



WHITE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

White Colne Village Hall, Bures Road, White Colne, CO6 2QA.

www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

clerk@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the White Colne Parish Council Meeting held at White Colne Village Hall on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 19:30hrs.

Present: Cllr Paul Batchford
Cllr Jane Taylor (Chairperson)
Cllr John Wilson
Jim Morris, Parish Clerk
Cllr Chris Siddall, Halstead Division
Two members of the public

080/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Kris Bell, Cllr Jim Bond, Colnes Ward Cllr George Courtauld, and Colnes Ward Cllr Gabrielle Spray.

081/24 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

None received.

082/24 PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public noted that boundary fencing installed at Land South-West Of Fox & Pheasant Farm had increased in length; asked for updates on contracts to have electricity supplied from the Colne Valley Energy Project, and access rights adjacent to the development at Millfields.

RESPONSE: the Clerk would contact Braintree District Council (BDC) Planning Enforcement regarding the development site. Cllr Taylor would make enquiries with the energy supplier regarding householder contracts. Cllr Siddall noted that work was ongoing to establish whether Essex County Council (ECC) could carry out works to increase accessibility for pedestrians, including the installation of a footway in place of the roadside verge. Members agreed that walking on the footway of Colchester Road felt unsafe.

A resident of Bures Road asked whether the council's Speed Indicator Device (SID) could be placed there to gather data. The road would also benefit from refreshed line painting, cleaned signage, and an extension of the 30mph speed limit. The installation of gateway-style entrances to the village was suggested as a potential measure to mitigate speeding.

Response: the SID had been fixed, and the council would assess Bures Road for a suitable location. Cllr Siddall encouraged use of ECC's *Report It* online tool for items such as line painting and sign cleaning. The likelihood of gaining an extension to the 30mph zone was almost zero, but the parish council could commission a speed survey in the first instance. Cllr Taylor noted that village gateway signage had been considered in the past, but suggested locations had not been suitable. A future project to install new signage could be funded with S106 monies, if available.

083/24 MINUTES

The Minutes of the White Colne Parish Council meeting held on 19.11.2024, and Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary meeting held on 10.12.2024, were approved by council and signed by the Chairperson as true and correct records.

084/24 MATTERS ARISING

Members considered the parish council's list of matters arising and ongoing. Cllr Batchford had assessed items arising from The Meadows play area report. Some remedial works were needed,

and some items in the trail would need replacing in due course. Cllr Taylor and the Clerk had responded to the Remote Meetings Consultation but had missed the deadline for the BDC Design Code Consultation. Other items remained ongoing.

It was RESOLVED: to seek grant funding for replacing play equipment in the trail.

085/24 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Members received and considered a report from Cllr Wilson on a meeting held with Cllr Taylor and a prospective new member of the council (attached at Footnote¹). Members unanimously agreed to co-opt Jason Pryke as a member of the council.

It was RESOLVED: that Jason Pryke be co-opted as a White Colne parish councillor.

Cllr Pryke completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Parish Councillor and the council's Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests form, and joined the meeting as member of the council.

086/24 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Cllr Gabrielle Spray had offered apologies and sent a written report (attached at Footnote²).

¹ Cllr Taylor and I met Mr Jason Pryke, the prospective new councillor, on 3rd December in order to get an idea of his interests etc. He previously lived in Colchester and is not really a newcomer to the North Essex area. He is employed at Stanstead airport as a re-fueller and works shifts which would allow him to make the routine two monthly evening meetings. During our conversation with him it was clear that he was interested in how we operated as a village and was complimentary as to what he saw as village atmosphere i.e. *'how we did things as a community'*. He asked about what training courses were available to new councillors and appeared to be keen on going on some. Throughout he was enthusiastic and showed what I thought was a genuine desire to become involved. Both Cllr Taylor and I fully endorse his request to be co-opted as a councillor.

² REPORT for WHITE COLNE PC MEETING – JANUARY 2025

NPPF Reforms: Following the publication of the Government's proposed planning reforms, there will be a briefing for all District Councillors on 13th January to highlight the main changes and the implications for local planning authority teams. I have agreed with Officers that a briefing for Parish and Town Council representatives will follow as soon as possible. This may be in person at Causeway House, online or a hybrid meeting.

Waste Collection Consultation: As a result of Government legislation, the way that local authorities operate waste collections will be changing and obviously this applies to Braintree District Council too. The aim is to improve the service and, especially, to increase waste sent for recycling rather than to landfill. BDC is holding an eight- week public consultation asking residents to share their views on the proposed changes. The consultation started on Monday 6th January and runs until Sunday 2nd March. As of Wednesday there had already been over 3000 responses so we are clearly reaching people; we need to ensure this continues. The change to a 3-weekly black bin collection is not a done deal. The whole point of the consultation is to listen to peoples' concerns and identify where there might be problems. The survey can be completed at www.braintree.gov.uk/wasteconsultation or scan the QR Code on the posters which will be appearing in the local press, libraries, suitable public spaces and on social media. There is also a direct link to the consultation on the BDC website and this route is already proving popular. If a resident does not have access to a computer or a mobile phone, they can call Customer Services on 01376 552525 and ask for help with completing the survey.

Devolution: There are a lot of unknowns and uncertainties around this right now. Here are a few facts:

The Government wrote to all upper tier Councils e.g. County Councils (such as Essex CC) last September asking for 'expressions of interest' in becoming a unitary authority.

Since then, before Christmas, the White Paper on Devolution was published and further letters have been sent to Council Leaders providing more information.

It is now clear that the Government expects all authorities to become unitary, it is only a matter of which approach they take as there are several options, in particular around having elected Mayors. Any authority rejecting reform outright is likely to have devolution imposed upon them.

Due to a positive 'expression of interest' by the ECC Leader, Kevin Bentley, back in September, Essex is being considered as a priority area.

The deadline for submitting a formal proposal, and asking for the cancellation of the May 2025 elections, is this Friday. There are three upper tier authorities in Essex involved: Thurrock Borough Council, Southend Borough Council and Essex County Council. All three have to agree in order for the Government to consider Essex for devolution.

Thurrock voted on Tuesday 7th to go ahead, Southend voted in favour on Wednesday 8th and at a special meeting of Essex CC on Friday 10th the same decision was made.

With all three authorities in agreement, a request to the government to be considered for devolution was submitted by close on Friday 10th.

Town and Parish Councils are mentioned in the White Paper as being important in terms of community relations, so it is to be hoped they will continue, whilst Borough and District Councils will cease to exist (as we know them) and new authorities will be elected to run the unitaries.

The new Unitary authorities will come into being either April 2027 or April 2028.

There is a great deal of detail still to be worked through and there will be a lot of work to do! Nothing is yet set in stone!

Gabrielle Spray, The Colnes Ward.

Cllr Chris Siddall welcomed Cllr Pryke to White Colne Parish Council and offered a report to the meeting. The *Love Essex Fund* had been reestablished for 2025, offering grants of £500 to community organisations. The *Love your Bus Grant* was running, but it had a short response date and was dependent on local councils putting together ideas for joint projects.

Cllr Siddall had not been present at the ECC meeting held on 10th January, at which the council had resolved to apply to be amongst the first devolved Unitary Authorities. Each Unitary was expected to serve around 500,000 residents, suggesting that Essex would be split between three and five separate authorities, with the county having a directly-elected Mayor. If successful, it was expected to deliver cost savings. Each Unitary would take decisions on what support or otherwise would be available to town and parish councils. A decision was expected by end of January. Assets would be transferred from District Authorities to the new Unitary Councils, but may be disposed.

It was RESOLVED: that the reports be noted. Members noted the grants currently on offer from ECC.

087/24 PLANNING

i. Applications

a) Ref: 24/02538/FUL. Location: Brambles Farm, Brambles Lane, White Colne.

Details: Redevelopment of existing agricultural buildings to provide 3no. 4-bedroom dwellings, and 2no. 5-bedroom dwellings, 5no. parking structures, landscaping and associated development.

The council had responded following the Extra-Ordinary meeting held on 10.12.2024 (attached to record Minutes).

ii. Decisions – none received.

iii. Appeals

a) Planning Application Ref: 24/01232/DAC. Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/Z1510/W/24/3355253.

Site Address: OS 7271 Land South West Of Fox And Pheasant Farm, Colchester Road, White

Colne, Essex, CO6 2PS. Description of Development: Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 7 of approved application 21/02421/FUL.

The council had responded following the Extra-Ordinary meeting held on 10.12.2024 (attached to record Minutes).

iv. Braintree District Council Waste Review Consultation (Attached to record Minutes). Residents were encouraged to respond to the Consultation. Cllr Taylor had some promotional material to hand out at the forthcoming Community Hub.

It was RESOLVED: that the item be noted.

v. Anglian Water replacement tree. Members received and considered correspondence from BDC's Tree & Landscape Officer regarding a replacement tree being offered by Anglian Water (attached at Footnote³). Members gave careful consideration to the message and discussed the issue at length. Members noted that the Village Green was stocked with an appropriate number of trees. The council managed the land in accordance with advice from surveys carried out by qualified

³ Although we agreed a possible planting location when we meet before Christmas, my preferred site for planting the replacement tree is still within the Conservation Area boundary, and this suggests that the triangle of land which is maintained by the PC is the only viable location available. I'm not sure of the exact reason for not wanting a tree on this green, but I seem to think it was that resident around the green would not want their view spoilt. If this is the only reason, then I will say that the planting site should not be decided on whether it might (in years to come) restrict a view from a property. The idea of a Conservation Area is to maintain and enhance the visual amenity of the area for everybody using the area. My main reasons and thoughts behind planting on the green are as follows:

There is plenty of room for a reasonable size tree species (possibly a small-leaved lime or a hornbeam) to be located, without restricting future events or views across the green.

The trees currently on the green are mostly mature with a limited life expectancy. A young tree in this location will help maintain future tree cover.

The new tree would be visible to many more people in this location than the other site at the Millenium Meadow site.

If the tree is re planted outside the Conservation Area, we will probably need to agree the location with Anglian Water who may not agree with the site.

If the tree is replanted outside the Conservation Area, part of the tree cover from the protected area will still be lost.

The new tree will not have protection if it is planted outside the Conservation Area.

If there is still a firm 'no' to planting in the Conservation Area, Anglian Water will need to be planted to see if they agree to planting in the other location. If they agree the location at the Millenium Meadow, I will be looking at serving a TPO on the new tree to help ensure its long term retention. Could you please take this list of reasons back to your meeting on the 21st and let me know the outcome.

professionals, and replaced any dead / dying / dangerous specimens when needed. Whilst the trees were lost at the Anglian Water plant in the Conservation Area, they were not significantly visible and additional trees on the Village Green would alter or obscure the view downhill towards the Colne. The loss of trees within the Conservation Area could be mitigated with the addition of a TPO to a replacement tree on The Meadows. The site was very well used by the White Colne community, as well as by visitors from adjacent parishes. Once established, the council would consider installing a tree seat, offering further amenity for visitors. In addition, the council intended to develop a Biodiversity Management Plan for The Meadows, increasing community involvement as well as 'net gain.' A lime would help increase biodiversity in the area.

It was RESOLVED: that the council's preferred location for a replacement tree would be on The Meadows (W3W: inefficient.global.regular).

In accordance with White Colne Parish Council Standing Order 10,a,vi, and the council's published Agenda, the Chairperson added an item in order to consider correspondence received from BDC: vi. Braintree District Local Plan Review – Issues and Options Consultation (received after Agenda publish date) (attached at Footnote⁴). Cllr Wilson had viewed the documents but had found little pertaining to White Colne except for a commitment to keeping a 'green buffer' between the village and Earls Colne. Members noted that future developments should be compelled to pay Section 278 monies, which would provide funding for highways infrastructure projects such as pedestrian crossings and speed reduction measures. Residents would be encouraged to respond to the Consultation.

It was RESOLVED: that a parish council response be formulated and provided ahead of the closing date.

088/24 FINANCE

i. Schedule of payments 01.11.2024-31.12.2024 (attached to record Minutes).

It was RESOLVED: that the schedule of payments 01.11.2024-31.12.2024, totalling £7,255.24, be approved.

ii. White Colne Parish Council budget 2025-26 (attached to record Minutes). Members considered the proposed budget for 2025-26. An error with staff costs was noted and mitigated with the reallocation of expenditure from another cost line. The Village Hall was yet to begin exporting electricity back to the grid, so potential income could not be assessed.

It was RESOLVED: that the parish council budget 2025-26 be approved.

iii. White Colne Parish Council Precept requirement 2025-26 (attached to record Minutes). An increase in income would be required to cover budgeted expenditure. Members noted that the council had not increased its precept for several years.

It was RESOLVED: that a precept increase of 2.51%, totalling £12,652, be approved.

089/24 LEISURE & FACILITIES

i. Christmas lights on the Village Green. Members discussed the installation of permanent infrastructure on The Green, with a view to potentially using lighting for longer periods.

It was RESOLVED: that quotes for works to bury cables in The Green be sought.

ii. Village Hall – energy update. Cllr Taylor provided statistics on the Hall's energy generation since the installation had been completed in September 2024. The Hall had covered its own needs and

⁴ As part of the process to update our adopted Local Plan we are launching an Issues and Options consultation which will run until midnight on 07 March 2025. We have outlined the key challenges for future development and we are looking for views on how we can best address these. We are asking stakeholders, residents and businesses to comment on whether the vision, objectives and policies in our current plan continue to be appropriate and if not, to suggest changes which help ensure we continue to meet the District's needs. It explores a range of topics including housing, local economy and retail, transport, infrastructure and the environment.

How residents can take part

The quickest and easiest way to comment is through our new engagement portal which can be found here: www.braintree.gov.uk/localplanengagement You can also: View hard copies of the document and pick up a paper response form at council offices at Causeway House in Braintree or local libraries; Return a response form to planningpolicy@braintree.gov.uk or by post to Planning Policy, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree CM7 9HB. More information on the Local Plan review process is available on our [main website](http://www.braintree.gov.uk). If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Policy Team at planningpolicy@braintree.gov.uk.

provided some electricity to the local network. Electricity generation had dropped in November and December but would pick up again in spring. A feed-in tariff was being sought.

It was RESOLVED: that the electricity generation results be noted.

iii. Village Hall – staff update. A new cleaner had been appointed following a resignation. The bookings clerk would remain the same.

It was RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

090/24 COMMUNITY LIAISON

i. Grant funding applications and updates. Two new grants had been received in the parish council's accounts. BDC's Communities Team had provided £3,150 from the UKSPF Community Gardens, Orchards and Open Spaces Fund and the project to create a natural play area adjacent to the Village Hall would be progressed. The Village Hall Energy Project had overspent its grant by £18.

It was RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

ii. Notice of Casual Vacancy (attached to record Minutes). Members discussed promoting the casual vacancy and suggested creating a wish list of skills that an ideal candidate might bring to the council.

It was RESOLVED: that the casual vacancy be advertised.

iii. VE Day 80 (attached to record Minutes). Cllr Taylor offered to ask local organisations if they wished to participate in VE Day 80 celebrations.

It was RESOLVED: that the item be noted.

iv. Garden Waste Collection Service Renewals for 2025/26 (attached to record Minutes).

It was RESOLVED: that the item be noted.

v. New Parish Police Meeting (attached to record Minutes). Cllr Wilson offered to attend meetings with the Rural Engagement Team, if available.

It was RESOLVED: that Cllr Wilson be appointed the parish council's representative.

091/24 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE MEETING

Joint meeting with Wakes Colne was suggested.

092/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of White Colne Parish Council was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18th March 2025 at White Colne Village Hall at 1930hrs.

093/24 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS

In accordance with White Colne Parish Council Standing Order 3(d), members of the public were excluded for the remaining Agenda item.

The meeting closed at 21:15hrs.

Signed.....

Date.....



WHITE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

White Colne Village Hall, Bures Road, White Colne, CO6 2QA.

www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

clerk@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the White Colne Parish Council Meeting held at White Colne Village Hall on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 21:15hrs.

Present: Cllr Paul Batchford
Cllr Jason Pryke
Cllr Jane Taylor (Chairperson)
Cllr John Wilson
Jim Morris, Parish Clerk

094/24

[REDACTED]

The meeting closed at 21:30hrs.

Signed.....

Date.....



WHITE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

White Colne Village Hall, Bures Road, White Colne, CO6 2QA.

MATTERS ARISING & ONGOING

027/24 LEISURE & FACILITIES

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Batchford to assess items arising from The Meadows play area report.

047/24 HIGHWAYS

ACTION ARISING: Clerk to respond to Bures Road correspondent.

ACTION ARISING: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Siddall over Bures Road agricultural site.

050/24 COMMUNITY LIAISON

ACTION ARISING: Members to make facebook posts on a regular basis.

055/24 BUS SHELTERS

ACTION ARISING: Clerk to apply for three new wooden bus shelters.

060/24 MATTERS ARISING

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Bell to adjust facebook settings.

062/24 PLANNING

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Taylor and Clerk to respond to POSI Consultation.

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Taylor and Clerk to respond to Design Code Consultation.

064/24 FINANCE

ACTION ARISING: Clerk to contact local landowner regarding quotes for works.

ACTION ARISING: Clerk to update Financial Regulations for January meeting.

065/24 LEISURE & FACILITIES

ACTION ARISING: Formal event for Allotment plot holders to be held.

066/24 COMMUNITY LIAISON

ACTION ARISING: Local Council Award to be considered at a future meeting.

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Taylor and Clerk to respond to remote meetings Consultation.

ACTION ARISING: Cllr Taylor to liaise with Three Colnes Magazine posties.

074/24 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

ACTION ARISING: Report on co-option to be considered at January meeting.

White Colne Parish Council
White Colne Village Hall
Bures Road
White Colne
Essex CO6 2QA

To: Planning Department
Braintree District Council

Date: 15/01/2025

Ref: 24/02538/FUL

Details: Redevelopment of existing agricultural buildings to provide 3no. 4-bedroom dwellings, and 2no. 5-bedroom dwellings, 5no. parking structures, landscaping and associated development - Brambles Farm , Brambles Lane, White Colne

White Colne Parish Council response:

White Colne Parish Council (WCPC) OBJECTS to Planning Application ref 24/02538/FUL. The Applicant gained Prior Approval for Change of Use and conversion of some of the agricultural barns on the site into five residential dwellings under Application ref 21/00992/COUPA, dated 7th July 2021. The works were not undertaken within the specified timeframe, and Prior Approval has therefore lapsed. Full Planning Permission granted under Application ref 21/02974/FUL, dated 4th February 2022, has not been actioned to date and will expire in due course. The parish council notes that both Applications proposed the development of the site with 3no. 2-bedroom and 2no. 5-bedroom dwellings. The LPA's published *Five-Year Supply Trajectory 2023 to 2028*, dated October 2024, depicts a projected surplus and both Applications should be removed from the calculation at its next review.

Planning Application ref 24/02538/FUL represents a significant increase in scale over the lapsed Prior Approval ref 21/00992/COUPA. The current proposed scheme does not benefit from Prior Approval and must be assessed as being a new case. WCPC notes that the LPA has a projected surplus of housing in its Five-Year Supply Trajectory. It is also noted that the proposed development site lies within the curtilage of a Listed Building, yet at time of the council's consideration the Historic Buildings Advisor was yet to respond to the consultation request.

The Applicant's submission does not appear to include detail on proposed measures to mitigate the climate emergency. A development of this scale cannot claim to be sustainable without appropriate regard to solar panels, heat pumps, sustainable

drainage systems, EV charging, and lighting schemes congruent with Dark Skies Policies.

Planning Application ref 24/02538/FUL does not meet the requirements of the Braintree District Local Plan 2013-2033 (Adopted July 2022):

- Policy SP 1: The site is wholly unsuitable for residential development of this proposed scale and cannot be seen as meeting the requirements for Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development. The site is accessed by narrow country roads, it is not served by public transport, there are no footways, nor streetlighting. Occupants of the proposed dwellings would have no choice but to use private transport for all journeys to and from the site.
- Policy SP 3: The proposed development site is neither within nor adjoining the identified White Colne Development Boundary. The proposal does not meet the criteria of the Spatial Strategy for North Essex.
- Policy SP 4: Braintree District Council has a projected surplus of housing. The proposed development does not support the LPA's commitment towards Meeting Housing Needs.
- Policy SP 6: Paragraph 6.7 states: *The Local Plans seek to improve transport infrastructure to enable the efficient movement of people, goods and ensure that new development is accessible by sustainable forms of transport. Measures designed to encourage people to make sustainable travel choices such as better public transport provision, car clubs, electric vehicle charging points and provision of cycle links and foot ways will also be required to achieve such a change.* The site is accessed by narrow country roads, it is not served by public transport, there are no footways, nor streetlighting. Occupants of the proposed dwellings would have no choice but to use private transport for all journeys to and from the site. The proposal therefore does not meet Local Plan criteria for Infrastructure & Connectivity.
- Policy SP 7: As stated above, the proposal does not meet criteria for creating well-connected places. By prioritising private car use over the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, and public transport users, the proposal does not meet the LPA's Place Shaping Principles.

For the reasons stated above, White Colne Parish Council submits that Planning Application ref 24/02538/FUL must be refused at the earliest opportunity.

Jim Morris

Parish Clerk

White Colne Parish Council

Email: clerk@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk



WHITE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

White Colne Village Hall, Bures Road, White Colne, CO6 2QA.
clerk@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/Z1510/W/24/3355253
LPA Reference: 24/01232/DAC

10th December 2024

Dear Jacky Parsons,

White Colne Parish Council supports Braintree District Council's decision letter, dated 3rd September 2024, which refused the discharge of Condition 7 of approved application ref 21/02421/FUL.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Morris
White Colne Parish Clerk

Waste Review Consultation

06.01.2025 10:03

Braintree District Council is proposing to make changes to its household waste and recycling collection service in order to:

- Improve the quality of the recyclable materials we collect
- Reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfill
- Meet new recycling targets and support climate change ambitions
- Comply with new legislation, Simpler Recycling
- Improve the financial sustainability of the waste service

However, before deciding on whether to introduce the proposed changes, the Council is carrying out an 8-week public consultation on the matter so that local residents and other key stakeholders can have their say and help shape the future of the service.

The consultation opens at 10.00am on Monday 6th January 2025 and will close at midnight on Sunday 2nd March 2025.

We are inviting you/your organisation to participate in the consultation by completing an on-line questionnaire which can be accessed at www.braintree.gov.uk/wasteconsultation

Respondents are encouraged to complete the on-line survey wherever possible. However, anyone needing assistance to access the survey is asked to make contact with our Customer Services Centre at csc@braintree.gov.uk or 01376 552525 who will help to ensure they have an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposals.

Please note that the deadline for completed questionnaires is midnight on Sunday 2nd March 2025, and any received after this time will not be considered.

Please be assured that the decision on whether or not to proceed with the proposals outlined will not be made until all responses have been fully considered by the Council's Cabinet on Tuesday 27th May 2025. Until then, the existing arrangements will remain in place.

Kind regards
Andrew Lucas
Operations Project Manager
On behalf of Braintree District Council

Please note that copies of all responses may be made available for the public to view, including the name of the stakeholder who submitted the response, and so this cannot be treated as confidential. However, the Council will not include any personal addresses or signatures in any published information.

Don't **WASTE** the opportunity...

HAVE YOUR SAY



Take part in our public consultation to help shape the future of waste collection services

Braintree District Council is holding an eight-week public consultation and asking residents to share their views on proposals to improve the waste collection service in the district.

CONSULTATION OPENS

**Monday 6 January
until Sunday 2 March 2025**

Objectives of the proposals include:

- improve the range and quality of recycling collected
- reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill
- meet recycling targets and climate change ambitions
- comply with new government legislation, Simpler Recycling policy
- ensure consideration is given to the financial sustainability of service delivery

The INSIDE of this leaflet has more information about the proposals, so please take time to have a look.

We want your feedback

Here is more information to help explain how the proposals could work:



- Weekly collection of food waste using a food waste bin
- Alternate fortnightly recycling collection of paper and card in a wheeled bin
- Alternate fortnightly recycling collection of glass, metals, plastic, food & drink cartons in a wheeled bin
- Three weekly collection of general household waste in a grey wheeled bin
- Fortnightly paid for collection of garden waste using a green wheeled bin (where requested)
- Alternate fortnightly means one bin (paper & card) collected one fortnight, the other bin (glass, metal, plastics) the following fortnight
- Some residents including those in flats may have alternative containers where necessary

Example calendar

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Non-recyclable waste • Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Paper & Card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Non-recyclable waste • Glass, metal, plastic, cartons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Paper & Card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Non-recyclable waste • Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Glass, metal, plastic, cartons

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE BELOW



www.braintree.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
 Customer Service Centre: 01376 552525

GOOD NEWS!
You would be able to recycle a wider variety of items at kerbside



The Council has not yet made any decisions.

A final report will be presented to Cabinet in May 2025, which will include all feedback from the consultation. Please use this opportunity to help shape those decisions.

Tell us about your needs

We want to hear from residents who may need extra support.

Additional requirements for consideration may include:

- assisted collections
- medical needs
- absorbent hygiene products (e.g. nappies)
- larger households
- space and access restrictions



Don't waste the opportunity to have your say to help shape the future of our waste collection service

For regular updates sign up to our FREE e-newsletters:
www.braintree.gov.uk/tellmemore

To receive text message reminders:
www.braintree.gov.uk/text
or call our Customer Service Centre



If you require this leaflet in another format, or need assistance to access the survey, please speak to our Customer Service Centre on 01376 552525

Whitecolne Parish Council

15 January 2025 (2024 - 2025)

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
116	Allotment Income	01/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Allotments	Allotment Fee	E	14.90		14.90
120	Subscriptions	01/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Subscription	Starboard Systems Limited	S	-23.00	-4.60	-27.60
117	Village Hall Hire	04/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	60.87		60.87
118	Village Hall Hire	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	221.33		221.33
119	Village Hall Hire	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	92.00		92.00
120	Village Hall Hire	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	128.24		128.24
123	Allotments	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Allotments	Allotment Fee	X	-3.75		-3.75
125	Meadows	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grasscutting	JPB Landscapes	S	-104.14	-20.83	-124.97
125	Village Green	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grasscutting	JPB Landscapes	S	-79.16	-15.83	-94.99
126	Cleaning	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Window cleaning	Gallen Windows	X	-74.00		-74.00
125	Village Hall Open Spaces	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grasscutting	JPB Landscapes	S	-20.82	-4.16	-24.98
121	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
122	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
124	Deposit	07/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	X	-50.00		-50.00
121	Community Events	08/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	106.19		106.19
123	Allotment Income	11/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Allotments	Allotment Fee	E	15.00		15.00
122	Village Hall Hire	11/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	72.52		72.52
124	Community Events	11/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	101.27		101.27
125	Village Hall Hire	12/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	112.09		112.09
130	Community Events	12/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jane Taylor	E	-42.60		-42.60
127	Deposit	12/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	X	-25.00		-25.00
128	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	12/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
129	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	12/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
126	Community Events	15/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	29.50		29.50
131	Community Events	18/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Card payments	LLoyds Multipay	X	-601.42		-601.42
133	WCVH H&S	19/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Essex IO Ltd	X	-69.00		-69.00
132	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	19/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
134	Grant Expenditure - Village Hal	19/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Sim ott Renewables Limite	S	-4,575.00	-915.00	-5,490.00
128	Community Events	22/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	X	26.55		26.55
127	Grant Income	22/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Grant Income - Villag	Essex Community Fund	E	1,500.00		1,500.00
129	Misc Income	25/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - General Administratio	Eastern Power Networks pl	E	60.65		60.65
130	Community Events	25/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	79.65		79.65
136	Cleaning	26/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Suzanna Giera	X	-12.00		-12.00
135	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	26/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
137	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	26/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
138	Electricity	28/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Scottish Power	L	-43.03	-2.15	-45.18
139	Gas	28/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Scottish Power	L	-47.90	-2.40	-50.30
131	Village Hall Hire	29/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	161.34		161.34
132	Community Events	29/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	17.70		17.70
141	Salary	29/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Staff salary	Jim Morris	X			
140	Booking Secretary	29/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jade Lock	X	-104.00		-104.00
140	Cleaning	29/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jade Lock	X	-328.90		-328.90
142	Banking Fees	30/11/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - General Administrati	Unity Trust Bank	X	-6.00		-6.00
133	Village Hall Hire	02/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	157.50		157.50
143	Subscriptions	02/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Subscription	Starboard Systems Limited	S	-23.00	-4.60	-27.60
147	Community Events	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jane Taylor	E	-42.60		-42.60
144	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
145	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
146	Grant Expenditure - Village Hal	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	The Spotted Penguin Comf	S	-1,505.88	-301.18	-1,807.06
148	Subscriptions	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Subscription	Adobe Software Systems	S	-4.51	-0.90	-5.41
149	Grant Expenditure - Village Hal	03/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Jim Bond	X	-19.90		-19.90
135	Village Hall Hire	05/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	148.00		148.00
134	Grant Income	05/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Grant Income - Rural	Braintree District Council	E	3,226.80		3,226.80
136	Community Events	06/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	14.75		14.75
137	Village Hall Hire	09/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	57.96		57.96
138	Village Hall Hire	09/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	15.75		15.75
150	Cleaning	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Suzanna Giera	X	-12.00		-12.00
152	Christmas	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Open Spaces	AMP Electrical	S	-265.36	-53.07	-318.43
153	Cleaning	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Suzanna Giera	X	-84.00		-84.00
151	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
154	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Gini Bryant	X			
155	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	10/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
139	Community Events	13/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	21.66		21.66
156	Community Events	16/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Card payments	LLoyds Multipay	X	-600.95		-600.95
140	Community Events	17/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	92.17		92.17
160	Community Events	17/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	X	-200.00		-200.00
157	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	17/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
158	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	17/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			

Whitecolne Parish Council

15 January 2025 (2024 - 2025)

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
159	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	17/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Gini Bryant	X			
142	Village Hall Hire	20/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	106.51		106.51
141	Community Events	20/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Community Event Ir	E	26.55		26.55
161	Booking Secretary	23/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jade Lock	X	-143.00		-143.00
161	Cleaning	23/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Jade Lock	X	-243.10		-243.10
143	Village Hall Hire	27/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	47.25		47.25
144	Village Hall Hire	27/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Receipt - Village Hall	WCVH Hirer	E	94.50		94.50
162	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	27/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Gini Bryant	X			
163	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	27/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Rachael Jennings	X			
164	Grant Expenditure - Staff Salar	27/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Grant Expenditure -	Aster Chatton	X			
165	Electricity	30/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Scottish Power	L	-43.03	-2.15	-45.18
166	Gas	30/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Village Hall	Scottish Power	L	-47.90	-2.40	-50.30
167	Salary	31/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - Staff salary	Jim Morris	X			
168	Banking Fees	31/12/2024		Unity Trust Bank - Ci		Payment - General Administrati	Unity Trust Bank	X	-6.00		-6.00
Total									-5,925.97	-1,329.27	-7,255.24

Budget 2025-26

Item	Budget 2024-25	2024-25 Q3	2025-26
1010 Precept	£ 12,243.00	£ 12,243.00	£ 12,652.00
1020 Allotment Fees	£ 365.00	£ 241.00	£ 365.00
1030 WCVH hire	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,080.00	£ 13,000.00
1031 WCVH Community Events	£ 1,500.00	£ 2,378.00	£ 3,000.00
1033 WCVH Other Income	£ -	£ 155.00	£ -
1040 Misc Income	£ 1,500.00	£ 61.00	£ -
1041 VAT126	£ -	£ 7,700.00	£ -
1050 Grant Income	£ 1,050.00	£ 62,722.00	£ -
Total Income	£ 26,658.00	£ 95,580.00	£ 29,017.00

NOTES

2.5% increase = £1.43 per Band D equivalent

Includes Café, tickets, SumUp income

Grants applied for as necessity or availability dictates

Item	Budget 2024-25	2024-25 Q3	2025-26	2025-26 EMR
4010 Salary	£ 8,500.00	£ 6,630.00	£ 11,915.00	£ -
4011 PAYE/NI	£ -	£ 73.00	£ -	£ -
001 General Admin TOTAL Expenditure	£ 8,500.00	£ 6,703.00	£ 11,915.00	£ -
4020 Allotments	£ 250.00	£ 4.00	£ -	£ -
4021 Meadows	£ 1,000.00	£ 2,731.00	£ 2,150.00	£ -
4022 Play Areas	£ 1,200.00	£ 156.00	£ 950.00	£ -
4023 Village Green	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,079.00	£ 1,200.00	£ -
4024 Defibrillator	£ -	£ 165.00	£ 240.00	£ -
4025 Christmas	£ -	£ 265.00	£ 265.00	£ -
002 Leisure & Facilities TOTAL Expenditure	£ 3,450.00	£ 4,400.00	£ 4,805.00	£ -
4030 WCVH Booking Secretary	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,335.00	£ 1,500.00	£ -
4031 Cleaning	£ 2,300.00	£ 2,195.00	£ 2,300.00	£ -
4032 Caretaker	£ -	£ 187.00	£ 240.00	£ -
4033 WCVH Open Spaces	£ 500.00	£ 271.00	£ 500.00	£ -
4034 Community Event Expenditure	£ 1,000.00	£ 4,709.00	£ 2,692.00	£ -
4035 Electricity	£ 800.00	£ 435.00	£ 150.00	£ -
4036 Gas	£ 800.00	£ 383.00	£ -	£ -
4037 Water	£ 600.00	£ 655.00	£ 750.00	£ -
4038 WiFi	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
4039 WCVH H&S	£ 1,200.00	£ 12,560.00	£ 1,000.00	£ -
4049 WCVH Deposits	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 500.00	£ -
003 WCVH TOTAL Expenditure	£ 8,700.00	£ 23,055.00	£ 9,632.00	£ -
4040 Staff Training	£ 300.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
4041 Councillor Training	£ -	£ -	£ 200.00	£ -
4042 General Maintenance	£ 1,500.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
4043 General Expenditure	£ 4,000.00	£ 141.00	£ 240.00	£ -
4044 Subscriptions	£ -	£ 714.00	£ 750.00	£ -
4046 Audit	£ -	£ 455.00	£ 500.00	£ -
4047 Insurance	£ -	£ 888.00	£ 890.00	£ -
4048 Banking Fees	£ -	£ 53.00	£ 85.00	£ -
004 Miscellaneous TOTAL Expenditure	£ 5,800.00	£ 2,251.00	£ 2,665.00	£ -
4050 Grant Exp Warm Hub	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 10,000.00
4051 Grant Exp Staff Salary	£ -	£ 1,499.00	£ -	£ -
4052 Grant Exp WCVH	£ -	£ 49,685.00	£ -	£ 1,400.00
4053 Grant Exp Projects	£ -	£ 1,005.00	£ -	£ -
005 Grants TOTAL Expenditure	£ -	£ 52,189.00	£ -	£ 11,400.00
Total Expenditure	£ 26,450.00	£ 88,598.00	£ 29,017.00	£ 11,400.00
Income minus Expenditure	£ 208.00	£ 6,982.00	£ -	-£ 11,400.00

Formerly 'Café,' now includes all community event expenditure

Fire Extinguishers, PAT testing, decorating etc. 2024-25 Includes works to roof

2024-25 Budget consumed in new budget lines

£1,400 holding in Community Energy Project

2025-26 Grant Expenditure ringfenced from 2024-25



Our ref: Precept 2025/26
Your ref:
Ask for: Victoria Farquharson
Date: 5th December 2024

Financial Services
Causeway House Braintree
Essex CM7 9HB

www.braintree.gov.uk

White Colne Parish Council

Dear Clerk,

I am writing to inform you of the requirements for submitting the 2025/26 Precept.

Tax Base – 2025/26

The tax base which will be used to calculate the 2025/26 Band D rate for your parish/ town council/ meeting is 216.43

Local Precept – 2025/26

Attached to this email is a blank Precept request form which I ask to be completed, certified, and returned by 31st January 2025.

Please note the Council will not be able to pay a precept in 2025/26 without receipt of a certified precept form.

BACS payment

Payment of precept will be made by BACS directly to your nominated bank account. Please ensure you provide your bank account details (sort code, account number and account name) and an email address for receiving your remittance advice on the precept form.

If you change your bank account details during the year, please ensure we are informed as soon as possible.

Help and advice

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries regarding the process or information enclosed. I would also request that, where possible, Precept requests are returned electronically.

Yours faithfully,

Victoria Farquharson
Accountancy Assistant (Mon-Thurs)
Braintree District Council | Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB

PARISH & TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2025/26

WHITE COLNE

Tax Base for 2025/26 calculated by Braintree District Council	216.43	A
Precept determined under Local Government Finance Act 1992 for 2025/26 (taken from Precept Form)	£12,652	B
Parish element of the Band D Tax Rate for 2025/26	£58.46	C
Your precept for 2025/26 represents an increase (-decrease) over 2024/25 of	£409	D
Your Parish/ Town Council Band D Council Tax Rate has increased (-decreased) by	2.51%	E

For information only:

2024/25 Precept	£12,243
2024/25 Tax base	214.67
2024/25 Parish element of the Band D Council Tax Rate	£57.03

Note on calculations:

C equals B divided by A

D equals B less 2024/25 Precept

E equals (C less 2024/25 Band D Tax Rate) divided by 2024/25 Band D Tax Rate multiplied by 100

NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

White Colne Parish Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a vacancy has occurred in the office of Parish Councillor for White Colne Parish Council.

An election to fill the vacancy will be held if ten local government electors for the electoral area so request. Such request should be made in writing and must include name, address and signature. Requests must be submitted to the Proper Officer (Chief Executive) of Braintree District Council at Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree CM7 9HB. The deadline for receipt of requests is no later than 5:00pm on 28th January 2025.

If an election is not requested as aforesaid the vacancy will be filled by the Parish Council as soon as is practicable.

Date: 9th January 2025

**Jim Morris
White Colne Village Hall
Bures Road
White Colne
CO6 2QA**

Celebrating 80th VE Day 2025 - Letter from Bruno Peek, Pageantmaster

08.01.2025 09:56

Dear Chair, Councillors and the Clerk,

We are encouraging Town and Parish Councils to take part in VE Day 80, along with all the other aspects. The Guide To Taking Part in VE Day 80 can be viewed and downloaded from the official VE Day website - www.VEday80.org.uk. We do hope therefore that your Council will take part in one or more of the activities planned, using the occasion to pay tribute to those that gave so much from within your local community, to ensure the freedom we all enjoy today.

Participating Councils and organisations are being asked to register their involvement as soon as possible by completing the Registration Form on the VE Day 80 website. However, if your Council has already received this information and you have confirmed your involvement, please ignore this email.

My warmest regards for Christmas and the New Year.

Kindest Regards,



Bruno Peek

Bruno Peek CVO OBE OPR
Pageantmaster
VE Day 80
8th May 2025
Telephone: + 44 (0) 7737 262 913
Email: brunopeek@mac.com
www.VEday80.org.uk



Garden Waste Collection Service Renewals for 2025/26

13.01.2025 15:52

MESSAGE SENT ON BEHALF OF STRATEGY & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER

GARDEN WASTE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025/26

I am writing to update your Council on the process for garden waste subscription renewals for 2025/26. All existing subscriptions will expire at the end of March 2025 and we will be inviting residents to renew or subscribe for collections in 2025/26 from 27 January onwards. For prices and other information please see attached FAQs.

A key difference this time is that customers who self-serve via the new Waste Portal will benefit from automatic renewal in future years, subject to a valid payment each year. (There will be an opportunity for customers to update their card details before payment is taken.) This will be explained to customers when they subscribe and there will be the usual cooling off period if customers have a change of mind.

Unfortunately, customers who subscribe by phone will not have had their payment details stored and so this group will need to sign up again in subsequent years.

There is no need for anyone to let us know if they do **not** wish to renew, as all current subscriptions will automatically stop on 31 March 2025 and no further collections will be made.

Subscription stickers will again be sent by post and will be a different colour for 2025/26 to help the crews identify bins with a valid subscription. The sticker will also include the subscriber's address as an added security measure, which we believe will be welcomed by our customers.

More information will be published on the website and via social media in due course, so please keep an eye out for updates. In the meantime, if you have any queries, please email: marketing@braintree.gov.uk

Strategy & Business Development Manager

Braintree District Council, Operations, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB



If you live in the Braintree District

Don't **WASTE**
the opportunity...

HAVE YOUR SAY

Help shape the future of waste collection
services in the Braintree District

Take part in our public
consultation [CLICK HERE](#)

 Braintree
District Council

GARDEN WASTE RENEWALS 2025/26 – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What period does the subscription cover?

The subscription runs from 1 April to 31 March each year.

How much will the service cost in 2025/26?

- The full-year subscription fee for the first bin is £55.
- Subscriptions for second and subsequent bins are £30 per bin.
- New and replacement bins are £35.50 per bin
- Biodegradable sacks (for households not on wheeled bins) are £8 per roll of 20 sacks.

N.B. All prices subject to approval of Fees & Charges in February 2025.

How do I get my subscription?

You can sign up on-line on the Council's website or by phoning our Customer Services Centre.

The customer portal will go live on **27 January 2025** and from that point you can purchase a new subscription for 2025/26 or renew your existing subscription.

Can I pay by instalments?

No, payment must be made in full when you take out the subscription.

Is there a discount for pensioners or those in receipt of benefits?

Unfortunately, it is not possible to subsidise the cost of the service as the intention is for it to be self-financing. If you wish to receive the service, you will need to pay the full subscription price.

Do Churches/Charities have to pay?

Yes, churches and charities are no longer eligible to receive a free service and will have to pay the full subscription cost.

What happens if I move or stop using the service – will I get a refund?

No, the charge is not refundable, although if you move to another address within the District, the subscription can be transferred to your new address. You must ensure that you take your bin with you and let us know your new address at least two weeks in advance of the move to ensure an unbroken service.

Do I need to tell you if I don't wish to renew my subscription?

No. If you don't renew, your existing subscription will expire on 31 March 2025 and no further collections will be made.

When will I receive my subscription sticker?

This will be sent in the post and should be received within 14 days of subscribing.

If I order a new/replacement/additional bin, how long will this take to arrive?

We aim to deliver bins within 10 working days.

How can I dispose of my garden waste if I don't wish to subscribe?

The best option (environmentally) is to compost at home. To obtain discounted compost bins and find out about the benefits of home-composting and how to get started (including on-line training), visit the Love Essex home composting page (link below).

<https://www.loveessex.org/ideas/get-started-home-composting>

Material that cannot be composted would need to be taken to a Household Waste & Recycling Centre. *Please note that you will need to book an appointment.*

Will the Council provide a free bin for leaf-fall?

No, please use your garden waste bin if you have subscribed to the service. If you don't have a bin, you could compost the leaves at home or put them in sacks to make a leaf-mulch to enrich your soil. Alternatively, they can be taken to your local Household Waste & Recycling Centre.

Can I put garden waste into my grey bin?

The Environment Act 2021 makes it clear that garden waste should be collected separately and so it should all go into your garden waste bin (if you have subscribed to the service), or it can be composted at home or taken to your local Household Waste & Recycling Centre.

Can I put out extra waste alongside my green bin if it won't all fit in?

No, our collection crews will not accept any excess garden waste that is presented alongside or on top of your bin. If you occasionally have more waste than can fit inside your bin, please hold this over and place it loose inside your bin once emptied, ready for the next scheduled collection day. Alternatively, it can be taken to your local Household Waste & Recycling Centre.

Is the collection of garden waste now a statutory service and, if so, are you still permitted to charge for its collection?

Whilst the Environment Act 2021 requires local authorities to collect garden waste where requested to do so (and to collect this material separately from other waste), there continues to be provision to impose a charge for delivering this service as not all residents will require it.

Don't I pay for garden waste collections in my Council Tax?

The subscription fee means that the cost of delivering the garden waste service is funded through payments made by those who take up the service. Therefore, those who choose not to subscribe are not paying towards this service in their Council Tax. Fees are set each year at a rate to ensure that the service is funded by the subscribers.

New parish police meeting

15.01.2025 10:56

Good morning

In our continued effort to increase our visibility within the community, we are looking at trialling a new police meeting just for the district's parish councils

The idea is that we will hold a monthly online Teams meeting to provide an opportunity for parish's to have regular contact with local police

The meeting will be an opportunity for local officers to update parishes on what we have been doing and also give attending parish's the opportunity to highlight any concerns, problems or issues in their local area

Attendance will be totally optional and could be any member of the parish council but to make the meeting manageable we would ask that only have one member from each parish attend

I have looked at when the district's parish's meet to try and find a regular date that don't conflict with another meeting but I haven't found one, so we are looking for some feedback and suggestions before confirming the first meeting

The options are 1st Monday or the last Monday of each month

Starting at either 630pm or 7pm

I have suggested those start times so if there are any conflicts with regular parish council meetings, we would endeavour would speak to those representatives first so they would be able to attend both appointments

We are looking at starting these meeting in the near future so if there is any feedback/suggestions please send it to me sooner rather than later

This new meeting is intended to complement existing working practises and If there are policing issues in your parish we will still arrange to attend your parish meetings in person

James Draper
Police Constable 2812
Braintree Community Safety & Engagement Officer
Essex Police

Find out what is happening in your area: essex.police.uk/yourarea
Report non-emergency crime online: essex.police.uk/ro