

LITTLE BURSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

STILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The Parish Council is delighted to announce that the AED IPAD Defibrillator has been purchased, installed, and is ready for use in an emergency. The Defibrillator is located next to the entrance door to the Village Hall.

The cost of the Defibrillator, including installation, was £1625 and was funded from a variety of sources which included sponsorship raised by two Parish Councillors, Cllr. Pauline Bowles and Cllr. Katrina Watts who took part in the John Baron Trust Charity 5K Fun Walk in September 2019 at Barleylands.



Cllr. Watts & (left) Cllr. Bowles

The money collected was topped-up from the Fun Walk Trust Bonus Pot, Parish Council Budget, Essex Association of Local Councils, a donation from the Village Hall and London Hearts.

Thank you to all who kindly donated to this worthwhile project.

Instructions on how to access the defibrillator are displayed on the Defibrillator cabinet. On contacting the Ambulance Services in an emergency, they will guide the caller through the process of how to use it. Once Covid-19 restrictions are relaxed London Hearts will arrange face-to-face training meetings. In the meantime residents can log-on to Youtube via: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1v_tM6eUGaU&feature=emb_logo

LITTLE BURSTEAD PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH AT 7.00 P.M.

The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. Details on how to join either by the internet or phone can be found on the Parish Council website:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/lbpc>

All residents are invited to attend.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Representatives from Crouch Solar Farm

LITTLE BURSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WILL FOLLOW AT 7.45 P.M.

Joining details will be the same for both meetings.

Parish Council Contacts

Councillor Pauline Bowles (Chair) 07957 415123

Councillor David Clark 07960 364710

Councillor Katrina Watts 07739 401515

Councillor Colin Goodman 07759 462087

Parish Council Clerk

Mrs Christine Barlow 01268 725236 (M) 07758255621

Email: littlebursteadpc@gmail.com

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/lbpc>

The Parish Council welcomed Colin Goodman as a new Councillor in January. Colin brings new specialisms and skills to the Parish Council.

However, the Council said goodbye to Councillor Massab Mohseni. Councillor Mohseni was a valued member of the Parish Council having served as a Councillor for over 15 years. Councillor Mohseni is thanked for his support to the Council and the community of Little Burstead during the time served as a Councillor.

TRAFFIC CALMING

During the past year funding has been secured to install some Village Gateways at strategic locations on the approaching roads to the village to alert drivers to slow down through the village. The Gateways will add to the various signage we already have, and the aim is to slow down the traffic through the village and look like a five-bar gate. They are placed on the verge either side of the road. Research shows Village Gateways are effective in alerting drivers to slow down.

A total of £4250 has been secured via the PFCC Community Safety Development Fund and Essex County Council Locality Community Fund. The project was supported by ECC/Ward Councillor Richard Moore, Basildon Council Safer Partnership and the Police Casualty Reduction Unit.

The funding will be used to install 3 sets of Gateways at strategic locations in Rectory Road, Laindon Common Road and Tye Common Road.

Discussions are ongoing with Essex County Council regarding each location to obtain the licenses to install the Gateways on highway verges. Installations will be in the spring of 2021. The Parish Council continue to discuss, with Essex County Council, other measures they consider will slow down the traffic in the village and by consulting with residents.

STOP PRESS: The Village Hall is still closed due to government restrictions, but the plan is to open at the end of June subject to government guidelines.

MISSING - HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

The Parish Council Fingerpost at the junction of Botney Hill Road has been removed and is missing. If any resident can provide any information regarding its whereabouts can they please contact the Parish Clerk by email: littlebursteadpc@gmail.com

RAISING FUNDS

Raising funds for the Defibrillator, as with many of our other Parish projects, is a constant struggle because the Parish only has a very small budget. Projects like the Defibrillator and Village Gateways could not be funded out of the Parish Precept and alternative funding was sort.

Other on-going projects in the pipeline include, the overhauling the base of the War Memorial and our current pipeline projects for traffic calming measures via Village Gateways and the refurbishment of our listed K6 telephone box. To enable projects like the above to be carried out the Parish Council need to raise additional funds from many varied sources. If anyone would like to get involved in sponsoring or fund raising for any of the village projects, please get in touch with either your Parish Clerk by email: littlebursteadpc@gmail.com or one of the Parish Councillors.

BULB PLANTING

Over 5,000 were purchased via the Parish Council's budget to brighten up the village this Spring.



A **BIG THANK YOU** to Roger Savage and his team of volunteers for helping to plant the mountain of crocus and daffodil bulbs at various locations in the village.

*Carol Savage and Friends
planting by the War Memorial*

REPAIRS CARRIED OUT

Recently the Finger post on the green near the Beacon which was leaning and the Little Burstead Village sign, near the old telephone box, have been repaired. Later in March, it is planned to have the village pond cleaned before the spawning and nesting season.

CENSUS DAY 21st MARCH

The census is taking place on 21st March 2021. The census is a survey that happens every ten years and gives a picture of all people and households in England and Wales. It helps plan and fund public services such as transport, education, and healthcare. Find out more at www.census.gov.uk

FAREWELL TO OUR PARISH CLERK

We have been extremely lucky to have had the support of our very hard-working Parish Clerk, Chris Barlow, over the past five years. Her tenacity in searching out the availability of grants and funds has been to a greater extent behind the success in fulfilling projects for the Village. Unfortunately for us, in the next few months, Chris is stepping down from her role as our Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer and she will be sadly missed. The Parish Councillors would like to thank Chris for her dedication to Little Burstead whilst our Parish Clerk.

Chris is actively working on recruiting a replacement Parish Clerk and she has assured us that she will keep in touch and where possible get involved in Village social activities.

PARISH PRECEPT

There will be a small increase in the Parish Precept for residents from April 2021. In monetary terms the increase is £606.62, an overall increase from £7083.52 in 2020 to £7,690.14 in 2021. The increase is to cover anticipated increases in costs in 2021. The table below shows a comparison of costs per household compared to 2020.

Band	2020	2021	Increase £	% pa
D	34.93	38.07	3.14	9.02%
E	42.68	46.53	3.85	9.02%
F	50.44	54.99	4.55	9.02%
G	58.20	63.45	5.25	9.02%
H	69.84	76.14	6.30	9.02%

The tax base is calculated on Band D properties and subsequently affects the Precept calculations. Basildon Council, who collect the Precept on behalf of the Parish Council via the Council Tax, advised they expect there would be a fall in Council Tax collection rates as a direct consequence of Covid-19 and this affected the calculations provided by them.

Parish Council Elections will take place on:

Thursday May 6th

As well as Borough Council and County Council Elections (if applicable). All eligible persons will need to complete a nomination form which will be available in the middle of March. Details will be published, in due course, on the Parish Council website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/lbpc> or Basildon Council's website: www.basildon.gov.uk

