



Mrs Claire Waters (Parish Clerk) 25 Bayley Street, Castle Hedingham, Essex CO9 3DG 07845 056597 bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com



Minutes of a Meeting of Bulmer Parish Council held at 7.15pm on Monday 21st November 2022 at Bulmer Village Hall

Cllrs Hall, Ponty, Raymond, Street Present:

In the Chair: Cllr Raymond Clerk: Claire Waters

Also Present: Cllr W Scattergood BDC

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Nichols & Cllr Crawshay apologised for absence. Cllr P Schwier, ECC also apologised for absence.

1.1 Councillor Vacancy: No applications had been received for the vacant Councillor seat

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 18th July 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman Proposed: Cllr Ponty Seconded: Cllr Hall Agreed unanimously

The minutes of the meeting of 28th September 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the

Chairman

Proposed: Cllr Ponty Seconded: Cllr Street Agreed unanimously

3. POLICY REVIEW

3.1 RESOLVED: To sign 'The Civility and Respect Pledge' which has been launched by NALC and SLCC. Seconded: Cllr Hall Proposed: Cllr Raymond Agreed unanimously

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5. PROGRESS CHECK

Village maintenance issues and update on actions from last meeting

- 5.1 Verge weed killing, Church Road: This has been done due to damage to grass cutting machinery by rubbish dumped in the ditch. The resident who raised the issue has been put in contact with the person who manages the land.
- 5.2 Fly tipping: Fly tipping reported in Sandy Lane and Dog Pit Corner had been cleared by Braintree District Council team. This problem has increased since the time slot booking system was introduced at Sudbury recycling centre. Cllr Scattergood advised that BDC waste teams can install surveillance cameras at problem locations and have a high success rate in successfully prosecuting offenders. She advised to keep monitoring and reporting the problem to BDC as evidence. Residents can report fly tipping directly to Braintree District Council online at https://www.braintree.gov.uk/streets-transport-parking/report-fly-tipping

Action: Cllr Ponty will check Dog Pit Corner regularly. Cllr Street & Cllr Nichols will monitor Sandy Lane Action: Cllr Raymond will check if litter reported at Upper Houses and Church Road has been cleared

Action: Cllr Street will discuss with Barbara Rawlins and litter picking volunteers how she would like to coordinate their team's work and fly tipping reports with Parish Council actions.

5.3 BDC Scrutiny Review into Litter Management: due by 2nd December 2022.

Action: Clerk to respond noting the good service provided by BDC waste & refuse team, and requesting actions to educate primary and secondary school pupils, as well as improved co-ordination between BDC. Parish Council and volunteer litter picking teams.



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6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Update on Highways issues and any new problems to report

6.1 Speeding, A131 Bulmer Tye: A LHP application to Essex Highways for a 40mph speed limit was considered. This will take a long time to be processed and has been tried without success in the past.
6.2 20s Plenty: The option for a speed limit reduction request to Essex Highways for Bulmer St and Church Rd was considered. Cllr Scattergood reported that Bures plans for a "20s plenty" scheme had been dropped because evidence shows accidents are increased when drivers are concentrating on their speedometer. Bures is a village with a very active speed watch group who were previously campaigning for a 20mph speed limit.
Action: To compile a list of possible schemes to be considered for the A131 at Bulmer Tye, and for speed reduction measures at Bulmer St and Church Rd, for consideration and decision at January meeting. Residents are requested to submit their suggestions to the clerk at bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com by the end of December
6.3 Layby at Dog Pit corner: A LHP application for Essex Highways to close this layby was considered. The layby is used regularly, so it was agreed to monitor and report fly tipping for the time being (see item 5.2)
6.4 Footpaths: To report raised paths and dangerous kerbs for Essex Highways repair.

Action: Two locations at Bulmer Street will be reported again to Essex Highways, with photos provided by Cllr Raymond. Residents can report problems themselves online at https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us
6.5 Hedges: Overhanging hedges at Finch Hill were discussed and no action to be taken as the road narrowing causes traffic to slow down. An overhanging hedge at Bulmer Street is causing pedestrians to walk in the road.

Action: Clerk to write to the resident requesting it is cut back. If this is reported to Essex Highway, they will send a team to cut it back and charge the property owner for the work

6.6 Public Rights of Way: Cllr Ponty agreed to act as the Councillor to liaise with the Essex Highways Public Rights of Way officer regarding actions needed on footpaths in the parish

7. REPORTS

7.1 Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly police reports had been forwarded to Councillors. Police report of a theft of a motorcycle from Bulmer Tye was noted.

Action: Bulmer Neighbourhood Watch reports are sent to some Councillors but not all of them. Cllr Ponty will ask the NW co-ordinator to send all reports to the clerk for Parish Council circulation.

7.2 Essex CC report. None

7.3 Braintree DC report Cllr Scattergood reported on the Braintree District Council budget process, which goes to a scrutiny meeting in November. Government funding is currently unknown but due to be announced by the end of November. The BDC budget has to manage increased costs including public sector pay increases and energy bills. BDC is trying not to increase rates and has strong reserves, but is looking at all areas where savings can be made. This may include less money being allocated to funding Parish Councils. Planning appeals are expensive so are to be avoided if possible, but this should not compromise planning decisions.

Action: S106 funding. In answer to a question from the clerk about delays in approval of S106 funding applications, Cllr Scattergood suggested a letter to BDC Cllr Gabrielle Spray who is the cabinet member responsible, outlining the problems caused including missing the summer/autumn season for installation of new picnic benches at Coes Meadow and increased prices as the quotes expire before they can be purchased.

8. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

8.1 <u>Allotments report</u>: On behalf of Mr Mike Crome, Allotments Officer, the clerk reported that all annual rents are paid apart from one allotment tenant

9. PLANNING

Applications received: **22/02548/LBC** Re-roofing and associated repairs Auberies Church Road CO10 7DY

Decision ratified: No objections



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22/02707/COUPA Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 2no. residential dwellings

The Piggeries Hedingham Road Bulmer

Objection: request full planning consultation

22/02736/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: - Conifer hedge - Remove to increase width of garden
St Jude Bulmer Street CO10 7EP

No objections

22/02884/HH Change in roof pitch to main dwelling and existing rear extension, erection of balcony, 3No. rear dormers and proposed cart lodge with first floor office

Greensted Upper Houses CO10 7ET

No objections, but request contractor parking is considered.

Applications determined:
22/02101/HH Single storey side extension
Carters Bulmer Tye CO10 7ED

Application PERMITTED

22/01147/FUL Re-Consultation A new 400/132 kilovolt (kV) Grid Supply Point (GSP) substation including two supergrid transformers, associated buildings, equipment and switchgear, a single circuit cable sealing end compound, a new permanent vehicular access to the public highway, associated landscaping (including boundary fencing, an area for Biodiversity Net Gain, and landscape mounding) and drainage Land Adjacent Butlers Wood And Waldegrave Wood West Of A131 (In The Parishes Of Bulmer And Twinstead) Sudbury Road Bulmer

<u>National Grid</u> In answer to a question from Cllr Raymond, Cllr Scattergood reported that BDC continues to support residents in requesting improved plans. Recent changes to proposals for the substation, pylons and undergrounding part of the route have achieved a better result for all the villages. BDC has sought the support of James Cleverly MP in requesting the removal of smaller unused pylons by UK Power Networks.

10. FINANCE

10.1 The monthly payments were be approved for payment. See Appendix 1 Finance

Proposed: Cllr Raymond Seconded: Cllr Ponty Agreed unanimously

Action: Cllr Nichols will be asked to authorise the payments on line, together with Cllr Raymond

- 10.2 National pay award backdated to April 2022, its implications for clerk pay and the budget were noted.
- 10.3 Income & spending vs budget and annual forecast were discussed in advance of the January budget.
- 10.4 Allocation of reserves was discussed in advance of the January budget, in line with the Reserves Policy **Action**: Clerk to set up a Zoom meeting in January for Councillors to discuss budget options. No decision will

be taken at this meeting. All budget and precept decisions will take place at the January public meeting.

11. TRANSPORT EAST RURAL MOBILITY SURVEY 2022

Action: Cllrs Ponty & Hall will forward answers to survey questions to the clerk for the Parish Council response to this survey which due by 16th December 2022. One response is requested per Parish Council

12. BDC OPEN SPACES ACTION PLAN

Action: All Councillors to forward to the clerk their suggestions for annual updates to the Open Spaces Action Plan for Bulmer parish, who will compile a draft for approval at the January meeting. Updates are due by 27th January 2023. The Open Spaces Action Plan is a key document used by the Local Planning Authority to justify seeking S.106 monetary contributions for Public Open Space improvements across the district.

13. DEFIBRILLATORS FOR BULMER

Cllr Hall reported his findings including options for renting or purchasing defibrillators. Subject to an assessment of quotes, it appears that purchasing defibrillators and cabinets is a more cost-effective option. Very few



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sources of grant funding are available but the purchase of defibrillators and cabinets from Parish Council capital reserves could be possible, as they would be listed on the Parish Council asset register. Initially 4 village locations will be considered.

Action: Clerk to request advice and support from District & County Councils. Clerk to arrange presentation from a recommended supplier to the Parish Council on purchase & installation options. Clerk to contact properties in the parish who might host a public access defibrillator including donating the small electricity supply required. Clerk to investigate grant funding options. Clerk to obtain quotes for Parish Council consideration.

14. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

- ECC Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund grants of up to £1,000 to create safe spaces which are free to the Essex public this winter. Groups and organisations can apply, visit https://ealc.gov.uk/winter-warmth-and-welcome-spaces-fund/. Sible Hedingham Library is running a scheme
- **ECC budget for 2023/24** public consultation is open until Monday 28 November. Take part in the consultation here: https://survey.euro.confirmit.com/wix/7/p350931054797.aspx?ebrm=1&l=9

15. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- January 2023 budget & precept setting meeting
- Allocation of ring-fenced reserves
- Highways: Safety improvement ideas for A131 Bulmer Tye
- Highways: Speed reduction ideas for Church Rd and Bulmer Street
- Open Spaces Action Plan updates

16. LAURENCE COE RECREATIONAL TRUST – BULMER PARISH COUNCIL SOLE TRUSTEE

16.1 S106 application for picnic benches and bins at Coes Meadow: Following a response from the S106 officer at BDC, the clerk had obtained revised quotes for picnic benches for a decision. For 3 octagonal recycled plastic wood effect picnic benches, including one wheelchair accessible picnic table, grass anchor fixing kits and delivery, the quotes received were:

- Earth Anchors £2073.00 ex VAT.
- NBB Recycled Furniture- £2,513.00 ex VAT
- Eureka Direct £3558.00 ex VAT

RESOLVED: To accept the Earth Anchors quote at £2073.00 ex VAT and submit for approval for S106 claim. **Proposed:** Cllr Raymond **Seconded:** Cllr Ponty Agreed unanimously

16.2 To consider issue of cars left parked long-term at Coes Meadow car park

Action: Clerk to compose letter to be left on any vehicles parked long-term, stating that this is Parish Council/Coes Meadow land designated for the use of visitors to Coes Meadow.

17. MEETING DATES 2022-23

The meeting closed at 9.26 nm.

Monday 16 th January 2023	Ordinary Parish Council	7.15pm Bulmer Village Hall
Monday 20 th March 2023	Ordinary Parish Council	7.15pm Bulmer Village Hall
Monday 15 th May 2023	Annual Parish Council	7.15pm Bulmer Village Hall

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Signed	
-	Cllr Rosemary Raymond



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Payments & receipts November 2022: Financial Report Appendix 1

Bulmer Parish Council Account

Nov-22		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
02-Nov	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay October	£388.55
02-Nov	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk expenses	£26.36
02-Nov	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting September	£511.20
05-Nov	B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI month 7	£70.40
16-Nov	B/P	ICO	Annual Registration	£35.00
21-Nov	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting October	£451.20

TOTAL in month £1,482.71

Nov-22		Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
03-Nov	CHQ	Hayward	Allotment rent	£62.10
07-Nov		Morgan	Allotment rent	£48.08
07-Nov		Munro	Allotment rent	£72.06
09-Nov		Baz	Allotment rent plot 10	£29.43
09-Nov		Boxall	Allotment rent plot 5A	£27.67

TOTAL in month £239.34

Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Account

Nov-22	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
02-Nov	HAGS	Swing seat parts	£30.00
21-Nov	PlaySafety	ROSPA Inspection	£174.60
21-Nov	Bulmer Parish Council	Grass cutting May-Nov	£612.00
		TOTAL in month	£816.60

Nov-22	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
18-Nov	J Soper	Donation	£200.00

TOTAL in month £200.00

Accounts balances at 21st November 2022 Bulmer Parish Council

BPC Unity Trust Current account £15,194.23
BPC Unity Trust Allotment Deposits £60.00

BPC Capital Reserves

BPC Unity Trust Deposit account £35,227.14
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund £30,915.37
Barclays Deposit account CLOSED

Coes Meadow

LCRT Unity Trust Current account £3,277.53



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Reconciled payments & receipts October 2022: Financial Report Appendix 1

Bulmer Parish Council Account

Oct-22		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
05-Oct	B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI Month 6	£70.40
12-Oct	B/P	Wave	Water Allotments	£114.73

TOTAL in month £185.13

Oct-22		Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
03-Oct		Whittingdale	Grazing rent	£40.00
03-Oct		Harris	Allotment rent 4A	£49.18
03-Oct		Graham	Allotment rent 8A&B	£37.57
03-Oct		Soper	Allotment rent 11A	£23.05
03-Oct		Crome	Allotment rent 19	£26.79
04-Oct		Buchanan	Grazing rent	£75.40
03-Oct		Buchanan	Allotment rent 17&17B	£27.89
07-Oct	CHQ	Brett	Allotment rent 7&9	£77.78
04-Oct		Sexton	Allotment rent 11 old	£33.83
10-Oct		Raymond	Grazing rent	£1,106.70
10-Oct		Coombes	Grazing rent	£13.78
10-Oct		Arbuthnot	Allotment rent 14&15	£51.38
10-Oct		Orr	Allotment rent 2A	£26.35
10-Oct		Aslan	Allotment rent 2B	£23.27
12-Oct		White	Grazing rent	£32.50
13-Oct		Outhwaite	Allotment 20 deposit	£60.00
17-Oct		Brett	Grazing rent	£492.00
19-Oct	CHQ	Hayto	Grazing rent	£123.50
20-Oct		Peters	Allotment rent 5B	£15.79
24-Oct	CHQ	Debenham	Allotment rent 20	£19.75
27-Oct		Seaman	Allotment rent 4B	£53.58
31-Oct		Elsey	Grazing rent	£82.03
31-Oct		Wright	Allotment rent 16	£31.85

TOTAL in month £2,523.97

Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Account

Oct-22	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
	None		£0.00

	Oct-22	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
Ī		None		£0.00