

Clerk's Report – 18.07 2022 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Works completed or in hand: All grounds maintenance completed as per contract. Contractor to strim and weed pull as an alternative to use of Glyphosate for the time being. Weed removal at various locations in the parish ongoing. New Way weed spray to be trialled this summer and autumn. Sweeping in main centre of parish ongoing. Normandie Way No Dog sign removed. Damaged fire hydrant stood against fence. Fence rails repaired along the Millennium footpath. The Paddocks footpath overhang cut back. Bus shelters to be washed down and revarnished by the contractor. Dog waste bin for Jubilee Grove to be erected. Some ProW being strimmed. Section of grass at Eight Bells PH to be included in the grounds maintenance contract. Lower branches of the Essex Knowle Ash tree removed. Close the Gate sign on the gate leading from Colchester Road repaired.

Waste Management: The BDC Controlled Waste Transfer Note has been duly signed and forwarded to BDC. Owing to the huge volume of waste generated a Seasonal Contract Agreement has been agreed and signed for an extra collection service over the summer period.

Highways Devolution: Quarterly reports being completed when requested. Waiting on £1,000 grant from ECC for 2022 to meet costs of maintenance works via the Devolution Scheme.

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: Pothole at Bridge Street – Ref 2767135 – ECC to continue to monitor. Blocked drain at Bridge Street reported – Ref 2778785 – ECC to monitor. Station Hill pothole - Ref 2759341 – repaired. Damaged sign at junction of Pebmarsh Road and Fishpits – Ref 2762026 – ECC following up. Kerb opposite New Cut reported – Ref 2770305.

Footpath 30: Parish ROW Officer monitoring and strimming back lower vegetation as required. Higher growth to be monitored by the contractor.

Footpath 21, Mount Bures: Notification of Footpath 21 Closure scheduled to commence 18th March 2022 to 31st August 2022 for the repair of the embankment to the railway crossing, which has resulted in dangerous underfoot conditions.

BDC Anti-Litter signs trial: Anti-litter signs to be installed along strategic roads and link roads in BDC. Clerk submitted the Colne Road layby to be considered and this has been agreed to be included in the programme.

Rural Verge Cutting: BDC and ECC have agreed to maintain a single full width cut each autumn of rural verges across the Braintree District for the next three years. Safety cuts can be requested to BDC.

LLS Roadshow: The Local Linked Support (LLS) Roadshow has been arranged to visit Bures on July 22nd at 9.30am at the Common in support of Adult Social Care. Advertising in hand. This will be an information event showcasing the services of LLS.

Training: The training record has been updated and can be found on the parish council website. Cllr Ellis attending a 7 module course on Climate Crisis during 2021-22. The EALC training calendar 2022 received.

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.

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

NHW: The Clerk continues to circulate NHW newsletters via her emailing list. Essex Police newsletters advertised on the parish council website. Clerk to attend a virtual session on 'Cuckooing' highlighting on gangs and county lines activities. Notification of an attempted theft of the St Mary's Church roof lead circulated.

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

Public warning regarding potential dangers of missing drain covers across the district

Information on rollout of Literacy Areas in Essex Libraries

Essex Forest Initiative for the Hedingham Division – tree or hedge planting

Essex Climate Action launch of Climate Action packs

Series of initiatives to better connect communities in rural Braintree

New mobile concession provider for the Essex Country Parks secured following an ECC procurement process

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

Planning Inspector rules BDC Local Plan Section Two is found sound

Information on the Essex Police Rural Engagement Team – Clerk has submitted a request for the team to attend Bures Market events

Information on Essex Police recruitment initiative for Active Citizens in the Braintree District

Dedham Vale initiative to increase the number of hedgehogs in the area – offering free hedgehog homes and signs

EALC AGM event to be held at Hylands House on 22nd September

Census 2021 first results published

NALC LTN 31 – Local Council General Powers

NALC LTN 8 – Elections and Co-option

NALC LTN 80 – Members Conduct and the Registration of Disclosure of Interest

NALC LTN 9E – Handling Complaints

BDC Consultation on Planning Committee Members Forum

Mrs Jenny Wright

Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council