

CLERK'S GENERAL REPORT FOR JULY 2014.

Finance.

Documentation has been sent to the external auditors by the due date of 5 June 2014.

General Maintenance.

The site for the Bottle Banks at The Fox, Rivenhall End will be closing on Friday 20 June 2014 as the site is deemed to be too dangerous for BDC to collect the bins.

The ditch/pipe along Oak Road, which overflows causing roadway flooding, has been reported again to ECC with a request for them to inspect (correctly this time) and repair as necessary.

Memorial plaque - Dennis Gibbons.

Stainless steel plaque on hardwood backing with stake has now been ordered.

BDC Local development Framework.

PC submission re Kelvedon Park/Durwards Hall sent to BDC and receipt acknowledged.

Tarecroft Wood & Rivenhall Thicks.

Request has been made to BDC for Tree Preservation Orders to be placed upon the remaining good quality standards in these areas of woodland.

A site meeting between the Chairman and an ECC officer took place on Monday 16 June 2014 relative to the possible transfer of the woodland to the Parish Council. ECC comments are awaited.

ECC Roads Maintenance.

The demolished bus stop and hard standing along Church Road, near Ford Farm, has been reported to ECC who indicate that they will initiate a repair.

Lorry hit electricity pole at junction of Rickstones Road and Oak Road - driver reported the incident himself to the Essex Police - Cllr. Bills also reported it to UKPN.

Speed restrictions.

Police in the village on the morning of 11 June, monitoring speeding vehicles and helped to reinforce the parking restrictions along Church Road.

Request made to BLHP for a speed check in Oak Road approaching Rickstones Road junction.

Highways Agency - A12.

The Chairman has again sent a strongly worded email to the Highways Agency regarding various outstanding matters relating to the A12. They include the lack of resurfacing; junction signing in advance of Whitelands; maintenance of the footway/cycleway and improvements to the slips and junction at The Fox.

Braintree District Local Highways Liaison Panel.

The very latest information remains as follows:

Oak Road Railway Bridge widen footway and introduce priority working - Previously fully **AGREED** and **FUNDED**. Was due for delivery by end of March 2014. **New date for delivery November 2014**. Cost £45,000. Late due to ongoing investigations as to where cables run and dialogue with farmers about width for agricultural machinery. Still being wrongly described in the LHP lists as signal controlled [ECC were advised post the April meeting that it is not and have been again]. New plans produced and circulated at meeting - may need final tweaks as safety audit to take place.

Oak Road one-way weight restriction towards the A12 junction - Previously **AGREED** subject to surveys. Panel agreed at January meeting to put an additional £7,500 into detailed design. Main hold up is cost of signs on A12 and slowness of Highways Agency in responding. Good agreement of Panel members that the scheme needs to be delivered along with improvements to A12 junctions (Highways Agency future scheme). **New date for design delivery is now December 2014**.

Rickstones Road widening, new drainage and kerbing - **AGREED, FUNDED AND DESIGN COMPLETE**. Following site meeting with ECC Highways Cabinet Member, £75,000 central funds

allocated so net cost to BLHP is reduced. Estimated total cost £130,772. **New delivery date February 2015.**

Church Road layby at church - Panel previously **AGREED** to commission design at cost of £1.5k. Estimated scheme cost £20k. **New date for design delivery is December 2014.**

Extend safety railing at Rivenhall School, Church Road - AGREED AND FUNDED. 22m of new railing will be installed at a cost of £3,000. Delivery date not known as this was a verbal only item - it will be minuted though. Thanked officers for moving this scheme through so quickly.

Extend 30mph (or introduce 40mph buffer) northwards along Church Road Rivenhall - Speed survey now conducted which showed average speeds of 42mph southbound and 46mph northbound. ECC stated at April meeting that this shows "excellent compliance" with 60mph speed limit (!!). It was pointed out to ECC that it shows high speeds close to the edge of a 30mph limit where there is a primary school and church. Officers agreed to reconsider. Most likely outcome now is a 40mph buffer. New speed survey **AGREED** at a cost of £210.

New bus stops Church Road - SCHEME NOW DELIVERED. But vehicle subsequently demolished north bound side soon afterwards! ECC say they will rebuild.

New, clearer signage Church Road and Oak Road warning of low railway bridge and weight restriction ahead. AGREED AND FUNDED. Final drawings for new signs to be produced. Cost £4,500.

New scheme submitted and awaiting validation - 2 small areas of grasscrete in Oak Road near railway bridge to allow parking and protect verge from further damage.

Superfast Broadband.

The launch event for the Rivenhall cabinet, hosted by Essex County Council, took place on Thursday 12 June 2014.

Coffee Morning PC 'Surgery'.

There has been an almost regular PC presence at the Coffee Morning.

Liaison with Chairman.

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

Keith Taylor (Parish Clerk)
26 July 2014.