

HULLBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16 Published 16.5.16

Your Parish Council

The Parish Council consists of 13 Members and all Members volunteer their time for the benefit of the Community and attend our monthly Full Council meetings and Committees, various 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 staff provide full administration including financial budgets, forecasts and accounts and makes sure the Council is working legally and within their remit. The Office provides information to the Community and assists with any concerns/ideas from residents and manages our Website, Facebook page and Noticeboards.

We carry out a lot of the maintenance throughout the village and manage Kendal Park Nature Reserve.

Quality Council Award Scheme

We are really pleased that in March 2016 we were awarded the Foundation Level in the Award Scheme and have now submitted our application for Quality and Gold Status.

Report by the Chairman of Hullbridge Parish Council

I have very much enjoyed being Chairman of the Hullbridge Parish Council for 2015/16 and I have attended a number of events both in an official and an unofficial capacity.

For example RRAVS Awards, where a Hullbridge resident Mr Ives and his dog Poppy won "Volunteer of the Year" for their work with "Pets as Therapy" – Well done. Riverside PTA Fundraiser, Hullbridge Scouts Tea, Hullbridge Free Church event and other Civic events. The Remembrance Services are very important to me and the other Councillors and this year we laid wreaths at the Hullbridge, Rayleigh and Hockley Services. Hullbridge Parish Council objected to the proposed housing development at Maylons Farm and on their behalf I as Chairman gave our reasons to Rochford District Council Development Committee, but unfortunately after we and others objected it was approved. We will continue to fight for the best for Hullbridge residents and will work with others to ensure that this Community gets most from this Development for improved and new facilities.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their efforts over the last four year term, also to the Clerk to the Council and her staff for the efficient administration and the maintenance around the Village.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the newly elected Councillors all the best for the next four year term. Cllr Angelina Marriott.

Your Parish Precept

2016/17



Hullbridge Parish Council's Budget for 2016/2017 is £ which equates to

£55.53

Precept average Band D property per year:

Which is only:

£4.63 per month

Or

£1.07 per week

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

Finance/ Policy /

Appointments Committee

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 obtaining the most competitive prices.

We have a 5 year Financial Forecast and Action Plan and have adopted and updated our Policies and Procedures. Our budget for 2015/2016 was £125,775 and this was spent on a number of responsibilities.

Some of which were:

- Christmas Parcels to the Elderly
- Floral baskets in Ferry Road
- Allotments
- Free use of Pooles Lane car park
- Managing and maintaining Kendal Nature Reserve, emergency work due to Ash Tree Die Back
- Events including the Christmas Fayre
- Street lighting in un-adopted roads
- CCTV in the car park and Ferry Road
- Maintenance of street furniture, Rose Garden, village Memorial, some grass verges and footpaths (5/12).
- Opening of the Recreation Ground Toilets (April-October)

The Parish Council also continues to provide support to a number of organisations

including Heart-Watch, Riverside Primary School PTA (swimming pool project), Citizens Advice Bureau.

Grant Funding

We have actively sought grant funding and we were successful in securing funding for the Recreation Ground for a Sun Canopy, Initiative play equipment – Street Snooker also a lectern for the Rose Garden which will include a map and information, we hope these will be installed in 2016.

Income & Expenditure

Attached our Income & Expenditure Accounts.

Cllr David Jeffery

General Purposes Committee

Under this Committees remit it looks after the Parish Council's street scene assets, which includes Parish street lights, teen shelter, public seating, notice boards, bins, War Memorial, village sign and bus shelters.

Pooles Lane car park we have installed an additional bin but unfortunately most days our staff are having to clear up the mess left there. This is a major issue along with anti-social behavior also vandalism to the teen shelter. We are now using the CCTV and working with the Police. Our new CCTV system has been installed at the Parish Office and Pooles Lane car park providing 360 degree coverage and number plate recognition.

Over **160 Christmas parcels** were delivered to the elderly residents who are aged 80+,

contributions were given by Riverside Primary School and the School Council kindly packed them.

If you know of anyone 80+ please let the Office know so we can make sure they are on our list.

Allotments

The Allotments located in Lower Road are enjoyed by many with every plot taken, please forward your name to the Clerk if you would like to go onto our waiting list.

The Parish Council also runs an Annual Competition in July which proves to be very popular and was **won in 2015** by three sisters, Pauline Glennister, Barbara Corderoy and Jan Saveall-Plot 35
2nd Prize was awarded to Laurie Humphrey- Plot 8/9
3rd Prize was awarded to Sue Oates-Plot 33
Well done all those who took part.

Hullbridge Garden Association adjacent to the Co Op in Ferry Road is open for all your Allotment / Garden needs.
Opening Times: Wed 10am-noon
Fri 6-8pm, Sat 2pm-4pm and Sun 10am-noon. For six weeks April – June it is also open 10am – noon Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri.

Best Frontage Competition

Every year we run this competition, in 2015 the winners were: 1st 1 Keswick Avenue
2nd The Glen, Tower Park
3rd Spring Song, The Avenue
Thank you for keeping Hullbridge pretty and tidy.

Hullbridge Youth

Since February 2016 Sport Works is offering a variety of sports at the Youth Centre (outside Riverside Primary School) every Saturday (10am - 12) and during the holidays (10-3). For more information visit Facebook.com/sportworkssex or email matt@sportworksltd.co.uk Or call 07796 943791 We hope the Community will support this club.

Hanging Baskets

Hullbridge Parish Council continue to maintain the plants and last years provided a lovely floral display.

The flowers are supplied by a Local Nursery (Riverside) and are in full bloom between May and September.

CLlr Mrs L Campbell- Daley

Parks / Open Spaces / Conservation / Footpaths Committee

In May 2015 we had the Official Opening of the expanded play area at the Recreation Ground, this was a result of being successful with our bid with Essex County Council Communities Initiative Fund also Rochford District Council's input. In 2016 there will be further improvements.

The Committee has been working with Hockley Parish Council / Landowners to have a footpath link to the Dome providing a circular walk, this unfortunately hasn't come into fruition.

Kendal Park NR is managed by the Parish Council and we have a Management Plan in place to secure the future of the Reserve. We have had to carry out Emergency Coppicing work due to Ash Tree Die Back which has cost a lot of money and some of our Reserves have had to be used. We have planted 100 trees of native species which we hope will take, please assist us and don't disturb the trees, it is important the Reserve species are diversified for the Reserve to exist in the future as currently 90 % is Ash. Wildlife is abundant in the Reserve and specialised teams have carried out surveys.

If you would like to be part of "Friends of Kendal Park" Volunteers to assist with keeping the Reserve clean, tidy then please contact the Clerk.

Erosion, major repair work has been carried out along the sea wall from the Recreation Ground to Brandy Hole, 2016 further work will be done. The Parish Council knows the importance of the River footpath and has launched "Save the River Footpath" project, we haven't spent as much time as we wanted on this project due to matters regarding the proposed Malyons Farm Development but we are trying to work with landowners and Essex County Council to try and resolve the erosion issue. This is a long process and we are continuing to investigate all avenues.

CLlr I Kenlin

HARP – we are still taking donations at the Office.

Litter / Dog Fouling

We thank Riverside U3A for doing a litter pick for the Queen's Birthday, they collected bags of rubbish from Pooles Lane car park, Kendal Park Nature Reserve and along the River footpath. Please bin your rubbish, the mess left every day at Pooles Lane car park is awful.

If you are a dog walker, please pick up and place doggy bags in the litter or Dog bins provided – Thank you.

Please help keep Hullbridge Tidy We will be installing another dog bin in Kendal Park NR, replace the eroded bins at the Rose Garden and install a bin at Thorpedene Avenue.

Sponsorship

Last year we offered residents the opportunity to sponsor a bench which has proved successful, now we would also like to offer sponsorship of a Hanging Basket in Ferry Road, this would be on an annual basis only and a name plaque would be placed underneath between May/end of October for that year only. If interested please contact the Clerk.

Annual Christmas Fayre 2015 went very well and enjoyed by many, thank you to all those who participated.

In 2016 the Fayre will be held on **Saturday 2nd December between 3-6pm** at Pooles Lane car park / HCA with the Lights being switched On by our

Special Guests including Heart's Martin & Su at 5.45pm. There will be a variety of stalls, entertainment and activities not forgetting Santa's Grotto (thanks to the HCA).

Every year we give a grant to a Community Group and in 2015 it went to Riverside PTA for swimming pool equipment. The winner of the **Chairman's Christmas Card Competition 2015** was Lucy Foulsham – Well Done and to all those who sent in their entries.

We will be running this Competition again this year. **The Best Shop Front window** was won by Paul J King Funeral Directors.

If you would like a stall / be part of the Entertainment or help at the event, then please contact the Clerk.

Community Cohesion

It is our aim this year for the Parish Council to work more closely with the Community and encourage residents to be involved and help to ensure Hullbridge continues to be a good place to live.

If you belong to a Community Group and you would like a Councillor to attend and give a talk on what the Parish Council does then please contact the Clerk.

Parish Safety Volunteers

Essex Fire & Rescue Serve and Essex Police in collaboration with local authorities have developed the "Parish Safety Volunteer" Initiative. This Initiative is being rolled out to Parishes in Essex to participate

in. Hullbridge Parish Council are pleased that one of our Councillors John Chaffin and a resident Mr Paul White have volunteered and will be doing home visits and providing both fire safety and crime reduction advice.(01376 576237)

Parish Full Council Meetings

These are held on the 2nd Monday of each month (excluding August) at the Hullbridge Centre, Windermere Avenue 7.30pm – Residents are Welcome to attend and forward their ideas and concerns.

Highways

During the year we report and chase up numerous issues regarding footpath and highways to Essex County Council, please continue to forward concerns to the Clerk.

Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Steve JOYNES (Email: steve.joynes@essex.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Kelly BOWEN (kelly.bowen@essex.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Zoe NUTH (zoe.nuth@essex.pnn.police.uk

All can be contacted by Telephone:

101 ext 490126

Mobile: 07813953703

Parish Councillors 2015/2016

Cllr. Miss A. Marriott (Chairman)

Cllr. Mrs. W. Stevenson (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. G Angus

Cllr. Mrs. L. Campbell-Daley (Chairman of the General Purposes Committee)

Cllr. D East (Planning Chairman)

Cllr. D Gatehouse

Cllr. Mrs. A. Hale

Cllr. M Hale

Cllr. M Hodson (V.Chair Planning)

Cllr. Mrs. D Hoy

Cllr. D Jeffery (Finance and Personnel Committee Chairman)

Cllr. I Kenlin

(Footpath Committee Chairman)

Cllr J. Chaffin

Parish Staff

Anne-Marie Bates

Clerk to the Council

Julie Mullett

Administration Assistant

George Bailey

General Maintenance Officer

Peter Timms – Assistant GMO

Martin Bewers – Assistant GMO

District (Hullbridge Ward)

Councillors 2015/2016

Cllr Mrs. D. Hoy

Cllr M. Hoy

Cllr Mrs A Hale

County Councillor Cllr M Hoy

Member of Parliament

Mark Francois MP

Hullbridge Parish

Council

Parish Office

98 Ferry Road

01702 232038

OPEN Monday 12.30-2.30

Tues/ Wed/Thurs 10-12

Clerk to the Council

Mrs. Anne-Marie Bates

Email:

clerk@hullbridgepc.co.uk

Website

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Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hullbridge-Parish-Council/1544215995841235>