

BROXTED interpretation panel – possible content

This location: Ordnance Survey grid reference: TL574258. **Postcode:** CM6 2BE (??).

Possible map or diagram

Either an extract from the OS map or purpose drawn map, showing parish boundary.
Points of interest numbered or linked to photos or text boxes.
Field names? Possibly too intense?

Possible text:

Broxted is a rural parish and comprises a number of scattered communities at various “Ends” – Chapel End, Brick End, Church End, Moor End and Woodgates End. These, together with the hamlets of Sucksted Green and Cherry (or Chaureth) Green, make up the parish. The population in 2011 was 508.

It is thought that the name originated in Saxon times as “Brock’s head”. Brock was an old name for badger and this may have been a place where a badger’s head marked a site for heathen sacrifice. Fortunately, times have moved on!

St Mary’s Church dates from the 13th century and the nave has original thin lancet windows. It has a shingled spire that dates from the 19th century. More recent additions are the two “Hostage Windows”. The Window of Captivity and the Window of Freedom were installed following the release in 1991 of the journalist John McCarthy. McCarthy had been held captive for five years in Lebanon with other hostages including Terry Waite and Brian Keenan.

The McCarthy family used to live next to the church in 16th-century Church Hall, later known as the Whitehall Hotel and now converted into residential apartments (??). Previously, Church Hall had been the home of the local Member of Parliament and Deputy Prime Minister, Baron Butler of Saffron Walden, better known as Rab Butler.

Despite its small population, Broxted has a total of 46 listed buildings. It is also a parish of ancient country lanes with fine views.

Broxted is home to the SSE Wood, planted by Stop Stansted Expansion campaigners in 2004 on farmland that the airport had earmarked for part of a proposed second runway. Robust local opposition and sound argument led to withdrawal of the proposal in 2010.

Broxted’s village hall dates from xxxx, etc, etc.

Hospitality:

Prince of Wales Public House & Restaurant – 01279 850256 - www.princeofwalesbroxted.co.uk
Church Hall Farm B&B – 01279 850858 - <https://www.church-hall-farm.co.uk/>

Sources of further information:

Parish Council: www.essexinfo.net/broxted

History: www.recordingtuttlesfordhistory.org.uk/broxted/broxted.html

The Hundred Parishes Society: www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Five Parishes – a brief history, Claire Squibb.

Possible photos or illustrations:

Church

Hostage Window(s)

Prince of Wales

Garrolds

Brick House

Old Vicarage

Oakmeads

View from churchyard towards Chickney

View from Broxted Hill towards Muscombs in Great Easton.

View from village hall on a clear day or at night.

Badger

Rab Butler

Acknowledgements

Something like:

This panel, installed in 2020, was jointly funded by Broxted Parish Council and The Hundred Parishes Society (www.hundredparishes.org.uk).

Ideally display the logo of The Hundred Parishes Society.

Is there something similar for Broxted, perhaps the village sign?