

# Mount Bures Parish Council

## Minutes of Mount Bures Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 at 7.30 P.M via Zoom

- Present:** Cllr Ian Woodman (Chairman), Cllr Hillary Bufton (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mark Graham, 2 residents & the Parish Clerk, Mr G. Walkingshaw.
- 20/114 Welcome and apologies for absence**  
Apologies were received from CBC Peter Chillingworth & ECC Lewis Barber
- 20/115 Declaration of Members interests**  
Cllr Hilary Bufton declared an interest in agenda item 123.2 (Planning Application)
- 20/116 Resignation of Parish Councillors – Doug O’Neill & Martin Baird**  
The chairman gave thanks for the work done by Doug O’Neill & Martin Baird on behalf of Mount Bures Parish Council.
- 20/117 Co-option of Parish Councillors**  
Michaela Harris was co-opted onto the Parish Council  
Agreed by all.
- 20/118 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)**  
A resident reported that footpath 7 was not in very good condition due to farm machinery creating holes along the footpath. The Chairman, Ian Woodman was actioned to speak to the farmer to see if this could be rectified.
- 20/119 To approve the minutes of the last meeting (10<sup>th</sup> May 2021)**  
The minutes of the last meeting were approved.  
Proposed: Cllr Hilary Bufton      Seconded: Cllr Mark Graham
- 20/120 Visitors Report (CBC Peter Chillingworth, CBC Nigel Chapman, ECC Lewis Barber)**  
Ward Councillor’s Report (Peter Chillingworth)  
1. General  
Despite the proposed easing of Covid restrictions, the steep increase in infections is worrying. Particular concern to me is the number of cases among those who have had both jabs, although we are told the seriousness of the illness is significantly less. The government is allowing us to make our own judgements. I intend to continue wearing a face mask in shops, public transport and where the public gather in numbers and in fact avoiding such events for the time being. I fear last weekend football gatherings will have been a major spreader.
- The first Full Council meeting of the municipal year will take place in Charter Hall on Wednesday evening. This will be the first test the new administration will have answering questions to portfolio holders from opposition Members. I understand the new Cabinet is grappling with some difficult problems inherited from the last administration and finding difficulty overturning certain unpopular decisions it took.
2. Local Plan  
The Inspector concluded his inspection of Pt 2 of the Local Plan in May and we are awaiting to hear whether he proposes any modifications.

### 3. Bulky Waste Collection! !

I sent your Clerk details of the summer freighter collections of bulky items.

(Attended Freight dates: Mount Bures (Craig's Lane) 08.00 a.m. to 09.15 a.m.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### 4. News from Chappel and Wakes Colne of possible interest to Mount Bures

An application under permitted development is being considered for the conversion of agricultural steel framed building into 5 single storey dwellings at Vernons Farm, Chappel.

Wakes Colne shop and PO is on the market as Chris Eaton seeks to retire.

The chairwomen of Chappel, Wakes Colne PCs and I met with Environment Agency staff to seek their advice on providing movable flood barriers to protect the shop in time of future flooding.

After a virtual surgery meeting facilitated by Cllr Lewis Barber with the new County Highways portfolio holder, Cllr Lee Scott, he has agreed to meet us on site to seek a solution to the lack of a footway on the dangerous southern section of Station Road.

With Full Council on Wednesday, I have to send my apologies for your PC meeting. If you have any questions, do please let me have them via email following the meeting.  
Peter Chillingworth

Essex County Councillor, Lewis Barber

1. B1508 Colchester Road/Brook House Lane

I am awaiting a report from Braintree LHP on this. I am slightly in their hands as it is not in my division but Cllr Peter Schwier, who is the local member, has recently told me that he supports action being taken and I have expressed my support in return. Hopefully, therefore, we will receive a positive outcome in the short future. I will follow up at the start of next week to see if there is any progress.

### 2. Hall Road Flooding

I wish to reassure you that although there is no outcome on this at present, I am pressing forward with officers to ensure we get a positive outcome. They are aware of my thoughts about wanting to resolve this before the winter (although I recognise there has been heavy rainfall recently that no doubt has been an issue too).

### 3. Speed Indicator Signs

*I am awaiting further information from officers about the policy detail, such as cost, for the above. The policy change will allow Parish Councils to purchase and own their own indicator signs, which can also collect data and be moved around. I am prepared to financially assist Parishes who do wish to purchase such equipment through my locality budget. I will share more details once I receive it. However, it may be prudent to consider what sites you would want to have such signs along. I can then request the sites be approved in principle and this does not commit you to anything. But the sites would be approved ready for if you did purchase equipment. Chappel and Wakes Colne are interest*

*in purchasing equipment and sharing with each other. They may be (and I hope would be) willing to work with yourselves if you are interested.*

#### 4. Rural Bus Service

*ECC has launched a new 'bus back better' strategy. I'd welcome any feedback you may have on the local bus service and I have spoken with the Cabinet member on this. It will assist with us tackling pricing, timetabling and reliability issues with rural bus services.*

#### 5. Safety Survey

*This forms part of the work I am doing at ECC and I would be grateful for any input and sharing.*

<https://survey.euro.confermit.com/wix/0/p288717880200.aspx?ebrm=00000010&fbclid=IwAR3oil9XT-Kr4zuiRjQQ5dQs0KqAk1melr1cWTmqwDhorR6f2p6SgDFubI>

#### 6. Broadband

The Gigabit Broadband Voucher is about to be launched in Essex to help those properties that are least likely to be included in commercial rollouts. Groups of properties can claim up to £1,500 per household and £3,500 per business. If this may be something that interests anybody, please let us know.

If there are any matters that I have missed off or any others you wish to discuss please let me know.

Lewis Barber

#### **20/121 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that the current website was not in use at present. The Parish Council agreed to contact a company in Colchester to set up a new website. The Clerk reported that Footpath 7 had been cut and trimmed by Ian Andrewartha at a cost of £64. The invoice will be put forward for payment at the September meeting.

#### **20/122 Finance**

To approve payments in accordance with the Budget  
Payments for June & July 2021

Parish Clerk Salary	£270.66
Mileage Expenses	£21.60
HMRC Tax/Paye	£52.43
Maintenance of Lawn Mower	£16.06
Donation to "The Mount"	£50.00
O/S Payment to Previous Clerk	<u>£212.50</u>
Total	<u>£623.25</u>

Proposed: Cllr Hilary Bufton

Seconded: Cllr Mark Graham

#### **20/123 Planning/Housing**

123.1 Applications for discussion at meeting

123.2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed under delegated authority since last meeting

**211396 – Norton’s Farm, Dowling Road, Mount Bures** – Application for variation of a condition 4 following grant of planning permission 200461

**Comments:** No objections

A decision was made on this application on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Approve Conditional

123.3 Planning Applications – Decisions received since last meeting

- 20/124**      **Accident at Dangerous Corner – Junction of Brook House Lane & Colchester Road**  
ECC Lewis Barber will contact Local Highways Panel to look into latest information on 40 mph zone at junction, better slow signs & better safety signs for bus stop and report back to the Parish Council.
- 20/125**      **Mobile Speed Sign**  
Cllr Ian Woodman reported that ECC Lewis Barber had asked Parish Council’s to express an interest if they wanted to purchase a VAS sign. The Clerk was actioned to declare an interest to ECC Lewis Barber on behalf of the Parish Council.  
The Clerk was further actioned to contact Wakes Colne to see if it would be possible to share or rent a VAS sign with them and to report back to the next meeting.
- 20/126**      **Railway Cottage**  
The Railway cottage has been given 28 days to tidy up by the enforcement team at Colchester Borough Council. Cllr Ian woodman will contact CBC Peter Chillingworth to contact the enforcement team for the latest developments.
- 20/127**      **Footpath 34**  
The Clerk was actioned to make contact with Essex County Council/Highways in relation to the obstruction.
- 20/128**      **Wildlife Proposals**  
Hildegard Hill has written an article in the latest edition of the Mount requesting help from residents to produce more wildlife areas that might contain Wild Flowers/Bug Hotels/Hedgehog Highways and lots more ideas to increase wildlife in our gardens. If you have any photos of these things then send them to the Parish Clerk on [mountburespc@gmail.com](mailto:mountburespc@gmail.com).  
Cllr Ian Woodman will look into whether the Parish Council could set aside a strip of land for this project and will put a poster up on the village noticeboard. The Parish Council will look into Colchester Borough Council’s free tree scheme, which has been delayed due to Covid until October 2021.
- 20/129**      **Authorising new signatories for Nat West Accounts**  
It was agreed to authorise and add Cllr Hillary Bufton, Cllr Michaela Harris & Parish Clerk Grahame Walkingshaw to the list of signatories for the Parish Council Nat West Bank Accounts. Agreed by all.  
Proposed: Cllr Mark Green    Seconded: Cllr Ian Woodman
- 20/130**      **Flooding Issues in Mount Bures**  
ECC Lewis Barber reported that officers would come out to look at flooding issues in Mount Bures. Cllr Ian Woodman suggested that a Councillor from the Parish council should join them. Cllr Mark Graham suggested that we should use map grid references to highlight where issues are.

**20/131 Training/Events**

131.1 Reports on attended events

Councillor Training Day 1 – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (2<sup>nd</sup> day on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021) – Cllr Ian Woodman.

Cllr Ian woodman attended the first day of the Councillors Course and reported that it had been a very useful course. He is due to attend a second day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021.

131.2 Nominations for new events - PC Michaela Harris to attend a new councillor course.

**20/132 Information Exchange/Items for next agenda**

Cllr Ian Woodman suggested that an email address for Parish Councillor’s to use be set up rather than using personal email accounts. The Parish Clerk was actioned to look into this.

Cllr Ian Woodman informed the meeting that this was the first time that the Village Hall had been used since Covid began in March 2020. The Village Hall will be recruiting new members to join the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Ian Woodman asked whether we had heard about any meetings with Wormingford Gliding Club. The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that no contact had been made. The Parish Clerk was actioned to contact the Club to find out when the next meeting would take place, so that a councillor could attend.

**20/133 To confirm date and time of next meeting**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....