

# Bulmer Parish Council

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## Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 16th March 2015 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs. Crome, Buchanan, Raymond, Fulcher, Morgan, Leigh; CCllr Finch, DCllr Scattergood; Mrs H Fraser (clerk); 1 member of the public.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Ponty and DCllr Swift, and were accepted.

### **2. Declarations of interest (existence and nature, with regard to items on this agenda)**

Cllr. Fulcher declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14.

### **3. Public question time (15 minutes)**

No questions.

### **4. Approval of the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 19th January 2015**

The Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman for chairing the meeting so efficiently. Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Leigh and seconded by Cllr. Buchanan; 6 were in favour, 1 abstained due to not being present at the meeting in question.

### **5. Matters arising from the minutes**

- i) Salt bin update: Permission has been given by ECC for a private bin on the corner of Ryes Lane, providing there is a small notice with Parish contact details. It will be the Parish Council responsibility for maintenance and filling. The Clerk was instructed to order the previously approved bin in July 2015.
- ii) SID update: Thanks were given to CCllr. Finch for securing the replacement and installation, in a new version with more data. The Chairman had circulated information about an anti-race device (the device displays excessive speeds so this will provide a cutoff) costing £100. Cllr. Raymond proposed purchasing this device, Cllr. Leigh seconded and all were in favour. The Clerk was asked to action as per the Chairman's email on the subject.
- iii) Batt Hall white gates update: The location has been agreed with Highways and has been passed by their engineers: installation should be in April. CCllr. Finch offered to follow this up.
- iv) Yellow Lines application update: The Clerk was asked to supply a 3<sup>rd</sup> draft asap, CCllr. Finch will lend his support.
- v) Lime Avenue & replacement trees update : The tree surgery has been completed, the question was whether to replace trees now or in autumn? Costs would be £107 inc. VAT each plus £40 delivery and £7 for post support, for 3 metre trees in containers. Daily watering would be needed so it was agreed to order in autumn. The Clerk was asked to apply for funds via S106 after discussing with Cllr. Fulcher and Stephen Wenlock.

### **6. David Finch, County Councillor**

A Parish update has recently been circulated. Council tax bills have been sent out with the ECC figure in its 5<sup>th</sup> year of 0% increase. A record capital investment programme for next year is planned, including 19 million to flood alleviation schemes, a significant investment in Highways, LED lighting pilots running in Maldon etc. A Quiet lanes nomination programme coming soon. Imminently the question of devolution of skills funding from central government to county councils will be debated. It will be important to lobby for devolution, as Social Services are

required to merge with Health: more local control will be needed to make this happen. The recent Energy switch campaign was successful – Essex had the largest take up nationally. Accident blackspot signs should be in place very shortly, the road surface is also being inspected for low adhesion near The Fox. The surface of Ryes Lane is also slippery, CCllr. Finch will follow up. CCllr. Finch then left the meeting. DCllr. Scattergood introduced herself; she is currently BDC Chairperson of planning. She confirmed she was against the proposed electricity substation and for undergrounding rather than new pylons. She was thanked for her support on planning issues.

## 7. Coe's Meadow report

A resident has come forward to do the regular inspections, the previous person standing down. S106 money will be available for the table tennis table. Protective matting has been installed. The Fun Day and a Waterloo Day are being planned.

## 8. Allotments report

A report had been circulated. Cllr. Morgan was pleased to report the abandoned shed has been removed. One allotment is vacant (1a): there is no waiting list at present, and will be advertised in What's On. The Council discussed terminating the contract for the overgrown garden allotment: the Clerk will check as to what notice is required. Thanks given to Cllr. Buchanan who will now take on the allotment role.

## 9. Clerk's report

A report had been circulated. The Clerk is to seek clarity on the insurance issue for Bakers Field; there has been another enquiry from the School. It would need to be made clear in the lease that it is the school's responsibility.

## 10. Village Hall report

This report will be given at the May meeting, after the next BVHMC meeting.

## 11. Planning

- i) Updates: Batt Hall (driveway) granted; Vicars Orchard (trees) pending; The Bungalow (amendments to Plot 3) pending; Cherwell (window) granted, (conifer) pending.
- ii) BDC Local Development Plan: the deadline was 6<sup>th</sup> March, Cllr. Crome responded in favour of extending the AONB.
- iii) Braintree District Open Space Strategy: this had been completed and circulated by Cllr. Fulcher. All agreed for the Clerk to submit this version.
- iv) S106 response to requests for inclusion: this had been covered under previous items. Cllr. Fulcher has spoken to Stephen Wenlock re: using Church Meadow for carparking overflow for Coe's Meadow due to the size of equipment etc. on Fun Day. The Clerk will proceed on this matter.

## 12. Receipts & Payments

### i) Balance in hand (Appendix E)

Balance in hand (£)	92,927.43	(Jan: 93,602.99)
		beginning of 2014-15: 100,958
<b>Debtors</b>		
VAT reimbursement 2014-15	1,235.04	
<b>Receipts since last meeting</b>		
None		-

### Payments since last meeting

	chq. no		
Anglian Water	Aug - Nov	223	55.66
Chilton Office Services	Newsletter	224	83.52 inc VAT
RCCE	Membership 2014/5	225	48.00 inc VAT
M Crome	Reimburse for engraving etc	226	31.00 inc VAT
S Buchanan	Reimburse for parking/mileage	227	32.95
H L Fraser	Clerks salary Nov & Dec & exp.	228	606.87 inc VAT

TOTAL (£)				858.00
<i>Payments to be signed at this meeting:</i>				
BALC	Subscription 2015	229	18.00	
Anglian Water	Coe's Meadow Nov-Feb	230	16.95	
Anglian Water	Allotments Nov-Feb	231	37.65	
G Nicholl	Lime Avenue Tree Surgery	232	1875.00	
H L Fraser	Clerks salary Jan & Feb & exp.	233	589.52	inc VAT
CPRE	Subscription 2015	234	36.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 2,573.12</b>	

spending has exceeded budget

spending near or on budget limit

spending is under budget

spending is within CMMC savings

The cheques were signed.

ii) Review capital investments: the Clerk was advised to ask the Castle Hedingham Clerk for advice.

### 13. Cluster Meeting report

Cllrs. Fulcher and Crome attended, minutes had been circulated.

- i) Byways update: Upper Houses to the Brickyards, a programme is underway to close in winter – this is trialling at Ryes Lane to Middleton, but bikes get round the barrier. Cllr. Fulcher has put in a submission to LHP as advised.
- ii) Speeding on the A131: The Henny Parish Clerk has requested accident records for the last 3 years. The Police advise every single accident (non-injury) should be reported via telephone 101 (but 999 for those involving injury) and to keep records ourselves: Cllr. Raymond offered to do this.
- iii) Sudbury bypass: the Cluster Meeting was generally against a bypass going across the water meadows.

### 14. Church Meadow parking improvements

Cllr. Fulcher presented research on materials and costs, funding to come from S106 or capital. Of the three companies Horsemat is the cheapest estimate, Cllr. Fulcher recommended option 2 – under £9,000 for a turning circle and strip. It was agreed to wait for agreement on S106 funding before deciding whether to proceed.

### 15. Noticeboard replacement

Cllr. Crome had circulated research and costs, which were delivery only, installation will be extra. All options are just a one year warranty, not a guarantee, and would be fitted on to the existing wooden framework. It was discussed whether to replace the back panels. Cllr. Morgan proposed and Cllr. Leigh seconded option 1, to replace front panels with 3 panels as per current layout. All were in favour, Cllr. Crome to action.

### 16. Election information

A timetable was circulated. The Clerk will circulate nomination papers asap.

### 17. Parish Meeting 2015

The suggested date is 16<sup>th</sup> April, to include RCCE, District and County councillors and Local organisations as last year. The agenda to include an Open question and answer session, the Chairman's report, and explain why there is an increased precept this year. Refreshments as last year – the Clerk to arrange and hire glasses. About 20 people came last year. The Clerk will circulate a draft agenda and Cllr. Crome will put in What's On.

### 18. Items for the next agenda

Telephone boxes

### 19. Date of next meeting

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

The meeting finished at 9.39pm.