

# HULLBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2016-17 Published 08.05.17

## Your Parish Council

The Parish Council consists of 13 Members who 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.

### Local Government Quality Council Award Scheme

We are really pleased that in 2016 we were awarded the Foundation, Quality and Gold Levels in the Award Scheme and also were "Highly Commended" in the "Vaughtons Council of the Year" and were awarded the Essex County Council "Community Work Award".

## Report by the Chairman of Hullbridge Parish Council

In May 2016, Parish Elections took place and 13 of us took our seats many of us being new to the role.

I was then elected as Chairman for 2016/17 and I have attended a number of events both in an official and an unofficial capacity.

One such event was the Senior Safety Day which was held in January and I along with other Councillors took part in various sessions including Tai Chi, the Clerk had a Parish Council information stall along with health providers such as Age Concern. This event was very successful and enjoyed by many of our older residents. Malyons Farm Development which has outline planning permission is a concern to residents and we will continue to make representation to get the best for this Community. The Remembrance Services are very important to the Parish Council and this year we laid wreaths at the Hullbridge / Rayleigh / Hockley Services. I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their efforts over the last year, also to the Clerk to the Council and her staff for the efficient administration and the maintenance around the village. Cllr D Borg

## Your Parish Precept

2017/18

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Hullbridge Parish Council's Budget for 2017/2018 is £148,777 which equates to

**£65.73**

For an average Band D property per year:

Which is only:

**£1.26 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 2016/2017 was £132,064 and this was spent on a number of responsibilities.

Some of which were:

- Floral baskets
- 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)
- Play Ground Improvements

The Parish Council also continues to provide support to a number of organisations including Heart-Watch, Riverside Primary School PTA and Citizens Advice Bureau.

We do have a **grant scheme** where organisations can apply <http://www.hullbridgepc.co.uk/grant-assistance-application-f/>

**Grant Funding** - We have actively sought grant funding and we were successful in securing funding for the Recreation Ground for a replacement fishing play boat. This has been a joint project with Essex County Council (Communities Initiative Fund), Rochford District Council and

the Parish Council. We had hoped that this would have been installed for Easter 2017 but it has been slightly delayed due to installation issues. We feel this is a great asset to the Recreation Ground which is enjoyed by many residents and visitors.

### **Income & Expenditure**

Attached our Income & Expenditure Accounts.

CLlr David Jeffery

### **General Purposes Committee**

Under this Committee's 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 are pleased that this is continuing to be free and we have also reduced the height of the hedging around the car park for safety reasons.

Unfortunately our maintenance staff are continuing to pick up a large amount of rubbish left there each day.

Over **170 Christmas parcels** were delivered to the elderly residents, contributions were given by Riverside Primary School and the School Council kindly packed them.

If you know of anyone 80 or over 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 2016** by Mrs. Oates - Plot 33  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize was awarded to Mr. Cornhill - Plot 27/28  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize was awarded to Mrs. Glennister - Plot 35 / 36A

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 2016 the winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> 14 Towerside, Tower Park.

2<sup>nd</sup> 36 Hillcrest Avenue

3<sup>rd</sup> 20 Pevensey Gardens

Highly Commended

3 Monksford Drive

20 Windermere Avenue.

Thank you for keeping Hullbridge pretty and tidy.

### **Hullbridge Youth Centre**

We have been in talks with ECC Youth Service to see if this building can be utilised more and be an asset for the whole Community.

Unfortunately due to the Youth Services current age restrictions its use is proving difficult but we hope in the near future this issue can be remedied.

## **Hanging Baskets**

Hullbridge Parish Council continues to maintain the plants along Ferry Road and last year's baskets provided a lovely floral display.

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

Clr D Borg

## **Parks / Open Spaces / Conservation / Footpaths Committee**

Over the last two years there has been significant improvements made to the Recreation Ground and Play Area providing new play equipment for all ages, seating/picnic tables and a sun canopy, this park is very popular and used by many. We are in discussions with Rochford District Council regarding the old Pavilion and its future and we are continuing to fund the opening of the toilets as we appreciate this is a necessity for users of the park but we hope that we can make improvements to the toilet facility.

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 but we are hoping the scheme that Natural England are currently running to reinstate coastal walks might be able to assist us.

**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 coppicing work due to Ash Tree Die Back. Over the last 2 years we have planted nearly 400 whips but sadly a large number of these have been vandalised. It is so 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.

The Community Pay Back Team assisted our staff with laying cockle shell along the main footpath which has been very beneficial. We have also made improvements to the entrances of the Reserve and opened up the Smugglers Den Entrance. In the near future with the assistance from the local Scout Group we will be putting up bird/bat/owl boxes and installing a "bug hotel".

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.

Clr I Kenlin

## **Wheelchairs /Walking Frames**

We provide a free loan service so please contact the Office if you require this service.

**HARP** – we are still taking donations at the Office.

## **Litter / Dog Fouling**

Please help keep "Hullbridge Tidy" and use litter bins and dog bins which are throughout the village, Pooles Lane car park, Kendal Park Nature Reserve and along the River footpath.

## **Annual Christmas Fayre**

The event in 2016 went very well and enjoyed by many, thank you to all those who participated.

In 2017 the Fayre will be held on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December between 3-6pm** at Pooles Lane car park / HCA with the Lights being switched On by our Special Guests at 5.45pm. There will be a variety of stalls, entertainment and activities not forgetting Santa arriving by horse drawn carriage (sponsored by Cooks Carriages) and a Santa's Grotto (sponsored by the HCA). Every year we give a grant to a Charity or Community Group and in 2016 it went to Essex Air Ambulance.

The winner of the **Chairman's Christmas Card Competition 2016** was Emma Potter, 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.

## Lectern

We have installed an information lectern in the Rose Garden this shows the History of Hullbridge, lists places of interest in the village and wildlife that can be seen.

## Parish Safety Volunteers

Cllr White and Cllr Chaffin both have been trained as a Parish Safety Volunteers and they can visit your home and fit "free" fire alarms and provide health and safety advice. If you would like a visit then please contact Essex Fire and Rescue Service on 0300 303 0088 or visit [www.essex-fire.gov.uk](http://www.essex-fire.gov.uk)

## Parish Full Council Meetings

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

## Highways / Footpaths

Issues can be reported to Essex County Council online via their "Tell Us" page <http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-roads.aspx>  
We also report and chase up numerous issues.

## 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.

## Neighbourhood Policing Team

Inspector Fergus Caulfield  
Sergeant Mark McQuade  
Temporary Sergeant Ben Preston

Constables	Police Community Support Officers
Roy Porter Barry Curtis Ian Risdén Paul Ledger Steve Judd Steve Joynes	Tracey Johnson Kelly Bowen Julia Lamb Ian Pealling Janis Nelson Tracey Ginn Kurt Cornwell

**All can be contacted by Telephone:**

101 ext 490126

**Mobile:** 07813953703

Email :

[castlepointandrochfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:castlepointandrochfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk)

The Public are welcome to go along to the Local Community Meetings and raise anything with the Police  
Dates of the meetings go to - <https://www.essex.police.uk/your-area/castle-point-rochford/>

## Parish Councillors 2016/2017

Cllr. D Borg (Chairman)

Chairman of the General

Purposes Committee)

Cllr Miss A. Marriott

(Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. D Jeffery

(Finance and Personnel  
Committee Chairman)

Cllr. I Kenlin

(Footpath Committee Chairman)

Cllr. D East (Planning Chairman)

Cllr. E Smith (V.Chair Planning)

Cllr fK Ager

Cllr J. Chaffin

Cllr. Mrs. L. Campbell-Daley

Cllr D Elwell

Cllr Mrs L Spencer

Cllr. Mrs. W. Stevenson

Cllr P White

## Parish Staff

Anne-Marie Bates

Clerk to the Council

Julie Mullett

Administration Assistant

Martin Bowers

General Maintenance Officer

Jake Lillywhite – Assistant GMO

## District (Hullbridge Ward)

### Councillors 2016/2017

Cllr Mrs. D. Hoy

Cllr M. Hoy

Cllr S Wilson

### County Councillor 2016/2017

Cllr M Hoy

### Member of Parliament

Mark Francois MP

## *Hullbridge Parish Council*

*Parish Office  
98 Ferry Road  
Hullbridge  
Essex SS5 6EX  
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](mailto:clerk@hullbridgepc.co.uk)*

*Website*

*<http://www.hullbridgepc.co.uk/>*

*Facebook*

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