

## **Clerk's Report - 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Bures Hamlet Parish Council**

**Grounds maintenance:** Waste bins emptied as required. Strimming around dog waste bin at Bakers Hall done. Weeds cleared around grit bin at Station car park. Saplings to be cleared along fence line of Normandie Way play area. Overgrowth along footpath from The Paddocks to Normandie Way to be cut back. All grassed areas cut as per grounds maintenance contract. Station Hill shrubs pruned as they were obscuring drivers view when turning in to Water Lane. Cost £60 + VAT. Small section along boundary wall of No. 1 Normandie Way strimmed as previously agreed to be included within the grass cutting programme.

**A & J Lighting:** A 5 year street lighting maintenance contract between Bures Hamlet Parish Council and A & J Lighting Solutions as previously agreed has been duly signed by all parties. Annual maintenance contract £90.72 + VAT.

**Normandie Way flower tub:** Mrs Elaine Pearl has kindly again this year bedded out the flower tub at Normandie Way and will keep watered and maintained.

**BDC Local Plan:** No. 1 newsletter Update June 2015 circulated. Newsletter provides an update on the progress made towards adopting the new Local Plan, a long term plan for what, where and how development will be managed in the Braintree District - circulated to all members.

**Community Led Planning Support Grant:** As from April 2015, £7,500 has been allocated by BDC to support communities wishing to undertake new community Led Plans in their area. Grants of up to £750 available for Parish Councils wishing to undertake a new Parish Plan or new Community Action Plan.

**Electricity undergrounding scheme at Station Hill:** Mr & Mrs Taylor of No. 20 Station Hill were in receipt of correspondence from Freedom acting on behalf of UK Power Networks. Note the parish council had not been directly contacted by Freedom. Proposals were in hand to underground 3 of the 4 main lines attached to Pole 58 but Mr and Mrs Taylor's preference would be for all 4 lines to be undergrounded. Matter still ongoing.

**Dedham Vale AONB Scattered Orchard Project:** The Project had received funding for a scattered orchard project which will involve planting 5 traditionally grown fruit and nut trees of local origination on publically accessible land in each parish in the Dedham Vale AONB. The Clerk had put forward two sites for the trees – Community Woodland area off Nayland Road and the designated recreational land situated to the rear of Cambridge Way.

**ECC Winter Salt Bag Scheme:** The online application to join in the scheme had been completed. 1 Tonne of 25g bagged palletted salt to be delivered in September/October and to be stored with Chris Mortimer Grounds Maintenance.

**Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club application:** Wormingford Parish Council had forwarded information on the planning application to use powered motor gliders. All parishioners had been encouraged to comment on line individually.

**Braintree Advice Services Partnership (BASP):** The Clerk had received details that Braintree, Halstead and Witham CAB, Mid Essex Mind, Greenfields Community Housing, Braintree District Council, Age UK Essex and Rural Community Council of Essex had joined forces to form Braintree Advice Services Partnership (BASP). The aim to improve advice and support services within the community of Braintree District.

**Councillor Training:** Cllr Mike Welch had attended the Essex Association of Local Councils Training Days: Councillor Day 1 30<sup>th</sup> June and Councillor Day 2 16<sup>th</sup> July. Cost £70.

**Website:** The website had been updated with new parish council and district council member details.

### **The Clerk was in receipt of the following:**

Essex Rural Strategy Consultation Event – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at Great Dunmow – information circulated  
ECC Statement of Community Involvement Update 2015 Public Consultation – circulated and advertised  
ECC and Southend on Sea Borough Council Joint Replacement Waste Local Plan – revised preferred approach June 2015 Public Consultation – circulated and advertised

BDVSA E-Bulletin 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 - circulated

Rural Community Council of Essex Annual Review 2014 -15 – held on file for information

