

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

1st APRIL 2018 — 30th JUNE 2018

YOUR COUNCIL

Nigel Arthur (Chairman)	Birch House, Maldon Rd, Latchingdon. Tel: 01621 744523
Graham Rayner	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
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WEBSITE

www.purleigh.com

CHAIRMAN'S QUARTERLY REPORT

As required by law, the May meeting of the Parish Council began with the election of the Chairman and appointment of the Vice Chairman. In my absence I was re-elected Chairman and I am pleased to report that Graham Rayner has agreed to continue to act as Vice Chairman, in addition to agreeing to continue to represent the Parish Council, with Steve Bardwell, at meetings of the Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils. I am also grateful to Brian Oliver for continuing in his role as passenger transport representative, Colin Ash who has agreed to continue to inspect the Children's Play Area every week, Steven Potter who remains a Trustee of the Purleigh Education Foundation, is our point of contact with the grass cutting contractor and groundsman, and also acts as bookings secretary for the pavilion and Gavin Strathern for continuing in his role as the Parish Council's point of contact with Essex County Council in times of bad weather.

At the May meeting the Parish Council approved and signed the accounts for the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 which showed the Parish Council to have Net Assets in the sum of £45,767 at 31st March 2018 compared with £49,107 the previous year. The accounts were then audited by our independent auditor, Mr. John Smith-Daye of Lambert Chapman, and then forwarded to Littlejohn LLP for external audit. Mr. Smith-Daye was satisfied that all regulatory requirements had been met and that the Parish Council's accounts were accurate and transparent.

May is also the month when the Parish Council conducts its annual risk assessment and inspects its tree stock. The Parish Council is responsible for the care and management of trees on the playing field and common, in the closed churchyard (including those growing within Rigby's Path), to the side of the war memorial and at the front of the allotment gardens in Chelmsford Road. We would greatly appreciate it if anyone notices any damage to these trees, or is concerned about their health, that they report their concerns to the Parish Council as soon as possible so that appropriate action can be taken.

The Children's Play Area was professionally inspected on 16th April 2018 and in line with the Inspector's recommendations we have agreed to remove the see-saw.

The Parish Council has shared residents' concerns about speeding traffic in Hackmans Lane for a number of years and has asked Essex County Council and the Maldon District Local Highways Panel for numerous measures to be taken to try to improve highway safety. I summarise the results of our efforts below:

1. Community Protection Officers are being paid to enforce the speed limit (in progress).
2. The signage to be improved, cleaned and re-sited to ensure maximum visibility (in progress).
3. The repair of the Vehicle Activated Sign (done).
4. A traffic count and speed survey to be carried out (done).
5. The 30 mph speed limit to be extended further around the bend to include the culvert at
6. Corporation Bridge (rejected by Essex County Council).

We have also budgeted for, and have agreed to pay Maldon District Council's community protection officers to use TRUCAM speed cameras to enforce the speed limits in Chelmsford Road, Fambridge Road, Maldon Road and Hackmans Lane, so be aware.

I am very pleased to report that via our nomination to the Essex Association of Local Councils, the Lord Chancellor, who recognises the excellent work undertaken by many local councillors, selected Gavin Strathern as an individual who has made a significant impact within the community to be invited to attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace with his wife Liz in the presence of the Queen and Prince William. It was a day neither of them will ever forget and he felt truly honoured to attend.

As you know, we hold a public session from 6.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. immediately before each monthly meeting, so if you have any issues about the parish you would like to discuss, please come along and talk to us. Members of the public are warmly welcomed at these sessions and to stay and listen to the rest of the meeting if they wish to do so.

Nigel Arthur

FINANCIAL MATTERS

During the period 1st April 2018 to 30th June 2018 the Parish Council's income and investments amounted to £72,375.25 and in the same period it spent £11,735.54 on parishioners' behalf. At 30th June 2018 the following monies were held:

General Fund:

Barclays Community (Current) Account	£2,302.69
Barclays Business Premium Account	£42,985.24
Petty Cash	£50.00

Earmarked Reserves:

Historic Buildings Fund	£8,778.98
Miss Pawsey's Legacy	£6,522.80
	£60,639.71

Income and Expenditure

During the year the greatest sources of income were the parish precept (£40,000), income from the pavilion and playing field (£745) and a donation towards the on-going maintenance of the trees in the churchyard (£750). The precept requirement is calculated each January as part of an on-going budgeting process.

The Parish Council spent £962 during the quarter maintaining and improving the pavilion and playing field on behalf of parishioners, an additional £1,685 on grass cutting in the parish and £3,339.25 was spent on general administration which included the insurance premiums for the year, the data protection registration fee, and affiliation to the National and Essex Associations of Local Councils who provide legal advice, updates on new legislation and training throughout the year. Our insurance premiums was significantly higher this year due to the claim made last year to replace the vandalised tyre traverse and monkey ladder in the children's play area.

Thank You

The Parish Council would like to most sincerely thank Pam and Paddy Lacey's family who have forwarded the Parish Council the sum of £750 comprised of donations given by family, friends and associates at Pam's memorial service. The money has been donated for the on-going maintenance and care of the trees in the closed churchyard of All Saints Church. Pam and Paddy were long standing residents of The Street, Purleigh and contributed greatly to the life of the parish. They are both sorely missed.

Superfast broadband

The Parish Council has given UK Power networks permission to raise and connect a new mains underground electricity cable which will extend into The Common for about a metre to enable them to install a new electricity supply to the BT cabinet in Howe Green Road for superfast broadband. Progress is being made.

Pavilion Hire

To hire the Wells Pavilion please contact Steven Potter on 01621 828270.

Occasional bookings for Purleigh residents cost £7.50 per hour, and regular bookings for local clubs and organisations cost £6.50 per hour.