



# What's Going On?

Issue 7

November 2021

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Colour Online

[e-voice.org.uk/  
bulmerpc](http://e-voice.org.uk/bulmerpc)

## COE'S MEADOW

### VOLUNTEERS GET STUCK IN!



#### **Late September saw the first gathering of the new Coe's Meadow Working Party.**

A group of willing enthusiastic volunteers met up with garden gloves, secateurs and an impressive collection of power tools to tackle some of the overgrown areas of the meadow.

A pair of benches were rescued from the undergrowth in an operation closer to archaeology than gardening.

The entrance to the carpark was given a long overdue hair cut, and the parking area was made presentable.

The area around the car park was the main focus of this session, and in a little over three hours the work was complete. The rain held off just long enough for the team to escape to a well deserved lunch.

Happily there were no injuries despite the chaps present taking turns to jump onto the trailer carrying the trimmings to stomp it down.

What a brilliant example of the village pulling together to get the job done!

# A glimpse into history



**This is a photograph of an engraving of Bulmer Church by Henry Adlard 1799-1893.** His work period was 1821-1869. The engraving was taken from a picture in the possession of Revd. Oliver Raymond 1794-1884, Rector of Middleton and Vicar of Belchamp-cum-Bulmer. The original painting was by Gainsborough Dupont 1754-1797 the eldest son of Thomas Gainsborough's sister Sarah and Philip Dupont. He was a pupil of Thomas Gainsborough and apprenticed to him 1772-1788. **This makes this view of Bulmer Church over 220 years old.**

Would YOU like to write for your village newsletter?

**There is always room in this newsletter for more articles from local residents.**

Do you have a hobby, a collection, or an interesting past time that you would like to share with your neighbours?

Perhaps you write poetry or short stories and would like to let the village enjoy them.

Do you have a point of view about a local issue that you would like to share, we all love to hear a moan!

Are you a keen painter or photographer with some work to show off?

Have you been on any adventures or plan-

ning one when lock down ends that you want to tell everyone about?

Could you tell us about any tales of local history to add colour to the places we all know so well?

Any submissions are welcome, and we do not need to include your name if you want to stay behind the curtain.

Submissions can be made by email to **whatsonbulmer@gmail.com**

I look forward to seeing your work...

Editor



## VILLAGE MUTTERINGS



**As many of you may know a certain village wanderer Mike Crome has recently decided to step away from council duties after many years of serving his community.** Mike joined the Bulmer Parish council in 1997, in that time he has been a cornerstone of the council. He is well known as the font of all knowledge.

In the most recent Bulmer parish Council meeting the council members spoke about Mike's contribution:

Parish Councillors reflected on some of Mike's work during his service on the Parish Council, and concluded it was easier to identify what he wasn't involved in. Mike spent some years as Parish Council Chairman. He was fundamental in making Coe's Meadow an

open space for all the village to enjoy, has served as allotments officer and saved the emergency telephone box at the allotments. Mike set up the Bulmer Parish Council website and regularly updated it, as well as contributing to Bulmer What's On . He worked to get the Speed Indicator Device at Bulmer Street and has acted as community speedwatch coordinator. He was highly experienced and valuable in advising newer Councillors in all aspects of Parish Council work, including planning applications where he always brought an objective viewpoint to meetings. The Bulmer Brick & Tile Jubilee Memorial on the green at Bulmer Tye is also a lasting feature of the village for which we owe thanks to Mike for his organisation and hard work. Mike continues to act as allotments officer on behalf of the Parish Council and over the years has been a regular volunteer at village events, including the most recent Coe's Meadow working party. We are all sorry to lose Mike from the Parish Council but know he will continue to be actively involved in village life - we wish him

well and thank him for everything he has achieved on behalf of the Bulmer community.

*A grateful village*

## Feeling Creative?



This an example of one of our members in Bulmer art club. Do you draw or paint in any media? Why not come join us for a couple of hours every other Thursday Morning from 10am to 12pm in the Village Hall. There is a small charge for the hall hire and heating of £2 per session or £10 for 6 months membership.

If you would like to know more email Mike on [mike1805@gmail.co](mailto:mike1805@gmail.co) or call 01787 378155.

## Village Hall Lottery Results

If you are new to the Village and would like to support the Village Hall why not join the Lottery. You can join for as little as 50p per number and can hold up to 4 numbers. If you would like to know more ring Dawn at the Post Office on 376676 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.

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
1st	Mrs V. Crome.	S & N Boreham.	Mrs V. Crome.	Mr R. Buchanan
2nd	Mr & Mrs G. Rooney	Mrs . J. Tomlinson.	Ms C. Massey and Mr Davies	Mrs A. Calver
3rd	Mr S. Coombes	Mr B. Eelsey.	Ms J. Rolfe	Mrs R. Newman

## Bulmer Village Hall News

How lovely to be able to report that the Village Hall is now fully open and most clubs have returned. Naturally we still have to be diligent and use hand gel, social distance when possible and use masks as advised. We want to keep all of you safe and COVID free to look forward to the time ahead.

The building is beginning to take on a fresh new look. We hope you like the newly painted exterior and there's more happening inside. The kitchen has been redecorated in a pale shade of green and further

cupboards added. It is also planned to gradually replace the crockery and glassware. The ladies and gents toilets are being redecorated along with the back small room and the entrance hall. This should be taking place over the next few weeks and we hope that it doesn't cause too much disruption to your meetings. We ask for your patience in this.

Planning is underway for the Hall to welcome everyone back.

We were hoping to hold a summer meeting for you all to come along, meet up with old friends who maybe you haven't seen since lockdown and welcome you all back. Obviously this didn't happen due mainly to the very unpredictable weather we experienced this year. Not to be disheart-

### Bulmer Village Hall

Available for private Hire

A lovely venue to host an event such as

**Wedding Receptions Parties and Meetings.**

To find out more or to keep up to date with latest events

Find us on Facebook or call Nicola on 01787 827723 ( or text 07971048455)

ened we are now planning a Christmas Get Together on Saturday 4th December 2 o'clock until 5 o'clock. Again we hope you can come along, meet people for a chat and perhaps feel a bit more normal again. We will be serving mulled wine and everything Christmas in the way of refreshments. There will also be other "entertainments" going on and things for the children to enjoy. We look forward to seeing you all again very soon and thank you for all your support.

# COES MEADOW



**Coe's meadow has seen quite a lot of activity over the last few months with the first working party for some time being successfully held in October.** It was lovely to see so many villagers turn out to support us and achieve so much. Thank you to all that came and also a big thank you to those that donated cakes and biscuits, and made tea and coffee for all the hard workers.

The committee are working hard to make improvements to Coe's meadow, recently the basketball court had its long awaited repair supplemented by a kind donation of £500 received from the Braintree district council community grant award. Many thanks for the support from Cllr Wendy Scattergood.

We have also applied for a grant and are really hopeful of securing the funding for the addition of a boules court and replacement picnic benches and bins, I am sure you will all agree that it would go along way to sprucing the area up so we have all our fingers and toes crossed that we get this funding. Thirdly we are in the process of replacing the football goal as unfortunately it has seen better days!

For the queens jubilee we have been gifted 400 bulbs and 50 tree's and shrubs in celebration of the event next year. These need to be planted so we are planning an extra working party on the 27th November. Any volunteers that would

like to come and plant these would be most welcome from 9.30am onwards with the plan to plant what will hopefully be a lovely display next year and many years in the future along with other maintenance jobs that are needing to be done. Working party's are held four times a year on the first Saturday of the month in February, April, July and October, All are welcome, any time you can spare would be much appreciated.

We are looking for new committee members so if you are interested in helping to maintain Coe's meadow park or have an interest in conservation then please get in touch. We are also looking for a voluntary secretary, so if you can help please get in touch.

## **CM Committee Members**

**Cl Laurence Nichols -  
uncletoms2019@outlook.com**

**Cl Antonia Crawshay -  
alc.bulmerpc@gmail.com**

**Cl Christine Street -  
councillorchriss@gmail.com  
or 01787 827428**

**Emma Banks-  
elb12107@outlook.com**





# NATURE DIARY

Peter Rowe



**I Was chatting to Marion, one of our neighbours and she told me that she had occasionally seen toads lately, albeit if one of them was squashed on the road at the top of Upper Houses lane!** We haven't had one in our garden for several years. They seemed to have disappeared, as our frogs have. Let's hope they are making some sort of a comeback. On the subject of road casualties, there appear to be a lot less carcasses of dead birds and mammals laying around than in the past. I can't believe that rabbits pheasants and pigeons have suddenly developed better road sense, and certainly there are no less of them around, especially the last two. So just what is happening? Although I haven't actually seen this happen myself, I'm pretty sure the answer lies with the growing numbers of buzzards and also red kites in the area. They are both quite capable of carrying off sizeable corpses, taking them away to feed on them away from the dangers of the roads and thereby removing the evidence. Although magpies and carrion crows have always taken advantage of these free meals laying on the road, neither of them are equipped with the strong talons of the buzzards and kites, or have the strength to fly off with sizeable prey, so the roads were left littered with their left over meals.

In the last issue I mentioned the plant survey that our group had carried out in Parsons Wood. At the time we were beaten as to the exact identity of one particular plant that we found. We knew that it was a member of the hy-



pericum (St John's-wort) family, and was either trailing St Johns-wort or slender St Johns-wort, but had yet to come into flower. In August we revisited the wood, and found a few flowers still on it. It proved to be slender St Johns-wort (*Hypericum pulchrum*), quite an uncommon plant. We have only ever found it in one other location, out of all the hundreds of different sites that we have surveyed over the years. This is in Assington Thicks In Suffolk, where it grows quite profusely. In north Essex it was recorded in a few scattered locations in Jermyn's Flora of Essex (1974) But Terry Tarpley's Flora of NE Essex (1990) states that most of Jermyn's records were not re-found and had probably disappeared under the plough--- So those we

found in Parsons Wood are quite rare survivals.

I counted the pyramidal orchids flowering in Church Road, as I do each July and was pleased to count 84 flower heads,

continuing the steady increase in numbers of the past few years. For one day in September the garden came alive with birds----- House sparrows in particular, about twenty of them, over half of them young birds, some still begging for food which their parents took from our feeders. There were blue and great tits and a brief visit from a party of long tailed tits. Most noticeable though were the warblers, there were two lesser whitethroats, a pristine male blackcap and at least four chiffchaffs which were constantly chasing each other







those years their numbers have crashed and they have become real rarities. The main distinguishing feature, which is very noticeable, is the black spot in the middle of a white cheek. This instantly sets it apart from the house sparrow. Although I kept an eye out for it over the next few days, it never reappeared.

September certainly came up trumps weatherwise. After the long run of cloudy, cool and depressing days in August, it was great to bask in the warm autumnal sunshine. If it weren't for the thought of the impending winter

*Wendy's painting of autumn fruits shows off some of the natural delights to be found in the season's hedgerows.*

around, but often flying after one of the sparrows or a blue or great tit.

Of course this is the time of year when all of our summer migrant birds are on the move, preparing for their return migration. On another day the lawn was invaded by at least a hundred starlings which arrived en masse, constantly probing the turf in their frantic search for earth worms and other invertebrates. They found something special in one small corner and a real rugby scrum erupted with the birds jostling each other to get a share of whatever it was they had found.

nest in our area, although being fully fledged it could have flown from further afield. It's the first one I've seen in the garden in the almost 50 years that we have lived here. I used to see a few, way back in the 1950s at Upper Houses and even had a pair nest in a tit nest box one year. Since

But on 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. I had a really unexpected visitor to the bird feeder, a tree sparrow. It was a young bird which causes me to wonder whether it came from a



# Minutes of a Meeting of Bulmer Parish Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at Bulmer Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs  
Crome, Kershaw,  
Street

Crawshay,  
Nichols, Ponty,

**In the Chair:** Cllr

Nichols

**Clerk:** Claire Waters

**Also Present:** Mrs Carol Everard, St Andrews Primary School  
Mrs Rebecca Fitzpatrick, Pebbles Pre-School

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Raymond apologised for absence. Apologies for absence were also received from Cllr Peter Schwier ECC and Cllr Wendy Scattergood BDC

## 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw

Agreed unani-

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw

Agreed unani-

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Crome declared an interest in item 8.2 as an allotment tenant.

## 4. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Carol Everard of St Andrews Primary School and Mrs Rebecca Fitzpatrick of Pebbles Pre-School outlined their request to the Parish Council for use of the land at Bakers Field to support the growth of the pre-school, which is currently operating from a very old demountable on land which belongs to St Andrews Church and currently accommodates a maximum of 10 children. The plans are to grow the pre-school to accommodate 25 children, which would require a demountable double the size. These plans are subject to approval by the governing body at a meeting in 2 weeks' time. The current site of the pre-school is accessible for utilities so it is possible a new demountable would be sited in the same location. If this is decided, the use of Bakers Field would be required for a small vegetable patch for educational purposes. The alternative is to site a new demountable at Bakers Field. The primary school has a capacity of over 150 children and currently has 78 on the register. Increasing numbers of pupils from outside Bulmer attend the primary school

**Parking:** This is a primary concern of the Parish Council, the Governing Body and school & nursery managers. Residents of the area have been subjected to blocked driveways, damage to property and abuse from drivers. Various measures have been taken including staggered start and finish times and a visit from two local police officers to speak to parents. More ideas are being considered including a walking bus, but every year new parents have to be persuaded to co-operate with safety measures. The policy of the school is to advise residents to report dangerous parking to the police on 101. This aligns with the Parish Council recommendation to local residents to report incidents to the police as they have the authority to tackle dangerous parking.

**Action:** The Parish Council response to the request for use of Bakers Field will be considered at item 15, and the decision will be reported to Mrs Everard and Mrs Fitzpatrick with a copy of the minutes in advance of the meeting of the school Governing Body.

*Mrs Everard & Mrs Fitzpatrick left the meeting*



## 5. PROGRESS CHECK

Clerk's report – contact had been made with the volunteer who empties bins at Coes Meadow, and support offered to him from the Parish Council in obtaining any equipment or PPE required to work safely.

## 6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

**6.1 Essex Highways Devolution Scheme:** To decide on Parish Council participation in local delivery of smaller-scale works such as verge and vegetation work, traffic sign maintenance and minor footway repairs. A pro-rata grant of 68p per head of population is being offered for the first year. This would amount to approx.£400.00

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council will not participate. With a small population, a large parish area and no village maintenance capability this is not financially viable.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nichols  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unani-

**6.2 BDC Verge Cutting trial:** To consider a Parish Council response to the consultation on an autumn only cut for future years across the whole district.

**Action:** The clerk will submit the Parish Council response: 4 in favour of an autumn only cut, 3 against. Spring safety cuts to be requested at various narrow roads, bends and key junctions. Concerns to be expressed about litter, unkempt appearance and difficulty achieving an effective single autumn cut when grass is so long.

**6.3 Drain blockages:** Cllr Schwier has checked with Essex Highways who say the drains have been cleared, but all drains reported are still blocked to the top and growing weeds.

**Action:** Clerk to respond to Cllr Schwier to confirm extensive drain clearance is still needed

**6.4 Church Road:** Update on safety concerns due to parking at the blind bend. It has been confirmed that this is a police matter. Residents who are concerned about dangerous parking at any location in the parish are advised to report it to the police, by calling 101 for non-emergencies or 999 if personal safety is threatened.

**6.5 Speed survey:** Update on Essex Highways speed survey requested for Batt Hall. This has been completed

**Action:** The clerk will contact the Highways officer to obtain the results, so future actions can be considered.

**6.6 Bulmer Street & SID:** A new battery installed in the Speed Indicator Device is working but not all the time. Cllr Nichols will test if the solar panels are efficient at recharging the battery and report back to the Council.

**6.7 Footpaths:** Consideration of possible "lost" footpaths in the parish and actions to be taken

**Action:** The Ramblers Association link to maps and for reporting lost footpaths will be added to the website: <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/dont-lose-your-way-2026.aspx>

**Action:** Cllr Ponty and the clerk will prepare a letter to local landowners to ask about specific paths on their land

**6.8** The clerk reported concerns raised by a resident of Bulmer Street about speeding, and damage to their property following road resurfacing. Speeding issues are being addressed by the SID repair and a Community Speedwatch (item 8.3) Damage to buildings by Essex Highways work should be reported to ECC.

## 7. REPORTS

**7.1** Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly police reports had been forwarded to Councillors

**7.2** Essex CC report. None

**7.3** Braintree DC report. None

## 8. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

8.1 St Andrews Church tower repairs: Cllr Crome reported work is postponed to April 2022 due to bats

8.2 Allotments report. Cllr Crome reported invoices have been sent out. 3 people are on the waiting list

8.3 Community Speedwatch report: Cllr Nichols reported no response as yet from the organisers.

## 9. PLANNING

*Applications received:*

**21/02667/HH** Proposed single storey rear and side extension with front porch

6 Park Lane CO10 7EQ

*No objections*

**21/02714/COUPA** Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 2 no. residential dwellings

The Piggeries Hedingham Road Bulmer  
*quired*

*For information only - no comment re-*

*Applications received-decisions ratified*

**21/02228/HH** Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, replace garage doors with windows.

Guernsey House Smeetham Hall Lane CO10 7EN

*No objections*

**21/02222/REM** Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline approval 19/01901/OUT for: Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling.

Land Adjacent 3 Park Lane

*No objections*

*Applications determined:*

**21/01641/HH** Proposed single storey rear extension

1 Bulmer Tye CO10 7EB

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/01506/HH** Proposed two storey side extension, new porch, internal alterations & installation of external insulation beneath render

Secret Squirrel Cottage 15 Park Lane CO10 7EQ

*Application PERMITTED*

## 10. FINANCE

**10.1** The monthly payments were approved. Bank reconciliations were checked by Cllr Kershaw.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nichols

**Seconded:** Cllr Crome

Agreed unanimously

**10.2 RESOLVED:** To join the Braintree Association of Local Councils at £40 membership fee per year.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Nichols

Agreed unanimously



**Bulmer Parish Council account**

Sep-21		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
14-Sep	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay August	£370.96
15-Sep	B/P	HMRC	Tax August month 5	£56.40
20-Sep	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£722.40
20-Sep	B/P	Mrs E C Waters	Clerk expenses	£12.50
20-Sep	B/P	BALC	Annual Membership	£40.00
24-Sep	D/D	Wave	Water Allotments	£9.77
30-Sep	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay September	£370.96
30-Sep	B/P	HMRC	Tax September month 6	£56.40
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£1,639.39</b>

Aug-21		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
01-Aug	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay July	£370.96
16-Aug	B/P	HMRC	Tax July month 4	£56.40
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£427.36</b>

Aug-21	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
	Barclays	Premium A/C Interest	Not known
02-Aug	CCLA	PDSF Interest re-invested	0.60
<b>TOTAL in month</b>			<b>£0.00</b>

**Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Account**

Sep-21		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
20-Sep	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£326.40
24-Sep	DD	Wave	Water Coes Meadow	£12.58
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£338.98</b>

**Accounts balances at 14th September 2021****Bulmer Parish Council**

BPC Unity Trust Current account	£8,218.57
Barclays Deposit account	£37,143.82
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£30,708.84
	<b>£76,071.23</b>

**Coes Meadow**

LCRT Unity Trust Current account	£2,964.80
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## 11. EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Parish Council policy for good practice in email correspondence and social media

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unanimously

## 12. UKPN WORK AT BULMER TYE

Revised proposals for UKPN work at Park Lane were considered, including answers to questions which had been raised with the contractors by Cllr Crome. The plans involve a transformer sited at the allotments, close to Park Lane gate. Councillors preferred a lease arrangement on the land, a separate entrance gate for UKPN maintenance access and a fence to screen the transformer to be maintained by UKPN.

**Action:** The clerk will arrange a site visit with the contractor, to be attended by Cllrs Raymond and Crome.

## 13. BUS SHELTERS

The final Highway Licenses for bus shelters at Church Road and Bulmer Street crossroads had been signed by the clerk, and was noted and approved.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Kershaw

Agreed unanimously

## 14. COES MEADOW ADJOINING LAND

Following the Extraordinary meeting in the absence of the public on 24<sup>th</sup> August, a written offer from the Parish Council of £23,000 to include the vendors' legal costs had been to the landowners, which met with their verbal request for an offer in excess of £20,000. This offer had been rejected and an increased offer requested.

**RESOLVED:** To write formally to the landowners asking them to confirm the price they are looking for so that the Parish Council can consult residents about the level of support for spending public money on the land.

**Proposed:** Cllr Kershaw

**Seconded:** Cllr Crome

Agreed unanimously

## 15. BAKERS FIELD LEASE & NURSERY BUILDING PROPOSAL

Following attendance of representatives at the public forum, the request from St Andrews School to site a Pebbles Pre-school building or a vegetable garden at Bakers Field was considered.

**RESOLVED:** To support the request for either plan in principle subject to more detailed proposals being submitted and on the condition that existing and future parking problems are addressed as part of the plans

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unanimously

## 16. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

To consider plans for celebration, in particular the lighting of a beacon on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and a village lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons information and guide on taking part can be found here: <https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/> Beacons cost £490 + VAT or instructions are available to make our own.

**RESOLVED:** To purchase a beacon for use at a public event at Coes Meadow.

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome

**Seconded:** Cllr Ponty

Agreed unanimously

## 17. PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN: BDC ANNUAL UPDATE REQUEST

Cllr Crome was thanked for completing the necessary updates for the 2021 Annual Review of the Parish Emergency Plan for submission to Braintree District Council by the deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021



## 18. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

**ECC:** Residents were invited to have their say on the Essex Library Service with online discussions on Monday 20th September. Essex County Council's Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Louise McKinlay outlined ideas for key principles to help guide the service and its future development. Residents were able to discuss these, as well as make suggestions and offer feedback.

**19. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Please inform the clerk by 9am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

*The Parish Council meeting ended at 9.10pm*

## 20. LAURENCE COE RECREATIONAL TRUST – Sole Trustee meeting

To receive report from Coes Meadow Management Committee to Bulmer Parish Council as sole trustee

**RESOLVED:** A grant application submitted for up to £10,000 to the ECC CIF Fund for a French boules pitch and improved picnic area facilities, new litter bins and a bin store was approved

**Proposed:** Cllr Crome  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Nichols

Agreed unani-

*The Laurence Coe Recreational Trust meeting ended at 9.12pm*

## 21. MEETING DATES 2021

<b>15th November 2021</b>	Ordinary Parish Council	Bulmer Village Hall
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**Councillors:** Cllr Antonia Crawshay    Cllr Mike Crome    Cllr Sarah Kershaw  
Cllr Laurence Nichols    Cllr Cathey Ponty    Cllr Rose Raymond  
Cllr Christine Street

Copy to: **County Councillor:** Cllr Peter Schwier  
**District Councillor:** Cllr Wendy Scattergood

Signed.....

**Cllr Rosemary Raymond**

# Minutes of a Meeting of Bulmer Parish Council held at 7.15pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Bulmer Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Crawshay, Crome, Kershaw, Nichols, Ponty, Raymond, Street

**In the Chair:** Cllr Raymond

**Clerk:** Claire Waters

**Also Present:** BDC Cllr Wendy Scattergood reported between items 3 & 4 due to conflicting meetings

ECC Cllr Peter Schwier reported between items 5 & 6 due to conflicting meetings  
One parishioner attended between items 5.2 & 5.3. Standing orders were suspended to enable the Public Forum to be heard at this section of the meeting.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

**1.1** The retirement of Cllr Mike Crome from the Parish Council was recorded, with grateful thanks for his many years service and with best wishes for the future. It was noted that his wisdom and knowledge of Bulmer will be greatly missed, and that his energy and community spirit during his service for the Parish Council has been of enormous value to the village.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with the correction of one typing error (Queens Jubilee date is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**Proposed:** Cllr Crawshay  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Nichols

Agreed unani-

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ponty declared an interest in the new Councillor co-option item 12 as relative of the applicant.

### 12. COUNCILLOR VACANCY – *Cllr Ponty left the meeting*

*This item was brought forward due to the applicant having to leave the meeting early.*

**RESOLVED:** Since Mr Michael Hall was the only applicant for the vacancy, to waive the Co-option Policy

**Proposed:** Cllr Raymond  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Street

Agreed unani-

**RESOLVED:** To co-opt Mr Michael Hall to the Parish Council. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed, witnessed by the clerk, and he was welcomed to join the meeting as a Councillor

**Proposed:** Cllr Raymond  
mously

**Seconded:** Cllr Street

Agreed unani-

*Cllr Ponty re-joined the meeting*

## 4. PUBLIC FORUM

A resident attended to express concern about parking and kerb damage along Bulmer Street. Councillors will visit the area to look at the issues raised.

*The resident left the meeting.*

## 5. PROGRESS CHECK

Clerk's report and update on actions from last meeting

**5.1 Bus Shelters:** Cllr Raymond has cleared all 3 shelters. Further painting & cleaning needed in spring.

**5.2 Coes Meadow adjoining land:** Following a letter written to landowners in September requesting an asking price in order that the parish could be consulted, the Parish Council has received no response so far.

**5.3 St Andrews School & Pebbles Nursery proposals:** Following a request for the use of Bakersfield for Pebbles Nursery expansion, no further information about the plans has been received by the Parish Council.

## 6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY



Update on Highways issues and any new problems to report

**6.1 Essex Highways User Survey 2021:** Notification of the annual survey of Parish Council views on the priorities and satisfaction levels with services provided by Essex Highways, closes 31st December 2021.

**Action:** Councillors to complete the survey in relation to Bulmer Parish issues and forward to the clerk to compile a Parish Council response – by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November

**6.2 Drain blockages:** Autumn jetting of blocked drains on main roads and at Smeetham Hall Lane was noted.

**6.3 Speed survey:** An Essex Highways speed survey carried out in September at Batt Hall showed average speeds of under 40mph.

**Action:** Clerk to forward full survey results to Batt Hall residents who have expressed concerns

**6.4 Bulmer Street & SID:** The Speed Indicator Device appears to be working intermittently. The performance will continue to be monitored.

**6.5 Lost Footpaths:** A lost footpath from Finch Hill towards Sandy Lane was discussed as being important for safe pedestrian access between the north of Bulmer and Sudbury.

**Action:** Councillors to consider options: *Agenda item for January meeting*

## 7. REPORTS

**7.1** Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Weekly police reports had been forwarded to Councillors

**7.2** Essex CC report. Cllr Peter Schwier introduced himself to the Parish Council and apologised for not being able to attend any meetings since his election in May 2021. His roles at ECC include Deputy Cabinet member to Leader Cllr Kevin Bentley, and Climate Czar. He has 33 parishes and keeps them all informed of Essex County Council initiatives by forwarding email information regularly. He reported on:

- Essex Bus Service consultation at <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/enhanced-partnership/> ends on December 3rd and all residents are encouraged to respond as the views from rural communities are important.
- Streetlights across Essex are being replaced with LEDs, which use 60% less energy. Of 137,000, crews are replacing 1000 per week.
- ECC Public Rights of Way: <https://www.essexhighways.org/prow-interactive-map> online maps are now showing more data and can be printed
- Winter gritting: This can now be tracked online. Parish Councils and residents are encouraged to sign up to Facebook or Twitter alerts if they wish to see what roads have been gritted in icy weather
- Safer Essex Road partnership: In conjunction with Anglia Ruskin university, a survey of drivers regarding cycling is being conducted at <https://saferessexroads.org/drivers-we-want-your-views-on-cycling/> and residents are encouraged to give their views to improve safety for all. The survey is fully anonymous and takes about 20-30 minutes to complete
- Drain clearance: Across the Braintree District, over 2,000 drains were cleared last month
- Budget: ECC are awaiting the Government settlement confirmation in December. The County Council is looking at 3 year planning to improve financial management.

**7.3** Braintree DC report. Cllr Wendy Scattergood reported on:

- BDC Climate Change and Cycling strategy
- NHS Track & Trace payments are being administered by BDC, with £473,000 distributed in August.
- BDC Local Plan: a hearing in spring led to two Planning Inspectors being appointed and a delay in a final decision but this is hoped to be resolved in December. The 5-year housing supply across the District has been confirmed which provides some protection against speculative development
- Planning Enforcement at BDC is being reviewed, and preparation for two High Court cases last month and another two coming up has stretched resources. Both recent cases found in favour of BDC.
- National Grid Bramford to Twinstead Tee: Substation plans are being submitted to Braintree Planning separately from any pylons, stating it is the same as previous plans which were postponed. However it appears to be significantly larger and Cllr Scattergood is still pressing for alternative solutions e.g. underground or under the sea for the entire route to be considered.
- Cllr Scattergood was thanked by the Parish Council and members of the Coes Meadow Management Committee for approving a BDC Councillors Community Grant of £500 towards the repair of the basketball surface at Coes Meadow.

## 8. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

**8.1 Allotments report:** Mr Mike Crome, Allotments Officer, sent a written report

- Footpath through the allotments: Following a request to see if any tenant is willing to cut the grass,

nobody has offered to do so. Allotment tenants have suggested that this path is land owned by the Parish Council and therefore it is the council's responsibility to maintain it.

- Rents: All garden & grazing rents have been paid, and at the time of writing 5 allotment tenants have not paid. These unpaid rents are being chased up by the clerk.
- Vacant Plots: 2 people are on the waiting list, with all plots being used. There are two plots that have not been used this year due to illness and tenants have been asked on several occasions if they still wish to keep them, on each occasion they have said yes. One of these has not yet paid.
- UKPN: The latest proposal on the location of the sub-station and necessary cabling has been reviewed and acceptable. The area being leased at rent of £250 for 99 years seems reasonable for 30sq. ft a year.

**8.2 Community Speedwatch report:** Cllr Laurence Nichols reported that the scheme for Bulmer will be established in the near future. Cllr Nichols will attend online training, and at least 9 volunteers will be needed to conduct occasional speedwatch sessions in 30mph zones in the village.

**8.3 Transport representative:** Cllr Crawshay agreed to attend a virtual meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November regarding the Essex County Council Bus Improvement Strategy, and will report back. This relates to the Essex Bus Service consultation at <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/enhanced-partnership/> which ends on December 3rd

## 9. PLANNING

### *Applications received:*

**21/03197/TPO** Notice of intent to carry out works to tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 3/81 - A - Coppice of dogwood for maintenance B - 3x Hazel coppice for hedge maintenance, C- Take branches back to crown of tree's to clear path, D - Coppice Hazel, Willow and hawthorn for woodland management, E - Pollard Lime trees for maintenance of trees, F - Coppice 3x dogwood for maintenance G - Coppice 2 x Hawthorn trees

Coes Meadow Bulmer Street

*Joint and several interest to be declared: No comment*

**21/03274/TPO** Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 4/10 - Cut back all trees that have been allowed to over grow the rides |

Butlers Wood Sudbury Road - Bulmer Tye - A131

*Comment deadline 30th November*

**Action:** Clerk to re-send application to Councillors

### *Applications received-decisions ratified*

**21/03027/HH** Erection of gym, installation of an outdoor swimming pool and revision of front elevation of the dwelling.

Stanleys House, Hedingham Road, Bulmer

*No objections*

**21/03099/FUL** Erection of a two-storey medical centre with allocated parking.

Land North Of, Osier Way, Sible Hedingham

*No comment submitted*

### *Applications determined:*

**21/02667/HH** Proposed single storey rear and side extension with front porch

6 Park Lane CO10 7EQ

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/02228/HH** Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, replace garage doors with windows. |

Guernsey House Smeetham Hall Lane CO10 7EN

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/02071/HH** Conversion of existing stables to annex.

Suffolk Hall Bulmer Street CO10 7EW

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/02222/REM** Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline approval 19/01901/OUT for: Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling.

Land Adjacent 3 Park Lane

*Application PERMITTED*

**21/00412/OUT** Outline planning application with all matters reserved for -Erection of 4 no. bungalows and associated development.

Land Rear Of The Tye Ryes Lane Bulmer Essex

*Application REFUSED*



**21/02714/COUPA** Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 2 no. residential dwellings

The Piggeries Hedingham Road Bulmer

*Planning permission REQUIRED*

## 10. FINANCE

**10.1** The monthly payments were approved. Bank reconciliations were checked by Cllr Kershaw.

**Proposed:** Cllr Nichols

**Seconded:** Cllr Crawshay

Agreed unanimously

**10.2 RESOLVED:** Retired Councillor Mike Crome is to be removed as a signatory to the Unity Trust current account and Barclays Savings accounts. New signatories were agreed, change of mandate forms to be completed and signed in accordance with the bank mandate. Cllr Hall will be an additional signatory on the Unity Trust Current Account. Cllr Nichols will be a second signatory on the Barclays Savings account.

**10.3** Income & Expenditure summaries for the year to date were provided to Councillors, for review in advance of the January meeting when the budget and precept claim will be decided.

### Bulmer Parish Council account

Nov-21		Payments in Month	Details	Amount
25-Oct	B/P	Livertons	Hedge cutting	£360.00
09-Nov	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£86.40
09-Nov	B/P	HMRC	Tax October month 7	£56.40
30-Nov	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay November & back pay	£420.96
09-Nov	B/P	Mrs E C Waters	Clerk expenses	£17.50
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£941.26</b>

Nov-21		Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
		NONE		

<b>Oct-21</b>		<b>Payments in Month</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
06-Oct	B/P	EALC	Chairmans Day 1 RR	£108.00
06-Oct	B/P	EALC	Chairmans Day 2 RR	£108.00
06-Oct	B/P	EALC	Chairmans Day 3 RR	£108.00
06-Oct	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£192.00
07-Oct	B/P	Miss A C Wood	Zoom subscription refund	£143.88
31-Oct	B/P	E C Waters	Clerk pay October	£370.96
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£1,030.84</b>

<b>Oct-21</b>	<b>Receipts in Month</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
	Barclays	Premium A/C Interest		
	CCLA	PDSF Interest re-invested	£0.60	
	Debenham	Allotment rent	£17.84	
	Hayto	Grazing rent	£123.50	
	Orr	Allotment rent	£24.44	
	Soper	Allotment rent	£21.14	
	Arbuthnot	Allotment rent	£1.92	
	Hayward	Allotment rent	£58.80	
	Brett J	Allotment rent	£73.96	
	Brett L	Grazing rent	£492.00	
25-Oct	Morgan S	Allotment rent	£44.26	
25-Oct	Wright R	Allotment rent	£29.94	
28-Oct	Seaman A	Allotment rent	£23.56	
29-Oct	Elsely B	Grazing rent	£82.03	
<b>TOTAL in month</b>			<b>£993.39</b>	

#### Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Account

<b>Nov-21</b>		<b>Payments in Month</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
29-Oct	B/P	JPB Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£139.20
06-Nov	B/P	Graham Nicholl	Fallen Rowan tree	£100.00
09-Nov	B/P	Bounce Bound	Basketball surface repair	£960.00
15-Nov	B/P	PlaySafety	RoSPA inspection	£136.80
<b>TOTAL in month</b>				<b>£1,336.00</b>

<b>Nov-21</b>	<b>Receipts in Month</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
04-Nov	BDC	CCG Basketball surface repair	£500.00
<b>TOTAL in month</b>			<b>£500.00</b>





- Please inform the clerk of any further agenda items by 9am on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

*The Parish Council meeting ended at 9.22pm*

**16. LAURENCE COE RECREATIONAL TRUST – Sole Trustee meeting**

The minutes of the Coes Meadow Management Committee meeting were noted. These minutes formed the report to Bulmer Parish Council as sole trustee

*The Laurence Coe Recreational Trust meeting ended at 9.25pm*

**17. MEETING DATES 2022**

<b>Monday 17th January 2022</b>	Ordinary Parish Council	Bulmer Village Hall
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022</b>	Ordinary Parish Council	Bulmer Village Hall
<b>Monday 16th May 2022</b>	Annual Parish Council	Bulmer Village Hall

**Councillors:** Cllr Antonia Crawshay    Cllr Michael Hall    Cllr Sarah Kershaw  
 Cllr Laurence Nichols    Cllr Cathey Ponty    Cllr Rose Raymond  
 Cllr Christine Street

Copy to: **County Councillor:**    Cllr Peter Schwier  
**District Councillor:**    Cllr Wendy Scattergood

Signed.....  
**Cllr Rosemary Raymond**

**BULMER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Your Councillors**

<b>Rosemary Raymond-Chairperson</b>	<b>07813 205743</b>	rosepc@yahoo.com
Vacancy		
<b>Chris Street</b>	<b>01787 827428</b>	councillorchriss@gmail.com
<b>Laurence Nichols</b>	<b>01787 464600</b>	UNCLETOMS2019@outlook.com
<b>Antonia Crawshay</b>	<b>07977 225890</b>	alc.bulmerpc@gmail.com
<b>Sarah Kershaw</b>	<b>07956 534905</b>	sarahkershaw71@gmail.com
<b>Cathey Ponty</b>		catheybpc@outlook.com
<b>Claire Waters - Parish Clerk</b>	<b>07845 056597</b>	bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com



# Volunteering Vacancies

**Braintree Area Foodbank has the following exciting vacancies**

Volunteering role	Location of volunteering opportunity	Hours for role
Distribution Centre Manager	Braintree	Approx 6 hours per week, inclusive of home admin work
Signposter (must also be able to work as a centre helper)	Braintree	4 hours per week, on a revolving rota
Centre Helper	Braintree	4 hours per week, on a revolving rota
Tesco National Collection Helper	Braintree Marks Farm or Witham Tesco stores	2 hour shifts available over 18 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> of November

If you would like more information or to apply please contact Lee Ranson, Project Manager on [pm@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:pm@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk), or call us on 01376 330694. Role packs are available upon request.



[braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](http://braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1148782)





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

# COE'S MEADOW WORKING PARTY

1st Saturday of Month  
9.30am - 12.30pm  
October, February, April and July

Contact Coes Meadow Committee for further  
details. (see notice board/ Bulmer website)

Could you spare some time to help  
maintain Coe's meadow? Tasks include  
pruning, weeding and cleaning.

Bring a pair of gardening gloves and secateurs if you have them.  
Enjoy a chance to meet fellow village people and have a little fun  
too! Hot drinks and Cake will be provided.

# Notice Board



Please be a considerate  
dog walker and pick up  
your poo!

(and your dogs too)

What's Going On is Published every three months.

Publishing costs are paid by the Bulmer Parish Council.

Distributed by Volunteers to 300 homes in Bulmer and the surrounding area.

All articles are written by volunteers, and any opinion expressed in the text is that of the author alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or Bulmer Parish Council.

Edited by Paul Banks

Get in touch or submit an article at :

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

View on line in colour at:

[e-voice.org.uk/bulmer\\_pc](http://e-voice.org.uk/bulmer_pc)



## Winter shopping list

Many people within the Braintree are still affected by the pandemic. By donating an item from the list below you will be helping us to maintain our stock levels

- Toilet Rolls
- Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fish
- Sponge Puddings
- Cereal Bars
- Chocolate Bars
- Long Life Juice (1l variant please)
- Long Life Milk
- Can Openers
- Sugar (500g variant please)

We currently have very good stocks of pasta, pasta sauce, tinned tomatoes, and tinned vegetables.

We follow the Food Standards Agency standards. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods well within their "use by" date. Items that do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.

Although Christmas food is a 'treat' we need to keep our stocks up of our 'shopping list' items to be able to provide basic meals which is why we are not asking for specific Christmas items.

## Thank you for your continued support

[www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk)  
[info@braintreearea.org.uk](mailto:info@braintreearea.org.uk)  
01376 330694

Registered charity number 1148782

