



BRAMFORD

PARISH COUNCIL



Bramford Parish Council, The Parish Room, Ship Lane, Bramford, Suffolk, IP8 4AN
Tel: 01473 747433 e-mail: bramfordparishcouncil@btinternet.com www.bramford.suffolk.cloud

Chairman's Report May 2022

The Council

The year has been fairly steady compared to the previous couple of years and it was good to have face to face meetings once more. Jane Every is settling in as parish clerk, which is a first for her. Her steadfast financial background has turned things around regarding the mess the finances were left in. This has not been without challenges and there is still more to learn, not least for myself. One thing that Jane has highlighted is the way things need to be processed which I am trying to do as swiftly as possible.

With the arrival of new people and families, due to the new housing, we shall continue to make sure they are informed of the council and are willing to play a valuable part in the parish, to see that we remain an active, friendly, vibrant village, and to welcome all who chose to live in Bramford.

We shall be having 'Village Gates' at the four main entry points into the village, Bramford Road, Paper Mill Lane and both ends of the B1113 by the end of the summer.

The Scout headquarters had a new kitchen and toilets fitted last year and the remaining repairs are ongoing with the hope they are completed this year.

Notable Events.

It was great to see the centre of the village a little smarter with the installation of three large flower planters and two benches, so people can sit and relax. The phone box will be the next thing to be smartened up.

Last summer saw the 'Picnic in the Playing Field' event in conjunction with the Bramford Playing Field Management Committee to celebrate the end of some COVID restrictions, everyone enjoyed the fantastic music and the chance to meet up with neighbours again. Christmas time brought the village together around the Christmas tree with a brass band, enthusiastic singing, mince pies and mulled wine.

We are looking forward to the first time in two years, to the return of the Bramford Fun Day which will be part of the Jubilee Celebrations over four days of the extended bank holiday weekend. Many thanks for Cllr. Caroline Wolton and Claire Bickers for their organising.

We have arranged to have flower baskets on some of the lamp posts in The Street. Cllr. Andy Haigh and I, have fixed the brackets and many thanks for Cllr. Simon Coulson for the planting, which will be ready to display next month. Bunting will also be hung along The Street as part of these celebrations.

Planning.

Planning still remains the biggest concern for the village with major housing developments being completed and planned. These developments will increase the population of Bramford when completed and will put a strain on local amenities and services. We still have more hurdles to clear, regarding the proposed planning for the three solar farms, and pylons.

Lawn Cemetery.

Work still needs to be done in regards to the management and day to day running of the Lawn Cemetery in a sensitive manner. David Jackson has been looking after the grounds.

We are also looking to the future, with new plans now set in place and the possibility of a new car park. The field adjacent to the cemetery has now been planted with sunflowers, thanks to Cllr. Simon Coulson. This should look amazing during the late summer months.

Allotments.

Both allotments continue to remain popular. The land adjacent to the allotments has now been planted as a Community Orchard and I have to thank everyone involved, especially Cllr. Ian Dicker who also arranged for the planting of 30 trees throughout the village. This will become a lasting legacy of this council for years to come.

Playing Fields.

The Playing Field Management Committee has been working well to maintain the upkeep of the grounds, the safety of the children's playground and all the associated amenities. New fencing has been erected to keep things secure and tidy and the purchase of the activity outdoor gym has enhanced the facilities.

Social Media and Outreach.

We now have an additional form of outreach in the form of the eNewsletter and thanks to Cllr. Simon Colson for the maintenance. We will continue to inform and enlighten the public through our website, Facebook and local publications.

Finances.

Our finances remain in a healthy condition, due to the diligence of our new clerk, Jane Every. We have good reserves for building maintenance and other expenditures for the year ahead. The financial statement is accompanied with this report.

Finally...

As always, thank you to all our residents who have contacted, contributed, and attended our meetings. Please continue to let us know your concerns, stories and what is affecting you.

Thank you to our Councillors, District Councillor and County Councillor who have served Bramford above and beyond over the past twelve months.



Lester Powell.

Chair of Bramford Parish Council May 2022