

What's Going On?

The Newsletter of Bulmer - June 2017

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



Coe's Meadow Fun Day Saturday 10th June.

It's that time of year again!! The Fun Day is back again this year BIGGER AND BETTER than ever. It starts at 12.00 Noon and will be a full afternoon of games, music, BBQ, bar, Ice Cream, face painting and much more. For the first time the event goes into the evening with MUSIC and a HOG ROAST. We hope that the whole village will turn out to support this wonderful fun filled day and evening.

Despite the fact that there is no funding for Coe's Meadow this year CMMC has decided that the event will go ahead. To fund the day CMMC has asked local businesses to sponsor the day and we are amazed and extremely grateful for the response we have received. We feel that there should always be a Village Day so that everyone can get together and enjoy all the fun and games.

You will all receive a flyer for the Fun Day and we will be going "Door to Door" to sell tickets for the HOG ROAST. These will be £3.00 each and each ticket sold will be included in a draw for prizes. Please come and support the day. As you all know Coe's Meadow is independent and we have to raise money to buy all our equipment. Last year St Andrews School Bulmer undertook a project to select a new piece of play equipment. After many graphs, spreadsheets and lists the children finally came up with some choices. Any money that we make this year will go towards some of this new equipment. Thank you all so much. We look forward to seeing a great turnout for the day. Many thanks to all CMMC committee members for all their time and hard work.

Chris Leigh (Chair CMMC)

BULMER SKYLARKS

We have had a very interesting spring at Skylarks. We were invited to St Andrews School to enjoy their presentation of life during the 2nd World War. The children were very enthusiastic and their singing was a delight to witness. We were also served with an "after the war" street party, which was very much appreciated. We thank all the staff and children for inviting us.



Our biggest event this year was to celebrate the 100th birthday of Maudie Rowe. We had been planning this for some time and had managed to keep it a secret from her. She was very surprised when she entered the Hall to find it decorated with birthday banners and balloons. A party tea was served thanks mainly to Barbara Rowe and then, we were entertained by Brian Thurlow who had everyone singing and tapping their feet. We were so privileged to share such an achievement with truly lovely lady.

Our programme for the summer will start with our usual summer party on June 27th with entertainment

from Linda Scoles. Kate Brewster from the dogs trust will be our speaker on 25th July and Peter Hesketh will be telling us of his adventures circumnavigating the world on container ships at our August meeting. As usual we will be holding our A.G.M. on September 26th.

We always meet in the Village Hall on the 4th Tuesday of the month 2pm until 4pm and the club is open to everyone, young, not so young, ladies and gentlemen. If you wish to know more ask one of our members, come along to one of our meetings or ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758.

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#### **VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

We hope you have all noticed that the main hall has now been redecorated and looks brighter and fresher. We did have to use the same colour scheme as before to keep the costs down but the majority of our hirers are quite happy about this. We would now like to purchase new curtains and this will prove to be quite costly. As you are all aware we have lost the Parish Council's funding and we do understand the reasons for this. This obviously leaves a hole in our budget but we are all committed to keeping our hiring charges to a minimum and not increasing charges if we can avoid it. The only way we can do this is to fund raise so we thank all of you who attended our last event "An Evening with Charlie Haylock". The Village Hall was packed to near capacity and the evening proved to be one of both interest and also of great hilarity. Thank you for your support.

Our next project is to hold a horticultural event on Saturday August 12th. The theme of the day will be one of fun and not to be taken seriously but we hope that there will be something for everyone to enter and this includes the children. There will be a chance for all of you to judge one of the classes so do come along on the day. The classes will be as follows:-

#### **VEGETABLES -**

3 potatoes, 3 tomatoes and/or 6 cherry tomatoes, 6 carrots

3 onions, 6 runner beans, 6 French Beans, 3 courgettes,

3 red beet, 1 cabbage, 6 pods of peas (all to be displayed on a plate)

FRUIT -

6 strawberries, 12 raspberries, 12 gooseberries,

bunch of red currants

FLOWERS -

Any single flower in a container - This will be judged by the public

**BAKING - ADULTS** 

Victoria sandwich with jam filling, 6 cup cakes

**CHILDREN** 

6 Flap jacks, 6 biscuits

\*CHILDREN CAN ALSO TAKE PART IN THE OTHER CLASSES OF FRUIT, VEG AND FLOWERS.

Exhibitors should arrive at the Village Hall between 8am and 10 am and judging will take place after this when the Hall will be closed to everyone apart from the judges. The Hall will then be open to everyone from 12.30pm until 4.00pm. There will also be the opportunity for artists and craft workers to display their work but there will be no judging of this

If you would like more information about the day or you wish to take part (to give us some idea of the interest) please ring Margaret on 312915 or Maggie on 374758

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 for the village Hall and bigger prizes.

Please support your village hall and contact Dawn at the Post Office (01787 376676) if you would like to join the village lottery.

| Month | First             | Second             | Third             |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| March | Mrs B<br>Rawlings | Mrs S Toy          | Mr & Mrs<br>Green |
| April | Mrs J Coombs      | Mr & Mrs<br>Rooney | Miss E Mack       |
| May   | Mrs B<br>Mauldon  | Mr L<br>Raymond    | Mrs P<br>Matthews |

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#### **BULMER STITCH AND SEW CLUB**

Everyone welcome - we meet on the first Monday in the month from 2 - 4pm. If it falls on a Bank Holiday it is on the 2nd Monday. We pay £1 per session this helps to pay for the hire of the hall and refreshments. If anyone else would like to join us (men as well) please ring Margaret 01787 312915 for further information.

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#### BULMER & DISTRICT HISTORY GROUP MEETING THAT WAS HELD ON 3RD MARCH

Sixty eight people attended the first 2017 meeting of the History Group at Bulmer Village Hall. It featured presentations on local flora and fauna from Bulmer's own "David Attenborough," and an amusing philosophical review of post-war farming life by Sudbury's own Lord, Andrew Phillips.

Primroses and early purple orchids, willow warblers, hooded crows, and a pair of snipes, bats, leopard slugs, painted ladies and brain fungus, all featured in Peter Rowe's excellent diary video of the wildlife and plants that he recorded, in and around Bulmer in the year 2016 -2017. Peter, who writes the Nature Diary notes in each edition of "What's Going On," was able to suggest from his own records of first sightings the possible effect of global warming. This is reflected in the early appearance of flowers and creatures such as bats, which from his observations are appearing three weeks ahead of their past recorded dates.

Edited from several hours of patiently recorded video, Peter's record is a high quality reflection of the diversity of nature in our immediate area. We look forward to our next wildlife review in our meeting in March 2018. Andrew Phillips spoke of his early life as a trainee, and finally a solicitor living in and working with the farming community in and around Sudbury in the 1950's to early 1960's. His amusing miscellany of anecdotes of local farming characters emphasised the importance of the sense of community that was prominent within local society. He acknowledged and demonstrated that in speaking of this time he was not seeking for a lost ideal. He suggested however, that the prominence and reputation of local business and business leaders, who worked with, and understood, the needs of the local community, combined with the local administration of public services and the law. This in turn created a more cohesive society, with a greater sense of people living and working together. Whilst this sense of community may have disappeared from many places in our major cities, he suggested that it has not completely faded in our local societies, and is particularly reflected in villages like ours.

The next meeting of the History group will be in *OCTOBER* there is no membership or entry fee. We would love to see you there.

Allen Burbidge

#### **ARCHAEOLOGY IN BULMER -**

Excavations are taking place on a 'Romano-British' farmstead site in Bulmer. The 'dig', which is close to the major Roman road which passed through the area, will continue throughout this summer and autumn. The Stour Valley Community Archaeology Group who are conducting the excavations are always happy to welcome new enthusiasts, helpers and members—especially from Bulmer!

For more information please contact Ashley Cooper, on 01787 460641

#### **BULMER HISTORY GROUP SUMMER EVENT -**

A guided tour of the historic Alderford Watermill in Sible Hedingham. See how our ancestors milled their bread flour in the age of water power. Fri.30th June 2pm £2.00 per person Booking essential.

Phone Peter Rowe 01787 375935 or email <a href="mailto:peter.rowe2@talktalk.net">peter.rowe2@talktalk.net</a> The visit will take around an hour. Afterwards there will be an optional stroll along the bank of the River Colne and hopefully spot some of the riverside wildlife.

#### ST ANDREWS CHURCH NEWS

COFFEE MORNING - to be held on Saturday 8th July 2017 from 10.00a.m - 12 noon at Bulmer End Hedingham Road Bulmer CO10 7EF. Come along to enjoy beverages and cakes/scones and hopefully sit in the sunny garden. Proceeds to St. Andrew's Church Bulmer. Please come along to support your local church.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH - Flower Arranging in St. Andrew's Church Bulmer - we would welcome any help with our Flower Arranging Rota. If you love flowers and like the idea of arranging them on a slighter larger scale than in your home then we would love to hear from you. We concentrate on the enjoyment of arranging flowers rather than the more serious side of the 'perfect arrangement'. Just give Liz Fulcher a ring on 269935 and she will give

you some more information and perhaps arrange a 'one off' to find out how you get on with a pedestal arrangement.

#### **PET SERVICE** - 2nd July at 2.30pm

The church will be holding its annual Pet Service on Sunday 2nd July on Coe's Meadow. Last year some 50 animals were blessed along with their owners!

Every one in the village is invited to come (including any visitors or passers by) for this wonderful event when we recognise the enduring value and importance of animals in our lives.

Members of St Andrew's Parochial Church Council.

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#### Nature Diary - Peter



Viewed from behind Bulmer Street. St

Andrews Andrews tower is framed by the frothy confetti like seeds of the elm

white flowers of the blackthorn and the fresh green,

One of the real joys of spring is watching our countryside gradually coming back to life after the long drag of winter, as the natural world gears up for another round of regeneration and new birth. Although some traces of this awakening have to be carefully sought out, others can take our senses by storm. The wealth of bird song from gardens and hedgerows Those same hedges bursting out into leaf, or in the case of the blackthorn, abruptly turning white.

This has been a particularly good spring for blossom and one of the most prolific has been on the elm. The flower itself is hardly noticeable, as it comes in February and is much the same colour as the twigs. The revelation came around mid April when the seeds developed and whole trees and some hedgerows have been decked with the bright green seed capsules, often in amazingly thick bunches.

Wildlife corridors are one of the many ideas and concepts of conservation these days. Basically they are the means of joining up isolated pockets of important habitat, to help wildlife move between these scattered areas, which ensures healthier populations. In Cockfield, Bradfield Woods and Bulls Wood, about mile and a half apart, are being connected by a mixture of newly planted and existing ancient hedgerows across the intervening arable fields. This is principally to enable dormice, which occur in both these woods to be able to intermingle and thereby increase the gene pool. Otherwise continued in-breeding reduces the health and vigour of the animals. Of course many other creatures will benefit from the enhanced habitat.

Abandoned railway lines create good natural corridors, an example is the stretch of old Bury line, between Long Melford and Lavenham. This touches the edge of Lineage Wood, which is a rich reservoir of rare and uncommon plants. Many of these, such as commmon spotted orchid, yellow-wort, woolly thistle, twyblade and fairy flax are steadily spreading along the railway walk towards Lavenham, especially favouring the steep banks of the old cutting.

Along a kilometre length of this same walk, we carry out a monthly bird survey. It often amazes me, when in some months we record well over thirty different species. This seems in excess of what I would expect to find along a similar stretch of similar habitat, such as say, the wilder, but more fragmented areas of the Belchamp Valley. This

started me wondering if the "corridor effect" could even have a bearing on the number of bird species to be found, despite their obvious ease of mobility.

Our changing view. In the space of a couple of weeks at the end of April, the field behind Bulmer Street along with several others, has been transformed from a fresh spring green to an overall light brown, more redolent of autumn or winter, deliberately sprayed off. Not as I at first thought as the result of some monumental agricultural disaster, but another facet in the array of ever more diverse cultivation techniques employed on today's farms. This is known as 'No Till' technique, where ground disturbance is kept to an absolute minimum to encourage a build up of organic matter, Cover crops' are sown immediately after harvest to prevent any residual nitrogen from leaching away and also to increase organic matter. The 'cover crop' is then sprayed off before drilling new seed directly into the soil.

I gleaned the following details from various sources.

Examples of cover crops can include mixtures including mustard, phaecilia, linseed, black oats, vetches, beans and

oil radish. This is a really interesting, new 'ecologically minded' form of modern farming--albeit one that still depends on chemical input--but with much less diesel being used than with conventional or organic, arable farming. Needless to say the rows of the now dead cover crop are perfectly straight, thanks to the satellite navigation system guiding the tractor. In some ways harking back to an older respect for the land.

These latest developments in agriculture set me thinking about the multitude of changes I have seen over the decades since I was a kid. Up until the early 1950's, although mechanisation was going on apace, and working horses all but disappeared, some of the age old traditions and conventions of the horse era were still in the mind-set of some farmers and farmworkers.

One example was that, as a matter of pride, all the furrows of a ploughed field should be as "straight as a gun barrel". This was achieved by the unerringly straight eye of the ploughman. As he coaxed his horses or steered his tractor across the field to open that critical first furrow. He was aiming at a couple of skilfully sited marker sticks that he had placed on the far headland.

The corn would be drilled with the same precision, perfectly straight and with no misses (areas that the seed drill had left a gap unsown). Woe betides any worker who had a kink in his furrows or a bare patch where the drill had missed. He would suffer unmerciful leg pulling from his mates. "Reckon old Fred spent too long supping in the Blackbirds b'fore he set to work on that there feld!"

The field behind us with its dead straight, satellite guided crop rows, after spraying off.

These old traditions soon died off, along with the workers who practiced them with so much pride. Kinks and missed were no longer viewed with the same distain.

The cool N.E. winds of late April and early May meant that butterfly days were thin on the ground. But a walk in the Belchamp Valley on May 7th produced about a dozen orange tips, plus the odd brimstone, green veined white, peacock and speckled wood. What surprised me most though were three newly emerged azure damselflies.

On the bird front, Tony Minter has had a lesser spotted woodpecker down at the Brickyard and red kites have been seen several times in the area. Spring migrants tended to be a little earlier than average, with blackcap and chiffchaffs in good numbers. Sadly I've heard only one cuckoo calling in Bulmer, even if I did hear it from over the border, whilst admiring the bluebells in Wiggery Wood Gestingthorpe!

It's been another exceptional year for bluebells and as several people have commented, they appear to be a more intense colour than usual. It must be a blue spring, germander speedwell has excelled itself, with it's diminutive intense blue flowers carpeting many areas of rough grassland and waste ground.

#### YOUR COUNCILLORS

| Peter Fulcher - Chairman | 01787 269935 |  |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|
| Stephen Morgan (Vice     | 07973 341048 |  |
| Chairman)                |              |  |
| Chris Leigh              | 01787 378133 |  |
| Rose Raymond             | 07813 205743 |  |
| Stella Buchanan          | 01787 312152 |  |
| Philip Benns             |              |  |
| Carole Bennett           | 01787 311315 |  |

Diane Jacob - Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer – Tele: 07497 226274 or

Email: <u>bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com</u>

| DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS        |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2017      |  |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 |  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017  |  |

All meetings are bi-monthly, normally held on the third Monday of the month in the Village Hall at 7:45pm except the AGM starts 7:15pm All parishioners are welcome to attend and there is a 15 minute slot for statements/questions from the floor.

## Bulmer Parish Council Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting Held on 20th March 2017 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr. P. Fulcher, Cllr. S.Morgan, Cllr. S.Buchanan, Cllr. R. Raymond, Cllr. C.Leigh, Cllr.P. Benns,

Cllr.C. Bennett and Mrs D.Jacob (Parish Clerk)

17 members of the public.

17/023 Welcome and Apologies of Absence.

Cllr.P.Fulcher welcomed everyone. Apologies for absence received from District Councillor Wendy Scattergood.

17/024 Declaration of Interests.

Received from Cllr. S.Buchanan relating to item 17/041 Item 2 and Item 3. Received from Cllr.S.Morgan relating to Item 17/041 Item 4. Cllr. R.Raymond relating to item 17/041 Item 4, stated that she had sent a written request to the Clerk for a dispensation, the Clerk informed Council members that no request had been received, an e-mail seeking information had been received but not a request for a dispensation, the clerk explained that she had sought advice from Braintree District Council on this matter and that Cllr.R.Raymond should declare a non-disclosable pecuniary interest and leave the room, however, Councilors wanted to remain in the meeting. Cllr. P Benns proposed to Suspend Standing Orders and to allow 3 councilors to remain in the meeting, no seconder.

17/025 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Six members of the public wished to speak so the Chairman suspended standing orders.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour.

Two gave their views regarding grazing land, stating that they have been good tenants, not asked for any help with hedge cutting, they have re-seed areas of the land at their own cost, they have a barn that cannot be used, they have installed fencing, however, the fence posts are rotting away. They have no electricity or water installed.

Cllr.R.Raymond sent photos around the table showing the flooding issue.

A member of the public spoke regarding grazing land, water is provided which they currently pay for, but have no other facilities.

One member of the public complained that Cllrs were not speaking up, and could not be heard.

A member of the public spoke about the Coe's Meadow Fun Day, and that it would be a shame if it had to be cancelled for the second year running, due to lack of funds, and said it would be a great disappointment to the child of the village if no further play equipment was provide.

A member of the public spoke of the lack of service regarding Super-fast broadband at Bulmer Tye, Chairman suggested to invite BT and County Broadband to the Annual Parish Assembly, as Superfast Broadband have said they will be attending. Standing Orders reinstated proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour.

17/026 County Councillor David Finch & District Councillor Wendy Scattergood to address the members if present. None present.

17/027 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2017

Approved as a true and accurate record were signed by the Chairman.

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

17/028 Internal Auditor

Thanks expressed to Cllr.P.Benns for the extra background information provided. Council members appointed Heather Heelis as the internal auditor for the financial year of 2016/2017, at a cost of £128.00.

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

17/029 Vote to suspend Standing Order Item 7.

To revisit item 17/015 On Agenda dated 16th January 2017.

Grass & Hedge cutting (Revisited Special Motion)

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

17/030 Grass Cutting 2017.

Mortimer Contracts Limited have made one cut to Coe's Meadow invoice to appear on next agenda for approval and payment, however, as Mortimer Contracts Limited no longer want to cut grass in Bulmer, the number of cuts was discussed, and the cost, and it was agreed to award JPB Landscape the contract for 2017 to cut grass in Bulmer.

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

17/031 To reinstate Standing Orders.

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

17/032 Planning Matters.

Ref: 17/00176/FUL

4 Vicars Orchard, Bulmer, Essex CO10 7TB

Erection of side extension – The Parish Council support this application.

Clerk to send comments to Braintree District Council

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

17/034 Open Spaces Parish Plan.

The following areas were considered;

Turnpike Piece Allotments - To provide improvement to extending water supply

Turnpike Piece Allotments - To provide drainage

Church Meadow – Fence around large tree

Footpath from Primary School to Village Hall – To provide a hard footpath

Coe's Meadow - To provide new benches, new signage, new play equipment and a new French Boules pit

All Parish Land - Drainage

Clerk to inform Braintree District Council to revise Open Spaces Action Plan.

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

17/035 Drainage Issues at Bulmer Grazing.

Cllr.R.Raymond updated that we have not had any reply from Highways since December. Clerk now to contact Highways for an update.

17/036 Coe's Meadow.

Item 1. Agreed to consider resurfacing the whole of the basketball surface from capital reserves, as capitalised maintenance. To seek three quotes for the work to be on the next agenda for discussion and approval.

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

Item 2. Agreed to consider the purchase of new signs to replace all existing signs which need replacement, from capital reserves, as capitalised maintenance. To seek three quotes for the work to be on a future agenda for discussion and approval. Proposed Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

Item 3. As Item 1 was approved – it was agreed that if required, some of the money budgeted for the repair of the basketball surface may be used for the provision of a fun day.

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

Item 4. The Parish Council to approach the Charity Commission with a view to removing the charity status, and Coe's Meadow then become part of the Parish Council responsibilities. Item to be on next agenda.

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

17/037 Financial Matters.

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

| description                                                   |        | total  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                                               | no.    |        |
| Mrs D. Jacob Salary for March                                 |        | 305.85 |
| Essex Pension Fund (for March)                                | SO     | 75.28  |
| Mrs D. Jacob (Expenses for February/March)                    | 101388 | 114.93 |
| Mrs D. Jacob (Overtime for March)                             | 101389 | 152.73 |
| Essex Pension Fund (Difference relating to overtime in March) | 101390 | 36.24  |
| Running Total Book Keeping Inv. 1086                          | 101391 | 30.00  |
| Chilton Office Supplies Inv.No. 201314                        | 101392 | 83.52  |
| Bulmer Village Hall (Village Hall Hire)                       | 101393 | 95.00  |
| P.Fulcher (Reimbursement for Hedge Plants at Allotments)      | 101394 | 14.50  |
| Chilton Office Supplies Inv No. 201699                        | 101395 | 83.52  |
| J. Doe Inv. No. 19123                                         | 101396 | 420.00 |
| Bank Storage Charge                                           | DD     | 1.00   |
| Figures to appear in New Financial year 2017/18               |        |        |
| Mrs D. Jacob Salary for April                                 | SO     | 305.85 |
| Essex Pension Fund (for April)                                | SO     | 75.28  |

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

| HSBC as at 30th December 2016                  | 30,164.37 |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Business Savings Account as at 20th March 2017 | 36,959.19 |
| Community Account as at 20th March 2017        | 4,367.44  |
| Total as at 16th January 2017                  | 71,491.00 |

The Council to consider making an investment of £30,164.00 into the Local Authorities Fund. Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.C.Bennett, all in favour, resolution passed.

Cllr.C.Bennett to carry out regular bank reconciliations (At least once a guarter).

Proposed by Cllr. R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour resolution passed.

17/038 Work Community Governance Review – Survey

Questions on the survey considered, Council members confirmed the answers. Clerk to send reply to Braintree District Council. 17/039 Red Telephone Kiosks.

BT have confirmed that both telephone kiosks, one adjacent to the Allotments in Park Lane, one adjacent to Coe's Meadow are to remain as existing operational Telephone kiosks and to remain the property of BT. Cllr.P.Benns to acquire paint from BT free of charge, and a volunteer will be required to carry out maintenance.

17/040 Clerk's Report. Received and noted, Cllr.P.Benns requested that the Land owned by Bulmer Parish Council should be listed under the transparency code.

17/041 Rent Increases.

Item 1 –Rent increase for land known as Hedingham Road, Corner Piece (Plot F). From September 2017 to increase from £24.00 to £40.00 after consulting a land agent.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed.

Cllr..S.Buchanan left the meeting.

Item 2 - Rents increase for Allotments at Turnpike Piece from September 2018 to increase the charge by 2p per sq.mtr.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, 4 in favour, 2 votes against, resolution passed.

Item 3 –Rent increase for Garden Allotments, Clapps Field, Alms Piece, and Alms Field. From September 2018 to increase the charge by 2p per sq.mtr.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.P.Benns, 6 in favour, one against, resolution passed.

Cllr. S.Buchanan re-entered the meeting.

Cllr. S.Morgan and Cllr.R.Raymond left the meeting.

Item 4 - To consider increasing the rent for Grazing Land known as Great Dean Field and Bulmer Grazing. Proposal is 2% (which is the increase in CPI over the last 2 years) Due to the flooding issue, this item to be deferred until July.

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

17/042 Date of Next Meeting.

Annual Parish Assembly 24th April at 7.30pm

Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM) 15th May (Early Start time 7.15pm as two meetings in one evening) Followed by Parish Council Meeting.

#### Meeting closed at 9.47pm.

\*\* Apologies that there was insufficent room to include the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 24th of April but these are also available on the website as shown below.

(Please note all minutes are available to be viewed on the web site <a href="www.essexinfo.net/bulmer">www.essexinfo.net/bulmer</a> - should you be unable to access the web site please contact a councillor who will be able to provide you with a copy.)

#### **ALLOTMENTS**



The allotments are located on land owned by the Parish of Bulmer known as Turnpike Piece at the junction of Church Road and the A131 and Park Lane.

We currently have vacant plots. Please note plot 1a will be let last as it is the easiest to maintain whilst unlet.

Once a plot is allocated the tenant must sign and return one copy of the agreement *before any activity commences on the said plot.* 

Rents are charged at 22p per sq. mtr. payable in arrears. Should the

tenant require access to the water supply there is a returnable £10 deposit for key to the supply tap. The current allotment officer is Councillor Mrs Stella Buchanan, who can be contacted on 01787 312152 for any issues. Plots will be inspected at frequent intervals to see that plot conditions being complied in accordance with the agreement. Alternatively, you can contact the Parish Clerk via the above details.

Map of Allotments and those vacant can be viewed on our website.

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The next edition will be published at the end of September please can I have all your pictures & articles by the 7th September 2017. Any problems please call Stella on 312152 or email stella.buchanan@btinternet.com