



Great Bromley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2026 AT 7.00PM AT GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

In attendance: Cllr Fairley (Chairman), Cllr Blowers, Cllr Mander, Cllr Nicholls, Cllr Pirie and Cllr Smith.

Also in attendance: TDC Cllrs Scott, and Lizzie Ridout (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public: 34

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and confirmed the councillors present for the benefit of members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Goni, Cllr Hardy and TDC Cllr Wiggins.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8 July 2026, previously circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposer: Cllr Mander **Seconded:** Cllr Nicholls

3. **Declarations of Interest**

Members were requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other relevant interests, and the nature thereof, in respect of items listed on this agenda.

- Cllr Mander declared a personal interest in Planning Application 26/00948/OUT insofar as she was a close neighbour.
- Cllr Blowers declared a pecuniary interest in Planning application 26/01173/LUPROP insofar as he was a shareholder at The Cross.

4. **Public Participation**

- A resident reported approximately 30 nitrous oxide canisters dumped near the entrance to the recreation ground over the past five days.
ACTION: Cllr Fairley to remove and dispose of cannisters.
ACTION: Clerk to draft safety article to be published in the next Messenger magazine to warn parents and users of risks.
- A resident raised concerns that incorrect nomination information had appeared on the TDC website. The Clerk advised to contact TDC Elections team although it appeared that the error had been removed.
- A resident raised historic flooding issues affecting homes in the Bromley Cross area. It was confirmed that flooding concerns had been included in planning objections for applications 26/00910/OUT and 26/00912/OUT.

5. **Environmental issue – fly infestation and odour**

District Cllr Scott read the latest TDC officer report (dated 30 July). Key points from the report were:

- No definitive source of the fly infestation had been identified.
- UKHSA had reported no spike in Campylobacter cases attributable to flies.
- Environment Agency and Anglian Water had reported no issues at regulated sites.
- TDC officers had visited commercial premises, landfill and refuse sites; no odour or excessive flies had been witnessed at the time.
- Officers acknowledged infestations varied by time of day and wind conditions.
- TDC would scale back investigations, continuing only where new evidence was provided.
- Residents should report concerns to relevant agencies.

The Chair proposed writing to Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, UKHSA, DEFRA and the Environment Agency to escalate concerns. District Cllr Scott supported the proposal.

ACTION: Parish Council to write to Sir Bernard Jenkin MP and relevant agencies.

Residents expressed strong dissatisfaction with TDC's handling of the fly issue. Key concerns

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raised:

- No replies to 70 complaints submitted to TDC.
- Poor communication from officers and elected members.

Residents stated:

- UKHSA had confirmed a spike in Campylobacter locally.
- District nurses had reported maggots present in wounds during home visits.
- Environmental Health officers had witnessed significant fly numbers at properties.

Residents had undertaken their own investigations, including drone footage and water sampling, identifying two potential sites (not A120 or Slough Lane). A national England & Wales fly group had been formed. Sir Bernard Jenkin MP was raising the matter with the Environmental Minister. Compassion in World Farming and BBC News were in contact with the Great Bromley Fly Action Group. A complaint had been submitted to the Local Government Ombudsman. Legal advice was being sought regarding compensation for business losses and pest-control costs. A complaint had been lodged with the Equality Commission regarding lack of reasonable adjustments for vulnerable residents.

Requests to TDC

Residents requested:

- A list of commercial premises visited, dates of visits, and findings.
- Clarification of officers' qualifications to assess environmental health risks.
- Explanation of why TDC was scaling back investigations despite entomology reports confirming houseflies (a legislated pest).

District Cllr Scott agreed to:

- Raise concerns directly with TDC Chief Executive, Ian Davidson.
- Request detailed information on inspections undertaken.
- Report back to the Parish Council.

Residents stated they expected concrete action before the next meeting and may consider public demonstration at the Town Hall if no progress was made. It was noted that a fly-related residents' meeting would take place on Saturday 22 August at 11am.

6. Planning Determinations – for information only

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
26/00718/VOC Mr and Mrs Card Approval – Full 06.07.2026	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Conditions 2 (Approved Plans and Documents), Condition 4 (Rainwater Goods), and compliance with Condition 7 (Fenestration Details) of application 22/01597/FUL to enable/allow wording of the conditions to align to specification choices made by the applicant.	Blue Gates Barn Carringtons Road Great Bromley CO7 7UZ	Delegated Decision as authorized by the officer detailed on the report
26/00986/WTREX George Smith – Beacon Farm Forestry Limited Approval – Full 29.06.2026	Under an exception to the normal requirement obtain consent under the terms and conditions of the Tree Preservation Order as set out in Section 14 (1) © of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012. Lime Tree – Fell to ground level for safety reasons.	Leonard Cheshire Seven Rivers Care Home Great Bromley CO7 7TR	Delegated Decision as authorized by the officer detailed on the report

The planning determinations were noted.

7. Planning Applications

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REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
26/00968/FULHH Mr and Mrs Michael and Jessica Card	Householder Planning Application - Landscaping to the annex including pool, sauna building and boundary treatments. External porch and cupboard to the main barn dwelling, external gates to northern courtyard. Solar PV panels to west roof of annex and south roof of main barn dwelling. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objections.	Blue Gates Farm Carringtons Road, Great Bromley CO7 7UZ
26/00948/OUT Mr Steward	Outline Planning Application (Access/Layout to be considered) - Erection of 6no. detached dwellings. *Extension for comments agreed. Great Bromley Parish Council agreed to submit a formal objection, noting that the proposed development lies outside the Settlement Development Boundary and conflicts with Ardleigh's Neighbourhood Plan. Members considered the proposal harmful to the rural character of Bromley Cross, resulting in urbanisation creep and loss of high-quality farmland. The Council noted that the site is isolated from essential services, with residents likely to be dependent on private vehicles for most day-to-day needs. Public transport is limited, and walking routes to the nearest facilities involve unlit 40–60mph roads without pavements. The development was therefore considered unsustainable under the National Planning Policy Framework. The Council also highlighted historic flooding in 2016, during which eleven nearby properties were affected. Long-standing drainage issues remain unresolved, and members expressed concern that additional development would exacerbate flood risk.	Land Fronting Ardleigh Road and Mill Lane Great Bromley CO7 7TL
26/01114/FULHH Mrs Clare Lochore	Householder Planning Application - Single-storey rear and two storey side extensions. Detached car port/games room and outdoor swimming pool. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objections.	Holly Lodge, Colchester Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TN
26/01038/FULHH Mr Daniel Shaikly	Householder Planning Application - Replacement front porch, conversion of existing garage to ancillary living accommodation, and single storey rear extension. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objections.	Dovetails, Mary Lane South, Great Bromley CO7 7UD
26/01152/FUL Mr and Mrs Rolt	Planning Application - Erection of a self-build dwelling (in lieu of 25/00928/COUNOT for the change of use of an agricultural building into a dwelling under Schedule 2, part 3, Class Q of the GPDO) Great Bromley Parish Council had no objections.	Roline Harwich Road Great Bromley CO7 7UL

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26/01173/LUPROP Bryn Jones	Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Proposed Use or Development for the removal of the existing render to the original three-storey structure & replacement with fibre cement cladding board. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objections. Cllr Blowers had declared a pecuniary interest in this application under item 3.	Cross Inn Motel Ardleigh Road Great Bromley CO7 7TL
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8. Reports

a) County Councillor's Report – not received.

b) District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Scott reported that the District Councillors' written update had been circulated prior to the meeting. He advised that call-in procedures for TDC planning applications would be changing in the future and that a six-week consultation on the Local Plan was expected to take place during autumn/winter. He confirmed that the roll-out of separate glass kerb side collections would begin on 5 October, with an additional green box issued from 17 August. Cllr Scott also noted that bring sites would be phased out during January and February 2027.

c) Parish Councillors' Reports

Cllr Pirie

- Reported rubbish along the A120 caused by lorries not being netted.
- Cllr Scott agreed to raise the matter with TDC.

Cllr Mander

- Confirmed that the footbridge at Boudge Hill had been replaced.

Cllr Nicholls

- Suggested that the Parish Council focus on the local pylons issue.
- Reported a response to the objections against planning applications at Bromley Cross. Clerk to email TDC's Planning Services regarding the response from CERES to the objections for planning applications 26/00910/OUT and 26/00912/OUT
- Several potholes remained outstanding – Clerk to report to ECC Cllr Murray.
- Suggested a fresh application be made for a 20mph limit outside St George's school.
- Suggested to ask about reducing the 60mph limit on Hall Road.

Cllr Smith

- Reported that a new distributor had been found for *The Messenger*.

Cllr Fairley

- Reported that the ongoing odour issues on Parsons Hill were believed to originate from two pumping stations operating simultaneously.
- Confirmed the hedge on Parsons Hill had been trimmed back, and would look to address the foliage creep on the footpath.
- Noted that an oak tree at Blue Gates Farm had experienced a sudden branch drop.

d) Clerk's Report and Correspondence received

- A resident had raised an issue at Grange Hall which was forwarded to TDC Planning Enforcement to investigate Condition 4 and await a discharge-of-condition application.
- A vote of no confidence in the Parish Council had been noted.
- Overgrown footpath 28 and Long Cover had been reported to ECC.
- Two emails praising the flower tubs had been received.

9. Action Sheet review and update

The actions agreed at the last meeting had been completed.

10. Accounts

The Accounts Monitoring Officer confirmed that the accounts were in order. The Clerk confirmed that the outcome of the External Audit had been received with no issues to report. The cost of the upcoming by-election had not yet been confirmed.

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11. The Messenger – financial update

Members received and noted financial reports for The Messenger covering the years 2021–2025, including income, expenditure, and year-on-year trends, which would support informed decision-making regarding future financial arrangements and parish support for the publication.

12. Highways update

There was none.

13. Hare Green Playing Area

The new contract had been sent to the football team but no response had been received.

14. The following payments were approved:

Staff net pay	£	224.10
Staff HMRC PAYE	£	149.60
Employer's NI	£	76.13
Employer LGPS contribution	£	220.04
Employee's LGPS contribution	£	50.85
Employee's AVC	£	500.00
Great Bromley Village Hall	£	26.00
Tuckwells – oil ref 229025	£	29.60
Bland Landscapes – grass cutting ref INV-5367	£	280.80

Village Maintenance team costs:	Expenses	Total
Lewis Mander		£ 481.98
Chris Morgan	£7.99	£ 454.24

Grand total	£	2,493.34
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Proposed: Cllr Blowers **Seconded:** Cllr Pirie

15. Climate Change and Carbon Footprint

Members considered the effect of any decisions on our Carbon Footprint and Climate Change in general.

16. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 9 September 2026

Members were reminded that items of business for inclusion on the agenda should be submitted to the Clerk by Monday 31 August 2026.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.33pm.