to enable opening the site for access by the public.

To assist in this a tree survey has been commissioned to identify the stock currently present and inform works required towards making the area safe.

Further surveys will help audit flora and fauna currently present in order develop plans to improve biodiversity.

A contractor has been engaged to design and construct a suitable car park on the site to allow access for visitors. The target for this to be completed is Autumn 2025.

Work is ongoing to seek suitable partners to operate the site on behalf of the parish council to enable successful delivery meeting local needs into the future. These needs will be identified through engagement work with local residents being planned for the coming year.

Councillor Mike Renow, Chairman of the Community Park Committee

NDP Executive Committee Report

Following completion of a review of the Neighbourhood Plan adopted by Braintree District Council in 2019 a referendum on the revised plan took place on Thursday 5th September 2024.

In answer to the question:

Do you want Braintree District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Hatfield Peverel to help it decide planning in the neighbourhood area?

The result of the votes cast in the referendum was:

Votes cast in favour of Yes **496**

Votes cast in favour of No **69**

As a result of this vote the revised plan with effect from 2023 to 2038 was formally adopted by Braintree District Council in September of 2024.

Thanks go to members of the Neighbourhood Plan Team and all who helped in production of the revised plan.

Councillor Mike Renow

Section 106 Report

Nounsley Playground Project

The Working Party was pleased to see completion of Nounsley Playground Project last September for the upgrade of play equipment. The area now includes some up-to-date playground equipment including a cableway. Some of the old favourites like the rocking horse remained.

Double Tennis Courts

A prestart meeting was held on 4th April between members of the Working Party, the tennis court consultant and the contractor. Construction work on the tennis courts will start on Tuesday 6th May and will take approximately 6 – 8 weeks. There will be some disruption during this period between the hours of 8am and 4pm during the working week, particularly during the first two weeks with lorry movements, and for those people in vehicles who wish to use the village hall car park. Signage will be displayed nearer the time, posts made on social media and the Parish Council's website as to any temporary closure of the car park.

The flood lighting will be installed later in the summer months. Also, on the advice of the consultant the courts will not be open for use during August/September because of the hot weather and possible damage to the new surfacing. Therefore, it is anticipated that the courts will not be open until early October to allow the new surfacing to cure for a bit, and for the lighting to be installed. Although curing does take some months even going into next year, it is not so critical during the winter months.

This is another exciting facility for the community, and it is hoped you will understand the need to hold off opening the courts for playing tennis until early Autumn.

Public Rights of Way

Remedial work to the small stretch of footpath from PRow Footpath Number 18 at the rear of New Road leading to Laburnum Way is due to begin on 22nd April. Essex County Council finally agreed to adopt this provided Hatfield Peverel Parish Council first carried out remedial work to adoptable standard. S106 monies are being used for this work.

Drainage work was carried out to PRow Footpath Number 7 at the rear of the Scout Hut to help alleviate flooding on that footpath. This does appear to have solved the issues although so far, we haven't had so much rain this year as in previous years. A big thank you for the landowners for allowing this work to be undertaken.

Working Party members are continuing to look at further PRow's within the Parish where upgrades would be beneficial.

Village Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee are still considering using S106 monies to carry out work on the roof to the hall in readiness to install solar panels. This is a huge project to manage and implement and will take time.

Community Park

The Community Park will also benefit from S106 contributions, and the Community Park Committee are liaising with members of the Working Party to prepare a Management Plan to be able to open the site to the community as soon as possible.

Quarterly meetings are still held with Braintree District Council. A report is provided at each monthly Parish Council meeting to keep the community and Councillors updated on all projects.

Good progress has again been achieved over this last year seeing some projects through to completion with S106 monies available to be used for the benefit of the community.

A big thank you to all members of the Working Party, Councillors, Braintree District Council, and to the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for all their help and continuing support.

Councillor Diane Wallace

Community Events

Last year saw the first cancellation of *Party in the Park* in over 10 years. This unfortunate decision was made due to extreme weather conditions—torrential rain overnight made it impossible to run the event safely. It was a tough call, but the safety of attendees, volunteers, and vendors had to come first.

On a brighter note, planning is well underway for this year's *Party in the Park*, scheduled for Saturday, 5th July 2025. We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back and making it a fantastic community celebration.

The Events Committee is a small but dedicated group of volunteers and councillors who give up their time to organise events for the village. The two most well-known are *Christmas in the Park* and *Party in the Park*.

Christmas in the Park 2024

A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers, stallholders, vendors—and of course, Father Christmas—who helped bring so much joy to our community during the festive season. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, and we're looking forward to building on that success for Christmas 2025.

Get Involved

These events are organised by the Parish Council's Community Events Committee, and we always welcome new faces. If you'd like to get involved—either as a volunteer or by becoming a councillor—you'll be helping shape the future of village life and supporting valuable community events.

Looking Ahead

We encourage everyone to join us in whatever way they can, whether it's volunteering, offering ideas, or simply attending and supporting the events. Your input and energy make all the difference.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the members of the Events Committee, the Assistant Clerk, the Parish Clerk, and the many volunteers who give their time and energy to make these events happen.

Here's to another great year of community events!

Councillor Mark Weale

Parish Paths Partnership representative (P3) report

1 Parish Paths Partnership (P3) scheme

This scheme continues to be supported by individual parishes and special interest groups like the Ramblers and a number of others. Some local parishioners and local volunteer working groups continue to take action on particular problems they identify as they see the need and are able to do so. However, support from ECC Highways is difficult to secure.

We currently have no local area ECC Footpaths Inspector, I continue to be in touch with ECC to check on progress to fulfil this role.

2 FP4 - extension of path from The Street via Bennett Way, New Road to FP18 (Cutts Close to the Rec')

As reported last year, the parish needs the entire length of this key village path to acquire permanent legal protection, and to ensure it is maintainable at public expense by ECC. Currently only the length from The Street to the northern arm of the Bennett Way cul-de-sac has this status, appearing on the county Definitive Map as FP4.

John Cockell (TAG chair) reports that Eastlight Community Housing Ltd (ECHL) has recently dedicated the remaining two sections of path for takeover by ECC, ultimately to be added to the Definitive Map.

The ongoing adoption issue of the path between 14 and 16 Laburnum Way is finally making progress and will become fully adopted soon following resurfacing.

3 Public Rights of Way improvements under Section 106 agreements

Resulting from development approvals granted to developers within the parish, they entered into Section 106 agreements with Braintree District Council, covenanting to pay contributions to add to or to improve a number of our facilities. Some of this money has been allocated for public rights of way improvements. 2 paths have now been completed with plans for other path and local map improvements.:-

3.1 FP18 - Cutts Close to The Rec *(for more recent residents of the village, the park)*

This work was completed in 2024.

3.2 FP7 - Church Road to Sportsmans Lane

This work was completed in the autumn of 2024 and has been well received by walkers as this is popular walk from the village. With the heavy rain in early 2025 the path soon cleared of any excess water and the path remained in good condition throughout the winter.

3.3 FP34 - A12 underpass to Terling Hall Road - levelling of the surface of the length beside the railway embankment from the Ter to Terling Hall Road *(subject of a number of complaints by walkers since the diversion)*. This improvement is still be considered, but will depend on other priorities. Potentially improvements to FP20 from the Churchyard to Sportsmans has been suggested as in need for improvement as another popular village route which can suffer from poor condition in the winter.

3.4 Prow Map for Sorrells Field - One portion of this funding is required to be allocated for a parish map display showing the public rights of way to site within the new housing on the old Sorrells Field site. Once costs

of the tasks have been established we will know what other needs could be considered within the allocated sum.

4 Footpath Problems. During last year a number of footpaths had issues from fallen trees and branches to heavy overgrowth. Last spring and early summer were unusually wet and mild which made the surrounding vegetation grow much quicker and later in the season. This led to a number of paths needing additional cutting back. In addition, some summer storms caused a few trees and large branches to block some paths. If you do find any issues when walking the local paths, please do inform me via the Parish Council email address and I will do my best to escalate the problem.

5 Nine Walks around Hatfield Peverel

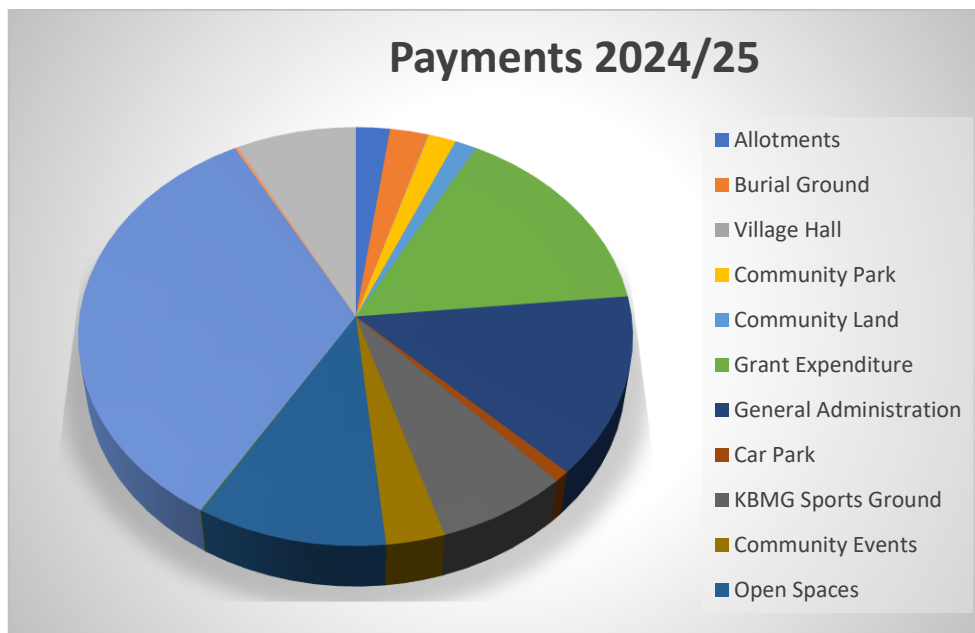
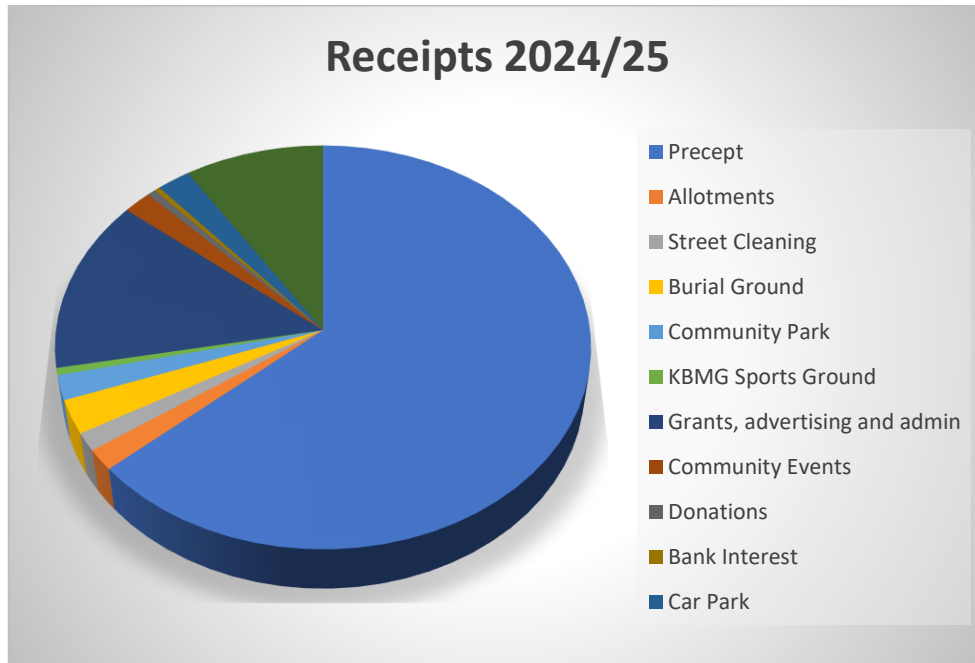
The online version in PDF format of Catherine Voysey's booklet "Nine Walks around Hatfield Peverel" is now available on the parish council's website. Anyone finding anything misleading or inaccurate is asked to refer it in the first instance to parish clerk Sarah Gaeta.

Richard Alston, Parish Paths Partnership (P3) representative, Hatfield Peverel

footpaths@hatfieldpeverelpc.com

Financial Report

Receipts and payments in the financial year 2024/25 were apportioned as follows:



The figures presented in this report are provisional. The Council's final financial position may change once the year-end process is completed and the internal audit has been finalised. The **Annual Governance documents** submitted to the External Auditor will be available on our website from June 2025:

<https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/parish-council/finance/>

Sarah Gaeta, Responsible Financial Officer

District Councillor Report

Some key achievements of Braintree District Council include:

1. Affordable Housing Initiatives

- **Exceeding Targets:** In the 2023-2024 fiscal year, we completed 424 new affordable homes, surpassing our target by 70%. This marks the highest annual delivery of affordable homes in the district's history.
- **Ongoing Commitment:** For 2024-2025, the goal is to complete an additional 250 affordable homes across various sites. To date 292 affordable homes have been delivered and an additional 20 completions anticipated in March

2. Budget

- **Balanced Budget:** Despite economic challenges, we approved a balanced budget of £19.6 million for 2024-2025, ensuring the protection of vital frontline services without resorting to cuts

3. Environmental Initiatives

- **Community Grants:** We launched a £100,000 Community Infrastructure Grant Fund to assist local groups in reducing carbon emissions and energy costs, supporting projects like renewable energy installations and energy-efficient upgrades
- **Fleet Decarbonisation:** Procurement of 14 Electric Light Commercial Vehicles (LCVs) was completed, advancing the commitment to fleet decarbonisation and improved air quality

4. Community Engagement and Support

- **Addressing Social Isolation:** BDC expanded community-led walking activities to 10 groups district-wide, promoting social connections and enhancing residents' health and well-being.
- **Support for Vulnerable Residents:** Through the 'Home Upgrade' grant phase 2, BDC provided grants to households struggling with cold homes, facilitating energy-saving upgrades and reducing fuel poverty
- **Relaunch of the Cost of Living Grants:** Two grants are available for groups and organisations: 1. Microgrants – (up to £1,000) which will remain open until the funds have been fully allocated. 2. Small Grants (up to £10,000) which will be available for a duration of 8 weeks, with the closing date set for 26th May 2025. Small Grants will be evaluated and scored only after the closing date.

5. Enhancing Public Amenities

- **Play Area Improvements:** Upgrades to play areas with inclusive equipment and the refurbishment of skateparks in Braintree and Witham were completed, ensuring accessible recreational facilities for all ages
- **Community Centre Development:** The contract for the construction of Witham Community Centre was awarded, with the project progressing as planned to serve as a hub for local activities and services.

6. Safety and Resilience

- **Safer Streets Initiatives:** BDC secured funding to implement measures preventing violence against women and girls, as well as addressing neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour in Halstead, fostering safer communities
- **Empty Homes Policy:** A new policy was introduced to reduce the number of long-term empty homes, aiming to increase housing availability and improve neighbourhood vitality.

In addition to this can update on some other key topics as follows:

NPPF Reforms

The Government continues to bring forward proposed reforms to the planning process. The Planning and Infrastructure Bill was published at the beginning of March with highlights being the introduction of mandatory training for members of Planning Committees and the expectation that Committees will examine major applications only, with minor applications being determined by officers. BDC has been operating both of the above for several years. A link to the Bill is as follows: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-planning-and-infrastructure-bill/guide-to-the-planning-and-infrastructure-bill#part-2-planning>

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

In January 2025, Braintree District Council, alongside Colchester City Council and Tendring District Council, issued a joint statement acknowledging the decisions of Southend City Council, Thurrock Council, and Essex County Council to join the government's Devolution Priority Programme. The councils collectively welcomed the devolution of powers from central government and viewed the creation of a Strategic Authority for Greater Essex as a positive step. They also expressed that, should Local Government Reorganisation proceed, forming a unitary authority comprising Braintree, Colchester, and Tendring would be a sensible approach, aligning with the government's criteria on population size.

In February 2025, leaders from Essex councils, including the Police and Fire Commissioner and Chief Executives, convened to initiate work on devolution in Greater Essex. They formed cross-party working groups to address various aspects of the proposed reorganisation, such as geography, size, number, and value-for-money of new unitary councils. These groups also explored how best to meet local needs through quality public service delivery, emphasizing the importance of community and identity. The aim was to submit initial proposals to the government by March 21, 2025, with detailed proposals due by September 26, 2025. There is a full council meeting for members to debate this just prior to the final submission once more facts are known and the data can be analysed appropriately.

Braintree District Council continues to support the devolution of powers to a Strategic Authority for Greater Essex and is actively participating in discussions regarding Local Government Reorganisation. The council maintains that any reorganisation should prioritize local identity and community needs. The proposal to form a unitary authority encompassing Braintree, Colchester, and Tendring remains a central consideration, aiming to streamline governance and enhance service delivery across the region.

Norwich-Tilbury scheme

The latest targeted consultation closed on Thursday 27th March. BDC has submitted our response to National Grid, acknowledging a number of changes to the original proposals e.g. re-siting some pylons to reduce landscape and heritage harm, but the Council still maintains National Government should at least be considering the offshore option.

Review of Waste Collection Services

In December 2024, the Council's Cabinet approved plans to hold an eight-week public consultation on the future of waste collection services, aiming to enhance recycling rates, reduce landfill waste, and comply with the Environment Act 2021's Simpler Recycling policy.

The proposed changes include:

- **Three-Weekly General Waste Collection:** Changing general waste collections from every two weeks to every three weeks
- **Alternate Fortnightly Recycling Collections:** Collecting paper and card one fortnight and glass, metals, plastics, and cartons the next
- **Provision of Wheeled Bins:** Replacing clear recycling sacks with wheeled bins

The consultation was open from January 6 to March 2, 2025, seeks residents' feedback on these proposals. A report summarizing the responses will be presented to the Cabinet in May 2025, with any approved changes expected to be implemented by April 2026. It is important to note that the outcomes of the public consultation will inform next steps and that no final decisions have been made.

Local Plan

The Local Plan serves as the strategic framework guiding growth and development within the Braintree district. The existing plan is set to run until 2033; however, it is subject to review and potential update at least every five years to ensure it remains current and robust. In March 2024, the Local Plan Sub-Committee initiated the process to refresh and extend the plan's timeframe to 2041, aligning with evolving community needs and national planning guidance.

Current Developments:

- **Call for Sites:** In April 2024, the council initiated a "Call for Sites" exercise, inviting landowners, developers, and the public to propose sites suitable for development or environmental protection. This initiative aims to identify potential locations for housing, employment, and green spaces to meet the district's growth requirements up to 2041.
- **Issues and Options Consultation:** Launched on January 20, 2025, this consultation seeks community input on key challenges and opportunities for future development. It covers topics such as housing, the local economy, transport, infrastructure, and environmental considerations. The consultation period concluded on March 7, 2025, and the council is currently reviewing the feedback received
- **The Local Plan Committee Meetings:** The committee will be meeting regularly between May 2025 and August 2025 to consider all of the sites that have been put forward as well as consider refresh to the Local Plan policies. I will shortly be able to confirm the dates that sites within the Hatfield Peverel and Terling ward will be considered - I believe Hatfield Peverel will be one date and White Notley a separate one.
- **Preferred Options Consultation:** Scheduled for October/November 2025, this phase will present the draft Local Plan, including updated policies and proposed development sites, for public feedback.

- **Pre-Submission Consultation:** Planned for spring 2026, this stage will focus on ensuring the plan's compliance with legal and national policy standards before formal submission
- **Submission and Adoption:** Following the pre-submission phase, the plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspector for an Independent Examination, with adoption anticipated in 2026

For the latest updates and detailed information, please visit the council's official website: www.braintree.gov.uk/localplanreview.

Braintree District Councillor James Coleridge

Essex County Councillor Report

Tackling speeding concerns

I commissioned speed surveys around the village and from these came the 20mph speed restriction and flashing lights (known as Wig-Wags) outside the Infant and Junior School. I also had the yellow zig zag lines outside the school repainted.

Hatfield Peverel Junior School

I have worked closely with the school to minimise the impact of RAAC.

Highways defects

I have quickly followed up on any reported defects to ensure these have been repaired as quickly as possible. In addition, I was able to secure substantial repairs To Church Road, Maldon Road and the Wellington Bridge.

Footpaths

I was able to resolve the very longstanding issue over ownership and maintenance liability of the footpath connection Laburnum Way and FP18.

Grant Funding

I was able to provide grant funding for tree planting at the Village Hall and for camping equipment for the 1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group.

Essex County Councillor Derrick Louis