

## **Clerk's Report – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council**

**Grounds maintenance: Works completed:** All grounds maintenance as per contract.

**Works pending:** Staining of parish council and community noticeboards. Autumn bulb planting along Station Hill gardens.

**Lamp bollard –** The lamp bollard along the Paddocks footpath had been repaired by A& J Lighting but concreting had not been satisfactory as EDF had not bedded in the bollard low enough. Nigel Norton had kindly concreted more securely but was concerned that it was rather unsightly. Clerk agreed to report and wait on comments from members.

**Colne Stour Countryside Association:** The Chairman and Clerk had accepted the invitation to attend the Annual Summer Party at Stanley Hall, Pebmarsh on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Bures Hamlet annual subscription of £10 had been forwarded to the Association Chairman.

**Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Forum 2017:** The Chairman and Clerk had agreed to attend the Forum on 16<sup>th</sup> June at Shrubs Farm, Lamarsh.

**Braintree Association of Local Councils:** The Chairman and Clerk had agreed to attend the AGM of the Braintree Association at Causeway House on 31<sup>st</sup> July.

**The Great Get Together:** This was a country-wide event to commemorate one year after Jo Cox was killed. The events to be a getting together with neighbours to share food and celebrate all that we have in common. Bures Common Trust arranging such an event.

**BDC Community Governance:** The Clerk had returned the information required regarding the Community Governance Review. The parish council had agreed that it wanted to continue with the existing arrangements with regard to its Ward, Parish Boundaries and Parish Councillors.

**Braintree District Local Highways Panel:** Minutes of the last Panel meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 had been circulated. To note was the new Terms of Reference for the LHP. Parish/Town Council representatives to no longer be elected. No Public Question Time to be permitted.

**ECC Highways reporting:** Following the introduction of the improved Reporting web tools the Highway Enquiry email address was now closed. All future reporting to be via the ECC website. New Rangers Request forms also now in operation.

**BDC Public Access:** Improvements to the Public Access system had been made. Public Access Time Out extended. Bulk Document Download increased to up to 25 documents at a time. Social Media Intergration. Spell Checker. Automatic Confirmation Email.

**Street Light No.6 Colchester Road:** This had been reported as not working under Job Number 20279292.

**Fly-tipping:** The Clerk had reported fly-tipping at the Colne Road layby. The fly-tipping consisted of builders waste, concrete rubble, plasterboard and packs of rotting dog meat.

**New Data Protection Regulations:** EALC had notified that new Data Control regulations would come into force in May 2018. Training courses to be arranged.

**River Stour water quality:** Andrew Ward of the Fisheries Biodiversity and Geomorphology Team had circulated information on the current water quality with details of monitoring. Any fish in distress or deaths should be telephoned into the EA emergency incident line: 0800807060.

**Training –** The Clerk had circulated the Calendar of EALC Training Events for 2017 to all members. Please contact the Clerk if any events are of interest.

**Donation thankyou letters:** Thank you letters had been received from Ferriers Barn, AONB and Stour Valley Project and St Mary's PCC.

**The Clerk was in receipt of the following and all circulated and held on file:**

The Colne Stour Countryside Association April 2017 Annual Report

River Stour Trust Lock Lintel Spring/Summer 2017 Issue No. 164

Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency (BDSVA) March and April E-Bulletins

AONB Monthly update March 2017

Mrs Jenny Wright, Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council

