19th January 2015 Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Clerk's Report

Grounds maintenance: Litter pick completed. All leaves cleared. 200 sandbags held at Contractor's. Quotations for cutting back of overhang along The Paddocks footpath submitted. To be discussed within agenda.

Bures Surgery policy on blood tests: Blood tests were no longer available at Bures Surgery and all patients were being referred to the new Health Centre in Sudbury. Concern had been raised by residents as transport to the Centre was not easily accessible especially for the elderly. Clerk to write on behalf of the parish council to the Practice Manager.

BDC Housing Breakfast Briefings: Details of sessions to be held during 2015 circulated. These workshops were for parish councillors to obtain information on the Gateway to Home Choice lettings Programme.

Bures Team Tree: The Clerk was in receipt of the Team's risk assessment for the Christmas lighting scheme. Clerk to hold on file with the parish council's insurance documents. The Chairman had sent a thank you on behalf of the Parish Council to the Team for all their hardwork.

Inventory of Unmetered Supplies: The Clerk had duly completed and submitted an inventory review of all unmetered electricity supply in the parish to UK Power Networks. Certificate dated 12th December 2014 to be held on file.

NHS 111 telephone number: The Clerk had received notification and advertising leaflets for the new telephone number. Cllr Barnham to distribute as appropriate.

RCCE campaign: The Clerk had circulated notification of the withdrawal of funding from Defra for ACRE Network of Rural Community Councils. Essex RCC had asked all parishioners to support the campaign to prevent this loss of funding.

To give support please sign online: http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/73418

ECC Lead Local Flood Authority: The Clerk had completed the Parish Engagement Questionnaire indicating the parish council's interest in a workshop event covered by various topics. Further information on an event would follow in 2015.

Letter of thanks: As agreed by members, a letter of thanks had been sent to Mr and Mrs Lorking for all their voluntary efforts within the parish.

Temporary road closure: Notification of Temporary Road Closure for Pebmarsh Road, Alphamstone for 2 days commencing on 26th January 2015 had been advertised and circulated.

Damaged street sign: The Clerk had reported the damaged street sign at the Lamarsh Hill bungalows to Greenfields Housing. Waiting on confirmation of their responsibility for its repair.

Rough Sleeper estimation for Bures Hamlet: The Clerk had returned a Nil estimation for November 2014 to BDC.

The Clerk was in receipt of the following:

Essex Police – A landowner's guide to unauthorised encampments and the law – circulated and held on file

Details of Flowers Groundcare for future Grounds Maintenance tenders – to be held on file Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency newsletter – circulated

EALC Legal Update 1st Edition – circulated and all details noted

Information on Essex Energy Switch – circulated to all those on Clerk's emailing list

ECC Winter Newsletter dated December 2014 – circulated

EALC notification of various training courses for 2015 – circulated to all members

Mrs Jenny Wright Parish Clerk