

Clerk's Report – 19th September 2016 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Presentation to mark Cllr David Lee's 25 year service: On Friday 29th July a surprise presentation was held in the Garrad Room to recognise Cllr Lee's remarkable achievement of 25 years as Parish Councillor on Bures Hamlet Parish Council with 20 years of that time served as Chairman. Members past and present attended and Cllr Lee was presented with a gift of a planted flower tub along with a special cake to mark the occasion. The Clerk has also put forward a nomination for recognition of this contribution to the parish to the Essex Association of Local Councils. If selected a Buckingham Palace Garden Party Award will be made to Cllr Lee.

Grounds maintenance: Works completed: Waste bins emptied as required. All grassed areas cut as per grounds maintenance contract. Gutters and paths swept at station, Station Hill, Water Lane and outside Swan PH area. Banks strimmed at railway bridge. Weed killed along fence to Millennium bridge and fencing repaired. Waste bins installed. Colchester Road left hand verge cut. Weeds and debris cleared at front of old hairdressers in Colchester Road

Work in hand: Colchester Road right hand verge to be cut and debris cleared. Ivy overgrowth at Maltings Close – Chairman following up.

Colchester Road hedge: John Doe had agreed to do his annual flail and top cut towards the end of September.

Village sign bedding: The Clerk had contacted Neil Haswell to see if he was happy to continue maintaining the flower bed at the village sign and had requested his quotation for the coming year.

Damaged bollard lamp: The lamp had been vandalised during August. A & J Lighting Solutions had repaired the bollard head, gear assembly and light. Cost £251 + VAT.

Benches along riverbank: All three benches had been cleaned and re-stained at a cost of £150.00.

Footpath defect outside No. 43 Normandie Way The Clerk had reported but ECC Highways had inspected and advised that the defect did not meet its present criteria but agreed to continue to monitor.

Vegetation over bend sign at Colchester Road: This had been reported to ECC Highways and the vegetation had now been cut back.

Recycling centre at Swan PH: Mr Amos of the Eight Bells PH had kindly offered a site within the boundary of his premises for the parish recycling centre following the pending removal from its present location. Clerk was waiting on Braintree District Council to confirm its agreement on the suggested new location.

Hedge at No. 8 Maltwood Lamarsh Hill: The Clerk had met with owner Mrs Shaw as she was considering removing the hedge and replacing with a wooden fence. The Clerk had obtained written confirmation from ECC Highways and a boundary search map advising that ECC took no responsibility for the hedge. The Clerk suggested that Mrs Shaw should contact BDC Planning Department if she had concerns with regard to installing a fence.

Flytipping at Colne Road layby: Further fly tipping reported to Braintree District Council.

Replacement bus timetable: The Clerk had contacted Essex County Council again to replace the timetable at the bus shelter at Normandie Way and at Station Hill.

Normandie Way playarea fencing: The Clerk had reported for repair. Ref: 1-XBK1W.

Millennium Bridge clean: Bures Scout Troop had agreed to do the annual clean of the bridge during its summer programme.

Dedham Vale Scattered Orchard Project: Details of the project circulated and Ken Jackson to follow up with Dedham Vale for a free supply of traditional orchard trees. Suitable sites being investigated.

'105' telephone number: A new national telephone number '105' had been launched by electricity network operators for customers to call should they need to report or obtain information about a power cut in their area – details circulated.

County Broadband meeting: Clerk following up again with James Salmon of County Broadband to see if enough interest had been shown from the village for a scheme to progress.

EALC Annual Conference: The Conference was to be held at Great Dunmow on 22nd September. Presentations from Leader of ECC, Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable. The Clerk had agreed to attend if available.

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

Changes to recycling centres in Essex – details circulated and advertised

Braintree Area Foodbank – Harvest Festival Appeal 2016 – details circulated and advertised

2016 Active Braintree District Sports Awards – details circulated

DaRT 3 Working Group – minutes of meeting held at Halstead Town Council Offices on 14 July – circulated

Mrs Jenny Wright
Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council