



What's On?



The Newsletter of Bulmer - December 2015

(Including Bulmer St., Bulmer Tye, Finch Hill, Batt Hall, Upper & Lower Houses, Church Rd & Hedingham Road). View in colour at www.essexinfo.net/bulmer

GLOBAL WARMING HERE IN BULMER?



St. Andrew's 19th December **2015**



Left - Snow on St. Andrew's 18th December **2009**

Right - Snow on St. Andrew's 19th December **2010**

More indications of this are in Peter Rowe's Nature Diaries



STOP PRESS NEWS – No Mobile masts are planned to be erected in Bulmer, read the full details on the last page.

BILL NIEL

An inhabitant of Bulmer Street for over 50 years died recently aged 85. Until about a year ago, Bill lived at "Inglefield", the old bungalow opposite St. Andrews Rise, the site of which is currently being redeveloped.



He was born in Stoke Newington and was one of a family of eight. During the war, the family moved down to Tiptree, where they were involved in strawberry growing.

Bill always grew good strawberries in his Bulmer garden and although he used to complain about the birds spoiling them, he would never net them in, as he said it was only right for them to have their fair share! That was typical of Bill. Going back, Bill started working life as a lorry drivers mate, before starting his National Service in the Army where he saw active service in Malaya. Back in "civvy street" he worked as a lorry driver for a while, before becoming an excavator operator for the Essex River Authority.

He moved into Inglefield in the early 1960s with his parents, Earnest and Ruby and after they died, lived there alone until he moved into St Joseph's Care Home about a year ago. The comforts he enjoyed in St. Joseph's were a big contrast to those of his old, unheated home, and he always enthused about the food and especially the glass of sherry before lunch! Because of serious knee trouble, Bill was forced to retire at 55. One of the interests he took up was painting going along regularly to the Sudbury Art Club, which he greatly enjoyed, often other members would come up to his garden to paint.

Although a very quiet man Bill enjoyed chatting with neighbours and anyone passing his garden, either on the footpath behind The Street or along the road. We know that he has been missed by all since his move to Sudbury and his recent passing.



BULMER SKYLARKS

We are all looking forward to enjoying our Christmas lunch at St Andrew's school again this year. We are always made so welcome by both the staff and the children who always entertain us with Carols and Christmas music before we leave.

We have again had another successful and enjoyable year with a good mix of speakers and

entertainment. It has been so lovely to welcome more gentlemen this year and with that in mind we do try to make our meetings interesting to them as well as our Ladies. We are often asked if the group is an O.A.P. group. Well our answer is "no" it is for anyone who wants to come along for a chat, tea and cake (very important) and some interesting speakers and activities. Yes, most of our members have finished full time employment but a more lively bunch you wouldn't meet anywhere else. We often wonder where they get their energy from! Our programme for the first 3 months of 2016 will see us welcoming Gail Bushell who will demonstrate her work with glass. In February we will be learning about and sampling Suffolk Cheeses with Jason Sainsbury. Suffolk Hearing will be with us in March to talk about hearing problems and in particular the work of Hearing Dogs.

If you would like to know more about us then come along to one of our meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month or ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended our last 3 events and made them so successful.

The Barn Dance was a sell out and enjoyed by all who attended. It was very sad to say goodbye to our caller Ron who is now hanging up his dancing shoes and looking forward to enjoying his retirement. Ron has been calling at Village Hall Barn Dances for over 15 years and he will be sadly missed.

The Quiz Night was again a sell out and we thank Dave and Becky for all their hard work in setting the questions and making the evening run so smoothly. Due to our "quizzers" generosity we were able to donate £70 to Children in Need. A big thank you goes to you all.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Christmas Fayre on such a bitterly cold afternoon. Santa was welcomed by both young and old and Brian created a warm and friendly atmosphere with back ground festive music. Our thanks must go to all who worked so hard to make the afternoon worthwhile.

We have yet to plan anything for the New Year although we are planning a Table Sale in the spring. So when carrying out your spring cleaning in 2016 put those unused or unwanted items to one side and come and sell them at the Village Hall. Watch out for details in the next "What's On" or on the Parish notice boards and the Village website at essexinfo.net/bulmervillage May we take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported the Village Hall throughout the past

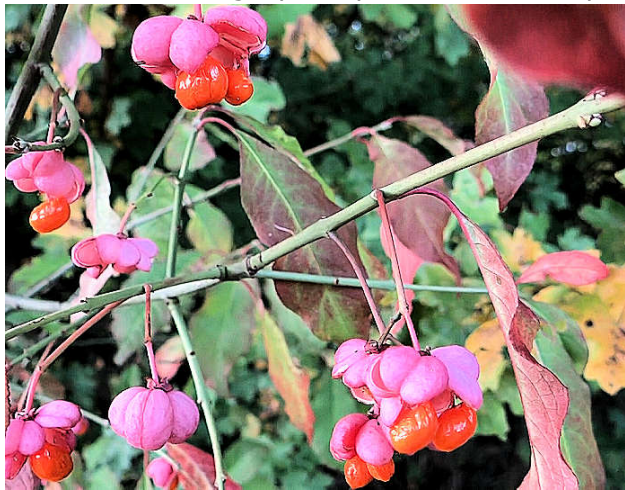
arriving later than usual. The first redwing turned up on the 21st. Oct., which is about an average date for them, but I have only seen one other since.

A small flock of fieldfares appeared on 6th. Nov., but it wasn't till the end of the month that saw a good flock of getting on for 100 of them near Finch Hill. Similarly Hugh Owen, has remarked how these autumn migrants have been thin on the ground so far. In his garden great spotted woodpeckers appear daily as do plenty of tits and a song thrush has been singing. The December temperatures so far have been way above average and this probably explains why some birds are starting to sing. Remarkably we heard a robin singing at 10 pm by street light over at Hadleigh recently. Also of course many wildflowers are still blooming.

A couple of birds that we don't often see in the garden have turned up recently, lesser redpolls, feeding on the seeds of our birch tree and a meadow pipit, which perched briefly on one of the top branches. Birch seeds are dispersed by the wind. Although quite tiny themselves, they have a little wing on each side. We had a lot of them stuck all over our window, looking just like little insects, complete with two feelers. They fooled us for a start and it was a while before I cottoned on to what they were. These little aerial capsules can travel a long way on a strong wind, which is why birch is one of the first trees to colonise waste ground, especially on the sandier soils.



It's been another great year for autumn nuts, berries and fruit. Most hedgerows have been heavy with hips & haws and also spindleberries. These in particular have put on a great show. Each spindle berry is divided into four sugar pink, spherical lobes. The pink



casing eventually splits open, to reveal a startlingly orange fruit, inside of which is the seed. One of nature's more unsettling colour combinations! To fully appreciate this, view this picture of the spindleberry in colour view on the Bulmer website essexinfo.net/bulmer/whatson. The berries are poisonous to man, but apparently highly nutritious and are eaten by some birds and, although I have never seen it myself.

Although mild, we certainly had our share of dark, damp days around the middle of December. One such was Sunday 13th, but despite the overall gloom, the garden was absolutely pulsating with birdlife. Goldfinches galore --- 5 on the feeders and another 9 on the ground, clearing up all the dropped seed which showered down from above, goldfinches are very messy eaters. Apart from these there were chaffinches, great tits, collared doves, greenfinches, a dunnock, wren, robin and house sparrows. Five blackbirds were feeding on the remaining apples on our Darcy Spice tree and were joined by a lone fieldfare. About half a dozen blue tits were on the roof carefully going through the clumps of moss growing on the tiles. At first I thought they were searching for insects, but watching closely I could see

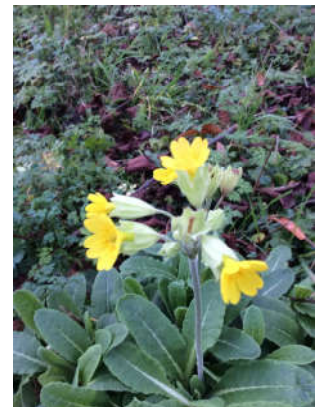


that what they were taking were the spore capsules of the moss, no bigger than pinheads. The same afternoon we took the Wildlife Watchgroup for a walk around the Sudbury Water Meadows. Plenty of gulls and mallards for the children to see, but nothing to create much excitement until later on, a kingfisher shot into view to perch about 10ft above the river, on an ancient hawthorn. From this vantage point it made a couple of sorties, diving in without success, but on the third attempt returned with a shiny wriggling fish of considerable size, more than half the length of the bird. All five children had a good view of all this going on, before the bird sped off downstream to enjoy its prize away from our prying eyes. A satisfying end to a murky afternoon.

Well, that's it for 2015, **Happy New Year** to everyone!

Peter Rowe

Not quite finished yet, Winter Crazy, this picture was taken by Rob Wright on the 17th Dec. on Coe's Meadow - Yes quite amazing, But more interesting than you might think, This is neither a primrose or a cowslip, it is in fact a hybrid between the two often referred to as the **false oxlip**. These sometime occur when primroses and cowslips are growing in close proximity, as they do on Coe's Meadow.



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## YOUR COUNCILLORS

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Mike Crome (Chairman)         | 01787 378155 |
| Peter Fulcher (Vice Chairman) | 01787 269935 |
| Stephen Morgan                | 07973 341048 |
| Chris. Leigh                  | 01787 378133 |
| Rose Raymond                  | 07813 205743 |
| Cathey Ponty                  | 01787 313344 |
| Stella Buchanan               | 01787 312512 |

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

| <b>DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS</b> |
|----------------------------------------|
| 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2016          |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March                 |
| TBA April 2016 (Annual Parish Meeting) |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> May (Including AGM)   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> July                  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> September             |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> November              |

**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 Parish Council Meeting

Held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

***(These minutes are unapproved until the next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016)***

Present: Cllr M.Crome, Cllr.C.Leigh, Cllr.C.Ponty, Cllr.S.Morgan, Cllr.P. Fulcher, Cllr.R. Raymond, Cllr.S.Buchanan . Mrs D.Jacob (Acting Parish Clerk), DCllr. Scattergood and 10 members of the public.

#### 15/20 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman welcomed all those present. One minute silence was observed for the people who lost their lives during the terrorist attack in Paris. Apologies received and accepted from CCllr. Finch.

#### 15/21 Parish Council Policies

**Item 1** Standing Order.

**Item 2** Financial Regulations.

**Item 3** Code of Conduct and Nolan Principles

**Item 4** Recording and use of Social Media at Council

**Item 5** Freedom of Information Publication Scheme Meetings.

**Item 6** The Parish Calendar for 2016-17

All of the above Parish Council Polices were adopted.

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

#### 15/22 Declarations of interest

None received.

#### 15/23 Public Participation session

A member of the public raised an issue with post going to the wrong address (Cllr Scattergood offered to investigate) and trucks blocking his driveway, requested the Parish Council to consider some parking restrictions near his property.

Chairman replied we would investigate further.

A member of the public raised the following issues:

- Adoption of Transparency code. - Chairman replied that due to S106 money, the Parish Council was not in a position to adopt this at the present time. But would comply in the spirit of the code.
- Call for sites (Planning Development) - Chairman replied that this is still at a very early stage, and the consultation period is still at the first stage.
- Allotment rentals - Chairman replied that this item would be discussed further under item 15/31 Item 2 on the agenda.
- Speed limits on A131 - Chairman replied that this was not possible, as the new SID has no cover, and it is not permitted on sites with speed limits higher than 40mph.

An allotment holder expressed concern regarding dog fouling in the area, photos of which were provided, suggested fencing is required. Chairman replied that this would be discussed and thanks expressed for the photos.

#### 15/24 District Councillor Wendy Scattergood addressed the members and public

DCllr.Scattergood expressed concern of filming and recording at Parish Council meetings. DCllr Scattergood asked the member of public if this was being shown live on social media or if the intent was to put it on at a later date. The member of the public confirmed that it was not on social media and does not intend to put it on.

Call for sites is still at the consultation stage, Bulmer should have received a letter and Cllr Scattergood will investigate why not received. Everyone was urged to respond, and make comments, anyone can take part at planning committee and local plan meetings.

#### 15/25 Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. C.Ponty seconded by Cllr. S.Buchanan, six in favour, one abstained (Not present 21st Sept.), resolution passed.

#### 15/26 RCCE Affordable Housing Enabler (Mr E.Rigby)

Mr Rigby explained the process and left information. A survey better carried out after Christmas would be required to see if there is a need. The process would take just over a month, and cost around £200.00. The land would be just outside of the village envelope, once built would remain the possession of the housing association.

### 15/27 Greenfields and Affordable Housing Representative (Mr A.Allocca)

Mr Allocca confirmed that until the survey was carried out and results reviewed, no action would be taken.

### 15/28 Coe's Meadow

Report received and noted – a full equipment survey for rot would be required as suggested in the RoSPA report, at a cost of £501.00 Plus VAT. Although this would be required, an Award has been presented to Coe's Meadow.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.R.Raymond, all in favour, resolution passed.

### 15/29 Village Hall Report

Report received and noted, to confirm that a fire proof cabinet had been installed in the Village Hall for use by the Parish Council.

### 15/30 Allotments Report

Report received and noted.

### 15/31 Allotments

**Item 1.** The Parish Council agreed to obtain advice from Essex Legal Service at a cost of approximately £400-£500 and also to subscribe to the Allotment Association at a cost of £55.00 plus VAT in order to obtain advice regarding fencing and excluding dogs from Turnpike Piece.

Proposed by Cllr.P. Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.S. Buchanan, all in favour, resolution passed.

**Item 2.** The Parish Council agreed not to issue any further Allotment Tenancy Agreements until after Item 1 is concluded to the Councils satisfaction

Proposed by Cllr. P. Fulcher, seconded by Cllr. S. Buchanan, all in favour resolution passed.

### 15/32 Transparency Code

Due to S106 money, expenditure will be greater than £25,000 this financial year, so are unable to adopt the Transparency Code at the present time. However the Council would comply in the spirit of the code. Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

### 15/33 Broadband

This is an ongoing process with the Church and County Broadband, questions have been put to County Broadband and legal advice is currently being obtained.

### 15/34 Planning matters

Inglefield - Permitted, The Robins – Permitted  
Ref: 15/00959 -14 St Andrews Rise Bulmer Essex CO10 7TH - Refused Decision

Ref: 15/00301 - 1 Vicars Orchard Bulmer Essex CO10 7TB – Permitted

Ref: 15/01187 - 1 Chapel Cottages Bulmer Street Bulmer Essex CO10 7EW - Permitted

Ref: 15/01168 - 1 Brickwall Cottages Bulmer Street Bulmer Essex CO10 7EW - Permitted

This now clears outstanding planning applications, at the present time.

### 15/35 White Lines application

Highways have completed resurfacing the A131 but have not extended the white lines.

To put forward this proposal to LHP and contact Cllr.D.Finch. No contribution can be agreed, still awaiting confirmation of costs.

### 15/36 Financial Matters

**i) Balance in hand:** The following report was circulated and read out. Cheques were signed. We are still awaiting current information from the Bank.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### Balance in hand at

|                                  |                    |            |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Current Account                  | (as at 29.10.2015) | £6,469.85  |
| Business Savings Account         | (as at 29.10.2015) | £50,358.34 |
| HSBC - Business money management | (as at 30.06.2015) | £30,134.98 |

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Balance in hand (£) | £86,963.17 |
|---------------------|------------|

#### **Debtors**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Allotment Rent | £67.59 |
|----------------|--------|

#### **Receipts since last meeting**

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| invoice no.               |           |
| Allotment rents & Grazing | £2,185.88 |
| BDC S106 Contribution     | £2,250.00 |
| BDC Street Cleaning Grant | £732.42   |
| BDC S106 Coes Meadow C/P  | £7,543.39 |

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL (£)</b> | <b>£12,711.69</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|

**Payments since last meeting** chq. no

None

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| <b>TOTAL (£)</b> | <b>£0.00</b> |
|------------------|--------------|

*Payments to be signed at this meeting:*

|                        |                           |     |           |         |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----------|---------|
| Horsemat Limited       | Coe's Meadow (Car Park)   | 277 | £8,818.06 | inc VAT |
| Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA) | Coe's Meadow (Play equip) | 278 | £170.40   | inc VAT |

|                          |                                        |     |                   |         |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|
|                          | inspection)                            |     |                   |         |
| Mortimers                | Grass cutting for October              | 279 | £366.00           | inc VAT |
| Information Commissioner | Data Protection Subscription           | 280 | £35.00            |         |
| PKF Littlejohn LLP       | External Audit                         | 281 | £120.00           | inc VAT |
| Broxap Limited           | Salt Bin                               | 282 | £142.80           | inc VAT |
| Chilton Office Supplies  | Newsletter                             | 283 | £83.52            | inc VAT |
| J.W. Dixey Builders      | Noticeboard Maintenance                | 284 | £526.80           | inc VAT |
| Mrs D. Jacob             | Clerk salary(Part Sep, Oct & expenses) | 285 | £658.23           |         |
| R&R Lawnmower Repairs    | Trimmer & Lawnmower Repair             | 286 | £206.53           | inc VAT |
| Essex Pension Fund       | Clerks Pension for November            | 287 | £69.37            |         |
| Essex Pension Fund       | Clerks Pension for December            | 288 | £69.37            |         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             |                                        |     | <b>£11,266.08</b> |         |

spending has exceeded budget

spending near or on budget limit

spending is under budget

spending is within CMMC savings

#### ii) Receipts and payments, as above.

Allotment rents and grazing received, and Braintree District Council Street Cleaning grant and S106.

#### iii) Review Capital Unity Trust

Decision not to go ahead and transfer any funds at the present time.

Proposed by Cllr.R.Raymond, seconded by Cllr.S.Buchanan, all in favour resolution passed

**Accounts for 2014/2015** –To confirm a clean external audit and confirm that the notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual return has been on the notice boards for the required 14 days. A copy of the Annual return is available on the website.

#### 15/37 Precept for 2016/2017

Motion to give power to the clerk to grant dispensation for councillors to consider and set

precept . Proposed by Cllr.C.Ponty, seconded by Cllr.P. Fulcher, all in favour resolution passed. Clerk granted a dispensation to all members of Parish Council.

#### 15/38 Draft Precept for 2016/2017

Various options considered 1% increase, 3% and 5%. Council members requested further calculation of 10%. Various headings discussed and amendments to be made.

This item to be on the next agenda for discussion and decision.

#### 15/39 Open Spaces Action Plan

To consider applying for Section106 funding, for Turnpike Allotments and Coe's Meadow improvements.

Proposed by Cll.A. Buchanan, seconded by Cllr.P.Fulcher, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 15/40 Clerks Reports

Received and noted.

#### 15/41 Mobile Phone

This item moved to item 15/44

#### 15/42 Items for the next agenda

- Complaints Procedure, Co-Option Policy, Dignity at work/Bullying and Harassment Policy, Public Participation, Equality & Diversity Policy.
- The Parish Council recording of meetings.
- Coes Meadow Management Committee
- Village Sign

#### 15/43 To Exclude the Press and Public

Motion to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 15/44.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr. C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

#### 15/44 Contract of Employment

A contract of employment was offered to Mrs Diane Jacob, which was accepted.

Proposed by Cllr.P.Fulcher, seconded by Cllr.C.Leigh, all in favour, resolution passed.

A mobile phone has been donated to the Parish Council, the Clerk to purchase a SIM card.

#### 15/45 Date of next meeting

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Meeting closed at 9:25.

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The next edition will be published at the end of March 2016. Can I please have all your pictures & articles, by the **15th March**, Call 378155 or email mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk

Merry
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
New Year



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Chief Executive
Braintree District
Council Causeway
House Bocking End
Braintree
Essex
CM79HB

16 December 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP) – Braintree District Council

As you are aware, the Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP) is due to end on 31st March 2016.

Despite extensive investigation of potential locations in Braintree originally identified as potential recipients of MIP masts, we regret that it has not proved possible to progress any MIP sites in Braintree within the project timeframe.

In order to progress, a potential mast site needed both planning permission and completion of a lease agreement with a landowner in addition to a viable power supply, vehicular access to the site, and a confirmed connection back to the Mobile Network Operators' networks. All of these elements needed to be in place allowing enough time for site construction and implementation of the masts. Unfortunately this was not achievable in Braintree within the available time frame.

We recognise that this is disappointing, and would like to thank you and your officers and members for your support for the programme.

In cases where we have been carrying forward negotiations and discussions with landowners and local communities we are writing to them to advise them of the position.

I would be grateful if you would share this letter with all your officers and members who have had an interest or involvement in the MIP.

If you wish to discuss this letter further please contact Arqiva at mip.stakeholders@arqiva.com

If you have any questions about the MIP project as a whole please contact the Department for Culture, Media and Sport at mobileinfrastructure@culture.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Darren Fradgley BA(Hons) DipTP

MRTPI Town Planning Manager