

HULLBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23 Published

Your Parish Council

Hullbridge Parish Council consists of 13 Members who volunteer their time for the benefit of the Community and attend our monthly Full Council meetings, Committees, Sub Committees and Working Groups, which together assist in the efficient smooth running of the Council. From our Parish Council Office, the Clerk to the Council and her Team provide a service to the Community providing information to residents, in person also via our website, Facebook page and Noticeboards, we also answer an array of queries. Staff provide full administration for the day to day running of the Council, including all financial matters, Health and Safety and making sure the Council is working legally and within their remit. The Parish Council maintains numerous footpaths and open spaces throughout the village including the management of Kendal Park Nature Reserve and the Rose Garden. The maintenance staff take great pride in keeping the village a nice place to live.

Staff: Clerk to the Council, Nicola Harding
Assistant Clerk, Julie Mullett

Accounts Assistant: Anna Bain
Maintenance Staff: Brett Wilson / Jake Lillywhite

Report by the Chairman of Hullbridge Parish Council

In May 2022 I was elected Chair and since then I have attended several events in this capacity. The Parish Council have delivered quite a few projects during the last year including the village pond, two new village signs and a swan and duck feeder. We also have assisted local community groups with grant funding. We have lots of green initiative ideas we would like to bring to Hullbridge. Community Engagement is a priority for the Parish Council, we have recommenced our Councillor Surgeries alongside the Police Surgeries so that residents have an opportunity to speak directly with the parish and police about the issue that matter to them. We are looking at different ways to engage with all areas of the local community. Details of events will be put up on our noticeboards and social media pages. We have recently strengthened Councils links with Riverside Medical Centre and Riverside Primary School to keep us updated and involved with local issues.

The maintenance staff have been working hard to deliver projects for the council and are integral to keeping our village in good repair.

We will also be advertising events to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III details of these will be available on our noticeboards and social media.

I would like to thank my Vice Chairman Conner Agius and fellow Councillors for their continued support during this last year. I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Council to thank the Parish Council Staff for their hard work and efforts in the administration and maintenance of our village.

Cllr Ms A. Marriott

Your Parish Precept

2023/24

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Hullbridge Parish Council's Budget for 2023/24 is £220,883 which equates to **£6.35**

increase for an average Band D property per year:

Which is only: **£0.12 per week**

The Members of YOUR Council are working for you the ratepayer to give you Best Value" for money



Finance

The Parish Council strives to achieve “Best Value” for all its expenditure, whilst abiding by our financial regulations ensuring we get good value for money and obtain the most competitive prices.

Our budget for 2022/2023 was £197,958 and this was spent on a number of responsibilities.

The Parish continues to support several organisations including Essex Air Ambulance and the Sunflower Café.

We do have a **Grant Scheme** where organisations can apply for a small grant – please contact the Clerk for more information.

Income & Expenditure

Our Income & Expenditure Accounts will not be ratified until later on in the year. Electors will have an opportunity to view the accounts and dates will be displayed.

Pooles Lane car park / Toilet, we are pleased that this is continuing to be free. Unfortunately, our maintenance staff are having to deal with increased vandalism in this area which is disappointing.

Over **260 Christmas parcels** were delivered by the Council, the local Green Star Co-op supported us in achieving this, and these were well received by those residents who are 80 and over.

If you are 80 this year or if you know of someone please contact the Parish Office to make sure you/they are on our list.

Allotments

We have 135 plots which are all enjoyed with a wealth of crops grown. This year’s Annual Competition was a success and was won by G. Stone. If interested in a plot then please contact the Parish Office.

Best Frontage Competition

2022 took place and the winners were 65 Lower Road.

Hanging Baskets / Planters

Hullbridge Parish Council continues to maintain the plants along Ferry Road The flowers are supplied by a Local Nursery (Riverside) and are in full bloom between May and September.

Litter / Dog Fouling

Please help keep “Hullbridge Tidy” and use litter bins and dog bins which are throughout the village. Please note that doggy bags can be put in **normal** rubbish bins.

Street Light Issues

The Parish Council manages all the Street Lights in un-adopted roads, so please report to us of any issues.

Adopted roads please report to Essex County Council.

Wheelchairs / Walking Frames

Our popular free service is continuing, so if you require a short wheelchair/frame loan please contact us.

Highways / Footpaths

Issues can be reported to Essex County Council online via their “Tell Us” page <http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-roads.asp>

Annual Christmas Fayre

2022 Was a success in its new smaller format. **Chairman’s Christmas Card Competition 2022 winner** was Oscar Smith.

The Best Shop Front window

was won by “Golden Crust Bakery” Well Done.

We are hoping that in 2023 the Fayre will be held on **Saturday 2nd December 2023 between 4-6pm** at Pooles Lane car park / HCA This will be a similar event to last year and will be very much planned and kept with community spirit in mind . Please check our noticeboards and social media nearer the time.

Parish Full Council Meetings

These are usually held on the 2nd Monday of each month (excluding August) at the Windermere Centre at 7.30pm. All Residents are welcome.

Councillors: A. Marriott (Chair) C. Agius (Vice Chair), Mrs. L Campbell-Daley, D. Elwell, I. Kenlin D. Flack, P. White, Ms. H. Gilbert K. O’Brien , Mrs J. O’Brien, S. Cooper.