**Bradley Parish Council**

**MEETING SUMMARY – 11th March 2025**

**General**

**Affordable Rural Homes** – It was resolved to go ahead with a housing needs survey. This will give the parish council an idea of need and want.

**Red Lion Public House** – It has been reported there is some dispute over rights of way on the land, the sale is still expected to go ahead.

**Hedges** – The parish council would like to remind residents of their responsibility when it comes to keeping your hedges tidy.

Cutting hedges is important for several reasons:

1. **Encourage Healthy Growth**: Regular trimming helps maintain the health of your hedge by promoting dense, vigorous growth. Overgrown hedges can become leggy and sparse at the base, which is undesirable for both aesthetic and functional purposes.
2. **Maintain Appearance**: A well-trimmed hedge enhances the look of your garden or property. It helps to create neat, defined boundaries and contributes to the overall curb appeal of your home or business.
3. **Promote Wildlife**: While it’s important to trim hedges, doing so responsibly can also benefit local wildlife. For instance, regular trimming keeps the hedge from becoming too overgrown, which could deter birds and other creatures from nesting in it. However, it’s important to avoid cutting hedges during nesting season (typically from March to August) to protect birds and their eggs.
4. **Safety**: Overgrown hedges can obstruct pathways, block light, or obscure visibility, especially near roads. Keeping hedges trimmed ensures safe passage for pedestrians and drivers and keeps your space safe from any potential accidents.
5. **Prevent Damage to Structures**: Overgrown hedges can put pressure on fences, walls, or even roofs, potentially causing damage over time. Trimming them back reduces the risk of this happening.
6. **Increase Property Value**: Well-maintained hedges can boost the value of your property, as they create a tidy, attractive environment. Potential buyers often appreciate the care that’s gone into landscaping, which can set your property apart.

There are also legal considerations about cutting hedges. For instance, if your hedge is causing a nuisance to neighbours, such as blocking light or growing over a boundary, they may be able to request trimming. Additionally, the *Hedgerow Regulations 1997* protect certain hedgerows from being removed or damaged, especially those that are deemed environmentally significant. So, cutting hedges isn’t just about aesthetics; it’s also about maintaining the environment, safety, and following regulations!

**Garden waste disposal** – It has been reported that some garden waste is being disposed of in the hedge on Wells Lane. We would kindly ask residents to dispose of their garden waste in the correct manor by using your kerbside collection visits, civic amenity visits (the parish council provide four visits a year, please see below) or at your local waste disposal site. Disposing of it in any other way than these is fly tipping and a criminal offence and could if caught, result in fines or other penalties. The parish council is currently considering appointing a contractor to carry out maintenance at the site.

**Rights of way walks** – We are fortunate to have some beautiful walks around our village, we are aware there is some maintenance that needs to be done to stiles etc, the parish council are considering solutions.

**Planning applications**

24/38563/FUL Eaton Brook Farm, Woollaston Lane, Church Eaton

Conversion of an agricultural barn to a residential unit including the alteration and upgrade of fabric to accommodate new windows & doors and the construction of new garage entrance gates and boundary walls and associated patio, outdoor kitchen and amenity spaces. - Allowed

24/39280/ANX The Grove Wells Lane Bradley ST18 9EE

Conversion of outbuilding to granny annexe with accessible wet room – Allowed

24/38841/FUL Land Opposite Greenhouse Mitton Road Bradley Stafford Staffordshire

Change of use of land for the re-siting of approved self-storage containers to be used by enterprise on site and private business uses, addition of solar panels and new access – Awaiting decision.

**USEFUL INFORMATION**

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| **Report Highways issues**  <https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader> | **Map of footpaths and bridleways**  https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/RightsofWay/Footpaths-bridleways.aspx |
| **Report Stafford Borough Council Issues**  https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/streetscene-to-report-a-problem-make-a-comment-or-complaint | **Bradley Parish Council**  [clerk-bradleypc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clerk-bradleypc@hotmail.co.uk), 45 Thorn Close, Brereton, Rugeley WS15 1TA – 07971226170 or alternatively, the parish council’s website <https://www.bradleypc.co.uk> |
| **Call 101 to report a crime that has already happened or on line, on the Staffordshire police website** <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/> . | **To get up to date information regarding crime in your local area.** <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/stafford-borough/south-west-stone/about-us/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area> |
| **Receive the latest community safety information alerts about what's happening in your local area by registering for Staffordshire Smart Alert.** <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives/as/staffs/staffordshire-smart-alert/> | **Walks around Bradley Village** – There are 8 known walks all maps are available on our website <https://www.bradleypc.co.uk/about-the-parish/walks-around-bradley/> We ask that all walkers respect landowners property and take care around livestock. Keep your pets on leads and clean up! To report any rights of way issues (missing signage, broken stiles etc.) <https://prow.staffordshire.gov.uk/> |

**Civic Amenities 2025**

Locations for this year’s amenity visits, please make sure they get used or you will lose it and have to revert back to one location!

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

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| Annual Parish Council Meeting – 13th May 2025 | From 7:00pm |
| Annual Public Meeting – 15th May 2025 | From 7:30pm |
| 8th July 2025 | From 7:00pm |
| 9th September 2025 | From 7:00pm |
| 11th November 2025 | From 7:00pm |

**Should you have any issues you would like to raise, please contact the clerk,**

[**clerk@bradley-pc.gov.uk**](mailto:clerk@bradley-pc.gov.uk) **, we are more than happy to help, if we can.**