

Bulmer Parish Council

Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting

Held on 19 November 2018 in the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr. R Raymond (Chairman)
Cllr. P Benns
Cllr. S Morgan

11 members of the public
Locum Clerk Pat Roberts

18/156 Apologies of Absence.

Apologies received from Cllr D Finch County Councillor and Cllr W Scattergood District Councillor.

18/157 Parish Councillors Co-option

Amanda Lyes was co-opted as a Bulmer Parish Councillor.
Proposed Cllr R Raymond
Seconded Cllr S Morgan
All Councillors in agreement.

Cllr A Lyes then signed and joined the council meeting.

18/158 Declaration of Interests.

To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Non -pecuniary Interests relating to items on the agenda. Members of the Council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct as adopted in May 2016.
None declared.

18/159 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Items raised by members of the public present
Hedges need to be cut back to prepare for the new pathway
As some unknown persons have been seen in the village the Coes Meadow gate is now being kept shut to prevent access.

The equipment used on Coes Meadow needs to be checked to ensure it is in working order before it is used next year when the weather is more favourable.

Clerk to contract Playsafety for a full report on the inspection that has been carried out. Possible project for the allotments would be to extend the water pipes for easier accessibility.

Article to be included in the Newsletter to encourage parishioners to attend the Parish Council meetings if there are any problems or issues of concern.

18/160 County Councillor & District Councillor Reports.

Reports from the County and District Councillors if present.

No reports submitted. See Agenda Item 18/156

18/161 Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th September 2018 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr S Morgan

Seconded Cllr P Bennis

All Councillors in agreement except for Cllr A Lyes who had not attended the meeting.

18/162 Allotments.

- 18/162-1 The invoices for Allotment rents have been distributed.
A list of rents paid and outstanding was given to Cllr S Morgan .
2 notifications received from existing Allotment plot holders surrendering their tenancy.
Noted
Cllr S Morgan to find a map of the allotments and plan a route for additional water pipes. This item to be on the next agenda.
Several plots have not been kept up this season , possibly a solution which will be put to the existing allotment holders for their agreement would be to advertise the availability of vacant plots to a wider area around Bulmer.
The local Newsletter could be used to inform people of vacant plots and also the Parish Clerks of neighbouring parishes could be informed..
- 18/162-2 Garden Allotments
Cllr S Morgan would prepare a new 5-year lease to start from September 2019 to include wording to the effect that the tenancy cannot continue to be held if the property is sold. This would be brought before the council for full approval.
Proposed Cllr S Morgan
Seconded Cllr P Bennis
All Councillors in agreement

18/163 Bank Accounts.

Cllr R Raymond has yet again been in contact with Barclays Bank and finally it appears all issues have been rectified, also Councillors are the nominated contacts with the bank and the new clerk when employed will be added as a contact for the account if Council will discuss changing to another Bank at a later date after the employment of a new clerk.

18/164 Coes Meadow

No Coes Meadow Management Committee as all the committee has resigned because it felt undervalued and thought that it may be to the villages advantage for a new committee to be formed, the Parish Council stated that it was appreciative of the work of the committee and also the benefit to the village by the committee. The Council will temporary take over until a new committee could be formed.

A report by Dedham Vale (Stour Valley) had been received concerning the problem of Honey Fungus and the conclude appeared to be leave it alone and let it run its own course, and this also seemed to concur with the advice of the BDC Tree Walden.

Cllr P Benns disagreed and suggested the tree be cut to a size that was not a hazard or cause any damage.

It was proposed to contact Dedham Vale and the Tree Walden BDC again for definitive advice and go forward and start the work as soon as possible.

Proposed Cllr R Raymond

Seconded Cllr A Lyes

All in agreement.

18/165 Finance

- **18/165-1** Invoices were approved for payment

		CHEQUE No.	TOTAL
18/165-1.1	Playsafe Limited – Playground inspection	101461	138.60
18/165-1.2	P Roberts – Purchase of McAfee Total Protection for Parish Council Laptop	101462	19.99
18/165-1.3	R&R Lawnmower Repairs	101463	50.35
18/165-1.4	Top Marques Direct Limited – Advertisements re Councillor Co-option & Clerk Vacancy	101464	135.36
18/165-1.5	Earthy Works – Additional scythe mowing Coes Meadow	101465	54.00
18/165-1.6	ICO – Data Protection fee	101466	40.00
		TOTAL	438.30

- **18/165-2** Balance in Hand – Current bank account figures to be provided at the meeting Noted
- **18/165-3** Approved payment of EALC Invoices Received (to be paid at a later date) regarding Cheques issued on behalf of Bulmer Parish Council

EALC Invoice 10298	£218.20	August Payments
EALC Invoice 10401	£451.80	September Payments
EALC Invoice 10480	£10.20	Simson Accountancy Ltd

		CHEQUE No.	TOTAL
18/165-3.	EALC - Invoices 10298, 10401,10480	101467	680-.20

Proposed Cllr R Raymond
 Seconded Cllr S Morgan
 All in agreement

- **18/165-4** Monies Received
 Total of £427.00 Cheques received as at 7 November 2018 re Allotment Rents - Noted
 BDC Precept £4748.00 - Noted

18/166 Parish Calendar of Council Meeting Dates 2019 -2020

The following meeting dates for 2019 - 2020 were approved

22 January 2019	Parish Council Meeting
18 March 2019	Parish Council Meeting
29 April 2019	Annual Assembly
20 May 2019	Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting
15 July 2019	Parish Council Meeting
16 September 2019	Parish Council Meeting
18 November 2019	Parish Council Meeting

18/167 Highways

Update on Highway matters concerning Bulmer and surrounding areas.
 Email from Cllr Finch Essex County Council (ECC) concerning ECC’s Pothole Fixing Initiative circulated.
 It was also agreed that not much time had been allowed for participation in this initiative.

18/168 Planning Matters.

- 18/00299/TCPOCON Coes Meadow - to carry out work on trees affected by the conservation area – Council decision required for Braintree District Council (BDC)

The Parish Council could not comment on this as they were waiting for further advice on what action/work Dedham Vale and BDC would be recommending.

Proposed Cllr P Benns

Seconded Cllr S Morgan

All Councillors in agreement

- 18/00303/TCPOCON 9 Vicars Orchard – To remove Field Maple in conservation area. Council decision required for BDC. This would be decided by BDC Tree Walden.

18/169 Precept

To consider options and items to be considered to be included in the 2019 – 2020 precept, no final decision can be made until figures for 2019-2020 have been received from Braintree District Council.

Decision deferred to January.

18/170 Appointment of Part Time Parish Clerk /Setting up Personnel Committee

The Clerk had distributed a pack of relevant information to the Council but the Council was unable to agree on the following:

Forming a Personnel Committee

Approve an employment policy

It was agreed that an extra-ordinary meeting would be held as soon as possible to review applications received and if possible relevant policies to the employment.

18/171 Items for next Agenda

These are items for the next agenda when they will be for discussion/decision at that meeting.

Can Capital Money be used to implement repairs as listed in RoSPA report.

Allotments

Coes Meadow

18/172 Date of Next Meeting

22 January 2019 to be approved.

Meeting Closed at 9.13 p.m.

