

## **23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 Bures Hamlet Parish Council**

### **Clerk's Report**

**Grounds maintenance:** An extended litter pick completed which included areas out to the boundaries of the parish. Many parishioners had expressed their appreciation as littered areas had become much more visible this year. Cost for the spring extended litter pick was £126 + VAT and was assessed within the Street Clean Scheme Budget with Braintree District Council. Overhang along the first section of The Paddocks to Normandie Way footpath had been cleared. Cost £90 + VAT. Tree branch debris along the verges of Lamarsh Hill being cleared. Lifebelt at Bridge Street cleaned. General mud and leaves cleared from Colne Road, The Paddocks, Station Hill and Bridge Street.

**Tree at Millennium Gate:** Contactor Chris Mortimer had assessed the tree leaning towards the road side at the Millennium Gate and considered it to be safe.

**A & J Lighting:** A & J Lighting had issued its new price list to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015. Prices being increased minimally every two years. Information circulated to all members. **To note the 5 year contract with A & J Lighting Solutions will terminate on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and therefore parish council will need to consider renewal.**

**Data Protection Registration:** The Clerk had completed the renewal registration forms for 2015 and the Certificate of Registration had been received from the Information Commissioner's Office. Cost of registration £35 per annum.

**Community Agent:** Letter of appreciation had been sent from the parish council to Peter Darlington following his recent retirement as Community Agent for Bures.

**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. Cllr Barnham Chairman of Bures Darby & Joan Club had written to the Practice Manager of Hardwick House Group Practice with her concerns regarding travel arrangements to the Health Centre for Bures residents. A reply from the Practice Manager had been circulated to all members.

**Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project:** The Project was currently consulting on a new management plan for the area and welcomed views on its draft plan. It was agreed to respond in favour of the extension of the AONB towards Sudbury as proposed. Cllr Lee had booked to attend the Project's Forum Conference at Shrubs Farm, Lamarsh on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**E-on Unmetered Electricity Supply:** The Clerk had received notification from E-on that the parish council's Deemed Contract Rates would increase from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015. She had contacted E-on to discuss a contract change but advised that owing to the very small usage for the parish owned lights it would not be beneficial to change from Deemed Contract Rate.

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

Essex County Council Bus & Passenger Transport Strategy

EALC Chairman's letter acknowledging appreciation of the Essex County Council Community Initiative Fund

Information on the 'Launch of Getting Around in Essex consultation to gain views to improve the county's bus and passenger transport network

Mrs Jenny Wright  
Parish Clerk

