

CLERK'S GENERAL REPORT FROM 30TH JUNE 2020 TO 28TH JULY 2020.

Finance/Administration.

Everything is up to date.

The Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 has been published on the website and notice boards.

The external auditors have accepted RPC's exempt status for the year ending 31st March 2020.

The VAT refund for year 2019/2020 has yet to be received despite being submitted on 31st March 2020.

It would appear that the July meeting will have to be convened via email but it may be possible to meet up for the August meeting; information is awaited from BDC.

Boundary fence 40 Church Road & Albert Moss Playing Field.

The property owners have been recommended to contact both RPFA and BDC regarding any change of height to this boundary fence. Thanks for assistance has been received via email from the property owners.

General Maintenance.

Requests have been received for the hedge along Oak Road, from the houses along to the railway bridge, to be trimmed back as the footway has become very narrow, and for the branches overhanging the footway along Henry Dixon Road from the notice board to the A12 flyover to be trimmed back, and for the lower entrances to the A12 steps to be cleared of overhanging vegetation including completing work previously requested.

Highway Maintenance.

A request has been made to HE for the overgrown vegetation along the A12 cycle track to be trimmed back; HE answer that this work is planned for the period 24th June to 10th July. A subsequent request was submitted to HE for an earlier trim back or, if possible, for the RPC contractor to carry out the work; this has received no reply.

After my discussion with HE re the pump at the HDR/A12 underpass, the Chairman requested ECC to give additional attention to clearing the roadside gullies so that the pump remains clear of silt and other debris.

ECC Salt Bag Partnership 2020/21.

The scheme has just been launched and, as RPC has sufficient stock at the Village Hall it has been decided not to participate this coming winter, also the local resident volunteer isn't available to spread salt around the shop area.

BDC verge maintenance.

BDC has given information that all parish councils will be consulted at the end of the current trial period.

BDC Clear Recycling Bags.

I've been informed by BDC that Libraries, when they re-open to the public, will not in future carry a stock of these bags for issue on request to members of the public and BDC ask if a stock could be retained locally within the parish. To this end AJ at Oak Stores, upon request, has agreed to hold such a stock; the number of bags and the date of delivery has yet to be determined.

Playing Field Tree Planting.

Negotiations continue with BDC regarding this project. It will probably necessitate a site meeting to determine the boundary etc.

Colemans Quarry.

The next Liaison Meeting is scheduled for 11.30 hours on Monday 13th July 2020.

Proposed development South of Rickstones Road.

Work has resumed on site, although limited by social distancing measures.

Public Rights of Way.

The public footpaths within Rivenhall are being increasingly used during the COVID-19 restrictions, Witham residents and others from even further afield are utilising these facilities.

Planning Applications.

All relevant planning application details have been circulated and subsequently dealt with as appropriate.

BDC has sent out notices due to the delay in dealing with applications as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.

Bradwell Quarry.

Nothing further to report this month.

BDLHP.

Over-height warning signs for Oak Road still on target to be delivered this year (i.e. within 2020). General further delays due to officers working on Covid-19 recovery work (town centres) should not have a major impact.

That scheme and the proposed new section of PRow in Church Road are the 2 funded schemes on the LHP lists for 20/21 for the county area I represent (Witham Northern) as we were asked to put in one or two priorities due to lack of funding for more than that.

All other schemes in Rivenhall or nearby areas are on the lists, on hold, awaiting funding etc - none have been lost. The 2 for Rivenhall in this bracket are the very long-standing weight restriction request for Oak Road (section to A12) and the more recent request for safety assessment of the zebra crossing at the shop.

Liaison with Chairman.

Liaison with the Chairman upon various items of correspondence, the agenda for the next meeting and planning application documents as necessary.

Keith Taylor (Parish Clerk)
30th June 2020.