



# MORETON, BOBBINGWORTH AND THE LAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

Address: c/o Ware Farm, The Street, High Roding, Essex CM6 1NT

Clerk: Mrs Adriana Jones

Email: [clerk@mbllparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@mbllparishcouncil.co.uk)

---

## Chairmans report 2024/2025

2024/25 has been yet another year of change within the council with elections resulting in some councillors changing wards. However, we also welcomed a new Councillor for The Lavers Ward – Cllr Lynn Carpenter. We still have a few vacancies for councillors so would welcome anyone who wishes to become a councillor.

We continue to provide input to planning applications, doing our best to ensure a consistent approach to all applications in our role as a statutory consultee. In doing so we now have the challenge of the change in process from EFDC which impacts how plans can be supported or challenged. This, coupled with changes in national policy, can sometimes make it difficult for residents to understand the decisions of the council, however we must ensure our responses are based on both local and national policy. This year we conducted a review of the Parish Neighbourhood Plan. This was submitted to, and approved by, EFDC, and is a key policy document in support of our parish and is a vital reference when responding to planning applications.

Following the successful refusal of the 5g mast planning application, the council continues pursuing the possible adoption of the village Green in Moreton to give further protection from future applications, although this is a long and drawn-out process.

We continue liaison with other organisation and individuals, including PC Warren Shepherd, Epping Forest District Council and Essex County Council, Rural Community Council of Essex, The Essex Association of Local Councils, as well as posting regular updates in the two parish magazines. We are also now on Facebook, and plan to increase our postings over the coming year.

In recognition and thanks to those that have served the nation, the council has purchased a “Tommy” Statue which we put out on significant memorial days.

We have now purchased and installed a third defibrillator which is in place in the phone box in Little Laver. This means that we now have a defibrillator in each of the three wards within the parish.

After a period of discussion, the council, in conjunction with Magden Laver Village Hall, have purchased a memorial bench in memory of Cllr Carol Foulser who sadly passed away in late 2023. This will be put in place the village hall in the near future.

Many people and groups within the parish have concerns about speeding traffic. In support of this we are working with residents of Bovinger to see what can be put in place to help reduce speed and potential hazard on the road towards the A414. We also continue to work with our local police officer, district councillors and Moreton School to address the problem of parking outside the school at drop off and pick up times.

We, like the rest of the county, await the outcome of the plans for devolution within Essex. For now, it is wait and see as it is still under consultation.

Following a request to relocate the polling station outside the parish to Fyfield, the parish council, with feedback from residents, has managed to secure its location in Moreton village, albeit in a new location of the White Hart Public house.

Public rights of way and how they are used is becoming a concern in parts of the parish. The council, in conjunction with other groups, is working with the relevant authorities to clarify and try and resolve the issues.

Finally, following a review of finances, the council was in a position to recommend and implement **NO** increase in the budget/precept for 2025/26.

**Ewen Crosbie**  
Chairman, Moreton, Bobbingworth and the Lavers Parish Council

13/5/25