

## **Clerk's Report – 26.09. 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. One fence rail repaired along the Millennium footpath. Dog waste bin for Jubilee Grove to be erected. Some ProW being strimmed. Damaged waste bin near the Eight Bells PH reported for repair. Normandie Way hedge cut back. Bus shelters cleared of weeds and revarnished. Dog waste bin at Bridge Street and Essex Knowle waste bin cleaned. All benches revarnished. Flyposting removed.

**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.

**Highways Devolution:** ECC has trialled its Devolution Scheme for 3 years but will no longer continue the scheme owing to lack of interest from the District's parishes this year.

**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. 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 to monitor – Clerk to follow up with Cllr Schwier. Sewerage issue at Lamarsh Hill - Ref 22316466 Anglian Water.

**Water drainage issue at Colchester Road:** Reported online Anglian Water -Ref 22517839 – leak repaired.

**BDC Anti-Litter signs trial:** Anti-litter signs installed along strategic roads and link roads in BDC. Colne Road layby included in the programme. Noted that BDC is clearing debris regularly.

**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. Autumn verge cut scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October.

**Bures Joint Emergency Plan:** This has been updated and forwarded to Braintree and Babergh District Councils.

**SAAA 2022 Opt-out:** Bures Hamlet Parish Council to remain an opted in Smaller Council under the Local Audit Regulations.

**Training:** The training record has been updated and can be found on the parish council website. 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.

**Marking Queen Elizabeth II death:** A vigil was held across the country on the eve of the Queen's funeral. Bures held a moving one minute silence followed by a short service at the Common at 8.00pm with residents warmly invited back to St Mary's Church for refreshments.

**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. Clerk to attend a virtual session on 'Cuckooing' highlighting on gangs and county lines activities.

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

Information on ECC Support for residents during the cost of living crisis

ECC Essex Activate – helping to support families in Essex

Notification that Authorities in Essex and Suffolk have united to condemn the current proposals for a 180km network of 50m tall electricity pylons between Norwich, Bramford and Tilbury

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

Notification of the Braintree District Council Local Plan Section 2 Adoption.

The Clerk Public Sector magazine September 2022

Rural Community Council of Essex AGM - 6<sup>th</sup> October at Layer Marney Tower at 6.30pm.

Second round of the AONB grants now open.

ECC Highways Highlights – available on the parish council website

First results from the Census 2021 from the Office of National Statistics (ONS)

Prevent Elected Members Handbook – guidance from the Home Office aiming to protect vulnerable people and manage threat of terrorism

Details of Suffolk Wildlife Trust planning team and its activities

Mrs Jenny Wright

Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council