

## **Clerk's Report – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 - Bures Hamlet Parish Council**

**Grounds maintenance: Works completed:** All grounds maintenance as per contract. Colchester Road hedge and verge cut. Overgrowth at Mount Bures turning cleared to allow better visibility. Tree branches obscuring light along The Paddocks footpath cut back. Various signs cleaned. 2 new No Cycling discs purchased and fixed in place at the Millennium bridge. 2 No Flyposting signs posted in the bus shelters. Various flytipping cleared.

**Works pending:** New No Dogs sign for Normandie Play area to be erected. Fence along Millennium footpath to be repaired. Overhanging foliage to be cutback along Bridge Street.

**Street light maintenance:** A & J Lighting had carried out its maintenance of the 4 parish lights. All had been cleaned and one lamp light replaced at Woolpit Downs carpark plus some foliage cut back.

**Electricity works at Lamarsh Hill allotments:** The Clerk had been notified that repair works were necessary to the electricity pole just inside the main entrance to the allotments. The Allotment Manager had been notified.

**Website:** The Clerk to attend a briefing on SuffolkCloud with a view to updating the existing parish council website management. Current website under Community Action Suffolk and was run via an outdated Silverstripe version.

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):** The Clerk was in receipt of the 12 checklist steps to prepare for the GDPR which apply from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Chairman and the Clerk had attended a briefing at EALC. Details from that briefing still to be circulated.

**Braintree District Compact Principles:** The document set out the principles that the voluntary and community sector and the statutory sector would observe to enable them to work together to the best advantage of the district communities. Clerk had circulated and returned the comment form.

**DaRT:** The Clerk had forwarded extensive advertising on the Demand Responsive Transport scheme to the Parish Magazine Editor and this had been published in the September edition.

**Braintree Association of Local Councils:** The Chairman and Clerk had attended the AGM on 31<sup>st</sup> July at Causeway House. Very few parish council representatives had attended. New BDC CEO Andy Wright was in attendance and reported on the Local Plan.

**Trees in River Stour:** The Clerk had reported the 2 fallen trees in the river near the Scouts landing stage and these had currently been removed onto the riverbank.

**Untidy properties and gardens:** It was noted that the District Council had no authority to enforce an owner to improve the condition of their property or garden.

**Double yellow line restriction sign:** North East Essex Partnership had informed the Clerk that since 2001 these restriction signs were no longer required and its current policy was to remove the signs as they became damaged or lost. Therefore the missing sign at the Station would not be replaced and the pole was to be removed.

**RCCE Community Led Planning Network:** The Clerk had completed the necessary information and was now able to access the Community Led section which gave information on Parish Plans and NH planning.

**Training –** The Clerk had circulated the Calendar of EALC Training Events for 2017 to all members. Cllr Welch and the Clerk had attended the Financial Regulations Briefing on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and notes from the briefing had been circulated. Cllr Kennett had attended the Role of a Councillor Briefing on 24<sup>th</sup> June. He had also agreed to attend the Councillor Training Days in November.

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

BDC Consultation on its Community Transport Scheme on increasing fees and charges from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017

Details of The Oil Club launched for the area – [www.Oil-club.co.uk](http://www.Oil-club.co.uk)

AONB August Monthly update

Essex Parish Partnership Making the Links bulletins August and September

Superfast Essex Public Consultation August 2017

Love Essex 2017 Campaign tackling issue of litter

Details of ECC and EALC Annual Joint Conference and AGM – 19<sup>th</sup> September

New Anglia Growth Hub – a free support for growing businesses – advertised

Campaign toolkit for more foster carers in Essex – details of advertising events and websites

Commercial Services in the Braintree District – for free no obligation quote –

[tradewaste@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:tradewaste@braintree.gov.uk)

Mrs Jenny Wright

Clerk to Bures Hamlet Parish Council

