

# Bulmer Parish Council

## Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting

Held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

In the Chair: Cllr.P.Fulcher  
 Present Cllrs: Cllr.C.Leigh, Cllr.R.Raymond, Cllr.P.Benns, Cllr C.Bennett  
 Clerk: Mrs D.Jacob  
 Also Present: 23 members of the public

### **16/138 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Chairman welcomed everyone, apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr.S.Morgan and Cllr.S.Buchanan.

### **16/139 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

None.

### **16/140 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST.**

To suspend Standing Orders, proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour.

**1/** It was questioned as to why Bulmer has a new bus shelter, when the bus service maybe suspended.

Allotments footpath this is Parish Council Land and should not be given away.

**2/** Allotment Footpath would Public Rights of Way be liable for the cost of maintenance.

Telephone box – Suggest this could this be turned into a book exchange.

**3/** New proposed site at Ryes Lane, Bulmer Tye, already there are two additional properties. New proposed site would make a huge difference to the area, infrastructure not in place, this site is outside the Village Envelope. This is currently a wild life haven and there are few of these in an intensely farmed area.

**4/** Have the Parish Council received any revised plans regarding 2 Cottages on the Bungalow site in the Street.

Bonfires is there a time frame that residents can light fires, would like to see this item in What's on Magazine, Chairman advised to contact BDC Environmental Health direct.

**5/** Telephone box – would like to see them remain, for Parish Council to adopt and turn into a book exchange.

**6/** Would like to see the Parish Council reject planning at Ryes Lane.

To reinstate Standing Orders.

### **16/141 COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVID FINCH, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WENDY SCATTERGOOD, TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT.**

Cllr.Wendy Scattergood reported that a lot of extra sites, had been put forward for the draft Local Plan, at the last moment.

BDC will be looking at these from 5<sup>th</sup> October. Community Grants available, funding available to local organisations, not Parish Councils.

Cllr.David Finch reported the budget for next year and that they will need to find savings. .

### **16/142 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016.**

Cllr. C.Bennett referred to item 16/128 on draft minutes to be amended, to read that Cllr.C.Bennett had abstained from voting on this item (Alteration made) Approved as a true and accurate record were signed by the Chairman.

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

### **16/143 AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Survey is now in the draft format and will be available shortly. 290 forms sent out to residents for completion, 96 have been returned. Majority of which were from 56 year and over. Residents are looking to downsize. No young families looking for affordable housing..

### **16/144 COE'S MEADOW**

Maintenance work has been carried out, additional work to replace rocking horse tail at £28.00 Plus VAT. Ken will re-stain equipment as necessary. Wiles contractors to inspect the basketball surface area. Gates to remain open until the clocks change. Stour Valley volunteers to arrive on 28<sup>th</sup> September to rake and remove cuttings from wild flower areas after they have been cut and general cutting back of bushes etc, everyone welcome to help.

It is proposed to add both sides of Limes Avenue to the grass cutting tender for next year. This includes at the Street end and area between the avenue and the table tennis table.

Signed.....

21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

Proposed by Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.R.Raymond, all in favour. Boules pit to cost in the region of £5,000.00. ROSPA due to carry out inspection. Willow Den needs to be maintained on a yearly basis.

#### 16/145 VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Permission granted to the Village Hall to use Church Meadow as an overflow car park on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, and whenever required as it is for the village's use. They should liaise with the church each time to see if they have services, that they require parking and mutually agree arrangements for parking.

#### 16/146 ALLOTMENT REPORT

Letter received from Allotment Holders, expressing their thanks for the fencing and security.

#### 16/147 ALLOTMENT ISSUES – FOOTPATH

To discuss and consider the following options.

**1. Claim:** For this to be successful it would have to be proved that the footpath had been walked regularly for the last 20 years. The claim would not be dealt with by him but someone from ECC legal department.

They would complete the relevant forms and check the proof of the 20 year walking. There would be no cost to the Parish Council and ECC would be responsible for maintaining the path and the footpath would be added to the definitive map. The process could take some time.

**2. Agreement:** Public Rights of Way Officer would deal with this and he would arrange for the paper work to be completed and there is no cost to the Parish. He was not sure whether the timescale for this would be longer or not, he mentioned about a year. The one problem with this is he would have to get ECC to agree to this because of the cost of maintenance and mentioned the difficulty in gaining funding at the moment. He said it might help if the Parish Council would agree to maintain the footpath and this would have to be written into the agreement. A responsible person(s) would be required to sign the agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.

There would need to be fingerposts marking the footpath at both ends for both options.

This Item deferred until the next meeting proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.C.Bennett, 3 in favour 2 against.

#### 16/148 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

##### 1) FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER. (ITEMS TO BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT AND SIGNED AS PER PAYMENT SCHEDULE).

DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE NO.	TOTAL
Chilton Office Supplies Inv.No. 198685	101352	83.52
Sudbury Common Lands Charity	101353	1,525.00
The Tower Mint Inv.No.37858	101354	56.82
Anglian Water (Allotments June-August)	101355	28.16
Anglian Water (Coe's Meadow June-August)	101356	13.42
EALC Inv. No. 7182 (New Councillor Pack)	101357	17.00
Mr P. Fulcher (Petrol for Strimmer)	101358	5.70
PKF Littlejohn LLP	101359	240.00
Mortimer Contracts Ltd (Inv.No 112)	101360	890.40
Mrs D. Jacob Salary and expenses for August and September	101361	845.18
Essex Pension Fund (for September)	101362	78.99
Essex Pension Fund (for October)	101363	75.28
Mrs D. Jacob (Minute No. 16/131 Purchase New Computer and software)	101364	538.99

##### 2) BALANCE IN HAND

HSBC as at 30th June 2016	30,156.14
Business Savings Account as at 19th September 2016	41,379.76
Community Account as at 19th September 2016	7,414.10
Total as at 19th September 2016	78,950.00

#### ACCOUNTS 2015/2016

To confirm a clean external audit and confirm that the notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the annual return has been on the notice boards for the required 14 days. Accounts can be viewed on our website.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, Seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

Signed.....

21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**16/149 INTERNAL AUDITOR**

Council members agreed to appoint the internal auditor for a six month review, as per internal auditors report dated 11 May 2016, to separate Coe's Meadow accounts at a cost of £50.00.

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

**16/150 QUOTE TO CUT HEDGE BETWEEN COE'S MEADOW AND THE PADDOCKS**

Council members considered and agreed the quote to cut the top of the hedge, between Coe's Meadow and the paddocks at a cost of £28.00 plus VAT

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

**16/151 PLANNING MATTERS:****REF: 16/01491/OUT**

**Description:** Outlining Planning Application for up to 10 No Village Dwellings with associated garages.

**Location:** Land adjacent 2 Haveground Cottages, Church Road, Bulmer

To confirm that the Bus Services is not guaranteed.

Objection – Highways Issues – Access Issues – Location Issues

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

**16/152 LOCAL PLAN – NEW SITE ADDED**

This new proposed site is outside the village envelope.

Highway Issues – Access would be a concern, A131 accident black spot, Location Issues. This is currently a wild life haven and there are few of these in an intensely farmed area.

Therefore not a suitable site. Send previous comments for the site on the other side of Rye Lane plus additional item raised in Public Participation.

Proposed by Cllr.C.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour. Clerk to send comments to BDC.

**16/153 RED TELEPHONE KIOSKS**

Due to the very poor mobile service in the area – the Parish Council would like to keep the two telephone kiosks as working phones. This is a Health & Safety concern as one is located near the allotments in Park Lane and the other near Coe's Meadow in the Street. Proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.R.Raymond, all in favour, resolution passed.

**16/154 CLERKS REPORT**

Received and noted.

**16/155 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP P3**

Council Members decided not to take part in this scheme, but to ask Local landowners to cut the footpaths.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.P.Benns, all in favour, resolution passed.

**16/156 STOUR VALLEY SMALL ORCHARD PROJECT**

Council Members decided not to take part in this project.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, 3 in favour, 2 against, resolution passed.

**16/157 NOTICEBOARD AT PARK LANE**

Cllr.P.Benns stated that the current noticeboard in Park Lane is too small. Councillors discussed the options and it was decided to defer this item until the next meeting.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, 4 in favour, 1 against.

**16/158 DRAINAGE ISSUES AT BULMER GRAZING**

Deferred until next meeting.

**16/159 PARISH WHAT'S ON MAGAZINE**

Deferred until next meeting.

**16/160 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

21st November 2016.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed.....

21<sup>st</sup> November 2016