



NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE: <https://noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk>



BUDGET AND PRECEPT

At the January parish council the Budget for 2025/2026 was set at £41,234.88 and the Precept at £41,276.54. This equates to Band D, £41.31 per year per household.

PARISH CLERK

Mrs Lynda Townend has been appointed clerk. Contact details: 07307 891134
clerk@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

NEW WEBSITE & EMAIL ADDRESS

The parish council agreed to invest in a new website provider to improve the website and communication, also to attract more users to the site. Included in the package is a dedicated email address for the Councillors and Clerk.

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NOAK BRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



The Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents were submitted by the Parish Council to Basildon Council last July for them to carry out

the six week Regulation 16 consultation, currently taking place now from 24th February to 7th April.

Visit: <http://noakbridgenp.commonplace.is/>

Email: planningpolicy@basildon.gov.uk

Call: 01268 533333 option 5.

Hard copies of the

documents will be available to view in the Basildon Centre or Basildon Library.

Please contact Terri who can provide copies of the documents to view locally. Residents views are important so please do respond or let us know if you would like further information or help.



NEXT STEPS - SUBMISSION OF PLAN

Following the 6 week regulation 16 consultation, Basildon Council will review the Plan and make any necessary changes, then submit the Plan to an appointed independent examiner to review.

REFERENDUM and ADOPTION of PLAN

The community will then be asked to vote on whether or not to adopt the amended Plan. If the majority vote yes, then the plan can be adopted. Basildon Council will carry out the Referendum.

Link to consultation report to view all NP documents:

[Consultation Report V2 July 2024 \(PDF 21 Mb\)](#)

NEW CCTV CAMERAS

The parish council has replaced the 3 CCTV cameras' which are located at the shop area in Coppice Lane. The system is now being managed by Basildon Council. The CCTV policy, code of practice and requests for CCTV footage can be found on the useful links tab of the parish council website. Please contact Basildon Council should anyone require information or CCTV footage.

FORE STREET PLANNING OBJECTIONS

Residents objected to Basildon Council proposal to change the sheltered housing accommodation in Fore Street to general use. In response to resident objections the parish council appointed a planning consultant to compose a formal letter of objection to the planning application. The parish council will inform residents when a committee date is known to determine the planning application.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS 2024 - 2025

- ✦ Neighbourhood Plan
- ✦ CCTV - 3 New Camera System Managed by Basildon Council
- ✦ Fore Street - Planning Consultant Objection
- ✦ Community Events Group - D. Day Supper
- ✦ Litter Pick Group Equipment & Insurance
- ✦ Christmas Lights & Christmas Tree
- ✦ Handleys Chase Pond Maintenance
- ✦ Grant to Essex & Herts Air Ambulance
- ✦ Village Hall Replacement Heating
- ✦ New Website / Dedicated Email Address

NOAK BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

BOOKING DETAILS

01268 288788 / terriken@aol.com

PARISH COUNCILLORS	CONTACT DETAILS
Mark Cottrell - Chairman	cllr.mark.cottrell@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Paul Daft - Vice Chairman	cllr.paul.daft@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Terri Sargent	cllr.terri.sargent@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Jacqui Dowton	cllr.jacqui.dowton@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cristopher Bateman	cllr.cris.bateman@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Lynn Gilliam - Co-Opted	cllr.lynn.gilliam@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Peter Hawkins - Co-Opted	cllr.peter.hawkins@noakbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk
Meetings: March 26 th April Annual Parish 23 rd AGM	May 21 st June 25 th July 23 rd Sep 24 th Oct 22 nd Nov 26 th
Basildon Borough & Essex County Councillors	CONTACT DETAILS
Borough Cllr Surgery - Village Hall Monthly	First Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am
Terri Sargent - Castledon and Crouch Ward	terri.sargent@members.basildon.gov.uk
Stuart Allen - Castledon and Crouch Ward	stuart.allen@members.basildon.gov.uk
Alex Myers - Castledon and Crouch Ward	alex.myers@members.basildon.gov.uk
Tony Ball - Wickford / Crouch Division Essex	cllr.tony.ball@essex.gov.uk
Malcolm Buckley - Wickford / Crouch Division Essex	cllr.malcolm.buckley@essex.gov.uk
Basildon 01268 533333	Essex 0345 743 04430
Richard Holden MP - 0207 219 3059	richard.holden.mp@parliament.uk



A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY 8TH MAY 2025

The parish council is organising the celebration of VE DAY on Thursday 8th May. We are planning events for the day and hope you will all join in our celebrations. Everyone is welcome to help and we look forward to hearing from you. Please let us know if you are holding a street party and if a small grant will support your event

The evening Tribute will begin at 9.30pm on the Wash Road playing field when Beacons all over the country will be lit. Simon the Piper will read the proclamation.

We look forward to sharing the day with residents in remembrance of those who gave so much to enable us to enjoy the peace we have today. Please let us know if you would like to get involved.

COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS

Calling all community groups, have you a project where some added funding will help? We have a small grants budget and a budget for larger projects. The application form is on the website. We look forward to receiving your applications or enquiries.

DEVOLUTION - THE FUTURE OF UNITARY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS

The Government are changing how Councils will operate in the future through their Devolution and Local Government Reform (LGR) process. No elections will be held in Basildon this year for Essex County Council (ECC) or Basildon Council. ECC expressed an interest in the Elected Mayor / Combined Authority system. This could mean splitting Essex into three unitary authorities made up of five councils with one Mayor for the whole of Essex. The Mayoral Elections will be held in May 2026. Devolution will also mean scrapping District / Borough Councils by 2027/28. Parish Councils will remain but it has yet to be determined how they will operate. The process is ongoing and we will publish further information on the website.

PARISH PLAN

The parish council are developing a parish plan to give direction of how it will operate in future considering 'devolution' and how the precept is spent representing value for money. A clerk has been appointed to administrate the PC which comes at an added cost. The Neighbourhood Plan is nearing the end and we rely on residents to respond to the consultation to get it through to the Referendum stage to assist with future planning applications. Any ideas or observations from residents will be very welcome.

NOAK BRIDGE LITTER PICK GROUP

Following community litter picks organised by the Parish Council, a funding application was received for equipment and public liability insurance to set up a volunteer group to carry out regular litter picks. Funding was awarded and the group set up to carry out monthly litter picks. A further funding application from the group this year for equipment and insurance has been agreed following the enormous success of the project. The rubbish is collected and disposed of by Basildon Council.



WASH ROAD PLANNING APPLICATION GRANTED

Despite years of the Parish Council trying to mitigate plans to build 400 homes on land to the South of Wash Road, planning application 23/01551/OUT - Amended, was granted permission by Basildon Council planning committee in January.

Parish Cllrs' Mark Cottrell, Jacqui Dowton, Lynn Gilliam and Peter Hawkins, Borough Cllrs' Terri Sargent, Stuart Allen and Alex Myers attended the committee with a written statement from Richard

Holden MP, all objected to the application. Objections raised on green belt purposes were: Unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas and prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another. There are no plans for highway, paths, traffic congestion or air quality infrastructure. Although S106 funding is allocated for Education and Healthcare this may not be delivered locally in Noak Bridge but anywhere over Basildon. Concerns were also raised regarding on overdevelopment, high density housing, poor buffers, threat to wildlife and flooding issues where a considerable sum of money will have to be spent on sustainable drainage systems.

In order to try and safeguard Noak Bridge from high density housing and provide quality designed homes the Parish Council developed a draft Neighbourhood Plan, Design Code, Character Appraisal and Local Green Space Assessment. These provided evidenced based policies and plans to protect the unique design aspects of Noak Bridge, to enable the Neighbourhood Plan to respond to the unique characteristics and planning context specific to the parish Neighbourhood Area, however, this was not mentioned in the planning application. Unfortunately the planning committee granted the application that will allow our beautiful semi rural area to be concreted over with high density homes and turned into a town ship with an additional 400 homes seriously lacking in vital infrastructure

Whilst we are all aware of the need for more homes, not at this great cost to our communities.

PLANNING APPLICATION at JUNCTION with BRIDGE STREET / WASH ROAD

A planning application is currently on public consultation 25/00171/OUT Land at Wash Road Junction with Bridge Street (Bensons Farm):

'A Hybrid application for a phased development of up to 300 residential dwellings (C3 Use Class) to include 1. Detailed application (Phase 1) for the first 100 dwellings, new vehicular and pedestrian accesses from Wash Road, provision of green infrastructure including a new community park, resident allotments, surface water drainage basins, Swales and foul water pumping station, all hard and soft landscaping works, residents and visitors car parking and 2. Outline application (Phases 2 and 3), for up to 200 residential dwellings, community use buildings, surface water drainage basins, a second foul water pumping station, new vehicular and pedestrian accesses from Wash Road, and all associated infrastructure works'.

This additional development proposal for 300 homes will seriously increase the traffic along Wash Road causing further congestion. The land is subject to flooding and will require two foul water pumping stations, surface water drainage basins, and Swales. It will concrete over the last arable farm field that has produced many crops over the years and remove the beautiful view of the fields from Bridge Street. It begs the question, at what lengths will developers and planning committees go to overdevelop our communities by cramming in 100s of new homes? Please make sure to send your views to Basildon Council!