



Paper submitted by the Clerk to the Council at the Parish Council meeting on 02 July 2025

Parish Clerk's Report – July 2025

a) To review actions from the previous meeting

MINUTE NO.	ACTION	WHO
PC 06.25.06	Email the Garage Sale organisers and advise about parking in the area of Factory Lane. <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 06.25.07 (c)	To make contact with BLC and encourage when they have big events to use the parking at the Fishing Park, in Factory Lane. <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 06.25.13 (b)	Set up a meeting with Cllr Osben and the Clerk to discuss the potential affordable housing providers to use. <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 06.25.14 (b)	Cllr Osben to liaise with SCC about costings and viability of crossings on the A137. <i>Ongoing</i>	Ongoing
PC 06.25.14 (b)	The assistant Clerk to chase up SCC about the sign for Sandy Lane. <i>Ongoing</i>	Ongoing

b) To receive the reports of items actioned under delegated powers

- Meeting held with solicitors – further work will be completed and proposals from Birketts presented to Parish Council when available
- Liaison with contractor for new website – hope that this should be up and running by the end of the summer
- Assistant Clerk appraisal undertaken and objectives set – further information available on request
- Liaison with SALC and SCC ref. new Staff pensions arrangements – these are now in place
- Contact made with affordable housing providers – hoping for a meeting to be set in the near future
- Attendance at Garage Sale day to raise awareness about Neighbourhood Planning

c) To receive items of correspondence for noting only

ITEM ONE

From: JARRETT, Katie <Katie.JARRETT@suffolk.police.uk>

Sent: 03 June 2025 12:20

To: Sarah Keys <clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk>; JONES, Alexander <Alexander.JONES@suffolk.police.uk>

Cc: assistantclerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk; Mal Bridgeman <mal.bridgeman@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Motorbikes and E-bikes on Factory Lane

Good afternoon, Sarah

We are all incredibly busy just as you are I expect, the nice weather and lighter evenings are lovely however Police wise- there is quite a lot of ASB all over the place.

I am very much aware of the reports coming in about these riders, I have an ASB investigation on my wkload and there has been a discussion with the community safety officers at Babergh council. Patrols are happening as and when they can but I'm not going to lie, we don't have an abundance of officers. As always, the more reports we have the more the management will look at and make those decisions where officers are directed. Ideally, we need to

work together and see what other measures could be put in place. Considerations for cameras? Considerations for putting some temporary speed humps etc.

Could these be raised at the next parish meeting to see what options are available to the council?

Kind regards

Kate

CLERK'S UPDATE – Fi has requested a meeting with Katie to discuss the options available. Proposals will then be presented to Parish Council.

ITEM TWO

From:

Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 8:22 am

To: mal.bridgeman@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk <mal.bridgeman@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Subject: Anti social behaviour

Good morning Mal

I'm not sure if I am directing this to the correct person so apologies if this is the case.

You may be aware that there are daily occurrences at the moment of people on loud motorbikes riding up and down Factory Lane and over in the fields near Decoy Pond. This seems to happen from 5pm most nights and at the weekends.

This is extremely dangerous and causes a constant noise nuisance and disturbance to the surrounding residents. I have seen last night on the Brantham Villagers Noticeboard Facebook page that people have been urged to contact the police regarding this. However I believe this has been done on many occasions already.

As a council are you able to offer an update on how this is being tackled please? I moved to the village 18 months ago and this is not what I had hoped or expected village life to be.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

CLERKS UPDATE – response sent, see further work agreed above

ITEM THREE

From:

Sent: 06 June 2025 16:41

To: clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Parking obstruction

Hello there,

I'd like to report a vehicle that's been causing nuisance for some time now on new village, brantham. Its a large flat bed work van owned by somebody on the road who keeps parking outside people's homes on the kerb instead of on his own drive. This is causing a lot of stress to my pregnant partner who has constant knocks on the door requesting the van to be moved as buses and other vehicles are unable to pass it when cars are parked on both sides. I'm sure you are aware how small the road is and how busy it gets. Bus drivers are constantly forced to reverse back up the hill and take a different route. these large vehicles need to be parked on people's drives or in the bay at the end of the road. It's also caused damage to walk path creating very large pot holes in the grass after the kerb. See attached images of the vehicle in question. Would it be possible for the council to tell the owner of the vehicle to only park this vehicle on their drive or outside their own property instead of causing nuisance to others?

Kind regards,

CLERKS UPDATE – correspondence on this issue has been had with the resident and the business owner of the vehicle. Since the vehicle is not obstructing the highway substantially there is no further action that can be taken by the Parish Council. I have referred the individual to the police for future issues.

ITEM FOUR

From:

Sent: 20 June 2025 11:15

To: clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Brantham Hill / Ipswich Road

I am writing to express my deep concern and growing discontent regarding the increasingly dangerous conditions on Brantham Hill/Ipswich Road in Suffolk.

This stretch of road is regularly crossed by children on their way to and from school, yet the conditions are now wholly unsuitable and unsafe for pedestrian use—particularly for young people. Traffic has increased significantly, and there is a clear and worrying rise in the number of large lorries using the road. In addition, speeding vehicles are now a daily occurrence, with little to no visible enforcement or traffic calming measures in place.

To put it plainly: this is a disaster waiting to happen.

It is unacceptable that the safety of residents—especially schoolchildren—appears to be a low priority. We should not have to wait for a serious injury or worse before decisive action is taken.

Can I ask what engagement has taken place so far to address this. I urge you to take immediate steps to assess and address the risks on Brantham Hill/Ipswich Road. At the very least, I'd expect the implementation of effective speed reduction measures, improved signage, and safer crossing points for pedestrians. A formal review of traffic flow and risk mitigation in this area is long overdue.

Please treat this with the urgency it demands.

Yours sincerely,

CLERKS UPDATE – Response sent

d) To receive items of correspondence for consideration of next steps

ITEM ONE

From:

Sent: 02 June 2025 15:30

To: clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Advertising

Good afternoon

I'm launching a Slimming World group in Brantham commencing the 24th June and I was hoping you could advise if there are any village notice boards either in Brantham or the surrounding villages that I would be able to put a poster advertising my group? Also if there is a local magazine perhaps that is distributed within the village that I could also perhaps pay for an advert in?

Many thanks

CLERK'S UPDATE – I have responded to the individual's query. However, this note got me thinking that there is currently no location in the village where advertisers can place small posters for events/meet ups/groups etc.

The noticeboard at the shop is for Parish Council matters and the one at the Village Hall is for VH users.

Some villages have noticeboards inside their bus shelters for this purpose and I wondered if this would be something the Parish Council would like to consider as a means to promote community engagement and involvement?

ITEM TWO

From:

Sent: 04 June 2025 12:14

To: clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Kissing gates Sycamore Way

Hello Sarah

My friend just spoke with you on the phone. I spoke to Alisdair yesterday and he asked me to email you.

In Sycamore way there is an alley way which has pedestrian kissing gates. I am a mobility scooter user and I cannot access this alley which is between my house and the shops, due to the current gates. Can these gates please be changed to mobility kissing gates?

Also I have trouble going past some houses as their hedges or bushes are so overgrown that I can't get past. One is in Palfrey Heights, a huge pampas grass bush that takes over the entire path. Would you like me to take photos and send them to you?

Thank you in advance for your help, much appreciated.

Best wishes

The integrity of the Council's finances is to be protected by two of the three signatories checking and reviewing the invoices for payment for which they will have seen an original copy.

Within the Council's Financial Regulations (5.15) – expenditure on revenue items may be authorised up to the amounts included for that class of expenditure in the approved budget or where prior approval has been given for such expenditure to be incurred (i.e. under contractual agreements)

The authority is to be determined by; * the council for all items over £5000; * a duly delegated committee for all items over £1000 * the Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman of Council or Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items below £1000. Such authority is to be evidenced by a minute or by an authorisation slip duly signed by the Clerk, and where necessary also by the appropriate Chairman.

Invoices will only be processed for payment by the Parish Clerk once she is satisfied that the payment sums match the invoices produced.

Accounts submitted for payment – Current Account *(SUBJECT TO ADDITIONS)*

Payee	Detail	Method	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
Dave Childs	Grounds Maintenance (inv. TBC)	BACS	TBC		TBC
Brantham Village Hall	Hall Hire (inv. TBC)	BACS	TBC		TBC
Parish Council staffing costs	Salaries, Clerk & Assistant Clerk Office Allowance, Pensions	BACS	3952.86		3952.86
HMRC	P30 Q1	BACS	2530.48		2530.48

Accounts Paid since 04 June 2025

Payee	Detail	Method	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
Parish Council staff	Salaries, Clerk & Assistant Clerk Office Allowance	BACS	3321.76		3321.76
BMCIC	Grounds Maintenance Payment	BACS	40.00		40.00
Microsoft	Monthly Subscription Charges – May 2025	DD	20.60	4.12	24.72
Virtual Landline	Phone number for Parish Council	Direct Debit	7.29	1.46	8.75
Smarty.co.uk	CCTV SIM Cards	Direct Debit	27.00		27.00
Amazon	Colour Run purchases	Debit card	65.69	11.94	77.63
Amazon	Village Fete Purchases	Debit card	174.30	34.81	209.11
Babergh District Council	Application fee – Lawful Development Certificate	Debit Card	232.00		232.00
Event Colour Ltd	Paint for Colour Run	Debit Card	385.66	77.13	462.79
EAS Medical	Medical cover for Village Fete	Debit Card	279.00		279.00
Bubble N Bounce	Village Fete costs	Debit Card	112.00		112.00
Buy T-Shirts Online	T-shirts for Colour Run	Debit Card	202.50	40.50	243.00
Information Commissioners Office	Data Protection Fee	Direct Debit	47.00		47.00
Lloyds Bank	Salaries Account Charge	BACS	4.25		4.25

Fi Coley	Stationary	BACS	4.90		4.90
Swiftprint UK	Village Fete Banner	BACS	25.00	5.00	30.00
Ros O'Donnell Design	Brantham Skatepark Website Hosting	BACS	115.20		115.20

Items paid following authorisation at meeting of 04 June 2025

Payee	Detail	Method	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
Dave Childs	Grounds Maintenance (inv. 2208)	BACS	315.00		315.00
Birketts	Legal Advice ref. pumping station (inv. 1070179)	BACS	500.00	100.00	600.00
D. Hyatt (Brantham Open Spaces Group)	Petrol and equipment for BOS	BACS	80.03		80.03

Receipts allocated since 04 June 2025

Who	Detail	Method	Amount
Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest	BACS	147.33
Stripe	Colour Run Entries	BACS	567.04
Sumup	Colour Run Entries	BACS	768.37
Eventbrite	Colour Run Entries	BACS	26.00
Amazon	Refunded Colour Run glasses	BACS	8.69
Various	Village Fete contributions	BACS	210

Presented by:..... Sarah Keys, Responsible Finance Officer

Countersigned by:..... Chair to the Parish Council

All payments authorised under The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012

Note: Council resolved at the 2023 Annual Meeting that it met the eligibility conditions, and this continues right through until the next relevant annual meeting which will be May 2027. This is regardless of whether the Council continues to meet those conditions for the duration, (para 7.12 of the Explanatory Memorandum to The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 refers.



BRANTHAM
Parish Council

PAPER 6

Brantham Parish Council
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www.brantham.onesuffolk.net

CIL SPENDING REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

Neighbourhood CIL is governed by the CIL regulations and the rate at which it is paid is set out in national legislation. For those Parish Councils with a made Neighbourhood Plan it is 25% (with no CAP and for Parishes where there is no made Neighbourhood Plan it is 15% subject to a cap which is set out nationally (in legislation).

The cap is worked out at £100 index linked per occupied property within the parish. The cap rate is set for the year and changes on the 1st January each year.

1. CIL Resources available

CIL Funding currently stands at:

Financial Year	Income	Expenditure	CIL running Total	Timescales
2018-19	£2,556.87		£2,556.87	SPENT
2019-20	£104.01			SPENT
	£3,258.75		£5,919.63	SPENT
2020-21	£3,258.67			SPENT
	£2,681.48		£11,859.78	SPENT
2021-22			£11,859.78	
2022-23	£9,734.69			SPENT
	£7,747.54	£10,123.64	£19,218.37	SPENT
2023-24	£53,848.41			14.04.28
	£28,861.09	£34,323.89	£67,603.98	13.10.28
2024-25	£24,987.32			08.04.29
	£24,987.32	£13,318.00	£104,260.62	08.10.29
2025-26		£0.00	£104,260.62	
Committed		£45,796.00	£58,464.62	Balance after committed funds
Totals	£112,051.51	£103,561.53		

2. Projects completed as bids against the Neighbourhood CIL pot

The following projects having been previously approved as valid projects for the Neighbourhood CIL pot are now completed with monies being fully paid out.

Project	Budget	Predicted Cost	Sources of External Funding	Neighbourhood CIL (Parish) Funding	Minute number	Start date	Current Position
TOTAL				£0.00			

3. Projects identified as potential bids against the Neighbourhood CIL Pot

The following projects have been identified as valid bids against the Neighbourhood CIL pot, have approval and are awaiting completion with monies being fully allocated and therefore committed:

Project	Budget	Predicted Cost	Sources of External Funding	Neighbourhood CIL (Parish) Funding	Minute number	Start date	Current Position
Play equipment replacement/repair	2500.00	Unknown	None	£2,500	FC 06.24.07	Ongoing	no projects identified
Village Hall Toilet Refit	3296.00	Unknown	Neighbourhood CIL (BDC), and external funding	£3,296	FC 06.24.07	Ongoing	no projects identified
Skate Park at LPF	None allocated	£180,000	Neighbourhood CIL (BDC), and external funding	£40,000	FC 01.25.07	Summer 2025	Bid writing underway

Items highlighted in GREY will be identified as on an "as and when demand" as the parish continues to grow

Project	Budget	Predicted Cost	Sources of External Funding	Neighbourhood CIL (Parish) Funding		Additional consultation required	Further information
Village Hall	None allocated	Unknown	Neighbourhood CIL (BDC), bDC CIL Infrastructure pot and external funding	Unknown		Consultation with Brantham residents and PC needed	
Crossing on A137	None allocated	£150,000	S106 /locality funding	£unknown		Community Consultation needed	
Other major projects	None allocated	Unknown	To be determined			Subject to consultation	
New Grit Bins	On as an when basis			Neighbourhood CIL (Parish)			
New Waste Bins	On as and when basis			Neighbourhood CIL (Parish)			

Brantham Parish Council

Donations for the year ending 31 March 2026 using the General Power of Competence*

Recipient	Reason for request	Amount Requested	Actioned	Funded Elsewhere	Minute no.
Sharon Barker	Donation for Skate Park Equipment	£0	£50		PC 05.25.13

Subtotal of expenditure incurred in 2025-26 to date			£50
Donations budget for 2025-26			£2,500
Funding carried over from 2024-25			£308
Donations over/underspend for 2025-26			£2,758

* The General Power of Competence (GPC) was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and took effect in February 2012. At its Annual Parish Council Meeting of 10 May 2023 the Parish Council resolved that it fulfilled the eligibility criteria set by the SoS (Localism Act 2011 s8) and that it was enabled to use the General Power of Competence (GPC)



BRANTHAM SAFETY QUESTIONNAIRE

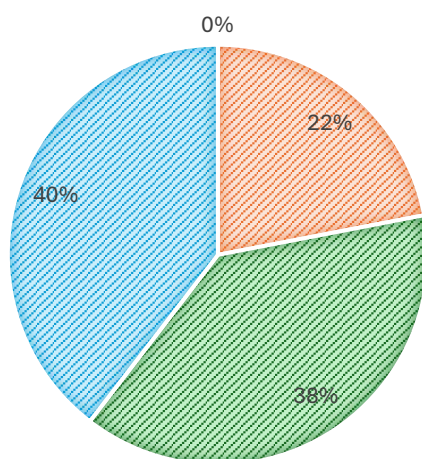
This survey was circulated via social media to Brantham residents and outlined the following goals:

“Brantham Parish Council would like to understand how safe people feel in our village to help us make informed decisions about how we can support our residents going forward. We would appreciate it if you could take five minutes to complete this short questionnaire that will give us a useful insight into how local residents feel. Please note that any personal information you provide will be stored securely and all data will be anonymised for analysis. Thank you for your time.”

The questionnaire was live until 30 June 2025 and received 102 responses. The detail of the responses is included below.

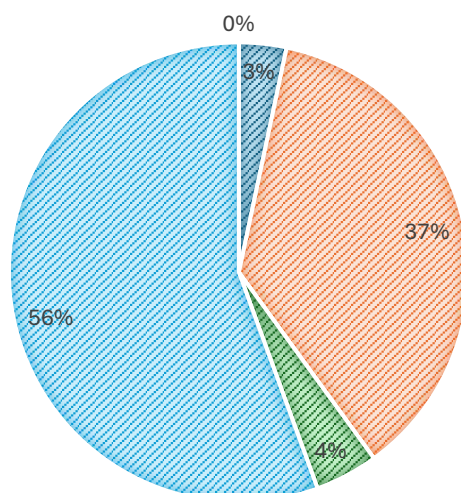
HOW OLD ARE YOU?

■ Under 21 ■ 22-35 ■ 36-54 ■ 55 or over ■



HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL IN YOUR HOME?

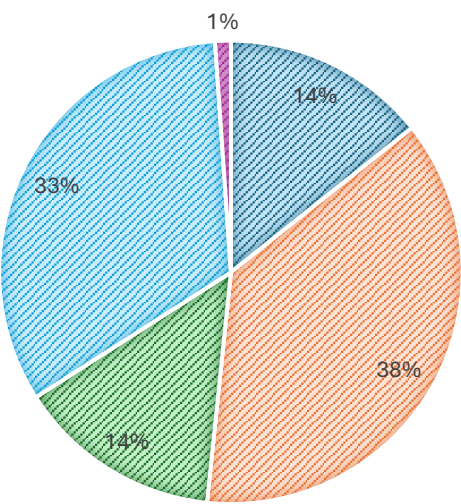
■ Neither safe nor unsafe ■ Somewhat safe ■ Somewhat unsafe ■ Very safe ■ Very unsafe



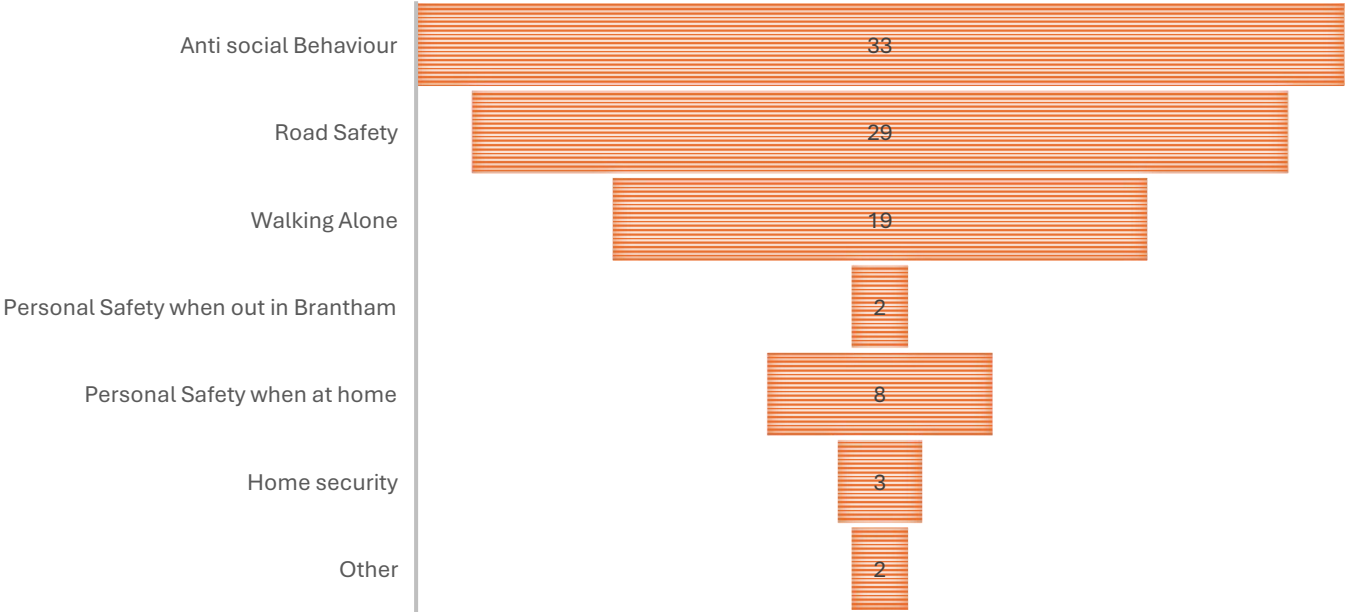


HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL WHEN OUT IN BRANTHAM?

■ Neither safe nor unsafe ■ Somewhat safe ■ Somewhat unsafe ■ Very safe ■ Very unsafe



NUMBER 1 SAFETY CONCERN ABOUT LIFE IN BRANTHAM





BRANTHAM

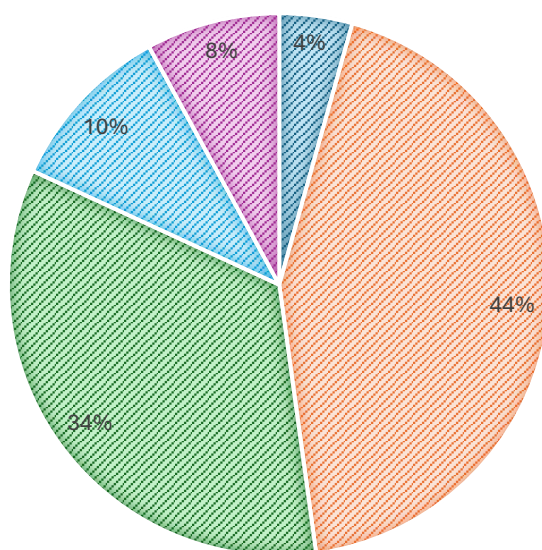
Parish Council

Safety Concern ranked results:

	Antisocial Behaviour	Road Safety	Walking Alone	Personal Safety when out in the village	Home Security	Personal Safety at Home	Other
1st choice	33	29	19	2	8	3	2
2nd Choice	27	14	20	18	10	5	2
3rd choice	16	11	17	26	17	8	1
4th choice	10	17	13	28	10	16	2
5th choice	6	14	3	15	35	21	2
6th choice	4	10	23	5	15	38	1
7th choice			1	2	1	5	86

WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL SAFER IN BRANTHAM?

■ Group meet ups/walks ■ Increased police presence; ■ More CCTV ■ Nothing ■ Other





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The following comments were received at the end of the survey:

A pedestrian crossing of some sort would go along way to make me feel safer for myself and children on the A137. Some sort of CCTV around the decoy pond if it has not yet been installed. Too many unruly dogs off lead, plus last years attack mean it feels less safe around there.

A zebra crossing on the main road or a lollipop crossing during school times would make me feel safer for my family

Dogs off leads - should be restricted areas only.

Excessive speeds and increased traffic volumes are an accumulating danger to road users and pedestrians alike. The lack of 30mph signage and lack of continuing police presence only adds to this long standing major issue. The 30mph restrictions and Double White lines continue to be ignored DAILY. The A137 through Brantham is a mecca for speeding cars, lorries and especially on Sundays and Wednesdays, motorcyclists who think they are competing in the Isle of Mann TT Races. Brantham will NEVER be safe until ANPR Cameras and speed restriction signage are prominently displayed. The by product of monitoring traffic offences via ANPR, is also a great benefit in the tracking of other criminal activities. A Double Whammy.

Factory lane definitely needs some form of traffic calming/ slowing (e.g speed humps/sleeping policemen) as the construction & factory traffic travel far too fast on occasion plus almost every evening there cars & motor bikes & motor scooters using it as a race track. Also, every day there is more broken glass & takeaway rubbish in the lane & the pull ins along there quietly.

Felt very safe until recently when I heard there was a dog attack over decoy pond. Three young men allowed their dogs to set upon a small dog which speaks volumes. As a woman who walks my dog alone it's really put me off going there. Also sometimes it can get a bit lonely over there so more police patrols would be good specially since the murder.

Generally feel incredibly safe in Brantham either alone or with others. Few issues of anti social behaviour recently with teens on mopeds but not caused concern.

Have lived in village for 50 years and never felt uneasy until sadly the murder took place

Hearing illegal motorbikes on fields and dog attacks near the decoy pond makes you concerned who is moving into the area

I do think that ASB in Brantham has increased but not sure how this can be efficiently remedied.

I feel very safe in Brantham

I think strategic cameras could be used to capture who is coming in and out of the village via car/bike. I genuinely believe most of the anti-social things i see happen are committed by people not even from Brantham. It's almost a haven for anti-social because there's so little CCTV here to catch anyone doing wrong

I would love to see increased speed surveillance through the village and a zebra crossing opposite Poppy Fields. I walk my children to nursery/school daily and the speed at which some drivers come through the village is abhorrent and dangerous.

I'd say increased police presence but the police are absolutely useless.

I'm not sure I'm entirely happy about the skate park and worry this could bring more issues to the village

I've lived in the village for 34 years, it's no longer a village. The new build developments have caused anti-social behaviour and noise we never had, litter everywhere and the on-road parking is a joke and dangerous

Last murder in Brantham was 1875. Don't panic.

More lighting, cutting hedgerows, limiting places to hide

Motorists speeding through the village is my greatest safety concern and I would like to see measures put in place to tackle this, such as active speed cameras, more digital 'slow down' signs and time restraints for lorries and larger vehicles.

My cat was killed in our own garden by two dogs running free. These dogs had been previously suspected of attacking farm animals. This was reported to the police but without proof they were



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powerless. I think the law is the problem as many irresponsible owners still get away with this. Cameras everywhere seems a sad solution

My main concern is the A137 when walking lorries are so close to you when they pass and it is very busy when trying to cross the road

Police are non present and do not attend unless a speeding. That's why we are in a state sorry

Poo

Q7, Other, better street lighting in some areas

Regarding the current trial of the man accused of murdering Anita Rose - were the parish or anyone in the village made aware there could be an escaped prisoner on the run? If not perhaps I future the community officer could make residents aware.

Safe crossing on brantham hill

Safer crossings on A137

Scared to walk my dog by myself, especially down to decoy pond. I live on the stour view estate. We have heard of dog attacks where owners have them off lead, young people being approached by older men, and of course the awful incident that occurred last summer. It's a huge area of space with no safety measures in place

Since that poor lady was murdered in Brantham, I haven't been out on my own. I have to wait for my husband whenever I want to walk the dog or go to the shops, I don't feel safe anymore

Some of the driving around the village (high speed and little consideration of pedestrians) makes me very aware of the risk of walking along pavements and crossing roads. I also fear for my Father's safety when he crosses the A137 to walk his dog. Anti social behaviour and the tragic death of Anita Rose last summer have also made me feel far less safe to walk in the village on my own, particularly at quieter times of day (eg., walking to the station early in the morning).

The occasional Police/PCSO presence would make the locals feel cared for. It would be reassuring knowing that there could be random patrols. If there's never any policing standards will slip for some portions of society. Although with budgets and living so close to a town with high police needs I doubt there will be enough boots on the ground to spare one for the surrounding villages.

The speeding in the village is now out of control, I would like to see traffic calming measures as other villages have- more digital signs, more speed signs, speed cameras etc

The Village is not the problem it is the some of the residents who are anti social, with no respect for the area or the residents that are the issue. The whole fabric of society is breaking down. There is no sense of community unless you are part of the clickes in the Village. Parking is a nightmare now that you cannot park at the leisure centre. The area is a constant building site. Parish council are of no use. I believe if it was abolished it would not be missed. Whenever you ask for help it never seems to be their remit.

There are visual speed signs near the Brantham Bull and Brantham Hill but this does not stop people speeding. I think a couple of speed cameras would be more effective.

There have been a number of youths on electric bikes tearing up the fields, a recent dog attack and people smoking weed during lunch time by the decoy pond. There will soon be an accident on brooklands road with the number of potholes. I'm not sure how we will attract people to live in this area or the new build site with these issues

There should be some form of crossing on Ipswich Road between Slough Road and Palfrey Heights. Lollipop patrol in this area for school start and end times

To many dog attacks as well

We have an issue with dogs off lead and owners not being able to see them or owners not in control. Also,since the murder walking on your own feels uncomfortable.

Young people need more to do to do here. There is a void for teenagers. A youth club once a month at BLC is no good. Scouts too young. What is left for them to do when they meet friends. There is no space for then to meet so they hang around and are a 'nuisance'. I like to think most of the time they aren't deliberately being a nuisance they are just 'bored' as nothing in the area for them to do. Maybe survey the young people in the area who are excluded from adult surveys and child surveys and who



BRANTHAM

Parish Council

are inbetweeners. Speak to the ones that cause the problems and work out a resolution with them, rather than talking around/ about them please.

PAPER 9

From: Darren Smith <darren@kemptonsmith.co.uk>

Sent: 13 June 2025 12:41

To: Sarah Keys <clerk@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Cc: Mal Bridgeman <mal.bridgeman@branthamparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Fireworks Event - 1st November 2025

Dear Sarah

Good afternoon

As per the last 30+ years, the Brantham Fireworks Committee would like to utilise the lower playing field in Brantham for the Annual Village Fireworks.

Our request is as follows and falls in with previous years use;

- Allowance for a week prior to the event to start to store ballets used to build the fire on the same spot we use each year
- Fence off the LPF on the day of the event for safety reasons
- Set up the Fireworks Display on the LPF - carried out by professional company Dynamic Fireworks from Colchester
- Build the Fire on the 1st November
- Clear away as far as reasonably practical all residual firework debris within 3 working days
- Clear away the fire debris within 24 hours of the fire and fence off the area using low level plastic fencing
- Reseed and maintain the fire area within 3 months of the fire, allowing for weather restrictions
- Repair any damage caused by vehicles (authorised vehicles of the display) to the LPF within 3 months of the display

As always, we would ask for a representative of the BPC to accompany us a week in advance to review the condition of the lower playing field and then consequentially the week after the event.

All of the above is as per previous years.

We look forward to your comments and ideally the BPC approval.

Kind regards

Darren

PAPER 10

BRANTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Councillor Reports

Wednesday 02 July 2025

Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr Cherry

The village hall has had a productive couple of months. Both the fire safety survey and health and safety survey have taken place. Work has been completed on the office and the coffee room. It was decided that old pictures of Brantham would be a good addition to the wall in the coffee room.

Cleaning

It was noted at the June meeting that no further complaints had been received from users since the change of cleaner. A recent party left the floor of the hall in a bit of a state, but the new cleaner charged £10 to come in at short notice and clean this. It was decided that the manager would use her judgement as to what was a reasonable fee going forward. It was felt that we should try not to pay under the living wage per hour especially as this would be paid for by the deposit of the hirer.

Toilet refurb

It is very exiting to report that funding of just over £19k has been agreed by Babergh. Originally the contractor was booked for October, but it is hoped that work can start earlier than this.

Meeting outcomes.

At the last meeting it was decided that various repairs would take place, notably to the emergency stairs that have an unsafe handrail. Plus, new hand rails down the stairs to the new committee room. Also, various doors would be made fire resistant to protect escape routes, with self-closers on them.

Bats had requested that the hall be closed to other users during the February show. It was agreed as we already had several bookings for that week, that BATS would pay for the village halls lost income. The manager would work out the cost and add this to the BATS invoice for that period. It was also discussed that if/when we managed to increase usage this fee might be higher going forward.

It was further agreed that the musician stage area would not be erected during the normal usage of the hall. It was deemed to be a risk to safety, and took up extra floor space that regular users needed for when the extra stage was in place. Which already takes up about 10% of the hall effecting other users.

Fundraising was discussed, and after a very successful quiz, thank you to Sarah and Fiona for all the hard work which went into this event generating much needed funds. Some early planning for the Halloween event took place, with the microphones also getting some attention after the meeting.

It was noted that speech was not easy to hear in the hall and this has been left to the parish council to consider at their next meeting as it mostly affects them.

Also noted was that an AGM had not been called for last year for the Charity.

The meeting was very long and a couple of items were left over until the meeting in July. Notably the clearing of the toddler cupboard to accommodate the rainbows storage, so the cleaner's items can be stored in the boiler cupboard. This would free up the existing cleaner's cupboard for village hall storage, for which at present there is no dedicated space.

As always, I must thank Sarah and Fiona for all the amazing work that they do for the village hall, and the support that they give me!

Lesley Cherry

Chair Village Hall Committee

Footpaths and Services Report for PC meeting – Cllr Cherry

On a walk round to check on bins and the bus stops, I noticed that the dog bin outside the scout hut was damaged and hanging off the post. Someone had put some cable ties to hold it in place. I have asked Adrian to go and repair this and hopefully by the date of the meeting this will have been completed.

Apart from the bus stop on Palfrey Heights looking unsightly I have nothing else to report this month.

Lesley Cherry