

Parish Council Report- November Bardfield Times

Criminal damage at the pavilion

This matter is now the subject of a police investigation.

There have also been reports of possible drug dealing and evidence of drug use in the area of the playing field. If you are aware of any illegal activity or intimidating behaviour in this area please notify Braintree Police who are already aware of our concerns, phone 01376 551312.

Parking (again!)

Just another reminder to park considerately around the village, leaving space for pedestrians, wheel-chair users and pushers of buggies to pass safely. It's worth remembering that no-one has the right to park outside their own house and yes, it is sometimes frustrating when you have to carry your shopping up the road or walk what seems miles to your house when you get home from work – it happens to us all! Some residents have asked for Residents' Parking Permits to be introduced in the village centre. This sounds a bit urban for a small village and would undoubtedly involve a charge – but we'd like to know what you think!

Planning applications

The New House, Crown Street: erection of porch and internal alterations. The Council objected to the flat-roofed porch proposed, due to its visibility in the area of this historic green in the centre of the Conservation Area. The Council emphasised the need to retain the two off road parking spaces.

1 Fountain Terrace: replacement front door: no objections.

Great Bardfield Hall: management of trees: no objections from Parish Tree Warden.

12 Durham Close: pruning and management of trees: no objections.

Coote House, Brook Street: removal of two sycamores: no objections.

Help for energy saving home improvements

Paul Parr, who is working on the Government's Energy Obligation Scheme, spoke at our Public Forum this month about the ECO scheme which provides funding for energy improvements for houses where the owners or tenants meet certain benefit criteria. The criteria include Pension Credit, Child Tax

Credit, Income Support, Income-based Job-seeker's Allowance and Disability Child Premium, for example. If you meet the criteria you may get all or part of the cost of insulation work, e.g. to lofts or cavity walls or towards the replacing or repairing your boiler. If you or someone you know may be eligible contact the Energy Saving Advice Service: phone: 0300 123 1234 or look on www.gov.uk/energy-company-obligation

Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9th at 8pm in the Town Hall Committee room. The Public Forum is held from 8-8.15pm.