

Clerk's Report – 13.09.2021 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Works completed: All grounds maintenance completed as per contract. Contractor to trim and weed pull as an alternative to use of Glyphosate for the time being. Weed removal at various locations in the parish ongoing. Sweeping in main centre of parish ongoing. Colne Road layby cleared of debris. Gum still to be removed from bus shelters. Woolpit Downs and Lamarsh Hill carpark areas to be cleared of weeds and debris. Hedge cut back along Colne Road footpath. Normandie Way play area hedge cut. Some footpaths trimmed at the request of the Parish ROW Officer. Damaged waste bin posts repaired. Several railings along Millennium footpath repaired.

Highways Devolution: Quarterly reports being completed when requested. £1,000 grant received from ECC for 2021 to meet costs of maintenance works via the Devolution Scheme.

BDC Verge cutting trial: The trial has been extended to all parishes for a 12 month period with a further consultation later in the year. The trial report can be found via www.braintree.gov.uk/vergecutting .

ECC Salt bag scheme: The Clerk has completed the request form and applied for delivery of 1 tonne of salt in the autumn. All parties aware and Clerk to keep informed of delivery date.

Recycling sacks: The Clerk has agreed to hold a stock of recycling sacks enabling local residents to collect a single roll of recycling sacks if they run out before the BDC annual delivery to all residents. Clerk has advertised and residents have welcomed the initiative.

Trees at Normandie Way: Concerns raised regarding the height of the trees along the railway line at Normandie Way. Referred to Network Rail.

Certificates: The parish council award certificates plus the Station Adopters certificate now placed in the Community Centre Garrad Room along with those of St Mary parish council.

Website/Parish magazine: The Clerk met with Mrs Scott who kindly agreed to assist her in making some improvements to the website. Information also received from OneSuffolk on copyright images. Police details in the parish magazine updated.

Training: The training record had been updated and can be found on the parish council website. Cllr Shackell attending Councillor and Chairman training during the year. Clerk to attend Dementia Friends training in September. Cllrs Shackell and Monk to attend the Community Specials briefing in September. Cllrs Shackell, Monk and the Clerk to attend the Essex Highways Multi Topic briefing in October. EALC offering a Councillor Buddy support network.

BDC Supporting Communities meetings: Clerk has been attending these virtual meetings with other parish clerks and BDC Officers during the past year. Varying topics covered and the meetings allowed Clerks to maintain good contact with Officers.

Snippets page: This has recommenced with a snippet page included in future parish magazines. The magazine Editor encouraged the parish council to submit articles of interest.

Government guidance on Coronavirus: All information received has been circulated as widely as possible. Government guidance on safe use of community facilities can be found at <http://bit.ly/Communityspaces>

Emergency Plan/Good Neighbour Scheme: The Clerk has updated the Emergency Plan and Vulnerable Persons plan which are held as Case Sensitive for when emergency action is required within the village. Both held with Braintree DC and Suffolk CC. The Clerk is following up on joining the Suffolk Good Neighbour Network which will cover both BH and BSM.

NHW: The Clerk continues to circulate NHW newsletters via her emailing list. Essex Police newsletters advertised on the parish council website.

Messages of interest via Cllr Schwier – all circulated, advertised and details held on file:

Essex Highways road surfaces information

New funding for Safer, Greener, Healthier travel in Essex

County Council to use new system for over the phone payments

ECC £5,000 grants available to Essex businesses

Essex Highways LED streetlight rollout

Launch of a dynamic new programme, Group2Grow by Let's Do Business in partnership with Essex County Council

Details of local community donation points set up for anyone wishing to donation essential items or clean clothes to help individuals arriving from Afghanistan

Invitation to residents to have their say on the library service in Essex – online sessions

Essex Energy Switch offers county residents chance to fix costs and sign up to renewable energy

The Clerk is in receipt of the following and all circulated and held on file:

Census 2021 outputs consultation – open until 5th October

Details of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons celebrations

Essex Climate Action Commission report

Mrs Jenny Wright

Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council