

Clerk's Report – 14.11. 2022 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Works completed or in hand: All grounds maintenance completed as per contract. Contractor trialling New Way weedspray. Sweeping in main centre of parish ongoing. Some ProW being strimmed. Damaged waste bin near the Eight Bells PH repaired. Leaffall and weed clearance ongoing. Dip in pavement at Station Hill repaired. Lamp bollard along the Paddocks footway torn from its footings by persons unknown has been set back in place. May need to be more securely concreted at base.

Station Hill boundary wall: This has been reported to ECC for re-pointing – Ref 2793222. Officers to make a site visit to inspect the wall.

ECC Salt Bag Scheme: The Clerk completed the online form. Stored salt bag stock sufficient for this coming season. Nigel Norton to replenish grit bins and grit pavements in the parish as required.

Items reported on Highways reporting tool: Blocked drain at Bridge Street reported – Ref 2778785 – ECC to monitor. Damaged sign at junction of Pebmarsh Road and Fishpits – Ref 2762026 – ECC following up. Kerb opposite New Cut reported – Ref 2770305 – ECC to monitor. Drain cover at Lamarsh Hill – Ref 2790492 – ECC clean gully and then investigate road surface repairs.

Christmas Lights: Lighting event scheduled for Saturday 3rd December at 6pm. St Mary's Church hosting stalls and carol singing from 5.30pm to 8.00pm. Lights to be installed around the village during November and extra lights purchased to give the Millennium Oaks at the recreation ground a sparkle this year.

Station defibrillator: The Clerk has confirmation from the Community Rail Partnership who installed the defibrillator in the waiting room of Bures station that the defibrillator is available for all residents in Bures to use as and when an emergency arises. Please ring 999 and give the location of the defibrillator and you will be given a code to access it.

Roadbridge: SCC has installed protection barriers across the damaged railings temporarily until a works order to close the road can be put in place to do the repairs. Painting and refurbishment of the bridge structure scheduled for next summer.

Trade waste: Seasonal trade waste bin removed. To review the need for a further seasonal trade waste bin 2023. Partnership Development Scrutiny Committee holding a Scrutiny Review into litter management across the Braintree District – Clerk to respond by 2nd December.

Willow tree at Millennium footpath: Tree Warden inspecting and a tree surgeon's advice being obtained to make the tree safe.

Volunteer's Nomination Award: Following the Clerk's nomination of Cliff Whitfield he has been invited to the Braintree District Volunteer Awards afternoon. Cliff will receive his certificate direct through the post. Well done to Cliff for his volunteer work within the parish.

Training: The training record has been updated and can be found on the parish council website. The EALC training calendar 2022 received.

Civility & Respect: Bures Hamlet Parish Council has signed up to the Civility & Respect Pledge and received its certificate.

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 allow Clerks to maintain good contact with Officers.

Recycling sacks: The Clerk holds 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.

Vulnerable Persons: The Clerk has signed up with Streetlink which monitors the homeless across the district. Community 360 has bags containing items to help protect the vulnerable from the cold. Items included – flask, hat, scarf, torch, gloves, blanket and other useful items.

NHW: The Clerk continues to circulate NHW newsletters via her emailing list. Essex Police newsletters advertised on the parish council website. A burnt out car at Ferriers Lane has been removed by Essex Police. The lane needs clearing of debris – reported.

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

Information on ECC Household Support Fund

Information on the Community Challenge Fund for grants of £300 to £5,000

ECC application online for children starting primary school – open 7th November to 15th January

Essex Libraries offering Warm Welcomes for residents to visit libraries to keep warm, get advice and information and stay connected with others this winter

ECC Micro grants – offering support for re-use and repair projects provided through the Love Essex Fund

ECC Public Budget consultation 2023/24 – deadline 28th November 2022

Launch of ECC campaign to raise awareness of discounted broadband deals

ECC launch of a money saving scheme across Essex – shoppers reward card or app

ECC advice for safeguarding children online

ECC Avian Flu Influenza Prevention Zones information

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

Details of Braintree Table Tennis League initiative – circulated to local clubs and organisations

Rural mobility survey – referred to Cllr Welch

Essex Highways survey to help protect bus services across Braintree -referred to Cllr Welch

ECC Highways Highlights – available on the parish council website

Information from County Broadband on its initiative to offer volunteers for community work in the parish plus the launch of Hypercharged Foundation offering grants to fund community projects

Essex Explorer Magazine

Government Planning Newsletter October 2022

Update on the Essex Minerals Local Plan Review and notification of Call for Site

Information on ECC initiative to explore the experiences of individuals and households in rural areas who are having long-term or more recently struggles and financial pressures

ECC programme to boost digital connectivity and tackle digital inclusion

Information on small grants of up to £400 to support vulnerable older people on low income –

<https://www.fote.org.uk/our-charity-work/grants-2/>

Census 2021 topic summary releases

Essex Highways User Survey 2022 – organisations to complete the survey online before the deadline of 4th January 2023

Mrs Jenny Wright

Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council