

# What's Going On?

## The Newsletter of Bulmer - June 2016

(Including Bulmer St., Bulmer Tye, Finch Hill, Batt Hall, Upper & Lower Houses, Church Rd & Hedingham Road). View in colour at <a href="https://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer">www.essexinfo.net/bulmer</a>

### HIGH SPEED BROADBAND IN BULMER



A new service is now available via a wireless receiver/transmitter installed on Bulmer Church Tower. It can deliver speeds of upto 32mbps for download **and** upload. The upload speed being equal to the download speed is unique to a wireless connection and not available via landline or fibre.

You can choose speeds of 6,10,16, 24 or 32mbps depending on how much you wish to spend each month ranging from £9.99 to £34.99, selecting a constant speed (with monthly download limits) and depending upon how you use the Internet. There are additional one-off costs to get started. Full details of these costs can be found at <a href="https://www.countybroadband.co.uk">www.countybroadband.co.uk</a> or call 01376 562002.

As part of the installation on the Church Tower, County broadband have provided a free connection inside the Church and a further free connection is planned for the Village Hall. In addition to this, the Parish Council will benefit from an income based on the number of properties that sign up to the service on an annual basis.

If you can see the Church Tower then you can receive the service, now. However if you are not able to see the Tower, you may still be able to make a connection by a property agreeing to be a transmitter as well as a receiver.

Want to know more? Go to www.countybroadband.co.uk or call 01376 562002.

Mike Crome

# BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL – SITE ALLOCATION PLANNING MEETING

At the meeting held at Braintree on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 t was confirmed that all of the potential Bulmer sites were considered and all of them turned down unanimously. There are now NO sites allocated for housing within the Parish of Bulmer.

### **OUTCOME OF ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS FOR BULMER**

Following the recent Parish Councillors Election held on the 9<sup>th</sup> June it was confirmed that Mrs Carole Bennett was duly elected to the council.

#### **OPEN GARDENS AND ART EXHIBITION**

At St. Andrew's Church Bulmer Teas and Cakes were served by a willing team led by Liz Fulcher.

The Art Exhibition was fantastic containing 100 paintings as many as 18 Artists both amateur and professional. Several paintings were for sale with a percentage going to the Church Funds. Watercolours dominated the scene but there were OILS, SCREEN PRINTS, ACRYLICS AND PASTICHE, LANDSCAPE, STILL LIFE every subject in 100 paintings. Thanks go to Paul Curtis – Sandy Maynard's brother – who organised and catalogued the Exhibition in the church. Also to the village artists who displayed their work in the Art Exhibition

A surprise visitor attended the Exhibition and the Crafts in the Village Hall our MP James Cleverley who was taken around the village to some Open Gardens by June Coombes who had invited James.

#### June writes:

James Cleverly MP visited our village on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. He was extremely interested in the display of work by the village school and took some time studying the projects, especially the one concerning Bulmer Village. On show were trophies won by the school, including first for both dance and singing in the Sudbury arts festival.

He was impressed by the exhibition of craftwork that people of the village had produced. The stitch and sew club had quilting, knitting and embroidery which were much admired. Margaret Dixey and Alison Brett were on hand to explain techniques to visitors.

There was also a display of unusual bricks of all shapes, sizes and ages, collected by Alan Dixey, which had been collected locally over a number of years.

Thanks to everyone who helped or participated in any way. The co-operation was fantastic.

A special thanks to all involved over this weekend especially the folk who opened their gardens, there were 12 wonderful gardens for our visitors to wander around.

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#### **VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS**

village lottery.

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 (376676) if you would like to join the

Month	First	Second	Third
Mar.	MRS B MAULDON	MR & MRS OWEN	MRS E MACK
Apr.	MRS M HAMILL	MR WHITE	MRS M O'REILLY- CICCONI
May	Ms E	MR & MRS	MR & MRS J

#### **BYGONES EXHIBTION**

Again the Bygones Exhibition was held in the Village Hall organised by Alan Dixey and he would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway at the Exhibition including of course those that kindly donated Raffle Prizes.

Once again a very successful day enjoyed by both the exhibitors and visitors. The day raised £175 for the Village Hall Fund.

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

On the first Monday in the month (exception Bank Holidays it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday) the club meets in Bulmer Village Hall. Whether you knit or sew you are welcome, we have a good chat over a cup of tea and biscuits. We only charge £1 per month, which pays for the hall and refreshments.

So please come an join us you will be made very welcome – Ladies or Gents
Details ring Margaret on 01787 312915

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#### **BULMER SKYLARKS**

We held a very successful Fashion Show at Edinburgh Woollen Mills where some of our Ladies made exceptional models. Two of our Gentlemen were also brave enough to tread the catwalk and did a magnificent job. The highlight of the evening was Brian and his Emu who brought the house down. Those of you who where not there missed a treat. We thank all those who took part and the girls at the shop were once again very helpful and participated in all the fun.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday at our June meeting with a Garden Party. We hope to see our members in their "Sunday best" wearing either a hat or tiara. Gentlemen will be encouraged to wear their medals!

Our programme for the next few months will see us welcoming The East Coast Truckers on 26th July. On 23rd August we will have a visit from Canine Partners and will hold our A.G.M on Sept 27th followed by a quiz afternoon.

Everyone is welcome at Skylarks so why not come along and have a cup of tea with us. If you would like to know more please ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758.

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### **VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

Following our A.G.M. we now have a working Committee to continue running the Village Hall. It was disappointing that we had so few people at the meeting but we must assume everyone is happy with the Hall. We are always ready to hear of any suggestions you may have about the fabric of the building or any events you would like to have. We are good listeners.

The Committee is now discussing the way forward with improvements and events.

We will be holding a Craft Fayre in October so if you would like to know more or book a table please ring Ann on 373451



The ever-popular Quiz Night will be held again in November. This years Table Sale was a great success so a further one is planned for next year.

We are researching the possibility of Solar Panels on the roof and will be carrying out some redecoration work to the inside. All the safety checks needed to keep the Hall open have been carried out with few problems discovered.

The lottery is our main source of income so if you are not a member and would like to help to keep the Village Hall running please ring Dawn on 376676 who will be happy to give you all the details.

## 



Nature has a tendency to make you eat your own words ----- back in March I was predicting a really early Spring. Things were well advanced, but then winter seemed to regain it's rule for the best part of a couple of months and having reached June we are still shivering! Most of March and April served up colder weather than we had in December and January. Nature stood full on the brakes and the hitherto sprint towards spring was reduced to a crawl. However, in just two days in early May we were rocketed into midsummer, however briefly. This brought forth a throng of butterflies brimstones, small tortoiseshells, orange tips and peacocks, which had all been grounded during the extended "blackthorn winter". There certainly was a fantastic show of blossom on the blackthorn, with whole hedges frothing with masses of pure white little flowers. Predictably, however, just a week later we ware chivering again!

We walked along Brundon Lane and around the Sudbury Common Lands in mid April, it was one of the few sunny days we had that month. The air was full of birdsong, blackbirds, a song thrush, blackcaps, chiffchaffs and even a willow warbler, a really springlike day. There had been a really heavy rainfall the day before, which had caused the river to rise sharply, A pair of swans had a nest which they had built too low for safety sake and the pen (female), although still sitting on the nest was desperately trying to build it higher, dragging in great masses of waterweed and trampling it around the nest edge. Whether there were eggs in it or not I couldn't see, but it wasn't a happy situation for the birds From the wildlife angle, a tour round a 150-acre solar farm didn't rate highly in my expectations. This was on the old Stradishall airfield, adjacent to Highpoint

This tract of land was managed by the MOD fairly sympathetically towards wildlife, with the planting of little groups of trees and creation of a few ponds etc. Since then the land has been taken back into private ownership and is being managed in a similarly wildlife friendly manner. Despite being set on high ground, the site is hardly visible from any of the surrounding roads, so isn't too much of a blot on the landscape. Grass grows well under and between the 8000 panels and this is grazed by sheep, so giving a duel use of the land. We were told that the installation was capable of generating enough power to supply three quarters of the energy needs of a town the size of Haverhill.

The morning started well, getting out of the car we were serenaded by a chorus of birdsong, most noticeably that of willow warblers. Although really quite common in Bulmer twenty or so years ago, today you would be very lucky to hear sweet little song, tumbling softly down the scale. As we travelled round the site by tractor and trailer and on foot we heard several of them from different locations. Other birds we saw included reed buntings,

yellowhammers, linnets, whitethroats, blackcaps etc. An interesting morning, but the best moment of the day came on the way home, when we stopped at a wood near Hawkedon. Looking to catch a glimpse of a small bird, which had disappeared into the trees, I suddenly realised that a tawny owl was sitting like a statue just a few yards into the wood.



Dozing the day away with one eye half open, it had obviously seen us, but was relying on it's natural camouflage to escape notice. I was quite pleased with the picture I managed to capture.

Travelling through the back lanes around Shimpling, I was suddenly aware of a dark mass on a field in the middle distance. Slowing the car, I did a double take as I could make out that it was a very large herd of deer. The binoculars revealed fallow deer, we counted over a hundred, by far the greatest number I have ever seen anywhere in our area. In such numbers I would think they must be a real problem to farmers and are really bad news for the ancient woodlands around there. In Bulmer we sometimes see fallow deer, usually in the Belchamp Valley, but not in those sort of numbers, maybe up to fifteen or so. Apart from these there are a few roe deer here, they are usually to be found in the area around Parsons Wood and Deal Nursery.

We poked our noses into the northern half of Parsons Wood in early May, to see how Peter O'Brien was getting on with his coppicing work. We found him and his brother busy, putting up an electric deer and rabbit fence around the coppice area he had cut down during the winter. Rabbits and deer always are always drawn to the succulent leaves of young coppice, especially hazel and ash and without the fence the young shoots would soon be nibbled off. Once protected the fresh growth will race ahead and can grow to six or seven feet in the first year. Peter explained that fencing off compartments within the wood rather than fencing off the whole wood, allowed the deer and other animals into parts of the wood, rather than keeping them out altogether. Certainly ground flora of the wood is benefiting from his management, there was a good show of early purple orchids, some primroses were still hanging on and one damp section had a carpet of the white flowers of wood sorrel. There were also a mass of bluebells towards the edge of the wood, but it has been a marvellous year for them everywhere.



Having left the wood we went home via Little Dean Spinney and were delighted to count six common lizards on one of the log habitat piles. The one in the picture has lost the tip of it's Tail and is actually half way through shedding it's skin. If you look closely you can see the old skin hanging on it's back. The lizards were introduced to the site eleven years ago by George Millins, who had rescued them from Sudbury construction sites. He also released slow worms, but sadly there hasn't been one seen for five or six years.

Peter Rowe

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS www.essexinfo.net/bulmer



#### YOUR COUNCILLORS

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

**Diane Jacob** - Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer – Tele: 07497 226274 or Email: bulmerparishclerk@gmail.com

DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS
18 <sup>th</sup> July
19 <sup>th</sup> September
21 <sup>st</sup> November
16 <sup>th</sup> January 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**

DRAFT Minutes of the Bulmer Annual Parish Meeting Held on 16 May 2016 at the Village Hall, at 7.15pm.

These are Draft Minutes and will not be considered for approval until 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Present:** Cllr. P. Fulcher, Cllr. S.Morgan, Cllr. S. Buchanan, Cllr. R. Raymond, Cllr. P.Benns, Cllr. C. Leigh and Mrs D.Jacob (Parish Clerk) 24 members of the public

#### 16/063 To elect The Chairman

Peter Fulcher elected as Chairman Proposed by Cllr. S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.Leigh, 3 votes for, 1 abstained, resolution passed.

**16/064 Chairman's Declaration of Office**Signed by Cllr.P. Fulcher and witnessed by the Clerk **16/065 To Elect The Vice-Chairman** 

Stephen Morgan elected as Vice-Chairman Proposed by Cllr. C. Leigh, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed.

16/066 Vice Chairman's Declaration of Office Signed by Cllr.S.Morgan and witnessed by the Clerk 16/067 Declaration of Acceptance of Office It was confirmed all members had signed and that Cllr.R.Raymond could do so when she arrived later. 16/068 Check Members Register of Interests Clerk confirmed that Councillors, were required to complete and return the forms to her as soon as possible, to enable her to send them to Braintree District Council within 28 Days.

## 16/069 Consent to receive the Council Summons and Agenda Electronically

It was confirmed that all members has signed and that Cllr R.Raymond could do so when she arrived later

#### 16/070 Bank Mandate

It was agreed that Cllr.P. Fulcher, Cllr.S.Morgan and Cllr.C.Leigh were signatories. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed

16/071 To Review Membership and agree renewal of the following Bodies:

#### Item 1.

EALC (ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL	
COUNCILS) NALC (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION	143.53
OF LOCAL COUNCILS) BALC (BRAINTREE	32.41
ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS) SLCC	18.00
(SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS)	
(**************************************	88.00
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Council members were informed that by agreeing to membership of the SLCC would take them over budget, but advised that it would be in their best interest.

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

**Item 2.** To elect a representative to attend BALC meetings (Two meetings a year next scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> June at the Town Hall).

### 16/072 To adopt Council policies

Standing Orders Financial Regulations

Co-Option Policy

Complaints Procedure

Public Participation at parish council meetings Freedom of Information Publication Scheme Grant Funding Policy

Training & Development Policy Code of Conduct & Nolan Principles

Equality & Diversity Policy

Dignity At Work/Bullying and Harassment Policy Local Government Pension Scheme Discretions Policy Statement

Recording of Social Media

It was agree to adopt the above policies. Proposed by Cllr.S.Morgan, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed.

# Due insufficient space, the appointment of Officers can be found on the Parish Council website at <a href="http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer">http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer</a>

Chairman's Statement for Annual Parish Meeting 2016 Before I close the meeting I would just like to remind Cllrs that we are here to represent all the residents of Bulmer Parish and that once policies are agreed it is up to all Cllrs to support the policies in their role as a Cllr. We have just completed a difficult year and should now move forward together representing each other and different points of view. It is important that we

Clerk to ensure our actions are correct and we comply with all rules and regulations placed on Parish Councils. Please also note that the Parish Clerk only works 7 hours a week, so immediate responses may not always be possible. Meeting Closed at 7.55pm.

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#### **Bulmer Parish Council**

#### DRAFT Minutes of the Bulmer Parish Council Meeting Held on 16th May 2016 at the Village Hall, at 8.00pm

(These minutes are unapproved until the next meeting on 18th July 2016)

Present: Cllr. P. Fulcher, Cllr. S.Morgan, Cllr. S. Buchanan, Cllr. R. Raymond, Cllr. P. Benns, Cllr.C.Leigh Mrs D.Jacob (Parish Clerk) 24 members of the public.

16/081 Welcome and apologies for absence Cllr. P.Fulcher welcomed Cllr.C.Leigh back onto the Parish Council and new Cllr.P.Benns. No apologies for absence.

#### 16/082 Declaration of Interests

Received from Cllr.Raymond and Cllr.Morgan regarding item 16/089 on the agenda Received from Cllr.P.Benns regarding item 16/095, but he stated that he did not think he had an interest. Chairman advised, and confirmed to Cllr.P.Benns that he did have an interest. Cllr.P.Benns said that he intended to speak anyway on this item.

#### 16/083 Public Participation session

Two members of the public spoke in favour of fencing and securing the allotments, as soon as possible, due to vandalism and dog fouling.

# 16/084 County Councillor David Finch, District councillor Wendy Scattergood, to address the members.

None present.

## 16/085 Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2016

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr. R.Raymond, 4 votes in favour, 2 abstained, resolution passed. Approval of the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 29th February 2016 Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr. S.Morgan, 4 votes in favour, 2 abstained, resolution passed.

Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 12th April 2016
Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr.
S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr. P.Fulcher, 5 votes in favour, 1 objection to the wording of Allotments paragraph one, resolution passed.

#### 16/086 Accounts 2015/16

**Item 1.** Internal Audit Report – Report read out to members, by Chairman.

**Item 2**. Approval of Governance Statements for 2015/2016 prior to submission to the Audit Commission. Signed by Clerk and Chairman.

**Item 3**. Approval of Annual Return (Final Accounts) for 2015/2016 prior to submission to the audit commission. Signed by Clerk & Chairman.

**Item 4.** Bank and Year End reconciliation to be signed by Clerk & Chairman. Copies of these will be available to view on our website. Accepted – Proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 16/087 Asset Register 2015/2016

Confirmed the Asset Register – Chairman signed. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 16/088 Grants

**Item 1**. Church of St Andrew Bulmer PCC £1,000.00 (For Church yard maintenance)

Item 2. Bulmer Village Hall £1,000.00

Item 3. Skylarks £100.00

**Item 4.** Essex Community Fund (Stour Valley Volunteers) £200.00

**Item 5.** Coe's Meadow £1,000.00 (Ring Fenced –No cheque to raise) It was confirmed and agreed to award the above grants. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 16/089 Bulmer Grazing Land

Council members to consider selling a strip of land to members of the public behind their houses currently leased to Bulmer Grazing. To remind occupants who have gates in their fence to Bulmer Grazing that they have no legal right of access. Council members decided Not to sell any land. Clerk to write letters to residents to remind them that they have no legal right of access.

Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, 2 abstained, 3 in favour, resolution passed.

#### 16/090 Planning Matters

Ref: 16/00114 Walnut Cottage Bulmer Street Bulmer Essex CO10 7EW Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area - Remove an old Damson tree

Ref: 16/00729 Peartree Cottage Bulmer Tye Bulmer Essex CO10 7ED Proposed single storey side and rear extension

Ref: 16/00728 Appletree Cottage Bulmer Tye Bulmer Essex CO10 7ED Proposed single storey rear extension

Also Ref: 16/00697 The Dower House Smeetham Hall Lane Bulmer Essex CO10 7EN Fix new satellite dish onto rear chimney stack Council members had no objections to any of the above applications. When these applications came in the Parish Council had no Planning Officer, so comments were sent to the Clerk from Council members via e-mail and have been submitted by the Clerk accordingly, to Braintree District Council.

#### 16/091 Highway Signs

Old Church Lane Bulmer Tye off Hedingham Road by junction with A131 It was proposed that two named road signs were required each end. Proposed by Cllr.C.Leigh, seconded by Cllr. S.Morgan, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 16/092 Parish Council meetings

To consider holding monthly meetings (except August). The Clerk explained that the Parish Council should consider holding monthly meetings (except August) as suppliers are chasing payment of invoices, items could be voted on and dealt with sooner. Council members suggested we should inform contractors/suppliers of the situation when placing orders. Invoices will need to be with the Clerk at least a week prior to a Council meeting, as these will need to be listed onto the payment schedule which will then be published on the Agenda for approval. This item deferred until next meeting.

**16/093** Allotment Report Received and noted.

#### 16/094 REVISITED SPECIAL MOTION

Vote to suspend Standing Order 9(b) To revisit item 16/47 Allotment Issues Item 2. S106 Funding to be obtained for this project.

Cllr.P.Benns instructed that this should read – Vote to suspend Standing Order 7(a) Clerk apologised for typing error. And showed Council members that she was in receipt of the document, signed by three Councillors. Proposed to suspend Standing Order to revisit item 16/47 Item 2. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, 1 abstained, 5 in favour, resolution passed.

**16/095 Allotment Issue Item A.** That if the Allotment Fencing is not included in the Bulmer Open Spaces Plan for 2016 by BDC at their meeting scheduled to be held on 23rd May the fencing be paid for out of Parish Funds to ensure early completion of the fencing to protect the allotment holders produce. Chairman confirmed that the public footpath would not be closed. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr. S.Morgan, 5 in favour, 1 objection. Resolution passed.

Cllr.P. Benns reminded Councillors of previous decision re minutes: Dated Jan 2015 Height of Turnpike Piece/Park Lane Hedge — virtually all at 6 foot. Prop RR leave at 6ft for foreseeable future second SB all in favour. Cllr.P.Benns stated that this affects 10 houses in Park Lane.

Dated 8 March 2013

Water usage and billing: the cost of water used, split equally between keyholders would result in a charge of £2.50 each. In this time of austerity it was felt unfair that all villagers are currently paying for the water, and that such a charge would mean more careful use of water. Cllr.P.Benns stated that it was unfair and unacceptable to expect Villagers to pay for the water.

Cllr.P.Benns asked how the Council could warrant spending so much money on the Allotments. Cllr. C.Leigh tried to respond, and eventually was allowed to do so, after she stated that she had listened to Cllr.P.Benns and that it was now his turn to listen to her.

**Item B. Dropped Kerb.** That Section 106 funding be sought for this work but if is not included in the Bulmer Open Spaces Plan for 2016 by BDC at their meeting scheduled to be held on 23rd May the dropped kerb be paid for out of Parish Funds to ensure early completion of the work before the expiry of the 3 month period on 11th June 2016 and so that it can be completed before the fencing is erected. That section 106 funding be sought for this work. Completion of the work before the expiry of the 3 month period on 11th June 2016 and so that it can

to use Parish Funds. Proposed by Cllr.S.Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.S.Morgan, 5 in favour, 1 objection. Resolution passed

## Item C. Quotations to consider for dropped kerb as follows:-

Colne Contracts Ltd	£2,326.00 Plus VAT
John Revett (Builders)	£1,200.00 Plus VAT
Wiles Contractors Ltd	£5,976.00 Plus VAT
TDR Groundworks Ltd	£2,122.82 Plus VAT

The above quotations were discussed and considered, it was decided to award Colne Contracts Ltd at a cost of £2,326.00 Plus VAT the contract. They were chosen because the Council were not sure that the cheapest would represent value for money, or meet the necessary requirements set out by Essex County Council. The Council voted on Colne Contracts Ltd as one Councillor has experienced their work. Proposed by Cllr S. Morgan, seconded by Cllr.C. Leigh, 5 votes for, 1 objection. Resolution passed. It was decided to award the contract to Colne Contracts Ltd at a cost of £2,326.00 Plus VAT.

#### **16/096 BDC NEW LOCAL PLAN 2033**

Update – Representatives from Bulmer Parish Council will attend the Local Plan sub-committee on the 25th of May. The recommendation in the officer report is to not allocate any site in the Bulmer Parish.

**16/097 Red Telephone Box at turnpike piece** Item 1. To consider if the Parish Council would like to adopt this telephone box. Council members decided not to adopt this telephone box, as it would need to be insured and maintained at a cost to the Parish Council, and there was no use for it at present.

**Item 2. If so then Chairman to sign agreement.** To confirm no contract signed, due to item 1.

#### 16/098 Bus Shelter

To consider repairs to the Bus shelter in Church Road, near the junction with The Street. Clerk informed Council members that she had contacted Essex County Council to try and obtain funding for a new shelter. To be deferred until next meeting.

#### 16/099 Casual vacancy

**T**o confirm that a notice has been published and issued for the required period, and that two nominations had been put forward – so there will be an Election in Bulmer on the 9 June, Chairman encouraged everyone to turn out and vote.

#### 16/100 Clerks Report

Received and noted.

#### 16/101 Financial Matters:

1) Financial Statement for May. (Items to be approved for payment and signed as PER PAYMENT schedule).

	Chq No:	Total
Chqs to appear in New Financial Year figures as budgeted		
Aon UK Ltd Insurance	317	2,009.25
Aaon (Adj Item added)	318	34.79
EALC – Subs EALC & NALC	319	175.94
BALC Sub	320	18.00
SLCC Sub	321	88.00
J.Doe Invoice 54 – Hedge Cutting	322	386.40
Chilton Office Invoice	323	125.38
Peter Hogan Village Sign Repair	324	490.00
Mortimers (Grss Cutting)	325	690.00
Mr P Fulcher for Post, Concrete, Screws	326	23.29
Church of St Andrews - Donation	327	1,000
Bulmer Village Hall	328	1,000
Skylarks	329	100.00
Essex Comm Fund – Stour Valley	330	200.00
D Jacob Salary & Expenses April & May	331	761.10
Essex Pension Fund for May plus adjustment of £62.70	332	136.55
Essex Pension (june)	333	73.85
J C Reddington Auditor	334	75.00

Payment schedule approved for payment. Proposed by Cllr.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.

S.Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed

Not an agenda item – The Chairman asked if the contractor's cheque could be signed outside of a meeting, as their terms are 30 days. After consideration and discussion, the Clerk informed that this was just one point as to why they should consider holding monthly meetings as per item 16/092, Clerk decided that as this was not an agenda item and in future unless invoices are published on the agenda in the payment schedule, cheques would not be signed outside of meetings - this therefore was not voted on.

**Item 2. Monthly Budget Statement.Received** 

Bulmer Parish Council Acc	ounts 2016-2017		
Community Account Opening Balance 1st April 2016	£8,174.07		
High Interest Account Opening Balance 1st April 2016	£41,369.44		
HSBC Opening Balance 1st April 2016	£30,150.82		
Total Money in Reserve April 2016	=	£79,694.33	
Total Precept to be received in 2016-2017	£5,451.00		
Total General Grant to be received in 2016-2017	£1,464.00		
Money Received from Precept & General Grant 2016-2017		5,086.41	
Other Income - HMRC VAT for 2015-2016		3,588.76	
Other Income - Allotments		10.00	
Other Income - Grant Street Cleaning		750.74	
Total Income Received to date	-	9,435.91	
Total Income Necelved to date	=	<i>5,</i> 433.91	
			%age
	Budget 2016-17	Total Spend	spent
	£	to date	to date
Open Spaces	4,000.00	1,635.41	40.89%
Coe's Meadow	1,000.00	-	0.00%
Allotments	1,500.00	-	0.00%
Insurance	1,945.00	2,044.04	105.09%
Election	1,000.00	-	0.00%
Audit	200.00	75.00	37.50%
Contingency fund	500.00	-	0.00%
Clerk Salary	3,900.00	601.72	15.43%
Pension	1,100.00	284.24	25.84%
Office Expenses	450.00	159.38	35.42%
Room Hire	100.00	-	0.00%
Subscriptions	275.00	281.94	102.52%
Training	200.00 2,100.00	- 2 100 00	0.00%
Grants	,	2,100.00 104.40	100.00%
Newsletter Phone Box Refurbishment	300.00 200.00	104.40	34.80% 0.00%
Quality Council (Funding also received for New Equipment)	1,480.12	-	0.00%
Lime Tree Replacements	450.00	-	0.00%
Wildflower Cutting	200.00	200.00	100.00%
Affordable Housing Survey	200.00	200.00	0.00%
VAT Paid	200.00	- 249.96	0.0070
Totals	21,100.12	7,736.09	36.66%
HSBC as at 1st April 2016	30,150.82		
·	41,369.44		
Rusiness Savings Account as at 16th May 2016			
Business Savings Account as at 16th May 2016 Community Account as at 16th May 2016	17,261.34		

## **16/102 Date of Next Meeting** 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.45pm

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

Don't forget, you an always keep upto date with Parish Council Business on <a href="http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer">www.essexinfo.net/bulmer</a> and for village events on <a href="http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmervillage">http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmervillage</a>

The next edition will be at the end of September, please may I ask that for this publication all copy is sent to me by 10<sup>th</sup> September.

My email address is stella.buchanan@btinternet.com