BRADFIELD ST CLARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2025 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors present: Chair Cllr John Kirk, Cllrs Malcolm Hignett and Sue Partridge. Borough Cllr Sara Mildmay-White. County Cllrs Karen Soons present towards the latter half of the meeting due to other commitments.

Two members of the public present.

1. Apologies for absence:
   Cllr Paul Foster – due to work
   Cllr Alex Duchesne – still at work

2. Declarations of Interest: None

3. Minutes: to consider and approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 13 May 2025. Cllr Hignett proposed they were a true record of the meeting and Cllr Partridge seconded. Minutes approved.

4. Public forum:
   Villager recapped what his understanding of the up to date position on the speed reduction matter was as Clerk had provided him with this information ahead of the meeting. He understood that whilst Matthew Fox at Suffolk Highways, who the PC and some villagers had met with in April 2025 thought that the additional points submitted, is happy to offer his support for the speed reduction application to the Speed Panel, it is not his decision to make. Another speed survey is to be done. Villager agreed that the post opposite his house where it was sited last time is probably the best place to locate it. It was also a good idea to not have the survey carried out whilst the schools were on holiday and whilst harvesting is taking place as the traffic seems to be slower at those times. The cost of the speed survey is £415. Karen Soons had confirmed that she would not pay that as she had paid for the previous one and she had other villages with projects that needed funding. The PC were to decide tonight if they would fund the £415. Matthew Fox had kindly provided an option whereby the PC could initially pay for a speed survey and see what the data returns and have an informal discussion with the head of Highways Safety and Speed Team regarding the chances of an official speed limit report

yielding the required results. *Clerk confirmed that he had understood the current position.*

5. To consider next steps regarding the funding of a speed survey as previously discussed with Highways Officer in April 2025, and following further information submitted to him.

   Following discussion Cllr Hignett proposed that the PC spend the sum of £415 for an up to date speed survey as indicated by Matthew Fox, Suffolk Highways, and once that data had been collected the PC would take up the kind offer from Matthew Fox to initially take the speed survey data returns and have an informal discussion with the head of Highways Safety and Speed Team regarding the chances of an official speed limit report yielding the required results. The speed survey should be done during school term time and also after the current harvesting period ie. Approx. mid to late September.
   Cllr Partridge seconded the proposal. Chairman Cllr Kirk also confirmed that he agreed this way forward.
   It meant that under this proposal spending at this stage was limited to £415, without the further £750 for the report.
   It was noted that even if both Highways Officers felt that the PC had a reasonable chance of success it did not mean that the Speed Panel would necessarily agree but without spending some monies at this stage the matter could not progress at all.
   Motion carried – Clerk will email Matthew Fox at Suffolk Highways to organise the speed survey.

6. Matters Arising:
   No further discussion at this point as it had been covered at item number 5.

7. County Cllrs and Borough Cllrs reports:
   Reports available on the Parish Council website at bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net/

8. Correspondence (all correspondence has been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting):

9. Clerk's report:
   (i) Schedule of payments:

PCC	grass cutting	£120	chq504	LGA1972
A Spall	grass cutting	£200	chq505	LGA1972
M Morley	grass cutting	£100	chq506	LGA1972
BSC VH	grapevine	£200	chq507	LGA1972
N Sturgeon	salary	£439.56	chq508	LGA1972

Signed…….. Dated……..

10. Cllrs reports:

(i) Cllr Hignetts report on progress with submitting an application to re-instate a bus service to the village.
Cllr Hignett confirmed that he had been liaising with the Parish Clerk at Cockfield, together with our Parish Clerk to complete an application form that he had checked through with the Clerks. Cllr Hignett will arrange a date and time that both parishes will submit their applications. It is hoped that if both Parishes were requesting the re-instatement that it would strengthen the applications.

(ii) Any other reports – none.

11. Date of next meeting: 11th November 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Signed…….. Dated……..