



# What's On?

The Newsletter of Bulmer - September 2013

(Including Bulmer St., Bulmer Tye, Finch Hill, Batt Hall, Upper & Lower Houses, Church Rd & Hedingham Road).

View in colour at [www.bulmeressex.co.uk](http://www.bulmeressex.co.uk)

## Last but one train has left Bulmer

**Including a toilet in 2<sup>nd</sup> Class!!**

These photographs taken by Peter Rowe of the railway carriage removal in Bulmer Street on the 1<sup>st</sup> October include one of it disappearing down Bulmer Street. It last did this same journey behind a traction engine! It's worth noting that the only other railway carriage in Bulmer Street is at Clement Cottage, also the home (then) of the traction engine owner. They must have been a bargain to anyone who had the means of moving them.



John McGlashan who has taken it, says that he thinks it was built around 1880-90. It is thought possibly it was on the site just after Maudie's bungalow was built in 1922 by her father Albert Rowe. It was brought in via the 'Sack Yard' now the site of Belchamp Brook House. During WWII it was used as an air-raid shelter and Maudie slept in it. The condition of the underneath supports (two solid oak beams) are in excellent condition as a result of being kept open to the atmosphere by rabbits. What would someone want it for? Well, it will soon become an unusual holiday let in Wales, after a considerable amount of TLC!

*Phil, Maudie and Peter Rowe*



## BULMER NATURE DIARIES

Summer's all but gone, but isn't it great that this year we've actually had some real summer weather to rejoice in, a real butterfly summer. Whilst the butterflies have revelling in the dry sunny days, other, less welcome insects have suffered. None of us complained about the almost complete lack of greenflies and other aphids, but aphid predators such as ladybirds and hover flies were deprived of their main food source and were equally scarce. Another irritation (literally) that we were spared, were the thunder flies, I did see a few one late July day, but mercifully that was all we had to endure this year. Most of the commoner butterflies have done really well, especially small tortoiseshells and the peacocks; our buddleia has been alive with them under the hot sun. We've also seen the odd migrants, like painted ladies, and one lone-clouded yellow, a butterfly, which you can go years without seeing.

Moths have been equally abundant, as we found in mid July. We held a children's Wildlife Watch Group meeting at Goldingham Hall, where Ashley Cooper had very kindly set his moth trap overnight. The catch was amazing. We found no fewer than six different species of hawkmoths, of all shapes and sizes: -, privet, poplar, eyed, pine, small elephant and large elephant hawkmoths. The last two moths, so named because their caterpillars resemble elephant's trunks, are truly exquisite. They are coloured a

delicate pink interspersed with a rich cinnamon, incredibly striking. Their caterpillars, with monster false eyespots, can sometimes be found on fuchsias. The privet hawk is Britain's largest moth and like the large elephant, one of the commoner of our hawkmoths. Apart from these, there were many other species of moth, a real bumper catch.



The mating pair of privet hawkmoths pictured, were discovered by Alan Dixey in his garden. I had another somewhat unexpected encounter with a privet hawk at home. A magpie was feeding enthusiastically on something on our lawn. Through binoculars, I could see that it was snacking on the hawkmoth. The bird spent quite a while picking it about, seemingly sorting out certain parts and discarding others, which I suppose were distasteful to it. The pair in Alan's garden would certainly have made easy pickings for any bird, sitting there boldly in full view.

It's always exciting for me to add a new bird to the garden list, but an addition in late June was nothing to celebrate. A young nuthatch killed itself against

our window, I have only rarely seen one in the village before and to me this was a tragedy. In early September, Irene Dickinson called with another sad little window casualty. We identified this as a young willow warbler. These incredibly beautiful and delicate little birds often appear in gardens at this time of the year, when they are moving around preparing to migrate. It's amazing to think that such tiny birds, weighing not a lot more than a 20p piece, fly thousands of miles to spend the winter in the south of Africa before returning to us in the Spring. There was marked absence of blackbirds in our garden during August, & September. Our rowan tree was still sporting a good show of red berries, whereas in most years the blackbirds strip them as soon as they start to change colour. One that we did must have spent 10 minutes or more feeding on the lawn, on what looked to be nothing but grass. Closer inspection showed that it was actually picking up ants.



*Close up of a bee orchid*

Orchids have been good this year. On the verge of Church road 7 pyramidal orchids flowered in July, they have gradually increased since the first one bloomed there 6 or 7 years back. There was a fine show of bee orchids a little earlier, beside the Upper Houses to Lower Houses footpath, close on 200 blooms I believe.

Many people will have heard or read in the media about the desperate plight of the Turtle dove in Britain. For me, if hearing the first cuckoo or sighting the first swallow confirms that Spring has at last arrived, then high Summer was always epitomised by the soft, soothing purr of the turtle dove. This sublime sound would float across to us from the tall elms around the old stack-yard behind Griggs barn (now Suffolk Hall) Now all we hear is the monotonous, monosyllabic call of that somewhat dowdier relative of the turtle dove, the collared dove. Like those huge elms, the turtle dove seems to have disappeared as a breeding bird in Bulmer. The last one to stay around us, spent most of the Summer trying to get off with a female collared dove, without of course, any success! This was getting on for ten years ago. Nationally, its population has now dropped by 80% since 1995. This cataclysmic decline is attributed to a range of different factors

including habitat loss, in particular, weedy field margins. The eradication of arable weeds such as goosefoot, chickweed and knotgrass from the edges of intensively managed farmland, has in many places deprived the turtle dove of what is, apparently, one of its vital food sources. It appears that the seeds of these, and other arable weeds form an essential part of their diet, especially when feeding their young. Add to this the persecution they suffer on their migration routes across southern Europe from trigger-happy hunters, and it is easy to see why their numbers have plummeted. I would be interested to hear from anyone who has seen or heard a turtle dove in Bulmer this year.

We had been concerned about the survival of the lizards that were released on to Little Dean Spinney conservation area several years ago. However those fears were well and truly squashed, when in late September, I counted no less than 29 of the fascinating little creatures, about three times as many as I have ever counted before on one occasion!

*Peter Rowe*

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**VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

It is hoped that work will start soon on alterations to the bar area of the Village Hall. We are planning to make the bar slightly smaller and convert the remaining area into more storage space. However this should not cause hirers too much inconvenience and we ask for your patience whilst the work is carried out.

The next event to be held at the Village Hall will be the Quiz Night on 4<sup>th</sup> October. This is always a popular event so don't forget to book your table. The price per head is £7.00 and will include a Fish and Chip supper. To book (max 6 per table) please ring Chris on 378133 or Maggie on 374758.

There are only a few tables left for the Christmas Fayre on 30<sup>th</sup> November so if you wish to book please do as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The Fayre will be a great chance to shop for Christmas, as there will be a variety of products on sale. Watch out for more details on Parish Notice boards or from the flyers, which will be dropping through your letterboxes nearer the time. If you wish to book a table please don't delay and call Ann on 373451.

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**BULMER SKYLARKS**

It is very pleasing to see so many residents at our meetings and we are also welcoming many ex Bulmer residents who come along to enjoy a chat to old friends and neighbours. Our afternoons can often get very lively!

We held our summer party in June and following our meal we were entertained by Gavin Davey, a magician who performed close up magic and left many guessing and asking, "How did he do that?" Our programme for the rest of the year will consist of Carol Rainbird speaking about "The Flowers of

Tileagd" on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Sue Butcher will be entertaining us on 26<sup>th</sup> November and we will be enjoying a Christmas lunch in December. If you are interested in joining Skylarks or wish to know more about us please ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758.

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**VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS**

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

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

| Month | First              | Second           | Third             |
|-------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| June  | Mr & Mrs K Mouldon | Mr E Nevard      | Mr & Mrs B Smiles |
| July  | Mrs L Burns        | Ms L Ingram      | Ms L Ingram       |
| Aug.  | Mrs L Fulcher      | Ms L Ingram      | Mrs S Coombes     |
| Sept. | Sally Feldt        | Mrs M Williamson | Mr & Mrs G Rooney |

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**COE'S MEADOW**

The Coe's Meadow Committee would like to thank all those who attended the Fun Day and so made it a success and also those who helped in organising and working on the various attractions. Thanks again for our 'local', The Fox for supporting the event.



It was good to be able to officially open the Horse Seesaw in commemoration of Maude Rowe and the disabled and adult swings.

At the end of September you may have noticed that some 'haystacks' have appeared around the boundary. You may have also noticed some brushwood piles on the Vicars Orchard boundary last winter. These are habitat piles and provide shelter and food for insects, birds, snakes and lizards and small mammals. The Coe's Meadow Committee have decided, after taking advice from the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project (DV&SVP), to try and make the meadow as environmentally friendly as possible. DV&SVP have over the last two years been coming with volunteers to work on the meadow for a day. This year DV&SVP have also cut the wild flower areas and instead of the grass being sucked up as in the past the grass was raked and removed by hand to the 'haystacks'. The grass needs to be removed to prevent the soil becoming enriched, as wild flowers grow better on poor soil.

This change in cutting regime should hopefully improve the wild flower areas by allowing more seed to remain in the areas. DV&SVP do this work free of charge and the Parish Council has given a donation to their Environmental Fund which gives grants to organisations working on countryside projects. With this donation the Parish Council is still making a

considerable saving over the previous method of cutting and removing the grass.

Even with the help of DV&SVP there is still other work that needs to be carried out throughout the year. A small group normally does this on working party days. We could always do with more help and if you would like to give a hand please let the Parish Clerk Hannah know and she will ensure you are informed of the working party days as they occur.

CMMC

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



### YOUR COUNCILLORS

Mike Crome (Chairman)	- 01787 378155
Peter Fulcher (Vice Chairman)	- 01787 269935
Stephen Morgan	- 07973 341048
Chris. Leigh	- 01787 378133
Bethan Cook	- 01787 370435
Rose Raymond	- 07813 205743
Ken Hill	- 01787 464651

Hannah Fraser (Parish Clerk) - 01787 374310 or email hannah.fraser@sky.com

### DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS

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

8<sup>th</sup> November

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

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting Held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

**Present:** Cllrs. Crome, Raymond, Cook, Hill, Leigh (late); CCllr. Finch; Mrs H Fraser (clerk); 2 members of the public.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Fulcher, Morgan and Swift and were accepted.

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

None.

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Raymond, seconded by Cllr. Cook; the vote was unanimously in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

#### 4. Matters arising from the minutes

i) Salt bin: A resident of Bulmer Tye has agreed in principle to have the bin on their land. Clerk to circulate a specification in the region of £200. Cllr. Leigh arrived at this point.

ii) Submission of speed restrictions to Local Highways Panel: The Finch Hill and School applications have both been submitted. The LHP met on 4th July and discussed the School application, Finch Hill will be considered in October. The Chairman has sought a response as to why the dates are different, there has been no response.

#### 5. David Finch, County Councillor

Cllr. Finch has spoken with Highways about the A131 speed restriction: it will be implemented as a priority,

but no date has been given yet. ECC has been busy with the spending review resulting from the reduction from central government of £221 million. Cllr. Finch has attended the G8 splinter group with David Cameron. A ban on lorries overtaking on the A12 has been put forward. The favourite option for the new Thames Crossing is currently Option C for another Dartford tunnel further east, and free flow tolling on current bridge/tunnel. Cllr. Finch left at this point.

#### 6. Coe's Meadow report

A report had previously been circulated. The Chairman gave thanks to CMMC and Cllr. Leigh in particular for the successful Fun Day, it was well attended and a good day, despite the cold weather. The new equipment has arrived, Cllr. Leigh will chase receipts of payments in order to claim the grants. The new Seesaw is drying out and needs linseed oil applied regularly. The sharp edges have been sanded. Working parties will be advertised to prepare for ROSPA inspection when necessary.

#### 7. Allotments report

A report had previously been circulated. The overgrown plots and long grass are irritating tenants. The Chairman will discuss working parties with Cllr. Morgan. The idea of a competition was suggested for the future.

i) Allotment rents: There was no increase in rents last year. It is not lawful to charge a higher rate for non-residents, so there was a discussion about adjusting rents to all be equal. It was proposed by Cllr. Leigh and seconded by Cllr. Raymond that since this coming bill is to include the water costs for those with a water key, that any such adjustment should be added next year. All were in favour, and the clerk will add to the corresponding agenda.

ii) Request to site poultry on allotment land off Blacksmiths Lane: This matter is not detailed in the tenancy agreement but the parish council has previously allowed hens only with no permanent fencing on Turnpike Piece, not on this particular site. The problems of rats, noise and unsightliness were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr. Leigh and seconded by Cllr. Raymond that the request was refused due to the location of the site. All were in favour. The Clerk will contact the applicant with Cllr. Morgan.

#### 8. Clerk's report

The report was circulated. The clerk was asked to check that there is now a full set of Declarations of Interests for the Chairman to put on the website.

#### 9. Planning

i) Cedral House: A letter had been received from the BDC Head of Planning which was negative in terms of more action. DCllr. Swift was surprised by this reply. Cllr. Fulcher has offered to keep a diary to monitor the situation as he passes this gateway every morning. There has recently been an accident at the A131 junction with Church Road. Cllrs were asked to keep notes of any evidence with dates and photos.

ii) Toms Cottage extension: This application has been delayed due to a resident's objection.

iii) Stables Cottage tree works: There were no objections.

iv) The Auberies photovoltaic panels: This has been granted.

v) Kitchen Farm 8 apartments: This application is currently with Highways. It is not a luxury development. The exit is dangerous and blind, proposed plans include an island to help with access. The Parish Council will push for the correct signage.

vi) Bulmer Tye House mansard roof extension: This application is under consideration by BDC.

#### 10. Finance

i) Balance in hand: This had been circulated. The clerk is to send Cllr Leigh the Coe's Meadow figures.

ii) Review capital: The Scottish Widows account move will soon be finalised, and will show on the next accounts.

<b>Payments since last meeting</b>		
EALC training	Freedom/Data Cllr Cook	45.00
Clerks & Councils	1 subscription	12.00
Stour Valley Environment Fund	Wildflower cut contribution	200.00
Skylarks	Grant from BPC	100.00
PCC	Grant from BPC	720.00
BVHMC	Grant from BPC	1,000.00
Mortimers	Grass cutting Mar Apr May	871.20 inc VAT
RT Bookkeeping	Internal Audit	54.00
Mrs H L Fraser	Salary Mar & Apr; expenses	591.43
J Doe	Flail hedge cutting	342.00 inc VAT
BVHMC	Hall Hire 2012-13	70.00
Stevenson Brothers	Seesaw	1,344.00 inc VAT
AON UK Ltd	Insurance	1,904.03
Mr C Collins	Zorbing (fun day)	100.00
Hags-SMP	Special needs swing	2,808.00 inc VAT
Playquip Leisure	Seesaw mechanism	1,482.00 inc VAT
EALC	NALC subscription	170.08
Anglian Water	Feb-May	28.74
Barclays	Storage charge	1.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£11,843.48</b>
<b>Payments to be signed at this meeting:</b>		
Mrs H L Fraser	Salary May & Jun; expenses	627.41 inc VAT
Ms B Cook	Travel expenses	26.10
Chilton OS	Newsletter	83.52 inc VAT
RCCE	membership 13-14	48.00 inc VAT
RT Bookkeeping	Annual payroll fee	20.00
Mortimers	Grass cutting May & Jun	885.60 inc VAT
Mrs S Lees	Allotment refund	2.80
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£1,693.43</b>

#### 11. Footpaths

There was a discussion on organising a volunteer team to maintain the footpaths. The insurance has personal accident as part of the policy. The chairman will telephone AON to see if non-councillors would be covered or a disclaimer is needed. Some volunteers have come forward. Cllr. Raymond will store the strimmer and volunteers can contact her by mobile when needed. Risk assessments were discussed. The book of laminated signs and instructions will be kept with the strimmer. Signs will be put up while cutting is taking place.

#### 12. Bowls Club

A letter had been received from the Bowls Club requesting funding for a proposed roller for the heavy carpets which are difficult to lift. They could be stored with the chairs, on their wheels and can be stored elsewhere if necessary, eg. in the bar area. The club has applied for a grant, with no result yet. The chairman proposed that the clerk respond stating that when the result of the grant application is known, the parish council would consider helping out with any shortfall. All agreed.

#### 13. Draft policies

i) Email policy: this has been circulated and there were no requests for amendments. Cllr. Hill proposed that the policy was adopted, Cllr. Leigh seconded and all were in favour. The clerk will produce the final document.

ii) Back-up procedures policy: this has been circulated and there were no requests for amendments. Cllr. Leigh proposed that the policy was adopted, Cllr. Raymond seconded and all were in favour. The clerk will produce the final document.

iii) Year plan: this will be circulated as a reference document.

#### 14. Raising the profile and generating attendance

i) Facebook page: This was launched in the last What's On newsletter. The parish page has been liked 7 seven times.

ii) Parish Meeting: This must be held, as a legal requirement. The timing is important, as the council would like feedback on the use of reserves to hold the council tax down. The saving to parishioners should be publicised. All village groups could be invited to attend, and/or to speak, refreshments should be considered. It could also showcase successes within the village. The clerk will add the matter to the next agenda and the chairman will add to the next What's On newsletters. Councillors will send any other ideas to the clerk for the next agenda.

#### 15. Correspondence for discussion

i) EALC Conference: The parish council will receive a certificate for the recent training. The chairman is unable to attend, the Vice-Chairman has agreed to attend – the clerk will respond to EALC.

ii) Salt scheme: The invitation for next winter's scheme has been received. There are currently 4 pallets left. Cllr. Raymond will check storage space, the clerk will complete the form for the chairman to submit the application. It was suggested that salt bins were needed at Dog Pit corner and on the road to Upper Houses.

iii) Letter from BVHMC: The recent thank you letter was discussed. It was agreed that it was not a formal request for suggestions for improvements, and that no response was necessary.

**16. Items for the next agenda**

i) Broadband: The Parish summit meeting on Broadband is to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the chairman is to attend. County Broadband are waiting for Chelmsford Diocese to give the 'go ahead' for the church tower to be used. This should be imminent with installations starting in mid-August. Fibre optic superfast broadband is now available via BT on Batt Hall via the Sudbury exchange, but it is not known if it reaches as far as Bulmer. The chairman will circulate a report on the Broadband summit after the meeting.

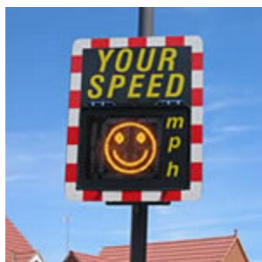
ii) Railings at Dog Pit corner: The railings were recently assessed as not needing repair. The matter was referred to CClr. Finch and he will follow up.

iii) The clerk was asked to report the pavement narrowing on Ballingdon Hill (from vegetation).

The meeting closed 9.21pm.

**SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – YOUR HELP!**

For the past 6 years a very kind resident of Bulmer has re-charged SID's batteries and replaced them when necessary, and also to relocate it, but has now decided through health issues wishes to stop. Therefore are there any residents who are willing to take on this important & worthwhile role to keep reminding drivers to obey the speed limits through our village. If you are and want to know more, please call Hannah Fraser the Parish Clerk on 374310.



**BPC**

**SPEED RESTRICTION AT BATT HALL – UPDATE**

Essex Highways have stated this will be installed in March 2014, and consideration will be given to the new junction at Kitchen Hill as a result of the development at Kitchen Hill being granted by Braintree District Council.

**BPC**

**OUR PHONE BOXES**

You may have noticed how dirty and untidy our public telephone boxes are in Bulmer St. & Park Lane. Your Parish Council is considering whether to 'adopt' the Park La. one from BT under their 'adopt a kiosk scheme', which would mean it would be the parishes responsibility to clean & maintain it. One suggested use would be for it to be used as a noticeboard for the allotments on Turnpike Piece. Do you have any other ideas for its use? Before making a final decision your Council wants to be assured that there are volunteers who would be willing to look after it. Should you be



prepared to take on this task, then please contact the Parish Clerk Hannah Fraser on 374310. Currently the one in Bulmer Street is still able to be used and should be maintained by BT. Efforts are being made to BT to get them to paint it, but it is not thought they will be very interested under the current climate. So again are there any volunteers who would be prepared to give it a wash and brush up? If so, please contact Hannah the Parish Clerk.

**BPC**

**CALLING ALL SPORTS COACHES**

Would you like to be a sports coach? Do you already do some sports coaching and want to improve your skills?

Active Essex is running a programme of training courses from 25<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2013. There are National Governing Body coaching awards in a variety of sports as well as Workshops for sports clubs. Examples are:

**Coaching Awards:** Hockey, Handball, Boccia, Badminton, Bowls, Tennis, Netball, Basketball.

**Sports Club Workshops:** Business Essentials, Marketing Essentials, Safeguarding & Protecting Children, How to Coach Disabled People.

A full list of dates and venues is on the website <http://www.activeessex.org/Coaching/coaches-week>

Book a place on line: the courses are reasonably priced and bursaries are available (apply via the website). For more information contact Rebecca Rowley, Coaching Development Manager on 01245 438612 or email [rebecca.rowley@activeessex.org](mailto:rebecca.rowley@activeessex.org)  
Jan Cole - Community Engagement Officer (Braintree District) 01376 574337

**HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONSULTATION**

On Monday 16 September, Essex County Council began a **six-week formal public consultation** into the discretionary elements of its home to school transport policy.

The local authority currently spends over £25million on ensuring children across the county can attend school. However, maintaining expenditure at this level in the current financial climate is unsustainable and the council is looking at where efficiency savings can be made.

The authority has a number of statutory responsibilities around the provision of home to school transport, which are not affected by the consultation, however a number of the discretionary elements of the existing policy are under review. These include consulting on:  
Changing the reference to catchment area within the home to school transport policy and removing the use of Joint Catchment Areas;  
Removing existing transport from routes which are now deemed safe walking routes;  
Withdrawing the provision of transport to families on a low income whose child(ren) attend a selective school;

Introducing a means tested assessment for transport provided to pupils in exceptional circumstances;  
Introducing a new application window for Home to School Transport applications;  
Reviewing existing Post 16 transport provision;

For more information and to take part in the survey visit [www.essex.gov.uk/schooltransport](http://www.essex.gov.uk/schooltransport).

The consultation is available by visiting [www.engageessex.co.uk/essex](http://www.engageessex.co.uk/essex)

To submit further comments complete the questionnaire or email [schooltransportconsultation@essex.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransportconsultation@essex.gov.uk)

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**CONSULTATION ON BUS SERVICES RUN BY ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

On Monday 16 September, Essex County Council (ECC) began a **twelve-week formal public consultation**, which includes how it provides financial support to local bus services.

The local authority currently pays £7.9 million for nearly 200 local bus services, which generally run in the evenings, on Sundays or in rural locations.

The authority is keen to ensure the bus services it provides meet, as far as possible, the essential travel needs of Essex residents and also offer the best value for taxpayers. However, maintaining expenditure at this level in the current financial climate is unsustainable and the council is looking at where efficiency savings can be made.

The consultation is asking residents about their travel needs and what types of services are most important to them, but the consultation is not looking at individual bus services at this stage.

The consultation, plus all accompanying literature and documentation, including a comprehensive list of the bus services paid for by ECC, is available on [www.essex.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.essex.gov.uk/busreview). The **consultation will close on Monday 9 December**. Copies of the consultation will also be available through libraries or by calling 0845 603 7631

Please note, there will be further consultation and opportunities to comment on the draft bus strategy when it is completed. Once the new strategy has been finalised it there will be a series of area reviews across the County to allow services in each area to be looked at in the light of the new strategy. Any changes are intended to be implemented between September 2014 and September 2015.

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**WIRELESS BROADBAND UPDATE**

The current information is that County Broadband are still establishing if they need planning permission to mount their receiver on the church tower, before the church can apply for a faculty.



In the meantime Essex County Council has signed an agreement with BT to deliver speeds of up to 28mbs for 90% of households and 100% of at least 2mbs to the whole of Essex by the end of 2015, with the program anticipated to start to roll out at the end of September 2013.

Currently BDC is scheduled to be the 6th District to be implemented. To achieve a higher position, as many residents as possible need to register their interest in obtaining a faster broadband connection.

This can be done by going to [http://www.braintree.gov.uk/news/article/193/help\\_b](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/news/article/193/help_b)



[ring superfast broadband to your area](#) and registering your support as a resident or business, or by completing one of the above cards received with your recycling calendar, and they also can be obtained at Bulmer Post Office. I have a further supply of cards and can obtain more should you wish to distribute them to your friends & neighbours.

**Please Register your interest** **Mike Crome**

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**PARISH PATH WALKS**

Some recent walks have not had many participants. Are the walks too short or too long, or not where or when you would like them to go? I would be pleased to receive comments and ideas.

The next walks are shorter to allow for earlier sunsets. Increasingly, mud will be found so strong footwear is a must. They are all suitable for children interested in walking. Dogs are welcome but must be on fixed short leads.

Thinking of dogs, however, it is sad and a sign of illegal activity that paths near houses are littered with dog mess. It only takes one owner on daily walks to make a path an obstacle track, Do please clean up after your animal.

**Forthcoming Walks**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**

A circuit of Castle Hedingham of about 4 miles. Meet at Village Hall, Church Lane, Castle Hedingham.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm**

A Twinstead Figure of Eight – about 4 miles. Meet at Twinstead Church parking area.

**Boxing Day 26<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**

Hennys Great and Small – about 5 miles. Meet on Plough Green, Bulmer Tye

**Enquiries to Margaret Mills 269377  
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, BULMER**



On St Andrew's Day, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November, we are holding an Open and Gift Day with a free brunch for all from 10am to 1pm. Please come along and see the recent work we have had carried out to allow easier access, and our plans for further improvement. Reverend King, our new Team Rector, and Reverend Val Gagen will both be present, so this will be an excellent opportunity to ask questions, to learn what the place of the church is within the village community, who funds activities, and for us to discuss with you how you might be involved.

**COMMUNITY SOWING, GROWING, HARVESTING, MILLING & BAKING.**

Members of St Andrew's Church, Bulmer have started a joint enterprise to get everyone thinking of what has to take place in order to get our daily bread. Packets of wheat were given out at the harvest supper, and the school have also joined in. The plan is that we should sow our seed in our gardens or in large pots, then nurture the plants, harvest the grain, clean it of husks, grind it, then pool the resulting flour to make loaves of bread or biscuits for next year's harvest festival and supper. There are 2 types of wheat available, one bread, and the other the harder biscuit wheat. If you would like to join in please contact Nena 377466 or Margaret 269377.

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**ESSEX POLICE**

Please be aware of the following Warning over bogus police officer in phone scam



Police have warned the public to be on their guard against a bogus police officer who attempts to use the non-emergency number 101 to steal bank details.

The man is known to call people at random and tell them their bank details had been found in possession of arrested suspects.

In an attempt to verify that he was a genuine officer he gave the name of Sgt James Hackett (no such officer exists) and invited his intended victim to call him back urgently, within five minutes, on the police 101 number.

One victim did call him back to find out more but became suspicious because there was no ring tone

and no extension number was given. He hung up immediately. Another victim was tricked into giving details.

We are aware of two cases where this trickster tried to obtain his victim's bank details. In one he succeeded.

It can also be that Bogus Officer will state that another officer will come around to the house to collect your bank cards to assist with incident

"These calls can immediately be identified as fraudulent because we would never ask for bank details over the telephone. This man might use many other aliases and try different stories but the single rule that will prevent you from becoming the victim of this type of con is very simple....under no circumstances whatsoever must you give your banking details to anyone asking for them particularly over the telephone.

EWLO 70302 Brenda Cross  
Essex Watch Liaison Officer  
Essex Police  
Chelmsford, Maldon, Braintree, Uttlesford Districts  
Direct Dial: 101 extension 420279  
Mobile:- 07970 599923  
Email :- [brenda.cross@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:brenda.cross@essex.pnn.police.uk)  
Website: [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

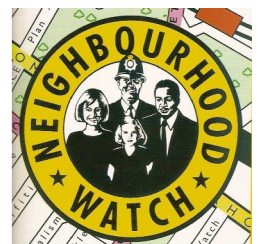
Contact Essex Police on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency.

To find out what is happening in your neighbourhood and all about your local Neighbourhood Policing Team, visit [www.essex.police.uk/my\\_neighbourhood.aspx](http://www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood.aspx) and enter your postcode.

**BULMER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

**WARNING!!**

In recent weeks in Bulmer, garages were broken into.



Two residents have had oil taken, and other residents from surrounding Parishes have also had oil taken.



The Police have been informed in all cases, and they wished to remind all villagers that if you see anything suspicious please inform the police - especially

noting any index numbers of vehicles thought to be involved.

Contact details can be found above.

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The next edition will be published around the end of December 2013. Can I please have all your pictures & articles, by the **15<sup>th</sup> Dec**. Call 378155 or email [mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk)



