

13th May 2013 Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Clerk's Report

Grounds Maintenance: Chris Mortimer had swept at Bridge Street, Station area, outside and opposite the Swan PH. Flowers at village sign to be renewed for summer.

Training: Clerk had circulated details to all councillors of forthcoming training events: Cllr O'Sullivan agreed to attend the Training Day 1 for Councillors. To note that the Clerk had used the Essex Association of Local Councils Small Bursary Award against the cost of the Planning Day event held on 1st May attended by both Cllr O'Sullivan and herself.

National Grid: Clerk was notified of National Grid's need to extend the traffic count surveys being carried out along the A1071, A143 and B1071. She had also received a letter advising that the work to rewire the first circuit of the existing overhead electricity line between Twinstead and Braintree had been completed – circulated.

Greenfields Community Housing: Clerk had signed and returned the Grounds Maintenance Agreement for 1st January to 31st December 2013. Greenfields to contribute £184.64 as per previous year.

BDC Street Cleaning Agreement: Clerk had signed and returned the Grounds Maintenance Agreement for 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014. The Activity Report completed and returned showed work carried out during previous year. BDC to contribute £575.03. Clerk was in receipt of Chris Mortimer's insurance policy and risk assessments to enable him to take on the Street Clean Agreement works for this coming year. The BDC channel sweeping dates advertised in the parish magazine and website.

Temporary road closure: Clerk had received notification from Essex Highways dated 18th April regarding two temporary road closures- Fordham Road, Wormingford and B1508 Colchester Road – circulated and advertised.

A & J Lighting Solutions: Clerk was in receipt of the new charges implemented from 1st May 2013. It was noted that this was A & J Lighting's first price increase since 2009 – circulated.

Parish magazine donation: Clerk had received a letter of thanks from Bures St Mary PCC for the donation of £200 towards costs of producing the parish magazine.

UMS Certificate: Clerk had updated the Lighting Unmetered Supply Certificate reflecting equipment connected to the UK Power Network.

Dog Waste Dispenser Bags: Clerk had ordered a further supply of bags – 4 cases (800). Colin Lorking continued to volunteer to fill up the dispensers.

Damaged Street Lamp: Damaged globe on street lamp at Hamlet Court reported.

Allotments within Braintree District: Following on from the Open Spaces Action Plan, Braintree DC was now building up a list of allotments within the Braintree District. Clerk had sent the relevant information needed.

Launch of Housing StatNav: Braintree District Council and Greenfields Community Housing have launched a partnership website to provide detailed information about affordable housing need within the district – website: www.braintree.gov.uk/housingstatnav

Woolpit Downs: Clerk had received notification from Mark Garnham, Greenfields Community Housing Neighbourhood Co-ordinator that he had investigate the raised concerns of bonfires and precautions had been set in place accordingly.

The Clerk was in receipt of the following:

Letter from Ministry of Defence advising of Armed Forces Day – Fly a Flag Saturday 29th June-
circulated

Details of ECC Community Initiatives Fund – circulated

Notification of Greenfields Housing Area Estate Inspections – circulated

Information on The Essex Compact – circulated

Details of the Heritage Lottery Fund – circulated

Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency Newsletter – circulated

Information on Gateway to Home Choice Housing Breakfast Briefings for 2013 -circulated