



# What's On?

The Newsletter of Bulmer - September 2015

(Including Bulmer St., Bulmer Tye, Finch Hill, Batt Hall, Upper & Lower Houses, Church Rd & Hedingham Road). View in colour at [www.essexinfo.net/bulmer](http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer)

## BULMER SCHOOL GRINDS its own FLOUR for HARVEST FESTIVAL



All the school children were taken by coach to Alderford Mill at Sible Hedingham to grind their wheat which they had grown at the school. This with a supplement supplied by Ashley Cooper will be used to make bread for harvest Festival.

In the late 19C there were hundreds of water mills and windmills in Essex but within 25 years the production of stone ground flour from these mills was rapidly declining. Some continued to produce animal feed but virtually all had ceased working by the 1950's. Water mills were often stripped of their machinery and converted for housing; many others were dismantled and have totally disappeared from the landscape.

Fortunately, in 1945 Essex County Council (ECC) adopted a policy to save and preserve for posterity a representative selection of the remaining mills in Essex. A Mills Team was set up and under the guidance of the County Millwright was given the responsibility of restoring, repairing and maintaining all of the County mills. ECC currently own or lease two water mills, four windmills and a steam mill. Alderford Mill was purchased by ECC in 1994 and represents a typical rural water mill that has adapted over centuries to embrace new milling technologies driven by the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Mill is open to the public, full details can be found at [http://www.alderformill.org.uk/Alderford\\_Mill/index.html](http://www.alderformill.org.uk/Alderford_Mill/index.html)  
**Sunday 11th October 2pm to 5pm - Milling Demonstrations.**

**Sunday 22nd November 11am to 4pm - Christmas Craft Fair.** This popular annual event will take place in a seasonally decorated atmosphere with live music. Seasonal goods and fare from local stall holders, mulled wine and fruit juice, refreshments and a grand Christmas Raffle. Milling Demonstrations will be subject to river water levels.

**BULMER HISTORY GROUP  
HISTORY GROUP MEETING IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL**

On **Friday October 16, at 8.00 p.m.**, farmer John Browning will recount 'The Adventure of the Icklingham Hoard'. Everyone is welcome. Entry is free.

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**BULMER SKYLARKS**

Our summer meeting in June was a great success as we held a V.E. Day party. Many members arrived in 1940's style dress, one member even wore her old school uniform much to the amusement of others. A lunch was served which was reminiscent of the period. Spam soon disappeared and the tinned peaches and evaporated milk were thoroughly enjoyed. After tea and rock buns we were entertained by Bryan Thurlow who brought along his alter ego, Billy Jackson, who recounted his life as an evacuee from Bethnal Green to a farm in East Anglia.

We will be holding our A.G.M. on 22<sup>nd</sup> September followed by a quiz and other activities. On the 27<sup>th</sup> October Jenny Gibbs will be telling us about life as a Turkish Shirley Valentine. The Friendship Dancers will be entertaining us on 24<sup>th</sup> November with dances from around world and hopefully some of us will be joining in. A Christmas lunch is planned for December.

We are always happy to great new members so if you would like to know more either come along to a meeting or ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758. Gentlemen are always welcome.

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**VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

We will be holding several events at the Village Hall before the end of the year and we hope to see many of you there.

The first event will be the Barn Dance which is being held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October. The price of a ticket is £7.00 per head and this includes a two course Ploughman's supper. We hope this is well supported as it will be the last one for our caller Ron Coxall as he is soon to hang up his dancing shoes. Ron has been calling at our Barn Dances for many years and has always made them great fun. To book tickets please ring 374758.

The ever popular Quiz Night with a fish and chip supper is being held on 13<sup>th</sup> November. To book a table (maximum 6 people) please ring 374758.

We will again be holding a Christmas Fayre on 21<sup>st</sup> November. This will be a good chance to

pick up some early or unusual Christmas presents. If you would like to book a table to sell your own products then please ring Ann on 373451. Don't delay as many tables are already reserved.

Watch out for more information on all these events on the Parish notice boards or the Bulmer website at [www.essexinfo.net/bulmervillage](http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmervillage)

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**VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS**

The Lottery still provides 3 lucky winners each month. It is a vital fundraiser for your village hall. Are you a member? The more members the more funds

| Month | First           | Second             | Third          |
|-------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| July  | Mrs J Compson   | Mrs M Wood         | Mr & Mrs Mills |
| Aug.  | Mr & Mrs Rowe   | Mr & Mrs K Mouldon | Mr M Costelloe |
| Sept. | Mr & Mrs P Owen | Mr & Mrs B Smiles  | Mrs E Cook     |

for the village Hall and bigger prizes! Please support your village hall and contact Dawn at the Post Office (376676) if you would like to join the village lottery.

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**BULMER STITCH and SEW CLUB**

Bulmer Stitch & Sew Club is held on the first Monday in the month, but if falls on a Bank Holiday we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the hall. We have a good afternoon from 2 – 4pm.

So if you do any sort of sewing or crocket you will be made most welcome. There is a charge of £1 per month to help to pay for the hall, refreshments and heating. For more information, ring Margaret on 312915.

*Margaret Dixey*

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**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH**

**Harvest Festival** will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> October at 11:15am everyone welcome

Come and enjoy a **Harvest Supper** to celebrate the gathering of the harvest, Village hall on Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. Tickets £5 for adults and £3.50 for children, available from Bill Dixey on 475778

You are invited to a '**Christmas Celebration**' at Smeetham Hall Barn, Tue. 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. at 6:45pm. Music provided by **Long Melford Silver Band** interspersed with vocal items and audience participation. **HOT SUPPER** is included in the ticket price of £10 per person.

After the popularity of last year, we hope to see you again this year. You can book your tickets by calling Bill Dixey on 475778, but book early to avoid disappointment.

## BULMER NATURE DIARIES



Walking round "Green Lane", a couple of roe deer stags startled us, suddenly popping into view only a few yards in front of us. It soon became clear that they were too intent in sorting out their own domestic squabbles to pay any heed to us. They reared up, one seemingly doing a somersault over the other and then galloping off, hotly pursued by it's adversary. It wasn't however admitting defeat, as it charged back to start another battle, this time they clashed antlers and another chase began. After that they seemed intent on rushing around first one in pursuit and then the other, almost taking it in turn to be the aggressor. During this couple of minutes of highly charged activity, one ran almost up to where we stood, but still ignored our presence. By the time I had got the camera out, all I managed to capture was an out of focus shot of the action. This is shown in the background of the picture of one of the Stags above. I was surprised that they were rutting at this time of year, but looking it up discovered that their rut did indeed start around late July.

Blink and you'll miss it! That was the order of the day. **"Kingfisher"** Wendy yelled, pointing at our pond. By the time I had come to my senses, all I glimpsed was a vivid blue flash, as it sped off between the trees. Not surprising that it didn't stop, as there are no fish in the pond, just newts, dragonfly larvae and the occasional frog. A few weeks later, it was **"come quick, look up there"** Another surprise sighting, five grey wagtails on the roof. By the time I got there, there were only two, and then they all flew off to who knows where. To the uninitiated any bird prefixed with grey, would be presumed to be dull in colour; however this bird is anything but. It is one of the yellow wagtails. A slate grey, right enough on its back, but a beautiful pastel yellow on its breast and flanks.



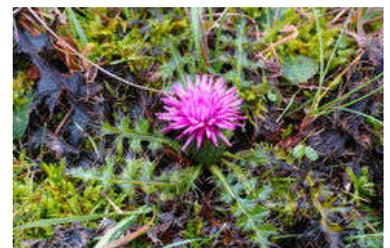
I have never seen so much dust, as was thrown up when the oil seed rape was harvested on the field behind us in Bulmer Street. A great cloud of dust totally enveloped the combine, and we were rushing round, shutting all the windows,

the prevailing wind threatening us with a liberal coating from the grey cloud rapidly approaching. Then, emerging from the blizzard of dust, a fox came trotting leisurely and quite calmly along the field edge, having been flushed out of the standing crop by the wheeled monster's approach. That made the second fox I had seen in a couple of weeks. I was fascinated by the antics of young, but almost full sized fox and a hare on the one of the fields behind us. The hare seemed to know that it wasn't in any imminent danger, seemingly playing with the fox, almost inviting it to give chase, just doing enough to keep a couple of strides in front, jinking this way or that, but never bothering to make a clean escape from it's would-be predator. Eventually the fox gave up the chase and both animals made off in opposite directions.

We have been lucky this spring and summer to have had a pair of song thrushes around the garden. We had been watching the young being fed by their parents around the middle of July. Going out one morning, I saw one of the youngsters sitting forlornly on the path, seemingly unafraid and ignoring me. Only then did I notice that it was sitting close to the body of it's dead parent, quite a tear jerking scene. I guess the old bird had probably flown into our window. The young bird was probably capable of fending for itself and I was a little relieved to see the other parent, perched on our roof.

### Living History

On 1st July our plant group surveyed a meadow beside Heaven Wood on Smeetham Hall Farm. Getting on for 100 years ago, my grandfather, Philip



"Tulip" Rowe described this meadow as being "as steep as the roof of a house". Because of this very steep slope, it has never been ploughed, and as a

consequence, is one of the few remnants of ancient grassland surviving in Bulmer. Philip mentions a thistle growing there, which "blooms just above the ground". This is the dwarf thistle, which requires a chalk soil. It still flourishes there today, but we were too early to see it in bloom. This mini escarpment cuts into the chalk underlying the land and gives rise to other chalk loving plants such as common rockrose and salad burnet, which like the dwarf thistle, are uncommon in our area and can be considered as "living history", being survivals from a bygone era. The valley at this point, being far from any road or footpath, seems quite remote, only visited by those whose business leads them there. One such was the late Fred Hunt, who was stockman/gamekeeper at Smeetham Hall. Fred was a true countryman in every sense of the word and knew all the secrets of that hidden corner of Bulmer. Thirty odd years ago he took me over to that steep meadow, to see something rather special.

Telling me to wait by the hedge, he strode through the gate, to check on a small herd of bullocks grazing there. Instantly, they all came to meet him, but tagging along behind them, quite unbelievably, was a red deer stag. Apparently the animal had attached itself to the herd and had been there for several weeks and had got quite used to him. Fred had no idea where it had come from, and the nearest red deer to us are in Thetford Forrest, but they are known to roam far abroad. Similarly, although a common enough sight nowadays, he told me of a buzzard that had taken up residence there around the same time, which had stayed for most of one summer. In those days a buzzard a real rarity in East Anglia.

### Belligerent blackbirds

My sister Jean phoned to tell me of a couple of very aggressive blackbirds in her garden, which constantly attacked any wood pigeons that dared to land on her lawn. The next day we called and witnessed this extraordinary behaviour ourselves. A pigeon landed on the lawn, within half a minute it was buzzed by the hen blackbird. After a couple of attacks the cock joined in. The beleaguered pigeon, after ducking away from several attacks, deciding that discretion was the better part of valour, sought refuge in the ivy covered pear tree. I'm not sure what was going on here, I suspect the blackbirds had young close by, either in a nest, or hidden in the shrubs, but pigeons are no threat whatsoever to them, and hardly compete for the same food.

The sky has been full of house martins and swallows today (18th Sept) by far the most I have seen all summer. Undoubtedly they are on the move south to warmer climes.

*Peter Rowe*

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### YOUR COUNCILLORS

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Mike Crome (Chairman)         | 01787 378155 |
| Peter Fulcher (Vice Chairman) | 01787 269935 |
| Stephen Morgan                | 07973 341048 |
| Chris. Leigh                  | 01787 378133 |
| Rose Raymond                  | 07813 205743 |
| Cathey Ponty                  | 01787 313344 |
| Stella Buchanan               | 01787 312512 |

Diane Jacob (Acting Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer) - email

[bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com)

### DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS

16<sup>th</sup> November

**All meetings are bi-monthly, normally held on the third Monday of the month** in the Village Hall at 7:45pm

All parishioners are welcome to attend and there is a 15 minute slot for statements/questions from the floor.

### Bulmer Parish Council

**DRAFT** Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting

held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

*(these minutes are unapproved until the next meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September)*

**Present:** Cllrs. Crome, Raymond, Leigh, Ponty, Morgan, Fulcher, Buchanan; CCllr. Finch, DCllr. Scattergood; Mrs H Fraser (clerk), Mrs J Williamson (clerk elect); 15 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed all those present. He then gave a short speech thanking the outgoing clerk, Mrs H Fraser for her work over the last 4 years and presented a gift. Certificates were presented to Cllrs. Morgan and Raymond for courses attended on Health & Safety and Risk Assessment.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

No apologies had been received.

#### 2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Buchanan and seconded by Cllr. Leigh, all were in favour.

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

There were no declarations.

#### 4. Statements/Questions from the public (15 minutes)

The following questions were put to the council by members of the public:

- Closure of Coe's Meadow car park was causing additional parking on the road, and the grass around the noticeboard was

blocking the view and safe exit from residents' driveways. Cllr. Leigh answered that the car park had been closed for a short time due to travellers, and the grass could be added to the next cut by the contractors. A resident at St Andrew's Rise has had success contacting the company parking open trucks overnight on the Street, and that problem has eased.

- Could there be a notice in *What's On* about bin collection, confirming timing? Cllr. Crome will action. DCllr. Scattergood will also follow up with BDC.
- There are several houses in the Street with the No. 1, and there has been some confusion with visits and deliveries etc. DCllr. Scattergood will enquire with BDC and follow up.
- A resident felt that the Batt Hall traffic gates seem to have made no difference. Cllr. Crome answered that the siting will hopefully be improved, and CCllr. Finch is chasing for an update on this.
- The layby in front of the last bungalows on Church Road only room for 2 cars, could it be extended? The Clerk will contact Highways.
- Could the accident black spot sign on the A131 be bigger as it was felt no-one noticed it? CCllr. Finch replied that it was a standard national sign. Cllr. Crome added that the owner of the restaurant at the accident spot has installed cctv facing the road and is happy to supply footage. CCllr. Finch advised the Parish Council could pursue speed cameras on that stretch, perhaps this will force people to slow down. The accident reduction partnership should be contacted when there is a catalogue of evidence and injuries – plenty of data needed; perhaps 12 months' worth.

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

- i) SID – update: this is now installed in The Street, the next move will be to Church Road corner.
- ii) Noticeboard – update: this has been installed, and the keys were given to the Clerk. A rain canopy is to be installed and the backing board was rotten so this has also been replaced, an invoice yet to come. Key holes are on the side of panels, with 2 keys inserted to open.
- iii) Yellow lines – update: The Clerk was asked to extend the highlighted area and CCllr. Finch and DCllr. Scattergood will support the application. Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr. Ponty proposed that the application was submitted and all were in favour.
- iv) S106 – update: Cllr. Fulcher has received permission for the overflow carpark at Church Meadow, and accepted the estimate from Horsematting, it will be installed in August or September depending on weather. He has a letter from Sarah Burden at BDC confirming the Parish Council should pay upfront and reclaim. Cllr. Crome thanked Cllr. Fulcher for his work on the subject. The turning circle will be edged with stakes, Cllr. Fulcher has estimates for this in the region of £245 and will advise BDC of this. He proposed and Cllr. Ponty

seconded to go ahead with the quote from Clarkes, and all were in favour. Two signs will be needed, one in Coe's Meadow to advise about the overflow carpark, and another to Keep Turning Circle Clear. A quote of £400 plus VAT had been received. Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr. Leigh seconded to accept this quote and proceed, all were in favour. Signage for the new table tennis table would be discussed at the next CMMC meeting.

v) Salt bin – update: a photo and details of the proposed purchase were circulated, all were in favour to proceed with the order. A base would not be needed for the rigid item.

6. County Councillor David Finch; District Councillor Wendy Scattergood; Community Agent Jayne Laker, (if present)

CCllr. Finch: The recent Government Budget announcement will impact on ECC's budget of 2 billion (1 billion goes on education, rest is on social care, Highways, waste & recycling) and suggests that in the autumn there will be significant reductions. The Care Act will have a budgetary impact as will the implementation of the National Living Wage in 2016, and Health and Social Care integration – it may be that council tax is increased to cope with these. Several unitary authorities and counties have approached the Government about devolution and greater freedoms; the price is greater housebuilding and faster economic growth but the freedoms could include air passenger duty, business rates, skills funding.

DCllr. Scattergood: The recent Tye Workshop planning application was refused as it didn't meet the rules for converting from industrial to residential; it could be resubmitted with corrections. She confirmed she would give support if affordable housing is pursued and with the necessary survey. She also confirmed that TPO planning applications remain on the website as 'pending' even after the 5 week deadline has passed, until an officer signs it off. The surface in Ryes Lane was reported as dangerous; this should be redirected to Highways.

### **7. Coe's Meadow report**

The Fun Day took £564 on the day, and the next CMMC meeting is on 5<sup>th</sup> August. A volunteer has come forward to do the odd jobs on the meadow, there will also be a work party in late August to be ready for the ROSPA inspection in September. The willow igloo will be pruned shortly. The table tennis table is in place – although improvements to the surface are ongoing. New posts by the metal rail will go in shortly. Reseeding of the wildflower areas is under consideration. Thanks were given to Cllr. Leigh and the committee for all their work.

i) Fruit tree planting (Dedham Vale): information had been circulated by Cllr. Fulcher. A suggestion was 5 fruit and/or nut trees to go on Plough Green or Church Meadow. More information was requested.

### **8. Allotments report**

A report had been circulated by Cllr. Buchanan. There are currently 3 vacant plots, a few enquiries have been received but no take ups as yet. Advertising is to continue, the Clerk to add to the noticeboards and Cllr. Buchanan to put a sign up on Church Road.

i) Access for dogs – clarification & discussion: Several complaints had been received involving dogs, damage to allotments and harassment. Turnpike Piece belongs to the Parish Council but no legislation exists to ban dogs although advice from BDC Dog Warden was that as the Parish Council owns the land it was able to prohibit dogs from being walked in this area. The Clerk was asked to obtain legal advice from EALC as they may have experience of this problem before. Criminal damage and harassment/assault are Police matters. Cllr. Fulcher proposed that a notice was put in What's On and a sign put up at the allotments stating "*Public access is footpath only; dogs should be on leads and should not stray from footpath unless they belong to allotment holders*". This was seconded by Cllr. Buchanan and all were in favour.

ii) Allotments Health & Safety Policy: A draft policy had been circulated by Cllr. Buchanan. Adoption of the policy was proposed by Cllr. Morgan and seconded by Cllr. Leigh, all were in favour.

### 9. Village Hall report

A report had been circulated by Cllr. Buchanan. Thanks had been received for the annual grant to BVHMC.

### 10. Clerk's report

A report was circulated.

i) Disclosable interests forms: a full set had been sent to BDC, a link will be sent for the parish council website.

ii) Appointment of new Clerk: Mrs Jayne Williamson confirmed she was happy for this debate to be in public. She introduced herself, and listed her recent employment; as a bank cashier, Maldon District Council, a solicitors' office, Veterinary Practice Manager, home carer. She is experienced with computers, spreadsheets, word etc, used to dealing with customers and accounts. She would be happy to undertake training – possibly on the EALC New Clerks' course in October. She would start as Mrs H Fraser finishes (1<sup>st</sup> September) and do some shadowing in the meantime. Cllr. Leigh proposed that Mrs J Williamson be employed as Clerk with the same salary point (£9.30 per hour) and hours per week (7) as Mrs Fraser is currently. This was seconded by Cllr. Fulcher and all were in favour. Mrs Williamson was duly welcomed as the new clerk.

### 11. Planning updates

- Pending: The Limes (trees), Auberies (barn conversion), 14 St Andrew's Rise (extension), Inglefield (redevelopment).
- Granted: Vicars Orchard (trees), Robins (trees), Holland Hill (extension), Hayes Cottage (pruning),
- Refused: Tye Workshops (conversion)

With regard to the felling of trees on the footpath between Vicars Orchard and Lime Avenue, an estimate had been received from Mr Nicholl of £450. This is on parish council land, Cllr. Fulcher proposed that the Parish Council accept this quote and pay from the Open Spaces budget. This was seconded by Cllr. Leigh and all were in favour.

### 12. Finance

i) Balance in hand : A report was circulated and read out.

## Receipts and Payments

Cheques were signed.

| <b>Receipts since last meeting</b>            |                                   |     |                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| Fun day proceeds                              |                                   |     | 564.00                           |
| HSBC interest Mar - Jun                       |                                   |     | 5.32                             |
| Barclays interest a/c 6079                    |                                   |     | 7.70                             |
| Allotment rent - termination plot 4           |                                   |     | 12.90                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  |                                   |     | <b>£589.92</b>                   |
| <b>Payments since last meeting</b>            |                                   |     |                                  |
| Clerks & Councils magazine                    | Subs 2015-6                       | 238 | 12.00                            |
| EALC                                          | Affiliation fees 2015-6           | 239 | 168.59                           |
| EALC                                          | Health & Safety courses           | 240 | 160.00                           |
| BVHMC                                         | Annual grant                      | 241 | 1000.00                          |
| Skylarks                                      | Annual grant                      | 242 | 100.00                           |
| PCC                                           | Annual grant                      | 243 | 1000.00                          |
| Running Total                                 | Payroll & Audit                   | 244 | 60.50                            |
| Chilton Office Supplies                       | Newsletter                        | 245 | 85.25                            |
| J Doe                                         | Hedgecutting                      | 246 | 372.60                           |
| Cllr M Crome                                  | Anti virus update                 | 247 | 23.33                            |
| Mrs H L Fraser                                | Clerk salary Mar & Apr & expenses | 248 | 591.88                           |
| Bulmer Village Hall                           | Village Hall hire                 | 249 | 65.00                            |
| AON UK Ltd                                    | Insurance                         | 250 | 1945.03                          |
| Mortimers                                     | Grass cutting Mar & Apr           | 251 | 811.20                           |
| R&R                                           | Fun day maypole                   | 252 | 55.00                            |
| Mr Collins                                    | Zorbs                             | 253 | 150.00                           |
| Mr K Leigh                                    | Fun day reimbursement             | 254 | 496.52                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  |                                   |     | <b>£7,096.90</b>                 |
| <b>Payments to be signed at this meeting:</b> |                                   |     |                                  |
| Anglian Water                                 | Coe's Meadow Feb - May 15         | 255 | 14.92                            |
| Barclays                                      | Storage charge                    |     | 1.00                             |
| Braintree District Council                    | Election Costs                    | 256 | 59.00                            |
| EALC                                          | Risk Assess. Training - RR        | 257 | 80.00                            |
| RCCE                                          | Subs 2015-16                      | 258 | 48.00                            |
| Chilton Office Supplies                       | Newsletter                        | 259 | 84.96                            |
| Mortimers                                     | Grasscutting May & Jun            | 260 | 1209.60                          |
| Mrs R Raymond                                 | Petrol & mileage refunds          | 261 | 61.85                            |
| Mr S Morgan                                   | Mileage refund                    | 262 | 31.85                            |
| Mrs H L Fraser                                | Clerk salary May & Jun & expenses | 263 | 646.56                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  |                                   |     | <b>£2,237.74</b>                 |
|                                               |                                   |     | spending has exceeded budget     |
|                                               |                                   |     | spending near or on budget limit |
|                                               |                                   |     | spending is under budget         |
|                                               |                                   |     | spending is within CMMC savings  |

ii) Review capital – update: the Clerk was asked to circulate information on the Unity Trust Bank as per

recent advice. The Chairman noted that he would like to review the budget in each meeting at this point.

### 13. Traffic Issues

i) Batt Hall white gates – update: this had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

### 14. New Policies

i) Photo and Press: a draft policy had been prepared and circulated by Cllr. Ponty. Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr.. Leigh seconded adoption of the policy, and all were in favour.

ii) Data Protection: the Clerk was asked to get advice from EALC on this matter.

### 15. Affordable Housing Survey

Support was offered from DCllr. Scattergood and also a representative of Greenfields, comments had been invited from community but none had been received so far. A survey would be essential – RCCE will provide necessary forms and analyse results. Greenfields has a site on the A131 near Ryes Lane and also another local landowner has offered assistance with a site. An RCCE officer will be appointed in September. The Chairman suggested this item went on the September agenda, with invitations to Greenfields and RCCE to give presentations – the Clerk to action.

### 16. Items for the next agenda

- Data protection
- Affordable housing
- Transparency code
- Fruit trees
- Unity Trust Bank account/s

### 17. Date of next meeting

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Meeting closed at 21.40.

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## BULMER OPEN GARDENS 2016

St. Andrew's Church Bulmer



### On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016 And Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016

We are asking for people to offer to open their garden over this weekend from 2pm until 6pm in 2016. (We are asking early so you can plan as required)

We held Open Gardens in June 2013 and it was a great success so please give some thought about this for 2016.

We are hoping to hold an Art Exhibition in the Church together with Refreshments and a Cake Stall. There will also be a Tombola and Plant Sale in the gardens.

If you would like to donate plants for the Plant Sale that would be appreciated.

Contact either June Coombes on 01787 377357  
or Liz Fulcher on 01787 269935 as soon as possible.

## COE'S MEADOW

Once again we are very grateful Emma and her band of Stour Valley Volunteers (at least 20 this year) who come each year to look after the wildflower areas of the recreation area.

All of this has generated as in past years heaps being placed around the edge of the ground to provide habitats for wildlife, rather than transporting it for recycling.

Their work and effort is much appreciated by Coe's Meadow management committee and the Parish Council.

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## LIGHTS ON!

As the autumn nights draw in it's time to think about the burglar out there and not leaving them "tell tale" signs that your home is empty and vulnerable. The art of illusion is to try and make it look as though your home is occupied even though you are not there. Provide that first impression to the "would be" burglar that this house is occupied, it looks too difficult to get into and that if they do try there is a good chance they will get their collar felt!

- Lighting, if your house is overlooked and there is the chance of burglars being seen they will prefer to go elsewhere, so get some decent lighting on your house. Dusk till dawn activated lighting on the front and rear with energy saving bulbs, not only deters the burglar but you can see who is at your door or around your home, and also when you return home you have a welcoming light.
- Is there clear unobstructed access to the rear? Burglars will prefer to gain access out of sight at the rear. Where possible fence and gate access to rear gardens, top this with some trellis or spiky toppings (the spiky topping requires a warning notice). How about some defensive planting, what's this you ask.....something like Berberus, Pyracantha or Hawthorn around perimeter fencing or anything else you wish to protect i.e. domestic fuel tank (some garden centres sell more established plants).
- The illusion: - Try to make it look similar to when you are there - table lamps inside on timers (don't use energy saving bulbs with digital timers it shortens the life of the bulb) – remember these should be in the rooms you normally occupy i.e. lounge and kitchen not just a hall or landing as no one lives in these rooms! A radio on a talking programme, it all helps. You can even buy a device now called "Fake TV" that mimics the light from a television.
- Out and about? For a little extra confidence consider carrying a personal attack alarm, many come with a torch and are quite cheap from DIY stores, internet ect. Most of all be aware of your surroundings, avoid concentrating on mobile phones and music devices whilst out and about.

*Stephen Armson-Smith  
Essex Police Crime Reduction Advisor for the  
Braintree District  
17-09-15*

**THAT INITIAL ATTRACTION**

Without that initial attraction most crimes could be avoided, statistics show that most crimes are opportunist crimes, yes they may go out intending to commit crime but the victim is not yet chosen. So if there is no attraction then you may not become a victim.

What is the attraction?

- The shed or garage with minimal security and tools visible through the window.
- A lone person down a dark street talking loudly on an illuminated new I- Phone.
- The house in darkness with the side gate flapping open welcoming.
- That accessible open window or door.
- The purse sitting in the open handbag on top of the shopping trolley.
- Group sitting chatting at a bar table with a mobile phone just sitting there on the table.
- The bag on the back seat of an unattended car, even though the bag may only contain your sports clothes the thief does not know this until he/she has smashed the window and stolen it.
- The tradesman’s sign written van parked on the dark drive by the gate with accessible doors and unprotected pipe tube on the roof.
- The partygoer that’s had too much to drink and is unaware of his/her surroundings.
- Shiny new ride on lawn mower sitting on the grass in full view of the road with no postcode/security markings visible.

The above is just short list I am sure you can think of more. What can you do? STOP, think like a thief, spot the attraction and where possible remove it.

For further crime reduction advice contact your local Crime Prevention Officer using the police non emergency telephone number 101.

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**LOCAL HISTORY**

George William Andrews JP was born at Henny rectory in 29<sup>th</sup> July 1803. George was the son of the rector of that Parish. While his grandfather was squire of Bulmer, residing at the Auberies. He started in practice as a solicitor at Halstead and soon afterwards moved to Sudbury. Served as mayor six times, first time when Queen Victoria came to the throne, the last time fifty years later in 1887, the year of the Queen’s Jubilee. He was also the Rectors Warden for 47 years of St. Peter’s Church, Sudbury  
George William Andrews Died 10<sup>th</sup> October 1894.

*Alan Dixey*

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The next edition will be published around the end of Dec. 2015. Can I please have all your pictures & articles, by the **15<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Call 378155 or email [mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk)

**PARISH PATHS WALKS**

I am not giving up walking but feel that I can no longer lead walks as my legs are presently less dependable than they were. I hope to find others willing to lead, even if they only occasionally do so: details of such walks will be posted on the village website.

If anyone reading this feels that they can help please contact me. I am happy to pass on information about local paths and some a little more distant. The ability to map read is helpful.

It has been great, over the many years, to share my love of walking with so many people whom I now count as my friends.

Margaret Mills  
01787 269377



More pictures of Bulmer School children visit to Alderford Mill