

CLERK'S GENERAL REPORT FOR MARCH 2014.

Finance.

Work commenced to close the 2013/14 accounts for production at Audit.
Completing documentation and submitting invoice to BDC for the annual Street Cleaning Grant; for 2014/2015 the grant amounts to £1,752.95, a slight increase over the previous year.

Annual Parish Assembly.

Invitations have been sent to individuals as per February Minute 872(vii).
The local MP will attend and BDC will be represented; ECC Highways have declined and there's no reply from the Essex Police Commissioner.

Parking Matters.

Details of how to apply for an on-street disabled parking space have been listed on the PC website.

Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of Braintree District.

Recommendations received indicating proposals for a 49 Member District Council with effect from May 2015. The consultation period closes on 14th April 2014.

ECC Minerals Local Plan.

The six week public consultation on the ECC proposed Main Alterations to the Plan runs from 13th March to 24th April and will appear on the April agenda.

Bradwell Quarry - Proposed Scoping Opinion for sites A3 & A4.

A detailed response has been forwarded to ECC as per their letter dated 29th January 2014.

Fly-tipping.

A recent case of fly-tipping at the recycling area in Oak Road has been reported to BDC for urgent clearance.

A12 at Rivenhall End.

Highways Agency has confirmed that overnight work will be undertaken between junction 22 at Witham north and junction 23 Kelvedon on Thursday 20th March for up to 3 nights (8pm to 6am) weather permitting.

ECC Roads Maintenance.

ECC Highways advise the temporary closure of Cressing Road, from its junction with Rickstones Road to the junction with Temple Lane, at some time yet to be advised but within 18 months of 5th April 2014. This will probably mean additional traffic through Rivenhall during that time.

Outstanding maintenance to grass verges together with the demolition of the streetlight along Oak Road have been referred again to ECC. Their response is as follows in italics:

St. Mary's Road - several areas of damage to grass around the 'circle' - one serious. A low priority P4 verge defect has been raised which has been forwarded to our engineering team. *We are unable to provide a date when repairs will take place.*

Tusser Close - one small area of verge damage. A low priority P4 verge defect has been raised which has been forwarded to our engineering team. *We are unable to provide a date when repairs will take place.*

Beech Road - several areas of mostly medium verge damage. A low priority P4 verge defect has been raised which has been forwarded to our engineering team. *We are unable to provide a date when repairs will take place.*

Rickstones Road/Oak Rd junction - give way sign at triangle on the ground (previously reported - has been there for months). *defect raised, with engineering team.*

Oak Road - bad verge damage on Oak triangle and several minor verge damage areas on section between the recycling area and the railway bridge. Missing street light (tape on stump) and other

damage caused by RTA still yet to be repaired near Hoo Hall cottages from months ago. *referred to Street Lighting team*

Henry Dixon Road/Oak Road beyond railway bridge - accumulated debris from trees on grass verge and path alongside former play area (near parish notice board); several areas of minor verge damage on both sides of road down to A12 bridge. Severe verge damage at junction with slip to A12 and debris from tree work left on verge plus missing street light. Low priority P4 verge defects have been raised which has been forwarded to our engineering team. *We are unable to provide a date when repairs will take place.*

Foxmead/Foxden, Rivenhall End - two areas of minor verge/grass damage. *A low priority P4 verge defect has been raised which has been forwarded to our engineering team. We are unable to provide a date when repairs will take place.*

Near Hoo Hall Cottages, Oak Road (opposite the drive to Hoo Hall) - there is a ditch which flows correctly until it reaches a piped section where the water spills out onto the road. Some 20 metres further along the pipe appears to emerge into the ditch again where water again flow out onto the road. This water on the road become very dangerous in frosty conditions, particularly as the road has many corners in this area. *Our highway inspector visited the location on 27 February 2014 and noted: No sign of any blocked drain or flooding.*

Braintree District Local Highways Liaison Panel.

The very latest information remains as follows:

30mph speed limit on Oak Road and Henry Dixon Road confirmation has been received that the Restricted Road Order (30mph) will come into operation on 31st March 2014; signage already in situ. Solagen have been requested to remove the 40mph VAS into the PC store by that date if possible.

Oak Road railway bridge on track for delivery by end of March 2014.

Oak Road one way weight restriction towards the A12 junction Panel agreed to put another £7.5k into detailed design. Main hold up is the cost of signs on the A12. Good agreement of Panel members that the scheme needs to be delivered along with improvements to A12 junctions (Highways Panel future scheme).

Mr. Simon Brice has objected to the introduction of this weight limit.

Rickstones Road drainage and kerbing design complete and awaiting consideration - estimated cost £130,772.00.

Church Road layby at church Panel agreed to commission design at a cost of £1,500, estimated scheme cost £20,000.

Extend safety railings at school awaiting validation.

Pedestrian access at Colemans Bridge junction with Colchester Road/Eastways/Motts Lane Panel agreed to allocate £800.00 to investigate works needed for dropped kerbs/tactile surfacing etc.

Extend 30mph (or introduce 40mph buffer) northwards along Church Road recently submitted. Speed survey to be conducted.

Church Road/Oak Road New proposed scheme submitted to replace existing confusing signage with new clearer signage to reduce incidents of weight limit breach and oversized HGVs having to reverse back from the Railway Bridge.

Coffee Morning PC 'Surgery'.

There has been a 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)
25th March 2014.