

Great Burstead and South Green Village Council Chairman's Annual Report 2017/2018

- Nicki Watkins, our new Clerk, began working for the Village Council in April 2018 following the retirement of Martin Ainscough after seven years with the council. Nicki has a sound administrative background having worked in banking for many years and brings this experience to the council.
- Cllr Suzy Crowe was co-opted onto the Village Council in May 2018. Cllr Crowe is enthusiastic about using her skills for our community. There are now two vacancies on the Village Council and residents are welcome to apply. Please contact the Clerk for further information.
- The Village Council has been consulted on all local planning applications and has submitted responses to Basildon Borough Council on behalf of residents.
- The Village Council has formed a Working Party to formulate a response to the Local Plan. This draft response will be updated/amended in relation to any changes made to the Local Plan by the new Administration at Basildon Borough Council. The response will be submitted when the next Local Plan consultation is launched and will be published on Village Council communications.
- The new village sign was unveiled in Church Street, Great Burstead on 13th May 2018. The Village Council has received very positive feedback regarding the sign. Low planting around the sign is due to be sown on 4th July, 2018.
- The Fun Day of August 2017 was another enjoyable event for residents. It was very well attended with attractions, entertainment, the dog show and additionally a falconry display. The next Fun Day is on Sunday 26 August this year which will include all the usual attractions. So please make a date in your diaries for this popular free event organised by the Village Council for residents.
- The hanging baskets are in place, the bell bollards have been planted and weed control is as usual being carried out at South Green.
- The installation of CCTV at the South Green shops area is still ongoing. Permission has been granted by Essex County Council to use a lamp post to provide electricity to the scheme and the Village Council is now considering submitting a planning application.
- The Christmas lights will be provided by a new company this year with additional lighting in two trees on the Green at South Green.
- An agreement has been signed with Essex Police to provide two Special Constables for the village. Recruitment and training will take a while but once in place they will patrol the village.
- The Village Council will fund the replacement of bollards and the re-installation of dislodged bollards along the Grange Road side of the Green at South Green.
- A Fields in Trust Deed to further protect the Green at South Green is being investigated.
- Village Councillors receive no payment for their work for the Village Council. They give of their time freely and deserve our thanks.

Chairman – Councillor Marie Dear