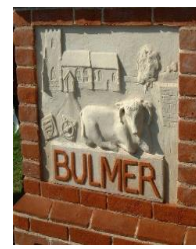




# Bulmer Parish Council

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



## Minutes of a Meeting of Bulmer Parish Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at Bulmer Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Crawshay, Crome, Kershaw, Nichols, Ponty, Street

**In the Chair:** Cllr Nichols

**Clerk:** Claire Waters

**Also Present:** Mrs Carol Everard, St Andrews Primary School  
Mrs Rebecca Fitzpatrick, Pebbles Pre-School

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Raymond apologised for absence. Apologies for absence were also received from Cllr Peter Schvier ECC and Cllr Wendy Scattergood BDC

### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw

Agreed unanimously

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw

Agreed unanimously

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Crome declared an interest in item 8.2 as an allotment tenant.

### 4. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Carol Everard of St Andrews Primary School and Mrs Rebecca Fitzpatrick of Pebbles Pre-School outlined their request to the Parish Council for use of the land at Bakers Field to support the growth of the pre-school, which is currently operating from a very old demountable on land which belongs to St Andrews Church and currently accommodates a maximum of 10 children. The plans are to grow the pre-school to accommodate 25 children, which would require a demountable double the size. These plans are subject to approval by the governing body at a meeting in 2 weeks' time. The current site of the pre-school is accessible for utilities so it is possible a new demountable would be sited in the same location. If this is decided, the use of Bakers Field would be required for a small vegetable patch for educational purposes. The alternative is to site a new demountable at Bakers Field. The primary school has a capacity of over 150 children and currently has 78 on the register. Increasing numbers of pupils from outside Bulmer attend the primary school

**Parking:** This is a primary concern of the Parish Council, the Governing Body and school & nursery managers. Residents of the area have been subjected to blocked driveways, damage to property and abuse from drivers. Various measures have been taken including staggered start and finish times and a visit from two local police officers to speak to parents. More ideas are being considered including a walking bus, but every year new parents have to be persuaded to co-operate with safety measures. The policy of the school is to advise residents to report dangerous parking to the police on 101. This aligns with the Parish Council recommendation to local residents to report incidents to the police as they have the authority to tackle dangerous parking.

**Action:** The Parish Council response to the request for use of Bakers Field will be considered at item 15, and the decision will be reported to Mrs Everard and Mrs Fitzpatrick with a copy of the minutes in advance of the meeting of the school Governing Body.

*Mrs Everard & Mrs Fitzpatrick left the meeting*

### 5. PROGRESS CHECK

Clerk's report – contact had been made with the volunteer who empties bins at Coes Meadow, and support offered to him from the Parish Council in obtaining any equipment or PPE required to work safely.

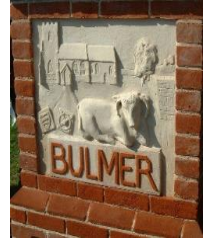
Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

<https://e-voice.org.uk/bulmerpc/>



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## 6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

**6.1 Essex Highways Devolution Scheme:** To decide on Parish Council participation in local delivery of smaller-scale works such as verge and vegetation work, traffic sign maintenance and minor footway repairs. A pro-rata grant of 68p per head of population is being offered for the first year. This would amount to approx.£400.00

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council will not participate. With a small population, a large parish area and no village maintenance capability this is not financially viable.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nichols

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unanimously

**6.2 BDC Verge Cutting trial:** To consider a Parish Council response to the consultation on an autumn only cut for future years across the whole district.

**Action:** The clerk will submit the Parish Council response: 4 in favour of an autumn only cut, 3 against. Spring safety cuts to be requested at various narrow roads, bends and key junctions. Concerns to be expressed about litter, unkempt appearance and difficulty achieving an effective single autumn cut when grass is so long.

**6.3 Drain blockages:** Cllr Schwier has checked with Essex Highways who say the drains have been cleared, but all drains reported are still blocked to the top and growing weeds.

**Action:** Clerk to respond to Cllr Schwier to confirm extensive drain clearance is still needed

**6.4 Church Road:** Update on safety concerns due to parking at the blind bend. It has been confirmed that this is a police matter. Residents who are concerned about dangerous parking at any location in the parish are advised to report it to the police, by calling 101 for non-emergencies or 999 if personal safety is threatened.

**6.5 Speed survey:** Update on Essex Highways speed survey requested for Batt Hall. This has been completed

**Action:** The clerk will contact the Highways officer to obtain the results, so future actions can be considered.

**6.6 Bulmer Street & SID:** A new battery installed in the Speed Indicator Device is working but not all the time. Cllr Nichols will test if the solar panels are efficient at recharging the battery and report back to the Council.

**6.7 Footpaths:** Consideration of possible "lost" footpaths in the parish and actions to be taken

**Action:** The Ramblers Association link to maps and for reporting lost footpaths will be added to the website:

<https://www.ramblers.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/dont-lose-your-way-2026.aspx>

**Action:** Cllr Ponty and the clerk will prepare a letter to local landowners to ask about specific paths on their land

**6.8** The clerk reported concerns raised by a resident of Bulmer Street about speeding, and damage to their property following road resurfacing. Speeding issues are being addressed by the SID repair and a Community Speedwatch (item 8.3) Damage to buildings by Essex Highways work should be reported to ECC.

## 7. REPORTS

**7.1** Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly police reports had been forwarded to Councillors

**7.2** Essex CC report. None

**7.3** Braintree DC report. None

## 8. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

**8.1 St Andrews Church tower repairs:** Cllr Crome reported work is postponed to April 2022 due to bats

**8.2 Allotments report:** Cllr Crome reported invoices have been sent out. 3 people are on the waiting list

**8.3 Community Speedwatch report:** Cllr Nichols reported no response as yet from the organisers.

## 9. PLANNING

*Applications received:*

**21/02667/HH** Proposed single storey rear and side extension with front porch

6 Park Lane CO10 7EQ

*No objections*

**21/02714/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 2 no. residential dwellings

The Piggeries Hedingham Road Bulmer

*For information only - no comment required*



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## Applications received-decisions ratified

**21/02228/HH** Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, replace garage doors with windows.  
Guernsey House Smeetham Hall Lane CO10 7EN *No objections*

**21/02222/REM** Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline approval 19/01901/OUT for: Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling.  
Land Adjacent 3 Park Lane *No objections*

## Applications determined:

**21/01641/HH** Proposed single storey rear extension  
1 Bulmer Tye CO10 7EB

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/01506/HH** Proposed two storey side extension, new porch, internal alterations & installation of external insulation beneath render  
Secret Squirrel Cottage 15 Park Lane CO10 7EQ

*Application PERMITTED*

## 10. FINANCE

**10.1** The monthly payments were approved. Bank reconciliations were checked by Cllr Kershaw.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nichols

**Seconded:** Cllr Crome

Agreed unanimously

**10.2 RESOLVED:** To join the Braintree Association of Local Councils at £40 membership fee per year.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Nichols

Agreed unanimously

## Bulmer Parish Council account

| Sep-21 |     | Payments in Month | Details               | Amount  |
|--------|-----|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 14-Sep | B/P | E C Waters        | Clerk pay August      | £370.96 |
| 15-Sep | B/P | HMRC              | Tax August month 5    | £56.40  |
| 20-Sep | B/P | JPB Landscapes    | Grass Cutting         | £722.40 |
| 20-Sep | B/P | Mrs E C Waters    | Clerk expenses        | £12.50  |
| 20-Sep | B/P | BALC              | Annual Membership     | £40.00  |
| 24-Sep | D/D | Wave              | Water Allotments      | £9.77   |
| 30-Sep | B/P | E C Waters        | Clerk pay September   | £370.96 |
| 30-Sep | B/P | HMRC              | Tax September month 6 | £56.40  |

**TOTAL in month £1,639.39**

| Aug-21 |     | Payments in Month | Details          | Amount  |
|--------|-----|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| 01-Aug | B/P | E C Waters        | Clerk pay July   | £370.96 |
| 16-Aug | B/P | HMRC              | Tax July month 4 | £56.40  |

**TOTAL in month £427.36**

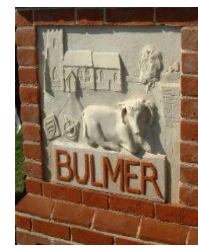
| Aug-21 | Receipts in Month | Details                   | Amount    |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
|        | Barclays          | Premium A/C Interest      | Not known |
| 02-Aug | CCLA              | PDSF Interest re-invested | 0.60      |

**TOTAL in month £0.00**



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## Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Account

| Sep-21                |     | Payments in Month | Details           | Amount         |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 20-Sep                | B/P | JPB Landscapes    | Grass Cutting     | £326.40        |
| 24-Sep                | DD  | Wave              | Water Coes Meadow | £12.58         |
| <b>TOTAL in month</b> |     |                   |                   | <b>£338.98</b> |

## Accounts balances at 14th September 2021

### Bulmer Parish Council

|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| BPC Unity Trust Current account | £8,218.57         |
| Barclays Deposit account        | £37,143.82        |
| CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund | £30,708.84        |
|                                 | <b>£76,071.23</b> |

### Coes Meadow

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| LCRT Unity Trust Current account | £2,964.80 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|

## 11. EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Parish Council policy for good practice in email correspondence and social media  
**Proposed:** Cllr Crome **Seconded:** Cllr Ponty **Agreed unanimously**

## 12. UKPN WORK AT BULMER TYE

Revised proposals for UKPN work at Park Lane were considered, including answers to questions which had been raised with the contractors by Cllr Crome. The plans involve a transformer sited at the allotments, close to Park Lane gate. Councillors preferred a lease arrangement on the land, a separate entrance gate for UKPN maintenance access and a fence to screen the transformer to be maintained by UKPN.

**Action:** The clerk will arrange a site visit with the contractor, to be attended by Cllrs Raymond and Crome.

## 13. BUS SHELTERS

The final Highway Licenses for bus shelters at Church Road and Bulmer Street crossroads had been signed by the clerk, and was noted and approved.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome **Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw **Agreed unanimously**

## 14. COES MEADOW ADJOINING LAND

Following the Extraordinary meeting in the absence of the public on 24<sup>th</sup> August, a written offer from the Parish Council of £23,000 to include the vendors' legal costs had been to the landowners, which met with their verbal request for an offer in excess of £20,000. This offer had been rejected and an increased offer requested.

**RESOLVED:** To write formally to the landowners asking them to confirm the price they are looking for so that the Parish Council can consult residents about the level of support for spending public money on the land.

**Proposed:** Cllr Kershaw **Seconded:** Cllr Crome **Agreed unanimously**

## 15. BAKERS FIELD LEASE & NURSERY BUILDING PROPOSAL

Following attendance of representatives at the public forum, the request from St Andrews School to site a Pebbles Pre-school building or a vegetable garden at Bakers Field was considered.

**RESOLVED:** To support the request for either plan in principle subject to more detailed proposals being submitted and on the condition that existing and future parking problems are addressed as part of the plans

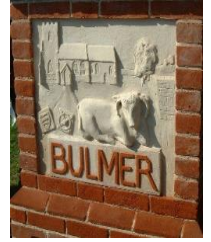
**Proposed:** Cllr Crome **Seconded:** Cllr Ponty **Agreed unanimously**





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## 16. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

To consider plans for celebration, in particular the lighting of a beacon on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and a village lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons information and guide on taking part can be found here: <https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/> Beacons cost £490 + VAT or instructions are available to make our own.

**RESOLVED:** To purchase a beacon for use at a public event at Coes Meadow.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unanimously

## 17. PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN: BDC ANNUAL UPDATE REQUEST

Cllr Crome was thanked for completing the necessary updates for the 2021 Annual Review of the Parish Emergency Plan for submission to Braintree District Council by the deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## 18. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

**ECC:** Residents were invited to have their say on the Essex Library Service with online discussions on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Essex County Council's Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Louise McKinlay outlined ideas for key principles to help guide the service and its future development. Residents were able to discuss these, as well as make suggestions and offer feedback.

**19. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Please inform the clerk by 9am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

*The Parish Council meeting ended at 9.10pm*

## 20. LAURENCE COE RECREATIONAL TRUST – Sole Trustee meeting

To receive report from Coes Meadow Management Committee to Bulmer Parish Council as sole trustee

**RESOLVED:** A grant application submitted for up to £10,000 to the ECC CIF Fund for a French boules pitch and improved picnic area facilities, new litter bins and a bin store was approved

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Nichols

Agreed unanimously

*The Laurence Coe Recreational Trust meeting ended at 9.12pm*

## 21. MEETING DATES 2021

|                           |                         |                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>15th November 2021</b> | Ordinary Parish Council | Bulmer Village Hall |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|

**Councillors:** Cllr Antonia Crawshay    Cllr Mike Crome    Cllr Sarah Kershaw  
Cllr Laurence Nichols    Cllr Cathey Ponty    Cllr Rose Raymond  
Cllr Christine Street

Copy to: **County Councillor:** Cllr Peter Schwier  
**District Councillor:** Cllr Wendy Scattergood

Signed.....

**Cllr Rosemary Raymond**