

CLERK'S GENERAL REPORT FROM 26TH MARCH 2019 TO 30TH APRIL 2019.

Finance/Administration.

All matters are up to date.

First $\frac{1}{2}$ year Precept, £5,750 has been received together with £112 from the BDC collection fund and the £1,914.97 BDC Street Cleaning Grant.

The annual internal audit has been satisfactorily completed and the Certificate of Exemption will be sent to the external auditors immediately after the May meeting.

Local Elections.

It's good news - financially - that there's to be no contested parish council election this year.

Welcome to the two new councillors - Jean Cairns and Melanie A'Lee.

We await the result of the Election for Braintree District Councillors relative to the Ward including Rivenhall.

General Maintenance.

I have placed an order for the Rickstones Road notice board roof repair.

Dysfunctional light at the entrance to Tusser Close/Beech Road garages has been confirmed as belonging to ECC and has been reported.

Communication sent to BDC re the parking of vehicles on the large Village Green. BDC reply that the Green will be inspected initially then appropriate action taken.

Request submitted to BDC for the provision of another dog bin in the Tarecroft Wood area.

BDC confirm that another 12 posts around the Village Green can be 60% funded during 2019/20.

Tarecroft Wood.

The Chairman has contacted ECC regarding the removal of logs and the marking of trees for felling in this woodland.

PRoW..

The Chairman has reported to ECC that water was being discharged onto the John Ray Walk.

Confirmation has been received that Footpath 59 - crossing the golf course - has now been diverted, albeit not entirely satisfactorily, and the Order confirmed.

Communication sent to Essex Police regarding the misuse of local footpaths by motorcyclists. Reply received as follows: "*Braintree Community Policing team are already aware of this issue and have been in discussion with the land owner from Whiteheads Farm regarding what can be done to prevent the motorcycles from accessing this land (e.g. width restrictions, kissing gates etc.) however at present nothing has been arranged due to opposition from Essex County Council due to concerns that these measures could prevent access to the area for disabled users. Unfortunately the issues with regards to patrols are that in the past the riders have seen Police in the area and made off in the opposite direction. They also currently remain unidentified due to their faces being covered with helmets. I can assure you that where possible, patrols will continue in the area, however a long term solution to the issue needs to be sought.*"

Village Sign - Insurance Claim.

It took me some time to notice, and I know that it's been a long time being processed, but I'm pleased to confirm that the repaired sign has now been erected on the Village Green. The balance of the repair cost (£950 + VAT) will be invoiced for payment in due course.

Kings Dene - Land at North Kelvedon.

Following receipt of the following information: "*I am writing on behalf of Parker Strategic Land who have an interest in Kings Dene - Land at North Kelvedon. As you are aware, Braintree District Council*

are currently working with neighbouring authorities on a Joint Section 1 Local Plan, promoting garden communities in North Essex. As part of this process, Parker Strategic Land are promoting an area of approximately 450 hectares located to the North West and South West of Kelvedon. In line with the inspector's recommendation, Kings Dene is being assessed as a potential solution as part of the new sustainability appraisal." A Councillors' meeting has been scheduled with Parkers for Friday 24th May 2019, commencing at 14.00 hours in The Henry Dixon Hall.

A12 Petrol Service Station southbound.

The Chairman has forwarded complaints to BDC re the overnight use by HGV drivers at this service station, also requesting advice/action re the use of adjoining land as a toilet which is a public health issue. BDC's EHO inspected the site and discussed all matters with the proprietors. Local residents with any complaints regarding this issue are requested to contact the EHO directly so that problems can be assessed and managed - contact details are Pam Sharp, EHO at pamsh@braintree.gov.uk or phone 01376 551414 Ext. 2224.

Litter.

Various fly tips at the recycling site were removed by BDC.

Planning Applications.

All planning matters have been dealt with as per the latest minutes.

I have still not, despite reminders, received a reply to my original letter to BDC, dated 21st February 2019, re the reserved matters for the land south of Rickstones Road.

BDLHP.

I have nothing further to report at this time.

IWMF, Rivenhall Airfield.

Information has been received that the incinerator stack height was refused planning permission by ECC on Friday 26th April with the final order to be issued by the Chief Planning Officer post a consultation based upon the late information submitted by the applicants. It is, however, almost certain that the refusal will stand which may result in a couple of issues: Gent Fairhead may appeal the decision and the EA may grant the 35m stack permit approval.

Highways Maintenance.

The deep pothole opened up in Henry Dixon Road, just south of the A12 underpass has been reported to ECC Highways for repair.

Liaison with Chairman.

Liaison with the Chairman upon various items of correspondence, the agenda for the next meeting and planning application documents as necessary.

Keith Taylor (Parish Clerk)
30th April 2019.