

Bulmer Parish Council

Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting

Held on 19th March 2018 in the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr. S.Buchanan, Cllr. R.Raymond, Cllr.C.Leigh, Cllr.P.Benns, Cllr.C Bennett, Cllr.S.Morgan
new Cllr.C.Street and Mrs D.Jacob (Parish Clerk)
9 members of the public.

18/033 Welcome and Apologies of Absence.

Cllr.S. Buchanan welcomed everyone. No apologies of absence received.

18/034 Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Christine Street signed Acceptance of Office and confirmed register of interest form has been completed and sent to Braintree District Council.

18/035 Declaration of Interests.

Received from Cllr.R.Raymond regarding item number 18/047.

18/036 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

One member of the public confirmed that a proposal by County Broadband is to cover the whole of the Parish, free installation if you sign up before 30th March, they require a commitment from the residents to ensure that it is viable. Allotment extension of water pipe, item was deferred at last meeting, but not on this agenda, Chairman apologised that due to the length of the agenda, that it had been left off, and that it will be on the May agenda, can S106 money be used for this item? Chairman stated that this item will be discussed under item 18/043

18/037 County Councillor David Finch & District Councillor Wendy Scattergood to address the members if present.

District Cllr.W.Scattergood reported that the Local plan had been delayed due to the garden community sites up for inspection, extra hearing taking place for Pattiswick on 9th May. Local Parish Councils are getting together to appoint a Data Protection Officer, would Bulmer like to join them? EALC offering free advice on this. County Cllr D.Finch reported that Essex are the largest providers of revenue to government. Trying to improve education standards within Essex, keen to invest in Broadband, however public support is required, three million to Highways to repair potholes, lottery funding, Essex Crowd Funding Platform, www.spacehive.com/movement/theessexcrowd, Local Services Fund for improving local places, can be applied for from the EALC.

18/038 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2018.

Approved, subject to amendments as a true and accurate record were signed by the Chairman.
Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Bennett, all in favour, resolution passed. **NOTE** Cllr.S.Morgan abstained from voting on this item.

Note amendment to item 18/032 To confirm the next Parish Council date is 19th March 2018.

Note amendment by Cllr Bennett

Councillor Raymond was appointed to office on the 13 May 2011. During her tenure has she ever brought to the council's attention that the licence was due for renewal or that no rental increase had been applied?

Note amendment to item 18/025 Mrs D. Jacob Salary for February should read £248.43, as advised by payroll provider.

18/039 Wayman & Long Solicitors.

It was agreed to appoint new solicitors as and when required.

Proposed by Cllr.P. Benns, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

Signed.....Chairman

21st May 2018

18/040 Broadband.

Item 1. To consider feedback from Bulmer Tye residents, regarding letter and map sent out in November 2017. As the Parish Council have only received 25 responses out of 82 contacts, therefore increasing the cost to each household, and due to lack of interest, this initiative cannot move forward.

Item 2. To consider acting as the legal entity for any future contract with BT. Not now relevant due to item 1. No further discussion on this item, unless more interest is received.

18/041 Insurance 2018.

It was agreed that the asset register is to remain the same as per previous years, but with the addition of a bus shelter. It was noted that the renewal date for the insurance is 31st May 2018. Clerk to obtain new quotes, this item deferred until May. Proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.R.Raymond, all in favour, resolution passed.

18/042 Grass cutting.

Item 1. Grass cutting on Plough Green.

The contractor is aware of the poor condition of the grass and has stopped cutting. Proposed to obtain quotes to scarify, sand and re seed, it was noted that there is also a problem with Rabbits.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Bennett, all in favour, resolution passed.

Item 2. To consider Cutting grass on Allotments in Park Lane and Little Dean.

Parish Council looking for volunteers to cut the grass on the allotments, this item deferred until May agenda.

Volunteer to continue to cut Little Dean area, as previous.

18/043 S106 Funding.

To formulate a prioritised list of S106 funded projects for completion in financial year 2018/2019. This was briefly discussed, Councillors to consider items of priority, list to be sent out before next meeting, item deferred until May agenda.

18/044 Parish Council Notice Board.

Notice board security was considered. To confirm the Parish Council Notice board, situated in The Street, outside Coe's Meadow is split into 3 sections, Village, Coes's Meadow and Parish Council, there is no key holder list for the noticeboards. A canvassing election poster was displayed in the village section of the Parish Council noticeboard. Cllr P.Benns said that this was misuse of the noticeboard. Cllr Bennett stated that there was nothing wrong with the village notice board being used to promote a single candidate for the election and that the other candidate could also have requested to display her poster. Cllr.P.Benns replied that as nobody seems to know who holds the keys, it was not an option available to the other candidate. Clerk confirmed that someone puts up the village lottery results on the Parish Council noticeboard situated in Park Lane, so someone else also has a key. Cllr.P.Benns said we need to find out who has keys. In order for this not to happen in the future it was agreed to go out to tender to change all the locks on all Parish Council noticeboards.

Proposed Cllr.S.Morgan, Cllr. R.Raymond, all in favour, resolution passed. Item to be on May Agenda.

18/045 Salt Bins.

To inform residents, by via these minutes, website and the newsletter that the salt in salt bins is provided at various locations throughout the county by Essex County Council to allow drivers and pedestrians to treat localised icy conditions. The bins contain a salt/sand mix which is solely for use on public roads and pavements and should not be used for private driveways.

To place a sign on the salt bin, in Ryes Lane, stating that the salt is for use on public roads and pavements only.

Proposed Cllr.S.Morgan, Cllr. C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

18/046 Coe's Meadow report.

Working party to cut suckers off the trees. Field maintenance will be a problem in the future, more volunteers required. Fun Day scheduled to be held on 17th June 2018 (Father's Day), see minutes on the Parish Council website.

18/047 Bulmer Grazing.

To contact Highways and the Environment Agency regarding the continual flooding issue, also to go out to tender to replace the broken pipes/maintenance required.

Proposed Cllr.C.Bennett, Cllr. C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

Signed.....Chairman

21st May 2018

18/048 Financial Matters.

- 1) Financial Statement for February/March (Items to be approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).

DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE NO.	TOTAL
Braintree District Council (Inv.No. 6641468 Election cost)	101430	1,409.96
HM Revenue & Customs (For February deduced from salary to be sent onto HMRC)	101431	58.40
Mrs D. Jacob (Salary for March)	SO	248.43
HM Revenue & Customs (For March deduced from salary to be sent onto HMRC)	101432	58.40
Essex Pension Fund (For March)	SO	75.28
Bulmer Village Hall (Hall Hire)	101433	95.00
Running Total Inv. 1235 (Payroll provider)	101434	30.00
Mrs D. Jacob (Expenses for February/March)	101435	108.02

All above payments approved, cheques signed.

Proposed by Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

2) Balance in Hand

Community Account as at 19th March (Revenue)	9,033.91
Business Premium Account as at 19th March (Capital)	36,983.62
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund (Capital)	30,199.14
Total as at 19th March 2018	76,216.67

3) Quarterly Inspection.

Cllr.S. Buchanan confirmed quarterly Inspection of accounts had been carried out, and everything was in order.

4) VAT

To confirm that VAT has been reclaimed and received for the period 1st April – 31st October 2017, (£130.12). (Still to reclaim VAT for 1st November 2017 – 31st March 2018, to be carried out after 31st March 2018).

18/0498 Planning Matters.**Ref: 18/00210/FUL**

Land South of Hedingham Road Bulmer Essex

Erection of storage and workshop building for agricultural contractor

Neutral

Proposed by Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour resolution passed.

Ref: 18/00211/FUL

Land South of Hedingham Road Bulmer Essex - New vehicular access

Objection

Accident blackspot area.

Proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.P.Benns, all in favour resolution passed.

18/050 Clerk's Report.

Received and noted.

18/051 Items for Next Agenda

Appointment of Data Protection Officer

Insurance 2018

S106 Funding prioritised list

Bulmer Grazing Flooding Issues

Plough Green (Grass)

Noticeboard locks

Allotments - ie grass, agreement that the allotment officer can agree the greenhouse proposals. Possible extension to water supply.

Signed.....Chairman

21st May 2018

Village Hall Report
Coe's Meadow Report

Items for inclusion on the next Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12noon on Monday 14th May 2018.

18/052 Special Motion to revisit.

This request is in accordance with Standing Order 7 (a), that item agreed in January 2018, under agenda Item Number 18/031 be revisited in accordance to a new proposal and vote. Three signatures from Councillors required prior to meeting had been obtained. Proposed Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

18/053 To Excluded the press and public.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 'That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 18/031. on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business subject to the public bodies admission to meetings Act 1960 Section 1 Sub-section 2.

Proposed by Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, 4 in favour, Cllr.P Bennis and Cllr.R.Raymond against, resolution passed.

18/054 Personnel Committee.

Item 1 – The Chairman confirmed, that because of a payroll error the Clerk had been over paid by £18.18 (£28.04) amendment re-calculated figure by Chairman and payroll provider. Clerk to pay £28.04 this amount back. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

Item 2 – Annual Salary Scale Increment

Cllr P.Bennis asked the Clerk what PayScale she is on with other employers and how much tax she pays. The Clerk refused to answer the question, as this is not relevant to Bulmer Parish Council. Cllr P.Bennis told the Clerk that he would be contacting her other employers, the Clerk replied for him to go-ahead, The Clerk's pay scale will not be raised to scale point 23 but will remain at scale point 22.

Proposed Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

Item 3 – Office Rent

This item to appear on the pay slip as a sundry item. The amount will remain the same.

Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchan, seconded by Cllr.C Leigh, 6 in favour, Cllr.P.Bennis against, resolution passed.

18/055 Date of Next Meeting

30th April Annual Parish Assembly 2018 (Start 7.30pm)

21st May Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting (Start 7.45pm)

Meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed.....Chairman

21st May 2018