Clerk's Report - 21st September 2015 Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Grounds maintenance: Waste bins emptied as required. Saplings cleared along fence line of Normandie Way play area. Overgrowth along footpath from The Paddocks to Normandie Way cut back and weed killed as appropriate. All grassed areas cut as per grounds maintenance contract. Sweeping at Station and Station Hill, Bridge Street and Colchester Road completed. Weed killing along Bridge Street footpath on Bures Common side still to be done. Branches cleared from Lamarsh Hill verge section as agreed. Branches cut back around light at Essex Knoll and light at the Paddocks footpath.

Railway bridge road closure: ECC Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order for 10 metres either side of the railway bridge at Station Hill commending 23rd September for 2 days. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

Rural grass verge cutting: Bures Hamlet in Area 2 scheduled to be cut week commencing 21st October. **Hedge at Lamarsh Hill:** Clerk to write to the owners to request cutting back to improve sight line for traffic travelling round the bend at the bottom of Lamarsh Hill.

Mi Community Fund: The Clerk was in receipt of information regarding the Braintree District Council Mi Community Fund. Local voluntary and community groups are able to apply for grants of between £1,500 and £25,000 for projects to improve their local community. For further information about the criteria and how to apply go to www.braintree.gov.uk/micommunity

Superfast Essex: The Clerk was in receipt of copies of the Broadband Business Guide from Braintree District Council. Please contact the Clerk if you would like a copy or for a range of online resources including the Broadband Business Guide then visit www.superfastessex.org

Donation requests: The Clerk was in receipt of two requests for donations from the Essex Air Ambulance and the local Citizens Advice Bureau. She had replied advising that all donation requests would be considered at the parish council meeting held in March 2016.

Vacant tenancy at Cambridge Way: The Clerk had been notified of the vacant tenancy and any persons interested should go the Gateway to Home choice website to apply — www.gatewaytohomechoice.org.uk
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. Further information now required and Clerk liaising with the parishes Tree Wardens.

The Clerk was in receipt of the following:

Notification of Essex Cycle Strategy public consultation and online questionnaire from 11th September to 29th October 2015 – https://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=792
Dedham Vale & Stour Valley Project AONB Monthly update for July & August 2015