Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC)
Wednesday, 23 September 2026
Held via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Name	**Role / organisation**
Brian Main	Chair
Cllr John White	Vice Chair
Cllr Matthew Neall	Voting Member (Maldon District Council)
Cllr Robert Davidson	Voting Member (Colchester City Council)
Cllr John Akker	Voting Member (West Mersea Town Council)
Cllr Andrea Luxford Vaughan	Voting Member (Wivenhoe Town Council)
Andy Blowers	Member of public (BANNG)
Ian Clarke	Member of public
Shirley Swan	Member of public (BANNG)
Alan Walker	Site Director (NRS)
Aidan Kelly	Environment Agency
Kayleigh Ridley	Communications Lead (NRS)
Tonya Hughes	Secretariat (NRS)
Cara Webb	Minute taker (NRS)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

3396 Brian Main opened the meeting at 19:06 and welcomed attendees. Aidan Kelly was welcomed to his first Bradwell LCLC meeting as the Environment Agency representative. Apologies for absence were noted.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

3397 The minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising

3398 Andy Blowers referred to comments he had submitted on how members and attendees were categorised in the previous minutes. Brian Main confirmed that this would be considered under Any Other Business. No further matters arising were raised.

3. NRS Bradwell Site Report

3399 Alan Walker reported that Bradwell remains in a safe and secure Care and Maintenance state, with no accidents, injuries or significant security events since the previous meeting. Routine maintenance, compliance activities and waste management operations have continued as planned, alongside ongoing preparations for future maintenance programmes. Members were advised of recent regulatory engagement, including successful security oversight by the Office for Nuclear Regulation and a visit from Environment Agency regulators. Alan Walker also highlighted support provided through the Good Neighbour Scheme and encouraged applications for the current funding round.

Key questions and responses

Future decommissioning timescales: Alan Walker advised that current planning assumptions forecast reactor dismantling and final site clearance from 2105 to 2133, with demolition of the Intermediate Level Waste Store forecast by 2128. The dates reflect current funding assumptions and may change. Members raised concerns about the extended timescales, climate change, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and public

confidence. Alan Walker confirmed that funding is the primary influence on programme sequencing and that periodic safety reviews continue to consider climate and external hazards.
Intermediate Level Waste and end state: Intermediate Level Waste will remain managed and maintained on site until a Geological Disposal Facility becomes available. No decision has been taken to change Bradwell's end-state strategy. The baffle wall remains part of current care and maintenance arrangements, with its eventual treatment to be considered through future end-state planning.
Graphite: The reactor cores remain safe within robust steel and concrete structures and are covered by the site safety case. Trawsfynydd and Dungeness A will be the lead sites for Reactor dismantling and site clearance. Techniques and learning will be transferred to later sites such as Bradwell. Options for removing the graphite as bricks, mining, reaming and nibbling are potential options.
Sea defences and flood risk: The most recent sea-defence inspection took place on 21 May 2026 and identified repairs had been completed. Flood-risk reviews include flooding, tidal surges and climate projections. The previous periodic review was completed in November 2018 (post meeting note – valid for 12 years) and the next is due to commence in 2028. The Environment Agency offered to signpost members to relevant Flood and Coastal Risk Management contacts and information-request routes.
Below-ground voids: Alan Walker explained that voids beneath the Safestore structures are monitored through routine civil engineering inspections. Planned repairs will address identified concrete defects, maintain structural integrity and reduce future inspection requirements.
Emergency planning and security: Alan Walker explained that Bradwell's risk profile differs from an operating nuclear power station because radioactive wastes have been conditioned and passivated. Robust, layered security and cyber-security arrangements remain in place and are regularly reviewed. Members suggested that a future overview of emerging security threats could provide reassurance.
Seismic resilience: Alan Walker confirmed that additional bracing had previously been installed to improve seismic resilience and that potential radiological consequences would remain very limited.

4. Environment Agency Report

3400 Aidan Kelly provided an update on regulatory oversight activities. He confirmed that no significant regulatory issues, permit non-compliances or enforcement actions had been identified since the previous meeting. Environmental monitoring and inspections continue to demonstrate compliance and effective protection of people and the environment.

Key questions and responses
Groundwater in the active waste vaults: Aidan Kelly advised that ingress had been anticipated and water levels had stabilised at approximately 40 cm. NRS must develop a suitable long-term approach under Best Available Techniques requirements. Alan Walker explained that the vaults are below the surrounding groundwater level in clay; water could potentially pick up trace contamination from the vault surfaces and any future removal would require an approved, regulated route.
Turbine hall voids: Water levels continue to be monitored. If pumping becomes necessary, appropriate permitting arrangements and Best Available Techniques justification would be required.
Seafood and shellfish monitoring: The Environment Agency reviews habit surveys, environmental sampling and the annual RIFE report. Monitoring remains proportionate to Bradwell's current activities and demonstrates that regulatory limits are comfortably met.
Discharges to the estuary: There is no active generation or treatment of radioactive liquid effluent. Groundwater collected in vaults and voids is not discharged to the Blackwater Estuary; if removal becomes necessary, it would be managed through approved waste routes.

5. Any Other Business

3401 Andy Blowers returned to the recording of attendance, membership categories and voting status. He asked that attendees be listed consistently with the constitution. Brian Main agreed that the matter would be reviewed outside the meeting. Tonya Hughes noted that publication of member information may be limited by data-protection requirements unless appropriate permission has been obtained. Matthew Neall noted that elected councillors acting in an official capacity could be identified as council representatives.

Matthew Neall advised that the local government reorganisation review had been paused and no immediate changes to representation were required.

Next Meeting
Wednesday, 7 April 2027 (2027 placeholders will be sent imminently)

Actions

Ref.	Action	Owner
3399	Provide members with further information on the most recent sea-defence inspection when available.	NRS
3399	Circulate Alan Walker's presentation and the responses provided during the meeting.	Secretariat
3399	Circulate details of the Government National Risk Register.	Secretariat
3401	Review how attendance, membership categories and voting status are recorded in LCLC minutes, ensuring consistency with the constitution and data-protection requirements.	Brian Main and Secretariat