

# Bowers Bugle

We're on the web: <https://e-voice.org.uk/bgnb-parishcouncil>

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You can follow us on Twitter @bowers\_bugle

See information on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bgnbps](http://www.facebook.com/bgnbps)



## MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

The Mobile Library Service in Essex are proposing to make some changes to the Mobile Library routes and timetables based on the feedback from users and other local stakeholders. The use of the service fluctuates and current stopping patterns need to reflect demand in communities across Essex.

The current fortnightly timetable is:

Clifton Stores, Bowers Gifford

**Friday Week 2 at 11.00am - 11.20am**

Gifford House, Bowers Gifford

**Friday Week 2 at 12.00pm - 12.20pm**

## CHANGES AT PITSEA RECYCLING CENTRE



A booking system is now in place for vans and large trailers because vehicles often take a long time to unload. This can lead to long queues and waiting times to access the site.

All bookings for the vans and large trailers must now be made online at least 2 days prior to visiting the Centre. You will need to bring with you proof of your address and your booking confirmation.

Without a booking you will be refused entry to the site.

To book log-on to [loveessex.org/bookings](http://loveessex.org/bookings)



## THE BENBOW CLUB COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAYS 11.00 1.30

ALL WELCOME



## THE BENBOW CLUB

Join us for a fun afternoon

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 22**

3.00 pm - 7.00 pm

**A family Outdoor Jubilee event**

Live music from duo 'Get it on Live', BBQ food, Bouncy Castle, Face-painter etc. Entry is free to members, with 2 guests per member welcome to attend, for the usual guest fee of £2.00 per person.

## POUND LANE MISSION

Sunday Morning Service 10.30am

Prayer and Bible Study

Monday morning 10.45am

Craft Club Monday 1.30pm



## ST LUKES OPEN GARDEN 2022

Supporting and fundraising for St Lukes Hospice

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022**

Three gardens in Bowers Gifford will be open to the public to fund raise on behalf of St Lukes Hospice. (£5 per adult £1 child over 5)

The gardens are:

13, 14 Una Road and 32 Kelly Road



PUB • RESTAURANT • FUNCTION ROOMS

## THE GUN PUB, LONDON ROAD

BANK HOLIDAY BEER FESTIVAL

Free entry, large selection of beers & ciders

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

12 noon - late

Live music across the whole weekend

Food available

For more information call : 01268 551506

## NGS OPEN GARDENS FOR CHARITY

At 14 Una Road, Bowers Gifford SS13 2HU

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

11am 5pm

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

includes music during the day from Ukulele Band

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

11am 5pm

Come along and help raise money for the charity.

Teas and refreshments available.

## WEEKLY RUBBISH COLLECTIONS

Please do not put your rubbish out before 7.30 pm on the day of collection to avoid the being split open by animals or strewn about in windy conditions. Please avoid overfilling your bins and tie any sacks securely. **DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE OR PUT RECYCLABLE ITEMS IN BLACK SACKS.**

Contact Basildon Council to arrange collection of any household large appliances Call 01268 533333

## BACK TO THE FUTURE

Basildon Council's decision to withdraw its Emerging Local Plan and placing a greater emphasis on protecting the Green Belt for current and future generations meant the Parish Council can no longer move forward with its Neighbourhood Plan in its present form. The decision to review the Local Plan doesn't mean there will not be any development in the village but the decision will now reduce this amount.

To overcome large scale development in the future the Parish Council is intending to bring forward Neighbourhood Development Orders, aimed at encouraging and controlling housing development on the edge of the village and in the plotlands. The proposed Neighbourhood Development Orders will cover Bowers Gifford and the North Benfleet plotlands.

The Parish Council has secured a grant of £96,500 from Locality, a national network supporting Neighbourhood Planning and will now work with its consultants and the BGNB Steering Group, to carry out a Feasibility Study to identify smaller sites that are most suitable for new homes. Once completed residents will be consulted on the results and this consultation will determine if the Parish Council will move forward with Neighbourhood Development Orders.

## WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ORDER

See inside pages.

Turn to the back pages for more activities over the Jubilee weekend.



Thanks to the generosity of the community and many other individuals the Village now has two Defibrillators. One at the Benbow Club, Pound Lane and one at Pound Lane Mission, nr. Osborne Road.



## THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE SUNDAY

**5<sup>th</sup> June**

**12.00 - 16.00**

Westlake Park, Pound Lane  
behind Wilton's Pet shop

Bring a picnic and dress 50's style (optional)

Live music by filthy gorgeous and sax player Joe Green.

Featuring vintage cars, BBQ, stalls  
childrens entertainer, circus workshop,  
face painter and Tug of War.

**FREE TO ENTER**

## GOODBYE

At the recent Parish Council elections we said goodbye to two of our long standing Parish Councillors, Robert Smillie and Terry Potter.

Councillor Robert Smille joined the Parish Council at the beginning in 2010 and took on the role of Chairman until 2019 but a biking accident forced him to step down from this role. However he remained an integral part of the Parish Council until the May elections. Councillor Potter joined the Parish Council in 2016 and has played an integral part in the Parish Council's decision making on a variety of issues.

Both will be missed as Parish Councillors and are sincerely thanked for the part they have played in raising the profile of the Parish to where we are now.

## DEFIBRILLATORS SAVE LIVES

Members of the Parish Council and Andrew Rickard, a resident, took part in the Annual Fun Walk Trust's 5K Walk on 4<sup>th</sup> September to raise money for two Defibrillators.



5K Fun Walk L to R Andrew Rickard: Chris Barlow (Parish Clerk): Councillor Bernard Foster: Councillor Colin Morris

Due to Covid restrictions they walked 14 times round Westlake Park to complete the 5K distance. A total of £1270 including a £400 sponsor from the family of Chris Wilks, who sadly had a heart attack and died at last year's Picnic-in-the Park event in August. The Trust then increased the amount by a further £381.

Memet Mustafa of TML then donated £500 and Jan Baldwin and her daughter, Jane, set up a Facebook Just Giving Page in memory of Charlie Baldwin, who sadly passed away last year and collected a further £1277. The Defibrillators have now been installed but without the support of you, the community, this would never have happened.



Andrew Rickard, Jan Baldwin and daughter Jane, Chris Barlow (Parish Clerk), Councillor Foster, Councillor Morris, Councillor Pegg, Hazel Wilkes

## PARKING PERILS

*Are you one of many that park on the pavements?*

We understand there is not much room on the roads of the parish to park, but please be aware that taking up too much space on the footpath is not only illegal, it's also very dangerous for those members of the public who have to use the pavements and have to go around your vehicle and into the road.

If you have to park on the pavement leave enough room for a person with a pram, buggy or mobility scooter to pass **don't use all the pavement space, park sensibly!**

## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

### HELP REDUCE SPEEDING IN POUND LANE

Speeding through the village is becoming more of a concern, with Pound Lane increasingly being used as a cut through for traffic at all hours of the day and night. The Parish Council and Essex County Councillors have asked Essex Highways for a Speed Survey to be carried out to demonstrate the need for speed reduction measures. In October 2019 the Parish Council set up the Community Speed Watch Project but it was then suspended due to Covid. We are now aiming to revive the Project to alert drivers to the need to reduce their speed through the village, but it can't do this without residents volunteering to help collect the evidence.



### SPEEDING THREATENS LIVES

**VOLUNTEERING** to help ensure that the village roads are kept safe for both cars and pedestrians. It can only take a few hours a month to make a difference and alert drivers to the perils of speeding! Contact: Chris Barlow, Parish Council Clerk [M] 07758 255621 [01268] 725236

## JOHN COLE HEAD STONE



The Parish Council has been liaising with M & J Memorials who are replacing the headstone of Grenadier Guardsman John Cole which was vandalised at all Saints Church, North Benfleet, last year. It is anticipated the headstone will be back in its place by the 18<sup>th</sup> June, the date of the Battle of Waterloo. John Cole was a thirty year-old footsoldier in the Second Battalion of the **Grenadier Guards**.

In 1815 he was marching towards Waterloo (in present day Belgium) and during the Battle he was wounded by a musket ball but carried on until the victory was won. He returned home to Essex but later died in the Parish of North Benfleet, Wickford, in 1836. A huge amount of thanks goes to Martin Rees of M & J Memorials who has replaced the head stone free of charge.

## A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Despite Covid restrictions over the past months the Parish Council has been very busy.

The Neighbourhood Plan has taken up many hours of research, discussion and meetings with long suffering Steering Group members including residents and developers. The NP has been moth balled for the time being but the work does not stop. £96,500 of funding has now been secured to look at proposals for Neighbourhood Development Orders and these proposals will be consulted on with residents in the Autumn.

A grant of £4,160 was obtained via the Essex Association of Local Councils Community Initiative Fund to pay for a part-time Handy person to carry out many tasks not covered by external contractors and a further grant of £2500 was obtained for equipment in connections with the work generated. To continue with this service the Parish Council will have to seek more funding. With the help of Pitsea Essex County Councillor, Councillor Luke Makenzie, funding was secured for the Planters which we have been installed on the London Road.

Funding of £5,000 was secured from Basildon Council during 2021 to support the Neighbourhood Plan prior to the Council's decision to withdraw the Local Plan.



**A BIG THANK YOU** goes to the Lottery Community Fund for a grant of £3840 to support our Jubilee Event on 5<sup>th</sup> June.

We took part in the Keep Britain tidy Spring Clean-Up in June 2021 and with residents we collected 16 bags of rubbish and hope to take part in this year's Summer Clean-Up.

The Parish-in-Bloom Event in July was once again a success and standards were very high.

The Parish Council discussed Planning Applications and forwarded their observations to Basildon Council and Essex County Council.

During the Covid pandemic the Parish Council collected prescriptions and shopped for residents who were unable to get out during this period and made new friends as a result.

A consultation was held with young people to determine the type of additional equipment they would like to see in Westlake Park. The overwhelming choice was a Zip-wire and a Climber of sorts, with a trampoline for the play area. Basildon Council have pledged £35K to the project and discussion are ongoing to find ways to fund raise for any short fall. Any overall profit from the Jubilee event will be set aside for this Project.

## WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ORDER?

A Neighbourhood Development Order can grant planning permission for specified developments in a neighbourhood area. Once established there would be no need to apply to Basildon Borough Council for planning permission if it is for the type of development covered by the Development Order.

### Parish Council Councillors Contact Details

<b>Bernard Foster</b> (chair)	07811 838115 cllr.bernardfoster@gmail.com
<b>Colin Morris</b>	07860 634022 cllr.colinmorris@gmail.com
<b>Sheelagh Pegg</b>	07885 758989 cllr.sheelaghpegg@gmail.com

### Parish Clerk

Mrs Christine Barlow

Call: (01268) 725236 (M) 07758 255621  
Email: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Council meetings are held on the last Wednesday in the month (unless otherwise stated) and information on the dates can be found on the Parish Council website: <https://e-voice.org.com/bgnb-parishcouncil>



## COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Don't just sit and moan about what you think should or should not be done in the village become a Parish Councillor and help make a difference by getting involved in local issues that can help make things happen! The Parish Council can make a real difference by influencing decisions that affect us all as a community. The Council is non-political and its collective decisions can benefit the community of Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet. No experience is necessary just enthusiasm and willingness to represent the views of the community and help raise the profile of the village and help to make improvements where it really matters.

Interested in finding out more?

Contact The Parish Clerk [M] 07758 255621, 01268 725236 or you can email clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com