



# Doddinghurst Parish Council



Parish Office (adj. Village Hall)

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Brentwood, Essex CM15 0NJ

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Website: [www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk](http://www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk)

Telephone 01277 824245

## Introduction

By the time you read this the May Day Fair will have taken place, the football season will be over and hopefully we will finally be seeing some sunshine and enjoying the open spaces of our lovely village!

## ECC Highways Update

The Parish Council recently wrote to senior Essex County Council members and officers to complain about the state of minor roads in Essex. The reply that was received stated that the winter has had a detrimental effect on roads across the country with Essex being no exception.

ECC will be running their Jet Patching Programme over the summer months to fix defects across Essex and works are scheduled to take place in the

## Highways Update cont'd/...

Brentwood area by the end of May 2013. We have received assurances that the rural roads, including those in Doddinghurst will also be Jet Patched as part of this programme.

There is also more information on the website about potholes and how they are assessed including a video on [www.Essexhighways.org/Potholes](http://www.Essexhighways.org/Potholes).

Specific defects can be reported as usual via Essex County Council's website at [www.Essexcc.gov.uk/Highways](http://www.Essexcc.gov.uk/Highways)

For residents still unhappy with the state of our roads after the Jet Patching Programme then please complain directly to the responsible Cabinet Member, Cllr. Derrick Louis, at PO Box 11, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX.

## **Allotments**

The allotment season is now in full swing and we are pleased to report that all the plots are taken and we have a healthy waiting list which is not too long! Anybody interested in becoming an allotmentee should contact the Parish Office on 01277 824245. Remember, Doddinghurst residents get priority!

## **Neighbourhood Plan**

We are about to start the collation of data received from the forms which each household in Doddinghurst was given and asked to complete and return. It's still not too late to voice your opinion, so if you haven't filled your form in yet then please do so, as this is what will be used to form the basis of how the village looks in the future.

The Parish Council wishes to extend it's sincere thanks to all the volunteers that delivered, completed and collated the surveys. It couldn't have been done without you!

## **261 Bus Service.**

The Parish Council sent a letter of complaint to Regal Busways regarding performance issues on the above-mentioned service. These included late running, breakdowns and journeys lost through staffing issues.

The timetable that was previously in use for a significant number of years was based on using one vehicle with a five minute turnaround at Brentwood and seven minutes at Blackmore throughout the main part of the day. The Bus Company felt that their drivers were struggling to maintain the timetable and when combined with the regular and significant congestion in the Brentwood area it was decided that the timetable was no longer fit for use. A new revised timetable came into effect on 29<sup>th</sup> April which saw the service reduced from every 60 minutes to every 90 minutes throughout the day. All journeys now extend to Brentwood station and there will be an additional morning departure from Blackmore at 06.00.

## Annual Return for Doddinghurst Parish Council Statement of Accounts 2012/13\*

|                                       | 31-Mar-12 | 31-Mar-13 |   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| 1. Balances B/F                       | 65,939    | 71,734    | Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the council's financial records.  |
| 2. Annual Precept                     | 46,859    | 47,796    | Total amount of precept income received in the year.  |
| 3. Total other receipts               | 29,287    | 34,296    | Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook minus the precept.   |
| 4. Staff costs                        | 26,957    | 31,664    | Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all council employees, including salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and related expenses |
| 5. Loan interest/ capital replacement | 7,564     | 7,564     | Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the council's borrowings.   |
| 6. Total other payments               | 35,830    | 31,451    | Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook, minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/ capital repayments (line 5).   |
| 7. Balances carried forward           | 71,734    | 83,147    | Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. (1+2+3) -(4+5+6) (Note: all figures rounded to nearest whole £)   |

|                               |         |         |  |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| 8. Total cash and investments | 70,970  | 81,682  | The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held as at 31 March.<br>(excludes accrued VAT since not yet paid, else matches box 7 above.) |
| 9. Total fixed assets         | 395,415 | 387,799 | The recorded current book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the council.  |
| 10. Total borrowings          | 93,061  | 89,369  | PWLB Borrowing, originally £99,000:  |

\* Pending Auditors Approval

## Neighbourhood Action Teams

Brentwood Borough Council have informed us that they are setting up teams to deal with more minor issues, such as the maintenance of grass verges and road/street signs, overhanging branches and the cleaning of street furniture.

If there is anything you notice in the Village that could benefit with some attention from one of the NAT's then please get in touch with the Parish Office so that the details can be added to the schedule.

**For further information on any of the items in this newsletter please note our office opening times are Tues, Weds and Thurs mornings 9.30 – 12.30. An answerphone service is available outside these hours.**

### Parish Council Office

Roger Blake  
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer  
Deborah Tonkiss  
Deputy Clerk  
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See the Website: [www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk](http://www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk)  
For more information about the Council and the Village.

## Doddinghurst Parish Council

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