



Bowers Bugle

We're on the web – Visit us at- www.essexinfo.net/bgnb-parishcouncil
 Parish Clerk 01268 725236 (M) 07758255621 Email: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com

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OUT AND ABOUT

Bradfield's Farm

Bradfield's Farm is a working dairy Farm one of only 5 independent dairies in Essex.

The farm is home to over 130 Friesian cows. Milked twice a day they each produce on average 10,000 litres of milk every year and the farm processes and sells a proportion of its own milk, cream and cheese direct from the farm in Burnt Mills Road. The rest of their milk goes to Arla, a farmer owned co-operative.

Arla uses the milk to make a range of products including Anchor, Cravendale, Big Milk and Skyr and own brand supermarket milk.

The farm pasteurises the milk within three hours of the afternoon milking and you can purchase this and fresh yogurt, milkshakes and handmade cheese in their Farm Shop. Why not pay them a visit or read their blog at: www.bradfieldsfarm.co.uk

In the next edition read about The Barn another member of our farming Community.

Sadlers Farm Bridge works - update

Balfour Beatty is currently working on the high wall sections of the A13/A130 Link Road and there is currently a permanent lane closure with a single lane running through that section. The works on the wall are to remove the blockwork and concrete material behind the walls and install a new drainage system and rebuild the blockwork walls and should be completed mid-September.

During the summer holiday period there are plans for carriageway works between Pitsea and Sadlers Farm as there is a need to reconstruct Lane 4 on this stretch of road. Following completion Lane 1 will be closed between the Pitsea interchange and Sadlers Farm junction so that new drainage installation works can be undertaken, earth embankments reinforced and strengthened to the high containment safety barriers between mid-September and mid-December.



Balfour Beatty are currently investigating the ground conditions between Sadlers Farm and Pound Lane to establish whether any remedial works are required. Some weeks ago site investigation works were carried out and currently the results are being analysed so that the next course of action can be considered.

Any further works on this section of road will be carried out in the Autumn. Tunneling works are being undertaken to the bridge at the rear of the allotment site to create a permanent gap at the back of the bridge to allow much needed movement as the structure is currently too stiff and if left over years the structure may show signs of early deterioration.

Ref: Lloyd Holliday , Balfour Beatty Project Lead (June 2017)

Neighbourhood Plan – Progress

The Parish Council's Alternative Strategy for development in Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet is being reviewed by Basildon Council's new Conservative Administration.

As you are aware the Parish Council carried out a six week consultation in February/March of this year to obtain the views of the community regarding proposals in its Neighbourhood Plan. Five drop in sessions were held and of those resident who commented at the sessions, wrote letters, sent emails or completed questionnaires the overwhelming view supported development in North Benfleet and making the Parish "One Village" The Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission document was then sent to Basildon Council and the various statutory consultees for their comments also. The then coalition Infrastructure, Growth and Development Committee rejected the Plan at their meeting on 22nd March 2018. However, the Borough-wide elections on 3rd May 2018 saw a change of administration and Conservatives taking overall control of the Council.

The new administration, who favour the Parish Council proposals, has vowed to work closely with the Parish Council to listen and support the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan and the views of residents of Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet and to relook at the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Alternative Strategy against development at the Little Chalvedon Hall Farm site in favour of the development in North Benfleet at Hall Farm. In addition the Parish Council is proposing to submit a Neighbourhood Development Order alongside the Neighbourhood Plan to cover the Plotlands area and the village as a whole.



Some of the concerns raised from the consultation were again the need for improved infrastructure and measures that would reduce traffic in Pound and the need to divert traffic away from Pound Lane, the proposals to build a feeder road through Osborne Road that would link to the London Road and the joining Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet to Pitsea.

THE LEADER OF BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL Councillor Andrew Baggott and Ward Councillors Craig Rimmer and Luke Mackenzie, will be coming along to the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 27th June to explain their intentions and answer resident's questions regarding the revised timetable for the Borough's Local Plan publication and their promise to reconsider the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan. The meeting starts at 7.30 p.m. and the first item will be the discussion on the Local Plan and how it will impact on the Neighbourhood Plan. Come along to hear what the Leader of Basildon Council has to say and make your views known and heard.

WHAT'S ON

Pound Lane Mission

Crat Craft Club: 13.30 – 16.00
 Coffee Morning: Tuesday 11.00 – 12.00
 Sunday Service: 10.30 am
 All Welcome



The Benbow Club

77 Pound Lane , Bowers Gifford.

JD THE SOUL MACHINE

28th JULY
 8.00 p.m.

For tickets contact the Benbow Club Tel: 01268 727009

NEWS IN BRIEF

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY
 COULD YOU TAKE ON THE ROLE OF
 A PARISH COUNCILLOR?



PICNIC-IN-THE-PARK
 2ND SEPTEMBER 2018
 WESTLAKE PARK



PARISH-IN-BLOOM COMPETITION
 DO YOU HAVE GREEN FINGERS?

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COULD YOU BE A STREET COORDINATOR?

Neighbourhood Watch is about local people coming together to create friendlier and safer communities where crime and anti-social behaviour activities can be less likely to happen.



Neighbourhood Watch need more street coordinators to help spread information about keeping our Parish safe. In some cases, if you live in a Neighbourhood Area residents can get cheaper Household Insurance and we now have some of these signs, **look out for them!**

Due to some residents volunteering we now have two co-ordinators in Pound Lane and one in the upper end of Highlands Road, who will pass information on to their neighbours and friends but more are needed. The Parish Clerk also receives information and relevant information is reported at Parish Council meetings. **Do you feel you could join them and do the same?** It doesn't take up a lot of time and information is sent via email or if you don't have email in note form.

If you are interested in getting involved in Neighbourhood Watch and want to know more about volunteering contact the Parish Clerk on: Tel: 01268 25236 (M) 07758255621.

Your Parish Council Parish Council Meetings

All Parish Council Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month, unless previously notified. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend and time is set aside to raise issues and ask questions of your Councillors.

Meeting dates are:

2018

27th June: 25th July: 29th August: 26th September:
31st October: 28th November: 12th December

2019

30th January: 27th February: 27th March: 24th April: 29th May

Parish Council contact details

Councillors

Robert Smillie	07790 907113 crr.robertsmillie@gmail.com
Sheelagh Pegg	07885 758989 crr.sheelaghpegg@gmail.com
Terry Potter	07867 615875 crr.terrypotter@gmail.com
David Martin	07484 155150 crr.davidmartin@gmail.com

Parish Council Clerk /RFO
Mrs Christin Barlow

15 Highlands Road, Bowers Gifford SS13 2HR
(01268) 725236 (M) 07758255621

CCTV

The installation of cameras in Westlake Park to help reduce vandalism and anti-social behavior should be completed by the end of July. There was a delay whilst authorisation to connect an unmetered electricity supply but now confirmed the work can go ahead. The Parish Council has been granted £16,495 by Essex County Council's Community Initiative Fund towards the funding of the equipment and we are now also seeking some help from Basildon Council for the remainder.



OLD CHURCH ROAD - so the story goes on!

The Parish Council have been informed by Essex County Council that the work to open up Old Church Road will be carried out during the Summer. Despite the Parish Council's best efforts to get a firm date we have been unable to do so. Pressure will continue to be put on ECC Highways to undertake this work as a matter of urgency. Residents can also help by logging on to the Essex County Council website www.essexhighways.org and raising a complaint by following the links. The Parish Council has now written to Councillor Kevin Bentley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure to ask for his intervention.

Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council has 4 Councillors and we are legally entitled to have 7 Councillors and we would like to co-opt three more members of the community to serve on the Parish Council.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please email Christine Barlow, Clerk to the Parish Council on: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com

The Council is a Corporate body and is an elected tier of local government. It plays a vital role in representing the interests of residents and influencing other decision makers in matters that affect the quality and life of the people of Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet.

The post of a Parish Councillor is unpaid but some expenses i.e. Travel, can be paid. Your Parish Council is non-political. No special skills are required all you need is to have an interest in helping to make a difference.

If you think you would like to take on this role and represent the views of the residents of Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet the Parish Clerk would be very happy to discuss this with you.

Thoughts of Westlake Park

I frequently walk to and around Westlake Park. It's always a pleasure to turn off busy, noisy Pound Lane and go through those magnificent iron gates, to the wide open space that is our very own park. It's always a pleasure to see children, accompanied by parents and grandparents, enjoying the swings and other excellent playground equipment to be found there. It's a pleasure to see dogs romping over the grass and I always get a friendly greeting from their owners as I make my way round the periphery path. I don't myself indulge in exercising on the magnificent keep fit apparatus - walking briskly is more my thing - but what a pleasure to see another free facility provided for us residents. Best of all is the pleasure to be had by listening to the birdsong and observing the changing seasons in this little haven of peace and tranquility.

Hats off to our Parish Council for improving our park to the standard we see today. The pathway, gates, playground and keep fit equipment, the splendid bench and memorial rowan tree, are all there for us to enjoy through the continuing efforts of the Parish Council. Let's hope there'll be another lively fete some time like those they have organised during past years. And if we want to improve the park further, how about getting together to install more benches and perhaps plant some flowers too?



BUT... to my continuing astonishment, I still meet residents who not only never go to Westlake Park, even if they have children and/or dogs, but who do not even know of our park's existence. So, my first message is to Basildon Council for a prominent new sign please so that the entrance to the park is clearly visible from Pound Lane and my second is to all residents to make use of this valuable community facility.

**You can even forage for plums in September.
They make delicious jam!**

Clare Coxhead, Osborne Road

If you would like to write an article for our next edition or have some ideas for news projects or content in the newsletter please email Chris Barlow, the Parish Council Clerk email: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com

Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet Parish Council Community Event

Picnic-in-the-Park

Sunday 2nd September 2018

12.00 (noon) - 4.00 p.m

An afternoon of family fun

Westlake Park, Pound Lane, Bowers Gifford
(Behind Wiltons' Pet Shop in Pound Lane)

If you would like a stall, volunteer to help, are in a group and would like to take part, are a member of a band or would like to sing at the event please contact the Chris Barlow, the Parish Clerk email: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com

We would love to hear from you.

Parish In Bloom Competition 2018

Show off your Green Fingers and take part in the Parish-in-Bloom event 2018. It doesn't matter if you have a large or small garden, patio pots or just containers there is something for everybody. The categories are:

- Best Front Garden
- Best Container / Basket(s)
- Best Back Garden
- Best Scarecrow (under 14)

You can enter more than one category.

Closing date is 21st July 2018

Judging will take place the 1st week in August. Entrants will be advised of the judge's visit. Every house that enters will receive some winter bulbs. This year there will be a "Garden of Excellence" category. If your garden has been a winner on two previous occasions we will enter you into a "Garden of Excellence" category also.

Make a Scarecrow: For our junior residents (Under 14) join in by making a Scarecrow.

Display your Scarecrow in your front garden, where it can be seen by the judges, and we will announce the winner at the Picnic-in-the-Park Event. For more information and to enter log on to the Parish Council website or email the Parish Clerk, Email: clerkbgnbparishcouncil@gmail.com