

Coe's Meadow Management Committee (CMMC)



6pm, Wednesday 8th October 2025 at Blackbirds House, Bulmer.

Minutes taken by Laura Little.

Present: Cllr Antonia Crawshay, Emma Hamilton-Russell, Jenny Kenson, Laura Little, Cllr Sam Rowe.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** none.
- 2. Approval of Notes from meeting held 19th September 2025:** approved.
- 3. Matters arising from the last minutes:** None.
- 4. Update on progressing treeworks:** Bulmer Parish Council have approved a grant of £1200. It was agreed that Graham Nicholls will be asked to do the work. Jenny will contact Graham to arrange for the job to be completed with clearance, which may incur some cost in addition to that funded by the grant. Jenny will also ask Graham to give an assessment of work that will need to be completed over the next couple of years so we may plan funding.
It has been raised that the Lime Avenue is looking messy. This is due to pruning works started by neighbours of Coe's Meadow. A working party will be organised and tidying of this area will be a focus.
- 5. History of rare moth sighting** – deferred to next meeting. In the meantime, enquiries will be made with the Bulmer community regards this.
- 6. Chris Leigh - Memorial Tree:** resolution pending Sam Rowe asking Hillier if they would donate a Betula Utilis Jacquemontii West Himalayan Birch Tree and also whether they would consider supplying a slow-release watering bag and/or deer tree guard.
- 7. Playground and ROSPA Inspection update** – Sam confirmed that the ROSPA inspection has been completed but we await sight of the report.
Laura confirmed that the quote for playground equipment has been received from Sutcliffe Play; the Kompan quote is awaited. Once this quote is received, Laura Little will contact Braintree Council and Essex County Council to explore whether funding opportunities exist, as well as looking into other grants available.
Sam Rowe will prepare a proposal for playground and parking improvements that are needed to support grant applications.
Laura Little will prepare a grant application for the Community Initiative Fund to fund replacement of specific piece of playground equipment. Item to be confirmed once quotes all received.
- 8. Policies - Equality and Safeguarding:** Laura Little will ask Bulmer Parish Council to add review and approval of these to their next meeting.
- 9. Next working party :** Sunday 9th November. Activities will include pruning of laurel hedge, possible meadow cut dependent on weather condition and clearance of any debris. Laura and Emma will be laying the new playground matting on 12th October (date since rearranged) while the weather is still suitable for laying of turf over the matting.
- 10. Bonfire Night Event:** It was agreed that this will not go ahead due to health and safety concerns raised with the CMMC.
- 11.** Antonia is going to make enquiries as to how much the Parish Council used to contribute to the meadow cut that is provided by the Stour Valley Trust.
- 12.** Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th November, 6pm at Blackbirds House.