

## BURES PARISH ACTION PLAN 2018-9

	Issue and underlying principles	Detail	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Countryside and village appearance</b>		
i)	When planning applications are received their impact on the countryside and village appearance will be assessed, mindful of local designations.	i) Survey result – “beautiful countryside” was the second most referred to ‘best thing’ about living in Bures. There is a proposal to extend the Dedham Vale AONB to include Bures. Some development may not be compatible with this designation.	i) Parish Councillors to undergo training to allow a better appreciation of the District Council planning and challenge process. Responses to Planning Applications to reflect a well-informed council.
ii)	Hedge and tree planting schemes will be supported and areas for wildlife encouraged.	ii) Survey result – high levels of support for protection of wildlife, tree planting and wild area management with volunteer involvement.	ii) Tree and hedge planting – survey of suitable sites to be carried out. Schemes initiated by The Dedham Vale Project, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Essex Wildlife Trust to be supported through liaison with Bures Transition Group.  Talks by Wildlife Trusts to be promoted.  Parish Council hedge and tree management to be undertaken in a manner sympathetic to wildlife.  Area off Cambridge Way, identified for recreational use, to be adopted and planted in conjunction with Essex Wildlife Trust, Dedham Vale Project, Colne Stour Countryside Association and Bures Transition Group.

iii)	Measures to protect the historic fabric and to enhance the appearance of the village to be taken when opportunities arise.	<p>iii) Measures include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work to remove empty property eyesores</li> <li>• the undergrounding of cables</li> <li>• being alert to threats of noise and light pollution</li> <li>• rationalisation of signage</li> <li>• the addition of floral planting</li> </ul>	<p>iii) Parish Councils to contact owners of empty properties to discuss outcomes of the survey and improvement strategies.</p> <p>Parish Councils to commission a survey of current signage and implement findings.</p> <p>Publicise Britain in Bloom scheme and seek organisers for local events; liaise with Open Gardens team.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Community spirit and communication</b>		
i)	The Parish Councils believe that community spirit is important and wherever possible they will act to enhance this.	i) Survey result - “community spirit” was the most referred to ‘best thing’ about living in Bures.	i) Members of the Parish Councils to be available at Bures Common Market events to receive community feedback in case of need.
ii)	Using a range of communication media, ensure all households have access to information about local community facilities and events.	ii) Focus on the Parish Council website, the Parish Magazine and use of local Facebook pages.	<p>ii) Liaise with the Parish Church to explore making a magazine available to all.</p> <p>ii) Increase the profile of the Parish Council website – one shared site. Advertise local events in addition to coverage on Beautiful Bures. Include details of facilities in the village and local area, including allotments. Publicise ideas for new clubs and for existing clubs to attract new members.</p> <p>ii) Liaise with the Church over welcome pack and its contents.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Community assets and services</b>		
i)	To shape and maintain good transport links throughout the village.	<p>i) Survey result: Transport links were cited as the third 'best thing' about living in Bures and rail transport the third most important asset.</p> <p>The Parish Councils will liaise, through nominated representatives, with the Rail Users Group, Station Adopters and Greater Anglia, along with the bus service providers, for the benefit of residents to ensure that services continue to meet local needs.</p>	i) Each Parish Council to appoint liaison representatives who will represent local needs and report on proposed service alterations.
ii)	The School is a very valuable element of village life.	ii) The Parish Councils will encourage external use of the School buildings and promote and support the School where appropriate.	ii) Each Parish Council to have a representative to report on School issues.
iii)	The Doctors' surgery is valued by parishioners.	iii) The Parish Councils will liaise with Hardwicke House Practice and the Patient Group when issues arise.	iii) Each Parish Council to appoint liaison representatives who will represent local needs and report on service levels and proposed changes.
iv)	Public Houses play an important role in village life and nationally they are considered worthy of listing as Assets of Community Value.	iv) The Three Horseshoes is designated as an Asset of Community Value.	iv) BHPC to consider an application on behalf of the 8 Bells PH.
v)	The Recreation Ground, Common, and Community Woodland are important areas for recreation. The Parish Councils will continue to commit to the provision of high quality leisure, sports and play areas and support of other areas for recreation, including footpaths.	<p>v) The Sportsground Committee has responsibility for maintaining and developing facilities on the recreation ground.</p> <p>The Bures Common Land Trust has a link member on each parish council.</p>	<p>v) The Parish Councils to publish and promote a local footpath guide.</p> <p>Parish Councils to examine the feasibility of a cycle path in the village.</p>

vi)	It is important that residents feel safe and the provision of appropriate street lighting is important in this context.	vi) The Parish Councils are responsible for some lighting and will review the provision in the areas identified for possible enhancement in the survey.	Parish Councils to lobby landowners, where needed, to maintain footpaths and access.
vii)	To ensure that the Parishes are well served with a fast and reliable Broadband service.	Using the Parish Council website, seek to ascertain resident satisfaction or otherwise with the current provision.	vi) Parish Councils to review the proposals put forward in the Survey responses.  vii) Provide feedback to service providers and press for service improvement when not meeting local need.
<b>4</b>	<b>Retail Facilities</b>  The Parish Councils will seek out and support initiatives to improve the retail facilities in the village.	i) Survey result: The Post Office is seen as the most important asset.  ii) Survey result – A large majority of respondents (367) said the current situation does not meet their shopping needs and 307 would buy more locally produced food.	i) The Post Office to be promoted through the use of the range of media available  ii) Discuss with existing service providers if they can operate for longer hours with a better stock offering.  Support local “Pop Up” retail opportunities.
<b>5</b>	<b>Housing</b>  The Parish Councils will seek to ensure that housing is appropriate for the needs of the whole village, whilst maintaining the essences of village life and community.	Survey result: More respondents were in favour of some development than were opposed to any. The Parish Councils will commit to the support of some development especially on brownfield sites, with priority given for small family homes and provision for the elderly.	Work with the District Councils as they maintain housing need data ensure that this is available at a Parish Council level and in particular regarding vulnerable individual needs for the future.

6	<p><b>Traffic management – speeding and parking</b></p> <p>The Parish Councils are committed to improving traffic management throughout the Parishes.</p>	<p>i) Survey result: 363 respondents reported seeing speeding in and around the village.</p> <p>ii) Heavy and wide vehicles are also posing concerns for the safety of residents.</p> <p>iii) There is a failure to enforce current parking restrictions.</p>	<p>i) Parish Councils to promote Speed Watch schemes and help recruit volunteers.</p> <p>ii) Parish Councils, with their Highway Authorities, to research and evaluate which traffic calming measures are most effective and appropriate.</p> <p>iii) In tandem with ii) review local enforcement options and implement where appropriate.</p>
7	<p><b>Future considerations</b></p>	<p>How can we access more space for the School or the provision of a new School?</p> <p>Is there an opportunity to establish a Health Centre, incorporating a doctors’ surgery, dentist, nursery and other medical services in the old school building, if a new School is built?</p>	