

Bursledon Parish Council

Annual Report 2018/19

Welcome

Welcome to the 2018/19 Annual Report of Bursledon Parish Council.

This is my second year as the Chair of Bursledon Parish Council, and it has been my pleasure to lead the Council as it puts into place the foundations for a new future.

The Council has developed a plan to improve its services and put in place a five-year financial strategy focussing on value for money and to improve the quality of life for the residents of Bursledon as we go forward.

In the last few weeks the Council has taken over the ownership of the Pilands Wood open space and we will be looking to improve the quality of maintenance and management of the area.

Over the next two months partly due to a successful bid for developers' contribution we will be installing a **NEW** play area in the Pilands Wood open space, and we will be starting the refurbishment of the play areas on the Long Lane Recreation Ground and Woodlands Way .

We are creating two measured healthy walking trails which will be developed to include new exercise equipment over the following years in both the Long Lane Recreation Ground and the Pilands Wood open space to encourage residents to develop a healthy lifestyle.

Despite this ambitious development programme we have managed our finances to keep the precept increase down to 1.95% which is the lowest on the Hamble peninsula.

From April 1st we will see a new boundary for the Council and we welcome the residents of Old Netley into the Parish, we are still in discussions regarding the transfer of any assets within the new area to the management of the Parish Council.

We continue to have a thriving community library, which is supported by 40 volunteers, who provide support to library users.



The poppy wave organised by Karen Foulkes was a magnificent display of the community working together for such a significant act or remembrance, and I would like to thank her and all her supporters in the Knit and Natter Group and the community who knitted poppies and helped on the day.

This is our final year before the Parish Council elections on 2 May, and I would like to thank Janet Haynes and all the Library Volunteers, Nick Bernier our Tree Warden and my fellow Councillors, for all their hard work over the last four years.

J Rich

Chair of Bursledon Parish Council

Wednesday 20th March 2019

Council Objectives

- **Healthy living and lifestyles.**

- To provide the opportunities for residents and visitors to develop healthy lifestyles using the Council's assets.

- **Improving the environment.**

- To work to develop the use of Council's assets to the benefit of our local environment.

- **Good sound financial management.**

- To manage the Council's finances and assets in a responsible manner and obtain value for money.

- **Good governance and communications.**

- To operate the Council within the Council's code of conduct and associated policies and to effectively communicate with our resident's, business and partners using the latest technology.

Allotments



We have two allotment sites with 36 operational plots, and we currently have no vacancies. However, we do have a very small waiting list. This year at the request of the tenants we have made up two **NEW**

notice and seed swap information boards for use by the tenants. In 2019/20 we are planning to improve the gate on the top allotments.

Pocket Park

One of our hidden gems of peace and tranquillity is the Pocket Park at the junction of Kew lane and Hungerford.



This year we have completed improvements to the park including the planting of new RSPB approved wild life hedging, the cutting back of the vegetation and improvement's to the footpath.

Bursledon Parish Council Cemetery

The Parish Council cemetery is located on School Road, Bursledon and in addition we maintain the



closed cemetery at St Leonards Church.

This year we have replaced the height barriers to the cemetery and improved pedestrian access for all users.

We have a regular maintenance schedule for all our cemeteries, and this year we are renovating the original cemetery sign.

During the past year we have benefited from a

grant from our County Councillor Tonia Craig towards the installation of two **NEW** ornate WW1 memorial benches. One was placed in St Leonards cemetery and one in the Bursledon Parish Council cemetery.



Lionheart Way—Update

Just over a year ago a land slip occurred in the ecology park which we fenced off to make the area safe. This year we will be starting engineering works to correct the situation.

We have been successful in obtaining developers contributions to do this work which will start later in the year once the bird nesting season has ended.

The site has now been surveyed and we have a plan to do the renovation's and improve the public experience of the park.

We will be introducing a tree management plan, which is likely to result in managed tree works being undertaken in September 2019.

We will be consulting residents on any additional amenities that we are considering installing including interpretation boards, natural sculptures and improved pedestrian access. We will be looking to involve the community with this project with the help of the Conservation Volunteers.



Noticeboards

Over the last year the 12 wooden notice boards throughout the Parish have been renovated and improved with new weatherproof fronts. A **NEW** style notice board has been placed outside Pilands Community Centre and further new ones will be located at the junctions of Reeves Way with Portsmouth Road, Long Lane Recreation Ground and Bursledon Railway Station (In support of the Friends of Bursledon Station)



Long Lane Recreation Ground

The recreation ground is our main area for sports and we currently have three football teams regularly using the pitch on Saturdays and one evening cricket team.

This year we marked out a new rounders pitch for free public use.

The tennis courts are available for free public use, except on Saturday mornings, when it is used for tennis coaching.

This year we have undertaken a number of improvements to upgrade the pavilion, with improved showers, new guttering and the repainting of Long Lane Pavilion.

NEW for Spring 2019 we will be installing a sign posted measured healthy walking trail around the perimeter of the ground to encourage residents to adopt a healthy exercise regime. Over the next few years this will be developed to include body weight exercise stations with links to other open spaces. Initial funding as already been received through a County Councillor Grant from Cllr Keith House towards this project throughout the parish.

NEW for Summer 2019 there will be a “Paws for Thought” tree to remember canine friends for which a contribution from the charge for this service will go towards supporting the Street Vet Charity.



Hungerford Nature Reserve

In 2019, we will be reinstating the boundary of the nature reserve with hedging along footpath 7 and generally improve another of the Councils hidden gems.

Pilands Wood Open Space

In the last few weeks the ownership of the Pilands Wood Open space has been transferred to the Council from Eastleigh Borough Council.

The Council will aim to improve the standard of maintenance of the open space in line with our other public open spaces.

We will be replacing and installing dragons teeth at the entrances to the space.

NEW for Spring 2019 will be the installation of a toddler play area.

NEW for Spring 2019 we will be installing a sign posted measured healthy walking trail around the perimeter of the open space to encourage residents to adopt a healthy exercise regime. Over the next few years this will be developed to include body weight exercise stations with links to other open spaces.

Great Down Park

Great Down Park can be found at the rear of the car park on Long Lane.

This area is the site of the dedicated PAWS walk for dog walkers and the wild flower meadow with ample parking on site for users.

This year we have started a programme of replanting the hedging on the perimeter of the Paws Walk and will be looking to sow additional native wild flower seeds in the meadow, later in the season.



In addition, we will be having the trees surveyed and will be looking to plant new trees in the park.

Play Areas

After a successful bid for developers contributions we will be enhancing our current play areas.

Long Lane play area Enhancement: We will be installing a **NEW** Basket Swing, See-saw and a Sit on Springer.

Woodland Way Play Area Enhancement: We will be installing a **NEW** Roundabout and a new Multi-play Unit.

Pilands Wood Open Space: We will be installing a **NEW** toddler play area.

Lowford Community Library

The library is supported by up to 40 volunteers led by Janet Haynes Chair of the Friends of Lowford Library who provide support to library users, six days a week.



Over the last year the library has had over 6000 visitors.

During the year it has hosted The Summer Reading Challenge, Lung exhibition and a Roald Dahl quiz.

We have recently invested in an new shelving unit and overhead projector and screen thanks to funding from of Cllr K House through his County Councillor Grant.

The library welcomes new volunteers and if you are interested in volunteering please speak to the volunteer on duty or contact the Council offices.

Grants and Community Engagement

Over the past year the Council has looked at ways to support the local community both directly and indirectly as part of our drive to improve the environment and our communication with our residents.

Working with Charities

Always looking for an opportunity to recycle items fly tipped in our area we have now given nine fly tipped bikes to the Society of St James who run a recycle bikes scheme as part of their work with homeless and vulnerable adults.

Nine less bikes making there way into landfill.

Over the last year the Council has support the Red Box project by allowing a collection point to be available in the Library.

Community Events

Poppy Wave

The Council was pleased to be associated with and support the Poppy Wave initiative organised by Karen Foulkes and her Knit and Natter group who encouraged the whole community to take part by knitting, crocheting and crafting individual poppies for inclusion in the Poppy Wave installation to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of hostilities in WW1.



The event was a huge success with many people attending on the day to remember in particular the contribution and links to Bursledon residents who fell during this

conflict.

Council Grants

The Council has supported local initiatives by awarding grants to the following organisations.

- Bursledon Lunch Club £500.00
- Bursledon Regatta £250.00
- Eastleigh Bereavement Counselling Services £100.00
- Bursledon Rights of Way £200.00 funded by Cllr K House from his County Council Grant allocation.
- Knit and Natter £500.00 funded by Cllr K House from his County Council Grant allocation
- Bursledon Windmill £2672.00
- Park Sport £333.00
- Hearing Dogs for Deaf People £25.00
- Lowford Centre Christmas tree £60.00



Grant Applications

Grant application forms for local community organisations are available from the Council Offices and these will be considered by the Council at its January and July meetings .

Pilands Wood Outreach Project

The Council offers a monthly clinic from the Pilands Wood Community Centre, on the first Thursday morning of each month.

Giving residents an opportunity to discuss any Council issues, if they are unable to get to our offices in Lowford.

Citizens Advice Eastleigh



Citizens Advice Eastleigh continue to provide a drop in service on Tuesday mornings from 10:00am to 12.00 within the Lowford Community Library. There is also an opportunity to make pre-arranged appointments at an agreed time.

This year the CAB have seen 119 clients at Bursledon, and helped those people with 319 issues.

The most common problems people need help with are Benefits (incl. Universal Credit), and debt. Housing and Relationship and family problems are the next most common. 45% of clients had a disability or long term health condition, therefore we are seeing some of the most vulnerable residents.

Tel 03444 111 306

Council Web Site

The Council has a new web site, which is currently being loaded with new information and will help the Council comply with the requirement to publish more information and become more transparent.

The site contains a report it page to direct residents to the correct point of contact for services.

It is also the place to find out when the Council meets and to find out in more detail what the Council are doing or who your Councillors are.

www.bursledon-pc.gov.uk

Council Finances

This year the Council set out its first five year financial plan both for operating costs and capital projects.

The focus of our plan is to deliver our core objectives particularly focussing on value for money and improving the quality of life for our residents.

The use of this longer term financial planning has allowed the Council to forecast the impact on its precept and maintain the precept rise to **1.95%** or £1.21 per annum for the average band D Household an average annual tax of £63.05 per annum.

The recent successful access to developers contributions has allowed us to plan to deliver a number of exciting projects over the next few months including play area refurbishments and a new play area.


The Council's summary budget is set out on the next page:

Council Budget 2019/20

Account Details	2018/19			2019/20
	Actual 31/12/18	Expected @31/03/18	Budget 2018/19	Budget 2019/20
Administration	12,372	12,432	12,242	8,392
Cemetery Income	3,526	4,120	4,120	4,640
Allotment Income	1,123	1,077	1,077	1,150
Grounds Income	1,758	2,374	2,019	2,568
Developers Contributions	0	6,140	0	88,310
Total Income	18,779	26,143	19,458	105,060

Expenditure

Administration	47,496	58,820	59,750	68,155
Civic	440	815	2,800	5,250
Grants	4,072	4,672	12,222	4,700
Community Development	333	333	10,333	7,333
Capital Projects	0	9,290	13,500	102,301
Cemetery	220	348	330	337
Allotment	495	460	310	480
Grounds Maintenance	53,770	65,143	58,460	88,360
Total Expenditure	106,826	139,881	157,705	276,917
Net Council Budget	88,047	113,738	138,247	171,857
Contribution from Reserves	-48,604	-22,913	1,596	12,185
Precept	136,651	136,651	136,651	159,672
Net Council Budget	88,047	113,738	138,247	171,857



Councillor Jane Rich - Chair of the Parish Council
Councillor Mark Garrett - Vice Chair of the Parish Council

Councillor Diane Andrewes

Councillor Frair Burgess

Councillor Tonia Craig

Councillor Tony Dew

Councillor Sarah Hartley

Councillor Steve Holes

Councillor Keith House

Councillor Jane O'Sullivan

Councillor Marion Penn

Councillor Boma Simon-Hart

Office Team

Roland Potter - Parish Clerk

Jayne Lennon

Outside Service Team

Matt Docking

Peter Milam

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Public opening hours Monday to Thursday 10 am to 12 noon.

(Friday by Appointment Only)