



Bulmer Parish Council



Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council held on Tuesday 22nd. January 2019 at Bulmer Village Hall at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr R. Raymond (Chairman), Cllr A. Lyes & Cllr S. Morgan. ECC D. Finch and BDC Cllr W. Scattergood. Also, present was Kevin B. Money and 2 members of the Public

001/2019 Chairman Welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

002/2019 To ratify the appointment of Mr. Kevin B. Money as Parish Clerk/RFO to the Council
Cllr R. Raymond proposed and Cllr A. Lyes seconded that Mr. Kevin B. Money be appointed as Parish Clerk/RFO to Bulmer Parish Council. **All Agreed.**

The Chairman and Kevin Money then signed the contract of employment

003/2019 Apologies for Absence. The Chairman informed the meeting that she had received an email from Cllr P. Benns resigning as a Parish Councillor with immediate effect. The Chairman thanked Phil Benns for all his work as a Parish Councillor.

004/2019 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the Agenda
No Councillor declared any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the Agenda

005/2019 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Bulmer Parish Council

To receive and agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 19th. December 2018
Cllr S. Morgan proposed and Cllr A. Lyes seconded to approve the minutes of the 19th. December 2019 meeting. **All Agreed**

006/2019 Chairman's report and any update since last meeting

The Chairman thanked Kevin for taking on the role of Parish Clerk/RFO she also again mentioned the sad resignation of Phil Benns. She then asked if residents would consider becoming new Councillors. If they were interested then could they please contact the Parish Clerk registering their interest at bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com

007/2019 Public Participation Session

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present. A maximum time of 15 minutes will be allowed.

A resident informed the meeting that in his opinion the village is looking untidy. The finger post at Lime Avenue – Opp. Village Hall – Chevron sign Dog pit corner are all at angles. Cllr D. Finch suggested using the ECC/EALC Local Services Fund to have a “handyman” in the village undertake such tasks.

008/2019 Essex County Councillors report – Cllr David Finch

Essex County Council is the most efficient/effective Council of its size in the country and ranks seventh overall.

- Consultancy iMPower surveyed 150 upper-tier councils, with ECC 7th. for spending money effectively and getting the best results for residents
 - ECC has improved its productivity/effectiveness, moving up from 23rd. place last year
- The results are drawn from an analysis of performance in six key areas: children's social care, older people, disability, health and social care, housing and homelessness, waste and recycling.

- Reports of potholes decreased by 45% in Essex between 2015-2017

National figures released by the RAC in December 2018 showed Essex bucking national trends, where reports have been increasing. The figure reflects our hard work in tackling potholes, with extra funding/resources deployed to clear the backlog particularly following the 'beast from the East' cold snap at the beginning of 2018.

- ECC is the best social work employer

ECC places great emphasis on training and career progression for social workers through the Essex Social Care Academy

The Council has created a stable workforce with limited use of agency staff, which has been in part due to the introduction of a high-quality programme of support in employment.



Bulmer Parish Council



We are committed to making our social workers feel valued and positive and achieve positive outcomes for vulnerable children, families and adults.

- Broadband rollout (EI 4m investment)

As of November 2018, 115,000 properties have been enabled (phase 2 of the rollout continues). Delivery will reach its peak over the next nine months.

Just 3% of Essex (26,000 properties) has no existing or planned superfast coverage.

- Devolved funding to Parish Councils

Parishes have been invited to take part in a pilot where they would undertake devolved highways functions, including grass cutting and special verge maintenance, weed control, tree and hedge cutting, minor footway repairs, installing/maintaining signs, winter salt bags, maintaining bus stops/shelters, and maintaining public rights of way.

15 Parish Councils have expressed an interest in taking part in the pilot.

- Essex's Youth Offending team does 'Outstanding' work with young offenders

HM Inspectorate of Probation announced in December that the service was 'outstanding', its highest category. Many aspects of its work to prevent reoffending were found to be 'impressive', and the service was praised for its consistent approach despite covering one of the largest areas in the country. Dame Glenys Stacey, HM Chief Inspector of Probation, said: "The arrangements for youth offending work and the focus given to it by strategic leaders are clear and well understood. The work is led well by both strategic leaders and operational managers."

- Schools and skills success

94% of ECC schools are rated as good or outstanding. We are supporting the training of young people in Essex through apprenticeships and academic study, working in conjunction with further education providers and universities, to ensure we are producing people with the right skills to help grow the Essex economy.

- Reducing unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments

Working with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Roger Hurst, we have seen a 40% reduction in unauthorised Gypsy and traveller encampments.

- Essex Housing

We are successfully bringing former public sector land into use for housing. Our flagship scheme is Goldlay Gardens in Chelmsford, which has 23 private homes and 23 specialist flats for young people with learning disabilities.

- Children's Services

In January we were given an overall grade of 'Outstanding' by Ofsted following an inspection in November. ECC has been recognised in parliament and by the Children's Minister, Nadhim Zahawi MP, as being the leading light in children's services. Mr Zahawi has visited Essex to look at how we provide services and achieve excellent outcomes for costs which are below national averages • We anticipate we will shortly be offering evidence to the MHCLG Parliamentary Select Committee on Children's Services funding.

Budget 2019/20

Despite our efforts, inflation, price increases, population growth and greater demand for services means we need to increase Council tax by 2.99% and use the 1% Social Care precept. Taking these increases into account, the council tax for a band d property will be £1270.44: this is an increase of £0.94 pence per week. There are major road improvements planned in conjunction with the development of housing across the County and the County's Capital programme is £249 million – major elements are £117 million on highways £87 million on Schools and £14 million on Broadband.

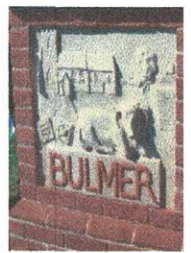
The Council's organizational strategy is focused on the following Key areas of focus for 18/19 and 19/20.

- a. Enable inclusive economic growth
- b. Help people get the best start and age well
- c. Help create great places to grow up, live and work
- d. Transform the council to achieve more with less

Should Councillors want a copy of the 173-page Strategy I will be happy to provide an electronic copy.!!



Bulmer Parish Council



As always, I'm happy to deal with any issues or problems discussed at your meeting.

Cllr Finch then took questions from the residents and Councillors then he left the meeting

009/2019 District Councillors report – Cllr Wendy Scattergood

- BDC has not set the budget for 2019/20 yet. The Scrutiny committee will meet next week
- BDC is in a good position by investing in properties realising 6-7% p.a.
- Funding should not be cut to ANOB
- Planning – Has now got a 5 year PLUS housing supply
- BDC £650,000 put into Essex Broadband service
- BDC investing in small business units

Cllr W. Scattergood then took questions from the Councillors then left the meeting

010/2019 Allotments - Update on a secondary water outlet at Turnpike Piece.

A few residents have contacted the Parish Council. Cllr S. Morgan is arranging to get all 3 residents together this weekend.

M. Crome has supplied a quotation to supply a secondary water outlet at Park Lane. Further quotations are still required. The Clerk was asked to find the previous quotations and to ask the companies to re-quote Other Parish Council were asked if they would advertise vacant allotments in Bulmer.

011/2019 Coes Meadow - Update to include issues and repairs required and also the setting up of a new Coes Meadow Management Committee as soon as possible.

A successful working party at Coes Meadow last week. Clearing, shredding, remove and cut down a tree for £200. Cllr R. Raymond proposed to remove tree and to clear the area. Seconded by Cllr S. Morgan.

All Agreed

A letter was read out by the Chairman from a resident regarding the Honey Fungus.

The Clerk was asked to send an acknowledgement to the resident. Cllr R. Raymond stressed to the meeting that a committee must be set-up ASAP for Coe's Meadow.

The Clerk was asked to produce the report and jobs that were needed to be done at Coes Meadows

012/2019 Planning Applications

18/02145/FUL - Land South Of Hedingham Road Bulmer Essex

Erection of agricultural storage building and new vehicular access

BPC Decision: Bulmer Parish Council requests that the Applicant produces evidence for the use of the building on such a small piece of land which cannot be justified.?

The size of the building and the land would not sustain agricultural use. There is a major highways issue. It is a major blackspot area. There have been numerous vehicle accidents and telegraph poles have been damaged. The Parish Council also refers the planning case officer to residents' comments made against this application.

013/2019 Decision/s made by BDC on planning applications

No decisions have been made by BDC affecting Bulmer Parish Council

014/2019 Finance

a. Bank balances and bank reconciliation as at 31st. December 2018 and 2018/19 budget account Councillors noted the Bank balances and bank reconciliations

b. Councillors to agree payment of January 2019 finances

Cllr A. Lyes proposed and Cllr S. Morgan seconded that the January '19 payments be authorised. All Agreed

c. Councillors to agree Budget/Precept figures for 2019/20 previously discussed at the November meeting

After careful discussion Cllr S. Morgan proposed and Cllr A. Lyes seconded that the 2019/20 Precept of £9782 which equates to a 2.99% increase and a Band D property Tax base of 35.43p (79p increase) and that the form be signed and then sent to BDC. **All Agreed**

d. Chairman and Clerk to sign Parish Council Precept form for 2019/20 from BDC

Minutes for the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 22nd. January 2019

<https://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer>



Bulmer Parish Council



The Chairman and Clerk then signed the BDC Precept form.

e. Internet Banking – Changing to a specialised Parish Council Internet Bank

The Clerk asked Councillors to start considering changing the bank account to a dedicated Parish Council Internet bank. Councillors agreed to look at this at the next Full Council meeting. All Agreed

f. Councillors to decide the payroll services for 2019/20.

Councillors discussed at length changing the payroll services to DM Payroll Services Ltd. Cllr A. Lyes proposed and Cllr S. Morgan seconded changing to DM Payroll Services Ltd. The Chairman and Clerk then signed the contract.

015/2019 Items for Next Agenda

Quotation for Allotment water pipe

Date of Next Full Council meetings 18.03.19 - 29.04.19 (Annual Assembly) : 20.05.19 (Annual Parish meeting followed by Parish Council meeting) : 15.07.19 : 16.09.19 : 18.11.19

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed..........18th. March 2019
Rosemary Raymond