

15th July 2013 Bures Hamlet Parish Council

Clerk's Report

Grounds Maintenance: All waste bins had been emptied and dog waste bins checked and emptied as necessary. Weedkilling done at the station, Station Hill roadside footpath and at the Swan PH area. All grasscutting and strimming completed as per contractor's agreement under BDC and Greenfields. Extra strimming done at railway bridge verges and Water Lane. Landing stage swept. Roadbridge footpath swept.

Colchester Road verge/hedge: John Doe had agreed to flail the hedge along Colchester Road to Mount Bures during July. The last flail had been in early October 2012. Chris Mortimer would then trim and tidy the verge from the Millennium footpath gate to the Mount Bures turning and include part of the section between the Boat House and the gate.

Village sign flower bed: Neil Haswell had kindly offered to look after the village sign flower bed on a voluntary basis. He had bedded out with new summer flowers and would water and keep tidy. The Clerk suggested whether Neil could be reimbursed for costs of the bedding plants. Cllr Ryman suggested that the autumn bedding plants could be purchased from the Horticultural Society.

Training: Cllr O'Sullivan had attended the Training Day 1 for Councillors.

BDC Summer Activity Day: The Clerk had completed all the forms and applied for the Activity Day this summer but had received notification of the allocated days for the parishes which did not include Bures this summer. The nearest parish for Bures was Earls Colne. BDC advised that only selected parishes would receive the Activity Day this year but would review for 2014/15. The Clerk to send a letter of disappointment from the parish council that Bures had not been chosen.

Cars for sale: The Clerk had reported the cars for sale on the grass verges along Colchester Road and 'polite notices' had been placed on the vehicles.

Coracle Regatta: The Clerk had advertised the Coracle Regatta details for 3rd August on the recreation ground. Details also circulated to all on mailing list.

Local Council Administration: The Clerk had ordered and received the new edition of the Charles Arnold Baker Local Council Administration 9th Edition. Cost £60 including postage & packing.

Temporary road closure: Clerk had received notification from Essex Highways dated 25th June of a Temporary Road Closure at Pebmarsh Road showing an alternative route via Ferriers Lane. The Clerk had advised that that route was a bridleway over a private road and ECC had amended their advertised details accordingly.

Dedham Vale Conference June 2013: The Chairman had attended the conference and had supplied the Clerk with notes from the conference. The Clerk was also in receipt of copies of the Dedham Vale & Stour Valley News plus the Sudbury Branch Walks 5 – 8.

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

The Clerk was in receipt of the following:

Information on Funding for Projects Linked to the First World War

Rural Community Council of Essex Annual Review 2012/13

Information on a volunteer survey by English Heritage to identify buildings at risk in the Stour Valley

Mrs Jenny Wright
Parish Clerk