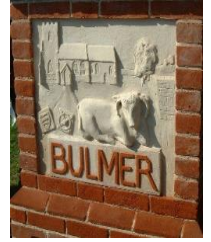




Bulmer Parish Council

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



Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19th July 2021 at 7.15 pm at Bulmer Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Crawshay, Crome, Nichols, Ponty, Raymond, Street
In the Chair: Cllr Raymond
Clerk: Claire Waters
Also Present: 2 parishioners

Cllr Rosemary Raymond as Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Kershaw apologised for absence due to holiday. Apologies were also received from District Cllr W Scattergood and County Cllr P Schwier due to conflicting meetings.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 5th May were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman

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

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of 23rd June were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman

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

2.1 Standing Orders: Additions to Standing Orders relating to good practice in email correspondence and social media will be summarised by the clerk and circulated to Councillors for their approval.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Crome declared an interest in item 8.2 as an allotment holder

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Drain blockages: A resident commented that the drains at Church Road near Vicars Orchard are still in need of cleaning and clogged to the very top. This and other blocked drains have been reported to Essex Highways.

Action: The clerk will ask Cllr Schwier to chase up all outstanding drainage issues in the parish.

Land adjacent to Coes Meadow: A resident commented that if the vacant land adjoining Coes Meadow is bought as a travellers site, in his experience they move in very quickly and clear the site before objections can be raised. This relates to item 13 on the agenda.

5. PROGRESS CHECK

The clerk confirmed that there was nothing report in addition to items already on the agenda

6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

6.1 Verge cutting: Urgent safety cuts have been requested at Upper Houses lane, Bulmer St crossroads and Church Road junction with A131. The A131 junction has been cut but not the other problem areas. This is now with BDC grounds maintenance and they have been asked to confirm a date when the verges will be cut.

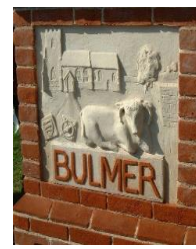
6.2 Speed survey: Batt Hall. A requested speed survey has not yet been carried out. Councillors agreed that it should now wait until the road resurfacing has settled and the schools return after the holidays to avoid giving an inaccurate result. It may be possible to request a 40mph limit, but 40mph signs are not advised by Essex Highways if the average speeds recorded are around 40 or lower as they may encourage drivers to go faster.

6.3 Footpaths: Consideration of possible "lost" footpaths in the parish and actions to be taken. Councillors were directed to the "Don't Lose Your Way" website <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/dont-lose-your-way-2026.aspx> to identify possible footpaths lost in Bulmer. This needs to be addressed before 2026



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7. REPORTS

7.1 Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly police reports are circulated to Councillors. Cllr Crome reported that the local Neighbourhood Watch group is active and working well.

7.2 Essex CC report: None, Cllr Schwier sent apologies for absence due to a conflicting meeting

7.3 Braintree DC report: None, Cllr Scattergood sent apologies for absence due to a conflicting meeting

8. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

8.1 St Andrews Church tower repairs: request for permission to use part of Church Meadow to park contractors vehicles, skips and materials. Cllrs Raymond & Crome had visited and outlined the proposals to be agreed. There will be a small site hut and a skip by the wall at the entrance. Cars will be allowed to park on the matting. Scaffolding will be erected at the church tower but this is not expected to cause an obstruction. Damage will be made good at the contractors' cost, who are experienced in similar types of work.

Proposed: Cllr Raymond

Seconded: Cllr Crome

Agreed unanimously

8.2 Allotments report. Cllr Crome reported that weeds are generally a problem this year. One tenant has moved away and the vacant allotment leased to a resident of Park Lane who was next on the waiting list. Two new people have joined the waiting list. Two plots are not being fully worked, one due to illness and another only half maintained due to back problems. Cllr Crome will enquire if this plot might be split in half. One tenant has kindly cut all the grass around the edges. In answer to a question from Cllr Nichols, Cllr Crome reported that the tenants who were refused permission for a glass greenhouse have now put up a small shed and a small greenhouse with polycarbonate panes.

8.3 Community Speedwatch report: Cllr Nichols reported that the application to establish a new Community Speedwatch group was submitted by the deadline of 13th July and he is awaiting a response

9. PLANNING

Applications received:

21/02071/HH Conversion of existing stables to annex.
Suffolk Hall, Bulmer Street, Bulmer

No objections

Decisions ratified since 5th May meeting

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

No objections

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

No objections

Applications determined:

21/01486/T56 Installation of 20m high tree mast and 8No. equipment housing cabinets at ground-level all within proposed fenced compound, ancillary works thereto
Land At Ryes Lane Bulmer Essex

Approval Required and Not Given

21/00809/FUL Construction of 2 No. detached 4 bedroom dwellings with off road parking and divided detached garage space with home office facilities
Land Adjacent Back House Croft, Bulmer Street

Application REFUSED

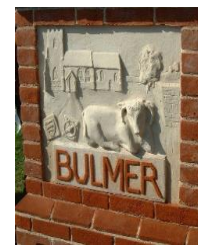
21/00847/COUPA Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 1 no. residential dwellings
Smeetham Hall Barn, Smeetham Hall Lane

Planning Permission Required



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21/00504/HH Erection of gym, Installing outdoor pool and revision of front elevation.
Stanleys Hedingham Road CO10 7EF

Application PERMITTED

21/01075/TPO Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 12/82 - Reduce lower branches on 1 Oak (A) tree by 10-12ft, remove deadwood, lift sub lateral weeping branches to the height of lower branch level (lifting crown) and remove/shorten to broaden large limb on Oak (B) (Low)
Polrudden, Finch Hill

Application PERMITTED

21/00093/LBC & 21/00092/HH Replacement windows at the rear of existing cottage
Mulberry Tree Cottage Bulmer Street CO10 7EP

Application PERMITTED

10. FINANCE

10.1 The monthly payments were approved for authorisation by two Councillors. The monthly bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr Street. Councillors had received a report of income and spending against budget up to June 2021

Proposed: Cllr Crome

Seconded: Cllr Nichols

Agreed unanimously

PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION, RATIFIED JULY 2021

Jul-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay June	£511.47
B/P	HMRC	Tax June month 3	£91.60
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses May to July	£24.41
B/P	Mr M Crome	Allotment key deposit returned	£20.00
B/P	Lyster Associates	April Newsletter	£73.00
B/P	Adam Boxall	Allotment dual tap	£10.95
TOTAL in month			£731.43

Accounts balances at 13th July 2021

Bulmer Parish Council

BPC Unity Trust Current account	£9,446.96	
Barclays Deposit account	£37,143.82	at 30th June 2021
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£30,707.45	at 30th June 2021
	£77,298.23	

Coes Meadow

LCRT Unity Trust Current account	£2,964.80
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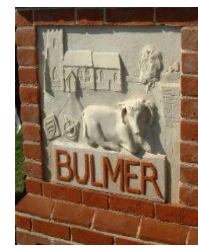
RECONCILED PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS JUNE 2021

Jun-21	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
01-Jun	D&J Harris	Allotment key deposit	£10.00
17-Jun	BDC	Street Cleaning Grant	£822.86
TOTAL in month			£832.86



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Jun-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£352.80
B/P	Heelis & Lodge	Audit	£140.00
B/P	R J Alston	Allotment Tap	£24.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay April	£353.59
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay May	£353.59
B/P	HMRC	Tax April month 1	£51.80
B/P	HMRC	Tax May month 2	£52.00
B/P	Vulcan Batteries	Battery for SID	£49.50
	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£18.00
TOTAL in month			£1,395.28

10.2 Receipt of the Internal Audit Report 2020-2021 and auditor recommendations were acknowledged. The Chairman thanked the clerk for the standard of work done on the annual audit in difficult circumstances.

10.3 The timely submission of the Annual Return to Audit Commission and the publication of the Notice of Public Rights to view the accounts by contacting the clerk between July 1st and August 13th 2021 were noted.

11. BRAINTREE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

An invoice has not yet been received to join Braintree Association of Local Councils at an annual cost of £40.00. Cllr Crome had attended two meetings and reported that the attendance of a Local Highways Panel officer at the last meeting was very useful, including learning about the work of the Braintree Highway Rangers for roadside maintenance jobs. The next meeting is at Helions Bumpstead in October and can also be attended via Zoom. It was decided to continue attendance and await formal joining instructions

Proposed: Cllr Raymond

Seconded: Cllr Street

Agreed unanimously

12. BUS SHELTERS

Maintenance work needed includes clearing weeds and ivy and applying wood preservative. Cllr Raymond offered to supply weedkiller if necessary as she has a licence. A resident with a trailer will be contacted to ask if they can help cart away green waste, and Cllr Raymond has the ability to dispose of it. Cllr Crawshay offered to undertake clearance work with her family.

Action: Clerk to liaise with resident to organise trailer and agree convenient dates for the work.

13. COES MEADOW ADJOINING LAND

Following the Extraordinary meeting at Coes Meadow on 23rd June, Councillors Raymond and Nichols and the clerk had met with Mr Jennings who is representing the owners of the land adjoining Coes Meadow. The landowners had not responded with any formal proposals as they have to reach agreement with 4 co-owners and members of the wider family, one of whom is on holiday until the end of July. 3 quotes from solicitors had been obtained for the Parish Council. Cllr Raymond reminded the Parish Council that it was confirmed the section of verge adjacent to Church Road is the property of Essex Highways.

RESOLVED: To write a formal letter to Mr Jennings and the landowners, requesting details of any proposed overage covenant together with their solicitors contact details and legal costs.

Proposed: Cllr Crome

Seconded: Cllr Raymond

Agreed unanimously

14. BAKERS FIELD LEASE & NURSERY BUILDING PROPOSAL

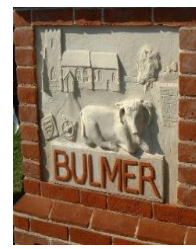
To consider request from St Andrews School to site a nursery building at Bakers Field. In principle Councillors were in favour although Cllr Raymond reported concerns raised by nearby residents about the pressure this might create on parking.

Action: Clerk to write to the school to ask their plans concerning parking arrangements



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Action: Clerk to contact Wayman & Long Solicitors to enquire about the transfer of the lease to St Andrews School which was being carried out in 2016

15. BOUNDARIES COMMISSION REVIEW

A Parish Council response to the public consultation about Parliamentary Constituency changes proposed for 2023 was considered. Councillors were generally not in favour of the changes, and it is likely that Bulmer will feel even more remote from services in Braintree District and Essex County. Full details of the consultation are available at <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk> with a deadline of 2nd August. All residents are encouraged to give their views to the Boundary Commission.

Action: Councillors to email their views to the clerk by Monday 26th July so a response can be compiled.

16. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

16.1 Essex County Council - in partnership with the NHS, has launched a new website to help people find a suitable care home for themselves or a loved one www.essexcaresearch.org

17. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Parish Council Emergency Plan – to agree annual updates
- Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by Monday 6th September please

The Parish Council meeting ended at 20.54

18. LAURENCE COE RECREATIONAL TRUST

To receive report from Coes Meadow Management Committee to Bulmer Parish Council as sole trustee. It was noted with regret the decision of Cllr Sarah Kershaw to step down as Chair of Coes Meadow Management Committee due to pressure of work. She was thanked for all her valuable contributions. Coes Meadow Management Committee Members will be asked if they wish to take on the Chairman role, and new committee members will be most welcome. A financial summary of Laurence Coe Recreational Trust accounts had been provided to Councillors. (see item 10)

The Laurence Coe Recreational Trust meeting ended at 21.02

19. MEETING DATES 2021

20th September 2021	Ordinary Parish Council	Bulmer Village Hall
15th November 2021	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