

HULLBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2017-18 Published 14.05.18

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.

Report by the Chairman of Hullbridge Parish Council

In May 2017 I was elected Chairman for a second term and during the year I have attended a number of events both in an official and an unofficial capacity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Cllr Mrs. Lesley Spencer for all her input

as a Parish Councillor as unfortunately during the year she decided to step down. The vacancy was quickly filled by Mr. Danny Gatehouse, who has previously been a Councillor and is a valued member of the team.

This Parish Council has worked hard for the interests of its residents and we have made representation on a number of outside bodies, including the Essex Coastal Forum, ECC Transport, Citizens Advice Bureau and the Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils. Malyons Farm Development is ongoing, the outline planning permission is granted and of the time of writing we are waiting for the Reserve Matters to be validated. Once this happens we will run an open public session for residents to view the finer details of the proposed development and the opportunity to forward us your comments to assist us with our formal response to the Rochford District Council. We will continue to meet with the Developers to discuss the Section 106 Agreement regarding the Youth facilities as well as other matters. 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 Vice Chairman Cllr Miss A Marriott and 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

2018/19

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Hullbridge Parish Council's Budget for 2018/2019 is £154,148 which equates to

£67.69

For an average Band D property per year:

Which is only:

£1.30 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 2017/2018 was £148,777 and this was spent on a number of responsibilities.

Some of which were:

- Floral baskets/planters
- Allotments
- Free use of Pooles Lane car park
- Managing and maintaining Kendal Nature Reserve
- 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).
- Recreation Ground Toilets (April-October)
- Play Ground Improvements

The Parish Council also continues to provide support to a number of organisations including Essex Air Ambulance 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 to refurbish the pond area in Kendal Park NR. We will be having a pond area with a platform for pond dipping and a marsh / boggy area, this will provide habitats for a wide range of species and plants also give a source of water for other wildlife.

The fishing boat was installed and a real asset to the park and enjoyed by residents and visitors. This year we will be changing the safety matting to rubber surface area.

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 signs, green gym, bus shelters and play equipment.

Pooles Lane car park we are pleased that this is continuing to be free. Unfortunately our maintenance staff are continuing to pick up a large amount of rubbish left there each day.

Over **180 Christmas parcels** were delivered to the elderly residents, contributions were given by Riverside Primary School and the School Council kindly packed them.

If you are 80 this year or if you

know of anyone please let the Office know so we can make sure you 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 Parish Office 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 2017** by

1st Place Mrs. Oates Plot 33

2nd Place Mrs. Stone Plot 32

3rd Place Mrs. Glenister Plot 35

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 2017 the winners were:

1st Place

Spring Song, The Avenue

2nd Place

183 Ferry Road

3rd Place

2, The Glen, Tower Park

Highly Commended

1 Keswick Avenue

Highly Commended

Tahiti, The Avenue

Congratulations to all our winners and thank you for making Hullbridge being in bloom.

Hanging Baskets / Planters

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.

Cllr D Borg

Parks / Open Spaces / Conservation / Footpaths Committee

We have continued to make improvements to the play space at the Recreation Ground and the arrival of the play boat has been a big hit, the Play Area provides play equipment for all ages, including 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 footpath link to the Dome to provide a circular walk is still being investigated we are hoping the scheme that Natural England are currently running to reinstate coastal footpaths 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 continued coppicing work due to Ash Tree Die Back and to strengthen the Nature Reserve. Over the last 2 years we have planted nearly 400 tree whips but sadly most have been damaged.

We would like to thank 1st Hullbridge Scouts who have built a fantastic bug hotel and are in the process of putting together some bird boxes, Essex Wildlife will also be installing and monitoring an Owl Box, wildlife in the Reserve is improving. This year we will be replenishing the footpath with cockle shell which visitors have liked. We have also installed rubbish bins and dog bins which we hope will be used.

Cllr D Borg.

Wheelchairs /Walking Frames

Our popular service is continuing and 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. Please note that doggy bags can be put in normal rubbish bins. A dog bin has been installed in Long lane at the end of footpath 5.

Annual Christmas Fayre

The event in 2017 went very well and enjoyed by many, thank you to all those who participated.

In 2018 the Fayre will be held on **Saturday 1st 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).

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

Every year we give a **grant** to a Charity or Community Group and in 2017 a donation was given to the **Harbour Club**.

The winner of the **Chairman's Christmas Card Competition 2017** was Sienna Hall, 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 Joanne's Florist

Parish Safety Volunteers / Heart Watch

Cllr White is fully trained as a Parish Safety Volunteer and he can visit your home and fit "free" fire alarms and provide 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

Cllr J Chaffin is a member of Heartwatch who continues to provide such an important service, new Members are always welcome.

Parish Full Council Meetings

These are held on the 2nd 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 / Special Policing Scheme

We are in the process of joining the new Special Police Scheme in Hullbridge. The Parish Council has agreed to Fund three Special Constables for our village. Unfortunately there has been an increase in crime in the village which saw the Dome bus Shelter being burnt down, this has now been replaced.

There has also been anti-social behaviour in and around Pooles Lane car park and with the Local bus service which the Police are investigating.

If you see any anti-social behaviour or crime then please Report it by calling 101 Hullbridge Team can be contacted via 101 adding ext.

Mobile: 07813953703

Email :

castlepointandrochfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk

Website.

<https://www.essex.police.uk/your-area/castle-point-rochford/>

Parish Councillors 2017/2018

Cllr. D Borg (Chairman)

Chairman of the General Purposes Committee and Footpath Committee)

Cllr Miss A. Marriott
(Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. D Jeffery
(Finance and Personnel Committee Chairman)

Cllr. D East (Planning Chairman)

Cllr. E Smith (V.Chair Planning)

Cllr I Kenlin

Cllr fK Ager

Cllr J. Chaffin

Cllr. Mrs. L. Campbell-Daley

Cllr D Elwell

Cllr D Gatehouse

Cllr. Mrs. W. Stevenson

Cllr P White

Parish Staff

Anne-Marie Bates

Clerk to the Council

Julie Mullett

Administration Assistant

Martin Bewers

General Maintenance Officer

Jake Lillywhite – Assistant GMO

District (Hullbridge Ward)

Councillors 2017/2018

Cllr Mrs. D. Hoy

Cllr M. Hoy

Cllr S Wilson

County Councillor 2017/2018

Cllr Mrs. Carole Weston

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

Website

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

Facebook

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