



Whats Going On?

The Newsletter of Bulmer - September 2026

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

VIEW AT E-VOICE.ORG.UK/BULMERVILLAGE/WHAT-S-ON/

Your help please, with this newsletter

It is becoming difficult to find articles and people to write articles for publication in this newsletter. On the last page of this edition there is a short and simple questionnaire which I would appreciate your input in order to potentially make future editions more informative and interesting to all residents.

This questionnaire has been available on line on the village website at e-voice.org.uk/bulmervillage for a couple of weeks and has been completed by 19 people out of a possible 300. Responses have been positive & encouraging with article suggestions and willingness to write articles, if you are willing to submit an article, please contact me at bulmerwgo@gmail.com or 01787 378155. Note the questionnaire is anonymous, so I need you to contact me. ***Thank you, Mike***



Village Hall News

The very hot summer did not deter our hirers and clubs. All ran at their usual times although it appears that part of the yoga classes on a Monday evening were held outside. They found it very relaxing with the birds singing and the fresh air around them.

Other meetings found the building quite bearable once the windows and doors were opened. We are British and cope with whatever life throws at us. Well done to all who kept things going!

Over the last few months the Hall chairs have been cleaned and sanitised. The kitchen ceiling has been treated with anti mould preparation and then painted. We do ask anyone using the kitchen and the kettles or urn to always open the door or turn the fan on. It is the steam doing the damage, thank you. We have got a few events in the pipeline before the year is out.

Unfortunately the very popular Tack sale, due to be held on 18th September, has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. However this will take place later and before Christmas. A **Bingo night is planned for 17th October**, you won't win a fortune but will have fun. A **Christmas coffee morning is to be held on 5th December**. It is hoped to have tables selling Christmas themed items and refreshments with the same theme. More details will be found on all the usual sites nearer the time so watch out for those but if you would like to book a table early please ring Terri on 07951 050025 or Maggie on 374758



Skylarks News

Our members are absolutely amazing. Despite the awful high temperatures we have

experienced this summer they have attended our meetings with joy and no moans and groans about the heat. Well done to them all. We held our summer party in June, the theme for the afternoon was "A day at the seaside".

Some came suitably attired in sun hats, knotted handkerchiefs as hats but again, despite the heat, they were there. We had fish and



chips delivered from the Codfather in Sudbury followed

by ice cream cornets, nothing was left, so good to see everyone



enjoying the afternoon.

We had a visit from a volunteer from East Anglian Children's Hospice in July. Such a positive speaker and although at times it was a little emotional it was wonderful to hear about all the work they do for not only the child but the whole family. A collection tin was on the table and again our brilliant, caring members donated £150 and Skylarks gave £50 - £200 in all. Wow what a great gift to them from such a small group. Well done to those who were there.

We now look forward to our Autumn term. On **October 27th** we will be welcoming Brenda Willison, Newmarkets Town Crier and on **24th November** John Minors will be presenting Horse Hair Tales. Our Christmas party will held on **15th December**. We are always happy to welcome new members so do please come along to one of our meetings to see if you like us. Please don't sit indoors on your own, come along and make some new friends. We will be pleased to see you.

PARISH COUNCIL YOUR COUNCILLORS

Rosemary Raymond (Chairperson)	cllrraymond@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Antonia Crawshay	cllrcrawshay@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Rebecca Burke	cllrrburke@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Dominick Burke	cllrdburke@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Sam Rowe	cllrrowe@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Paul Paxton	cllrpaxton@bulmer-pc.gov.uk
Theodore Bird	cllrbird@bulmer-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Debbie Deeks- Telephone:

07732 379112 clerk@bulmer-pc.gov.uk

DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS

All meetings are bi-monthly, agendas are posted on the noticeboards & online at bulmer-pc.gov.uk/ and held in the Village Hall at 7:15pm

28th Sept. 2026

23rd Nov. 2026

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 27th. July 2026 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs R. Raymond (Chair), A. Crawshay, P. Paxton, R Burke, S Rowe and Debbie Deeks (Parish Clerk/RFO). There were also 6 members of the public present

060/2026 Apologies for absence – apologies received from Cllr D Burke.

061/2026 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests
Cllr Raymond declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 073/2026 on the agenda.

062/2026 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 28th May 2026 – All Agreed.

063/2026 To appoint a new Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer (s151) – RESOLVED to appoint Debbie Deeks as the new Parish Clerk/S151 Officer for Bulmer Parish Council.

064/2026 Report from the Essex County Councillor – ECC Cllr Nathan Robins - No report received. Cllr Robins to be formally invited to the September meeting to make representations.

065/2026 Report from Braintree District Councillor – BDC Cllr David Holland - No report received. Cllr Holland to be formally invited to the September meeting to make representations.

065/2026 Public Questions: 15 minutes time allowed for this item: No questions were raised.

067/2026 Beacon post to be repaired.
Deferred to next meeting - Cllr R. Burke on measurements to give to Cllr R. Raymond.

068/2025 Allotments

- **Condition of the allotments**

The Clerk is having a meeting with Mike Crome to review the condition and management of the allotments on Friday 31st July. The Clerk will report back at the next meeting

- **Allotments generally.** Deferred to next meeting

- **Allotment vacancy** Deferred to next meeting

069/2026 Coe's Meadow – update on Committee meeting - Laura Little and Cllr Rowe
An application was made to purchase new goal posts for Coe's Meadow as the current equipment was not suitable. A quote has been submitted for £775.00 excluding VAT. **RESOLVED** to fund the new goal posts from Coe's Meadow budget. Quotations have been obtained to purchase new play equipment for Coe's Meadow. This would require grant funding, and applications are being made to the National Grid and the National Lottery for funding support for approx. £20,000. It was unanimously agreed that grant application could be made with the support of the Parish Council and the Clerk. The council also agreed to fund any planning costs, estimated at up to £700 out of the Coe's Meadow budget.

Cllr Rowe has obtained a quote for the new gates and would obtain two more quotes in line with financial regulations.

Cllr Paxton raised a concern about a need to ensure play equipment is regularly inspected e.g. monthly inspections with a checklist and then a full inspection by ROSPA on an annual basis. The Clerk stated that the annual inspection was scheduled for September 2026. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to investigate further and produce a monthly play equipment checklist.

070/2026 Planning – including any Current Planning Applications requiring a response

26/01151/FUL - Building North of Bulmer Orchards Heddingham Road Bulmer
Demolition of agricultural building and erection of 1 No. self-build dwelling. **RESOLVED** to approve the

planning application in principle however Cllr Raymond raised the following concerns:

- Access to the area
- Risk of flooding

26/01174/SCR - Land West of A131 And North Of Butlers Wood Sudbury Road Bulmer Essex
Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 - Construction, operation, and decommissioning of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure. Cllrs all agreed in principle to the application, however, would like more information about likely compensation that has been suggested. Cllr Raymond raised the issue of need of a 40mph speed restriction on the A131 after Catley Cross and whether this could be considered as part of the planning application.

RESOLVED - Clerk to obtain more information regarding potential compensation payment and request the Cllr David Holland attend the next meeting to give and update on the commissioning process.

071/2026 Planning Decisions

26/00965/TPOCON - Laurel Cottage Bulmer Street Bulmer Essex CO10 7EP

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Cut back side of Mulberry Tree overhanging property border by 1.8m. **No Objections Raised**

072/2026 Salt Bag Partnership 2026/2027.

RESOLVED to participate in this scheme for 2026-2027, however there would not be a need to obtain any salt bags.

073/2026 Agenda items

Dead tree on the Tye – Cllr R Burke proposed that Cllr D Burke take a look at how the dead tree can be removed safely. **RESOLVED** to remove the dead tree.

Proposed speed reduction - Speed limit on the A131 after Catley Cross – covered under item 070/2026.

Legality of the boundary map at Blacksmiths Lane

– Cllr Burke proposed that there should be no boundary changes on the map as legally you must be to comply with the lease and tenancy agreement already in place. Still was unanimously agreed.

Consultation on Local plan for Halstead –
Deferred to next meeting for Cllr T Bird.

074/2026 Finance

- a) To receive the Bank Reconciliations as at 30th. June 2026
- b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget for 2026/2027
- c) To approve the payment of Accounts for June & July 2026 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial

arrangements – **RESOLVED** to approve payment for June and July 2026.

0752026 Clerks Report

Introduction to new Parish Clerk – approval of employment contract – Private and Confidential.

Internal Audit Report – The Clerk reported that there were a number of recommendations which were identified in the Internal Audit report which require action and these included update to policies and procedures, the Asset Register and changes to correspondence and banking as well as Financial Regulations in line with the new NALC Financial Regulations 2024. Cllr R Burke raised the issue of budget implications of not earmarking funding for certain capital funding projects and whether there may be small community projects within the villages that would apply for grant funding if it was advertised as being available under a Parish Council grants policy. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to look into introducing EMRs within the current budget structure and areas where grants could be applied. An action plan will also be drafted to ensure progress with Audit actions is being effectively monitored.

076/2026 Items for next agenda

- To include an update on what is going on in Sudbury.

077/2026 Date of next meeting: **MONDAY 28th. September 2026** at 7.15pm in Bulmer village hall

078/2026 Future 2026 meeting dates: **23.11.26**

079/2026 Closure of the meeting

The Chair then closed the meeting at 9.10pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed 27th. July 2026

R. Raymond - Chair

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## Coe's Meadow Management Committee

The Coe's Meadow Management Committee (CMMC) would like to thank everyone who donated towards the maintenance of the playground and meadow. Thanks to Sam and Jenny's fundraising through the Plant Sale, Beer Festival and Golf Day and your generous donations, we hope to see the 7-a-side football goals installed soon.

A working party will take place on the meadow on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September**, 10am - midday. If you can help, please bring tools and soft drinks.

There will be a Yard Sale at Bulmer Village Hall on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 10 till 3pm**, if you wish to have sale please contact Jenny on 07974 538864

7pm, Wednesday 8th July 2026 at Coe's Meadow  
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 minutes from AGM held 6th May 2026: approved.
3. **Matters arising from last minutes:** None
4. Finance
  - a. Updated accounts reviewed for 31st March 2026 and year to date 30th June 2026.
  - b. Proposal to change bank account with lower bank charges and present to Council. Emma will look at CAF. September PC meeting.

## 5. Habitat Management and Grounds Maintenance

- a. Stour Valley Volunteers cut and rake is booked for 30th Sept. Jenny will ask if the volunteers would like to help on another date with removing the matting in the area near to the willow tunnel.
- b. Lime Avenue - Graham Nichols has quoted £1600 to reduce the 22/24 replacement limes by 1.5m in line with Braintree District Council's (BDC) decision. The decision has been discussed with BDC who explained that it is too late to pollard the trees so a reduction is only possible now. If anyone would like this to be appealed, professional reports will be required to give good reason and recommend an alternative treatment.
- c. Use of S106 funding for new gate(s) - the CMMC agreed to apply for a gate from S106 funds. The Bulmer Parish Council will need to approve the use of funds at their next meeting. The gate could then be purchased and the funding claimed.

## 6. Playground Update

- a. Purchase and installation of 7v7 football goals – the CMMC agreed to go with the Networld Sports quote for £930. Laura will place the order for delivery at the end of July. Sam and Tim will arrange installation.
- b. Planning application for playground replacement – the CMMC agreed to include the path in the planning application. Sam and Laura will liaise

with PlanFree to update the plan. The plan will then be shared with Bulmer Parish Council for approval.

- c. National Grid grant application for playground equipment - the CMMC agreed to submit an application for an agility trail and seesaw with a budget of approximately £20,000 for supply and install. Laura will continue to source quotes ready for approval by Bulmer Parish Council.
- d. The CMMC also discussed applying to National Lottery Awards For All fund for a new climbing frame with a budget of approximately £20,000 for supply and install. Laura will continue to source quotes ready for approval by Bulmer Parish Council at their next meeting.
- e. The CMMC also agreed to approach Bulmer Parish Council as to whether the grant and purchase of equipment could be made by the council so that the VAT may be reclaimed.

## 7 Website, social media and engagement

Now that a website is set up, the committee agreed to register a domain name, possibly [www.coesmeadow.org.uk](http://www.coesmeadow.org.uk). The committee will explore the options.

## 7. Fundraising events

- a. The plant sale and pop-up plant sale have raised in excess of £1350 in total and the beer festival raised £2385 for Coe's Meadow. A huge thanks goes to Jenny, Sam and Taylor for organising the events.
- b. Sam and Taylor are planning a Bulmer Golf Day for 15th August 2026.
- c. Sam and Taylor are planning a wine tasting event for September.
- d. The band night in October has been postponed.
- e. Jenny is planning a yard sale for **3rd October 2026**.

G. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 15th September, 6pm.

## 8. Any other business

The committee discussed the laurel hedge and the request from St Jude's to reduce it to one row of plants. The committee agreed to proceed with the plan to remove one row immediately adjacent to the path and believe the Lime Avenue will benefit from a wider verge. A working party will be organised for the Autumn to remove the front row.

Signs have been purchased to be placed on the bins at the back of the park to discourage dog waste vapes being placed in the bins. There are red bins for dog waste located at each entrance to the park and vapes should be disposed of at a collection point. Thank you to Jess Soper for continuing to empty the bins.

All donations to Coe's Meadow are gratefully

received and can be made via our Go Fund Me page: [www.gofundme.com/f/2025coesmeadowappeal](https://www.gofundme.com/f/2025coesmeadowappeal) or [e-voice.org.uk/coesmeadow](https://e-voice.org.uk/coesmeadow)



## Saturday 10th. Coffee Morning 10-12 noon

with The Spectacular Teddy Bears parachute jump from the CHURCH TOWER.

Kit your teddies out in their jump suits with their very own personalised parachute and watch as they descend to earth from a great height.

Sponsor your teddies and get three timed jumps. - All teddies have a medical first, but jump at their own risk.

- The slowest descent of the morning to receive a prize.
- Plus a prize for the best parachute design.

While the teddies play outside come into St Andrew's for a coffee/tea/cold drink and delicious cake. See our harvest decorations and watch our slide show of Bulmer past and present.

## Sunday 11th, 11.15am.

Come and sing some favourite harvest hymns both old and new to celebrate a harvest gathered in. Give thanks to God for His provision to us in this world of changing values.

For more information and **sponsor forms** for teddy please contact Liz 01787 269935 or Bill 01787 475778.

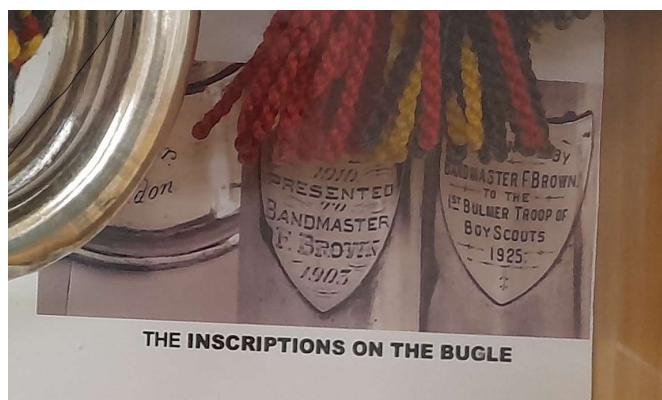
Further into the future a date to remember is **Monday December 21st at 7.30 which will be our Carol Service.**

## Bulmer History Group



Have you seen this bugle in our Village Hall and wondered about its origin and who were the last owners?

This Bugle was discovered in the village in 2011. It belonged to the 1st Bulmer Troop of Boy Scouts, which existed from 1921 to 1927. The Troop was part of the Sudbury Boy Scouts District, so they wore the Suffolk county badge as part of their uniform.



Inscriptions on the instrument reveal that it was made, or sold by Metzler of London and had originally been presented to F Brown, Bandmaster of the Church Lads Brigade in 1903. In 1925 he presented it to the Bulmer Troop of Boy Scouts. We can find no record of F. Brown, or the C.L.B. group that he belonged to.

The Troop was founded by Col. Redmund St. George Burke of the Auberies. Included in the many proficiency badges that they could earn were, Buglar, Cyclist, Swimmer, Marksman, Poultry Farmer and Entertainer.

Many "old Bulmer" names can be seen in the register, Blye, Felton, Messant, Radley, Rash, Rowe, and no fewer than six Raymonds. Three boys became "**King**" Scouts and some were expelled. You can read about all the members, the badges they obtained by following the link to [www.bulmerhistory.co.uk/assets/documents/bulmer\\_troop](http://www.bulmerhistory.co.uk/assets/documents/bulmer_troop)

## Reminder dates for your diary

|                                        |                                                                                    |              |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup><br>September    | Bulmer History –<br>Festivals 1983 & 1988,<br>Pubs of Bulmer                       | 20:00        |
| Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup><br>September | Village Hall Coffee<br>Morning                                                     | 10 – 12:00   |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup><br>September   | Wine tasting                                                                       | TBC          |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>September   | Working Party Coe's<br>Meadow                                                      | 10 -12:00    |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>September  | Skylarks - AGM &<br>Games                                                          | 14:00        |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup><br>September   | Parish Council Meeting                                                             | 19:15        |
| Saturday<br>1 <sup>st</sup> October    | Final date for Oil<br>delivery in October                                          | 23:59        |
| Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>October    | Yard Sale<br>Village Hall                                                          | ???          |
| Saturday<br>10 <sup>th</sup> October   | Coffee Morning &<br>sponsored Teddy Bear<br>Parachute jump – St.<br>Andre's Church | 10 – 12 noon |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup><br>October     | Harvest Festival<br>Service – St. Andrew's<br>Church                               | 11:15        |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup><br>October     | Bingo Night<br>Village hall                                                        | 18:30        |
| Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup><br>October    | Skylarks<br>Brenda Willison,<br>Newmarket's Town<br>Crier                          | 14:00        |
| Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup><br>October   | Final date for Oil<br>delivery in November                                         | 23:59        |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>November    | Parish Council Meeting                                                             | 19:15        |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup><br>November   | Skylarks<br>John Minors will be<br>presenting Horse Hair<br>Tales                  | 14:00        |
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup><br>December   | Christmas Coffee<br>Morning                                                        | 10:00        |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup><br>December   | Skylarks<br>Christmas Party                                                        | 14:00        |
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup><br>December    | Carol Service – St.<br>Andrew's Church                                             | 19:30        |

## **BULMER & DISTRICT OIL BUYING GROUP**

Preferred rates negotiated  
on behalf of members

**If you:** *Live in Bulmer, Pentlow,  
Foxearth, Liston or Borley; Use oil for  
heating; Have an internet connection  
or access to one, you can join this  
group, which is free, when ordering.*

You can order as much or as little  
(min 500 litres), as many times as  
you want throughout the year in  
spring, autumn and winter, and once  
in summer as required.

For more information go to website  
[e-voice.org.uk/bulmeroilgrp](http://e-voice.org.uk/bulmeroilgrp)  
or contact Mike Crome, the  
Administrator at [mikey1805@gmail.com](mailto:mikey1805@gmail.com)

### **CUT-OFF DATE FOR ORDERS:**

1st October 31st October

## **Flowers -Tips from Gardenersworld.com**

- Plant drifts of spring bulbs informally in a lawn, including crocuses, daffodils and fritillaries
- Lift tender cannas to avoid frost damage, dry off the tubers and store in cool dark conditions until spring
- Plant up cheery pot displays with winter colour, such as heathers, cyclamen, winter pansies and skimmia. More winter container inspiration.
- Lift and pot up tender perennials, such as chocolate cosmos, gazanias and coleus, to protect over winter
- Plant evergreen shrubs and conifer hedges while the soil is still warm
- Remove any pot saucers and raise pots up onto feet to prevent waterlogging over winter
- Move deciduous shrubs that are in the wrong place or have outgrown their current position
- Wrap layers of fleece or straw around banana plants and tree ferns to protect from winter frosts
- Collect seeds from hardy perennials, such as astrantia, achillea and red valerian, and sow straight away
- Take hardwood cuttings from ornamental trees and shrubs
- Reduce the height of shrub roses to avoid windrock damage over winter
- Empty spent summer pots and hanging baskets, and compost the contents

If you have any gardening tips for the next issue, please email me at [bulmerwgo@gmail.com](mailto:bulmerwgo@gmail.com)

Should you wish to publish information about your club or event in the next issue for December 2026, then please contact Mike Crome the editor on 01787 378155 or by emailing [bulmerwgo@gmail.com](mailto:bulmerwgo@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> November.

One of the suggestions I have received in response to the questionnaire are some gardening tips, so here are a few for October.

### **Sowing & Planting in October on the Vegetable Plot – Tips from the Allotment-garden.org.**

Over-wintered broad beans can go in from the middle of the month to provide an early crop next year. Whilst they're very hardy, they don't like sitting in water so on heavy soils they can be a gamble and you may prefer to just sow early on next year.

The last sowing of beet leaf spinach can be made early in the month and you may be able to just fit in some Chinese cabbage.

October is the last chance for planting out Japanese onion sets. These are hardy, short-daylight onions so will bulb up about a month earlier next year than the normal onions but they don't store as well so go for a smaller quantity rather than larger.

It's worth protecting them with a cloche or netting until well established as they hold a magnetic attraction for pigeons who seem to delight in pulling them from the ground and throwing them to the side.

You can plant out garlic in October but generally it's a November job. However, if the weather turns nasty then you'll have one less task to do outdoors

# Newsletter Questionnaire

This is a quarterly newsletter produced on behalf of the Parish Council who pay the printing costs, which are part of your Council Tax.

This questionnaire is to establish how it is read, useful and popular it is to residents of Bulmer. 300 copies are delivered by volunteers each quarter. Your input will help to shape its future publication and content.

**If you have already completed this on the village website, there is no need to complete it again.**

**Do you read the newsletter?**

|     |    |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

**Do you read the paper copy or online on the village website?**

|       |        |
|-------|--------|
| Paper | Online |
|-------|--------|

**Would you read it, if it was only on the website [e-voice.org.uk/bulmervillage](http://e-voice.org.uk/bulmervillage), no paper copies would be delivered?**

|     |    |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

**Do you read the whole Newsletter or specific areas of interest?**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Specific items | All articles |
|----------------|--------------|

**What areas do you like to read?**

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <br><br><br><br><br> |
|----------------------|

**Is there anything you would like to see in the Newsletter?**

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <br><br><br><br><br> |
|----------------------|

**Would you be willing to submit an article for publication? If yes please contact Mike at [bulmerwgo@gmail.com](mailto:bulmerwgo@gmail.com)**

|     |    |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

On completing the questionnaire please deliver to Mike at 6 Vicars Orchard, your help is very much appreciated, thank you.