

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

1st APRIL 2017 — 31st MARCH 2018

YOUR COUNCIL

Nigel Arthur (Chairman) Birch House, Maldon Rd, Latchingdon.

Tel: 01621 744523

Graham Rayner (Vice Chairman) 5, Hawkins Close, Cock Clarks, Purleigh.

Tel: 01621 828117

Colin Ash Gardeners Cottage, Spar Lane, Purleigh.

Tel: 01621 827055

Steven Bardwell Brooklea, Cold Norton Road, Latchingdon. Tel: 01621 740234

Brian Oliver Cosy Nook, Chelmsford Rd, Purleigh.

Tel: 01621 828433

Steven Potter Lower Barn Farm, Roundbush Rd, Purleigh.

Tel 01621 828270

Gavin Strathern Spar Hill Farm, Chelmsford Rd, Purleigh.

Tel: 07702 322203

CLERK

Jane Potter 27 Anchor Reach, South Woodham Ferrers. CM3 5GS

Tel: 01245 320426

E-mail: jane.m.potter@btinternet.com

WEBSITE www.purleigh.com

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

The Parish Council has held twelve ordinary meetings during the year at which Councillors made 66 attendances out of a possible 84. One Councillor attended every meeting and our thanks go again to our District Council Ward Members, John Archer and Sue White and our County Council Ward Member, Penny Channer for attending the public sessions

held before each meeting, listening to our concerns and for keeping us informed about the work of the District and County Councils. Councillors also attended a number of site meetings across the parish, these concerned: Finalising the arrangements for the temporary closure of Maldon Road if it floods; considering possible improvements to the verge opposite The Bell; the future maintenance of the war memorial garden; the future of the Children's Play Area and the condition of the memorials in All Saints Churchyard. Mr. Ash has also been liaising with the Post Office on the Parish Council's behalf to try to reinstate some sort of postal service in Purleigh.

During the year we commented on 50 planning applications and responded to numerous consultation papers including those concerning the delivery of the highway service in Essex and proposed changes to the mobile library.

The total amount of money we required from Maldon District Council for the year ending 31st March 2018 was £40,000.

During the year the Parish Council has continued to provide and maintain the pavilion and playing field for the benefit of parishioners, continuing improvements to the outside of the building, improving security and carrying out significant repairs to the away teams' shower room. Income from letting the pavilion during the year came to £5,359 but we spent £6,777 maintaining the facilities, spending £1,693 of that sum on general maintenance and £1,214 on improved security. An additional £2,445 was spent on cutting the playing field grass.

During the year the Parish Council continued to pay Maldon District Council's Community Protection Team to enforce the parking restrictions in Pump Lane and in January we agreed to ask them to expand their role in Purleigh by enforcing speed limits in the parish commencing in the 2018/2019 financial year.

We have continued to liaise with Essex County Council over highway issues in the parish by reporting defects in the highway and public rights of way network, supporting parishioners in their bid for parking restrictions in The Street, securing repairs to a Speed Indicator Device and getting a traffic speed survey carried out in Hackmans Lane.

Administratively, the Parish Council has spent a lot of time preparing for the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations on 25th May 2018. The Clerk has been on three separate training courses on the subject and we have thoroughly reviewed our handling of personal information by carrying out a comprehensive data audit. Our policies and protocols on how we process personal information will be available on the parish website once we have appointed a Data Protection Officer, another requirement of the Regulations. Broadly speaking however we will adhere to the principles of data protection as detailed in the Regulations which can be summarised by saying that personal information must be obtained fairly and lawfully, the subject should be told who is doing the processing, why the information is being processed and to whom it will be disclosed. Processing will be in accordance with the original purpose for collecting the data, and the information collected will be kept accurate and up to date but not retained for longer than necessary. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to know more.

During the year the Parish Council has awarded grants and donations to POPHA to pay for their subscription to a community transport organisation which takes older parishioners out to lunch throughout the year; to the PPFA to reimburse them for the loan they gave to the table-tennis club to buy new tables; to Purleigh School to subsidise the cost of swimming lessons for children on roll living in the parish; to the RNLI, Essex Air Ambulance and Farleigh Hospice and we also donated £40 to the British Legion for a wreath which Mr. Ash laid at the War Memorial on behalf of the Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. and Mrs. Challis for the maintenance they carried out in the War Memorial Garden with such care before stepping down from their role, Jim Ovel for all his work in the parish, Mrs. Dilworth for her work at the pavilion and the clerk for continuing to efficiently administer the work of the council.

Finally, it is my annual duty to report that the council has one employee, white, British who received training during the year. We are not able to detect any pattern of inequality arising from this data.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

During the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 the Parish Council's income and investments amounted to £84,522.86 and in the same period it spent £53,845.87 on parishioners' behalf. At 31st March 2018 the following monies were held:

General Fund:

Barclays Community (Current) Account	£ 1,372.96	
Barclays Business Premium Account	£13,959.88	
Petty Cash		£
50.00		
Earmarked Reserves:		
Historic Buildings Fund		£ 8,774.60
Miss Pawsey's Legacy		£ 6,519.55
	£30,676.99	

Income and Expenditure

During the year the greatest sources of income were the parish precept (£40,000) and income from the pavilion and playing field (£5,359.30). The Parish Council also received income from leasing its allotments and a small amount of interest was accrued on its investments, rentals and wayleaves.

The Parish Council spent £6,756.75 during the year maintaining and improving the pavilion and playing field on behalf of parishioners. The Parish Council also purchased a new piece of play equipment for the children's play area at a cost of £10,345.50 which was largely paid for from the insurance settlement it received in the previous financial year. Monies were also spent on general administration, which included insurance premiums, subscriptions, audit fees, data protection registration fees and the maintenance of the parish website. Expenditure on salaries included employers National Insurance contributions and pension liabilities. During the year of account the clerk was paid £12.26 per hour.

External Audit of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2018

The Parish Council's Annual Return will be completed and returned to the auditor, PKF Littlejohn, by Monday, 11th June 2018 so that they can carry out the annual audit of accounts.

In order to comply with the legal requirement to enable interested parties and local electors to exercise their rights with regard to the accounts, PKF Littlejohn has suggested Monday, 4th June 2018 to Friday, 13th July 2018 inclusive, as the dates between which interested parties can inspect the accounts and related documents and exercise their rights under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

On 1st June 2018 the Parish Council will therefore display notices informing parishioners that the accounts will be available for inspection at 27 Anchor Reach, South Woodham Ferrers, from 4th June 2018 to 13th July 2018 inclusive (on reasonable notice by application to the Clerk).

A copy of 'Local Authority Accounts: A Summary of Your Rights' will be displayed alongside each notice, as required by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 sections 26 and 27, and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234). This explains the rights of local electors and interested parties to inspect and question the accounts.