

## **CLERK'S GENERAL PARISH REPORT FOR JANUARY 2013.**

### **"Making the Links"**

The January copy forwarded via email to Members and a hard copy produced for inclusion in the circulation box.

### **Parish Council Precept.**

2013/2014 Precept Form returned to BDC for action in due course.

Liaising with BDC re payment of the Precept and the Council Tax Grant for 2013.

### **Annual Parish Assembly.**

Invitations issued to BDC Chief Executive, ECC Highways and Essex Police to attend the assembly. Positive replies received from BDC and Essex Police, negative response from ECC Highways.

### **Tarecroft Wood.**

Nothing further has been received from ECC.

BDC have erected a CCTV sign at the car parking area (no camera though). Maintenance Contractor to monitor/record actual collection of litter. Fly-tipping warning sign erected.

### **BDC Parish Summit - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.**

Cllr. Bills and the Clerk attended this summit at Braintree. Details will be included in the February Report.

### **Recycling Site - Oak Road.**

A request was made for the clothing recycling bin to be emptied at the beginning of January. Action taken to erect fly-tipping notices.

### **Rivenhall Brook.**

Blockage problems reported to the Environment Agency who have acknowledged receipt by passing "*... it to a team in your area for assessment*".

### **Public Footpaths (Rights of Way).**

Adverse weather conditions have interrupted the footpath monitoring programme.

### **Local Post Office, Church Road.**

Notice received of temporary closure with effect from Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013, recruitment of new sub postmaster is in progress.

### **Speeding/accidents.**

Another road traffic accident occurred in Church Road on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

### **ECC Minerals Local Plan Public Engagement.**

Information letters produced and distributed to all local residents and arrangements made for an 'open meeting' to precede the February Parish Council meeting.

### **A12 slip & Oak Road junction.**

Invitations issued for representatives from both ECC Highways and the Highways Agency to attend the PC meeting in February, failing that, to attend a site meeting at 16.00 hours that same day.

### **General Maintenance.**

Mr. Walsh has been cutting back verge edges to local footways.

### **Braintree District Local Highways Panel.**

*Proposal for parish working* - question raised re Public Liability Insurance cover whilst undertaking work for ECC. Answer as follows: "The Parish Council would need to cover insurance or ensure that their contractor is fully insured. It is looking likely there will be no funding left from ECC budget in 12-13 for this type of initiative, as the LHP have virtually allocated the budget and there are still other schemes that PC's are requesting that require funding. This may be something that can be revisited in 13-14 depending on how much funding the LHP is allocated for its new budget."

The PC's Maintenance Contractor carries his own PL Insurance.

*Oak Road weight limit* - ongoing ECC reluctance to progress. Now with Cabinet Member. ECC to meet Highways Agency in a few weeks. New funding of over £1k to investigate displacement of HGVs /rerouting on to A12. Chairman has sent a drawing to Chair of the HP showing extent of existing and proposed restriction and asking that the option of a 7.5T restriction in Henry Dixon Road be considered if Oak Road is not possible (it would have the same effect). Report due for March meeting.

*Oak Road railway bridge* - one way working with traffic lights and wider footway approved and now coded green (very likely to go ahead). It will be drawn up, priced, modelled and reported back to March meeting. £35k allocated from 2012/13 budget, balance of funding would need to come from 2013/14 budget.

*Rickstones Road verge erosion, damaged drains and flooding* - £3k previously agreed at November meeting. Investigation work to go ahead but showing up as possibly after summer 2013 that actual work done. Chairman will request update for March meeting.

*Extension to Church Road school parking restriction* to go to NEPP in Feb/March.

### **ECC Roads Maintenance.**

Rickstones Road - latest information from ECC...

*Verges* - being investigated by the Braintree Local Highways Panel

*Flooding* - inspection took place on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013 and problem identified as a blocked gully which will be scheduled for jetting once the adverse weather improves.

*Drains* - inspection undertaken and repair work will be carried out within 6 weeks.

*Surface dressing* - part of a larger problem with permanent repairs to be scheduled once the volume of defects has been identified countywide.

Prior notice received from ECC Highways that Braxted Park Road is to be closed for repairs to Appleford Bridge, commencing 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

### **Parish Council Website.**

All relevant information is up to date.

### **Planning Matters.**

Receiving details of those applications granted or refused.

### **ECC & SBC Joint Waste Development Document.**

Nothing further to report.

### **Coffee Morning PC 'Surgery'.**

Attending this on a fairly regular basis along with Councillors.

### **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 applications.

Keith Taylor (Parish Clerk)  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2013.