

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP AGENDA

Wednesday, 5th February 2020 at 7.15pm

**Council Chamber, Braintree District Council, Causeway House,
Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB**

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
(Please note this meeting will be audio recorded)

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Members of the Partnership Development Group are requested to attend this meeting to transact the business set out in the Agenda.

Councillor J Baugh

Councillor G Courtauld

Councillor Mrs M Cunningham (Chairman)

Councillor T McArdle

Councillor Mrs J Pell

Councillor I Pritchard

Councillor R Ramage (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Mrs J Sandum

Councillor P Thorogood

Members unable to attend the meeting are requested to forward their apologies for absence to the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email governance@braintree.gov.uk by 3pm on the day of the meeting.

A WRIGHT
Chief Executive

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS - DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, Other Pecuniary Interest or Non-Pecuniary Interest

Any member with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, other Pecuniary Interest or Non-Pecuniary Interest must declare the nature of their interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Members must not participate in any discussion of the matter in which they have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other Pecuniary Interest or participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Member must withdraw from the chamber where the meeting considering the business is being held unless the Member has received a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer.

Question Time

The Agenda allows for a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak. Members of the public wishing to speak are requested to register by contacting the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email governance@braintree.gov.uk by midday on the working day before the day of the Committee meeting. For example, if the Committee Meeting is due to be held on a Tuesday, the registration deadline is midday on Monday, (where there is a bank holiday Monday you will need to register by midday on the previous Friday).

The Council reserves the right to decline any requests to register to speak if they are received after this time. Members of the public can remain to observe the public session of the meeting.

Please note that there is public Wi-Fi in the Council Chamber, users are required to register in order to access this. There is limited availability of printed agendas.

Health and Safety

Any persons attending meetings in the Council offices are requested to take a few moments to familiarise themselves with the nearest available fire exit, indicated by the fire evacuation signs. In the event of an alarm you must evacuate the building immediately and follow all instructions provided by officers. You will be assisted to the nearest designated assembly point until it is safe to return to the building.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched to silent during the meeting in order to prevent disturbances.

Webcast and Audio Recording

Please note that this meeting will be audio recorded only.

Documents

Agendas, reports and minutes for all the Council's public meetings can be accessed via www.braintree.gov.uk

We welcome comments from members of the public to make our services as efficient and effective as possible. If you have any suggestions regarding the meeting you have attended, you can send these via governance@braintree.gov.uk

1 Apologies for Absence**2 Member Declarations**

1. To declare the existence and nature of any interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.
2. To declare the existence and nature of any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Committee or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he/she speak or vote on any particular matter.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Development Group held on 20th October 2019 (copy previously circulated).

4 Public Question Time
(See paragraph above)**5 Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision Across the Braintree District - Access to Sport - Third Evidence Gathering Session**

- Members to receive a presentation from Councillor Ann Hooks, Chairman at Rayne Parish Council
- Scrutiny Enquiry with Parish Clerks - Leisure Provision and Access to Sports - Responses

4 - 32**6 Urgent Business - Public Session**

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Scrutiny Enquiry with Parish Clerks – Leisure Provision and Access to Sports		Agenda No: 5
Portfolio	Health and Communities	
Corporate Outcome:	A sustainable environment and a great place to live, work and play A well connected and growing district with high quality homes and infrastructure Residents live well in healthy and resilient communities where residents feel supported	
Report presented by:	Cllr Mrs M Cunningham, Chairman	
Report prepared by:	Jessica Mann, Governance and Members Officer	
Background Papers:		Public Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-mail to Parish and Town Councils (Appendix 1) Responses from Parish Clerks on behalf of Parish and Town Councils (Appendix 2) 		Key Decision: No
Executive Summary:		
<p>Members are invited to consider the responses of Parish Clerks in respect of the recent Leisure Provision enquiry.</p> <p>During previous meetings of the Partnership Development Group, Members identified a number of potential areas for further exploration within the scope of the Scrutiny Review, and indicated that they were keen to gain a more in-depth perspective of what the picture of leisure provision and accessibility to sports was like within local areas throughout the District. To help facilitate this line of work, the Chairman suggested that a representative from Rayne Parish Council be invited to an upcoming meeting of the Group, and that the Group's research be extended to other Parish and Town Councils in order to ascertain what levels of leisure and sports provision there was in their own remits.</p> <p>To support Members' evidence gathering, officers in the Governance and Members Team invited a representative from Rayne Parish Council to attend the next meeting of the Partnership Development Group who could speak with Members on the subject of leisure provision in the Rayne area, and to share their own experiences. Furthermore, on 7th January 2020, an e-mail enquiry was initiated with Parish and Town Councils which sought to establish what levels of leisure and sports provision there is in Parish and Town Council areas, what resources there are in relation to this and how accessible such facilities are for local residents.</p>		

To form the basis of the scrutiny enquiry with Parish and Town Councils, a number of key questions were established which encompassed the viewpoints of both the Chairman and officers, as follows:-

- What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?
- What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?
- Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?
- What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?
- Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?
- What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?

The Parish Clerks were asked to submit their responses to the e-mail enquiry on behalf of Parish and Town Councils by 24th January 2020. At the time of the Agenda publication, a total of 21 responses had been received, the details of which are included in Appendix 2.

Recommended Decision:

Members are asked to note the responses provided by Parish Clerks on behalf of Parish and Town Councils, and to give consideration as to how they might wish to pursue their Scrutiny Review in light of this.

Purpose of Decision:

To assist Members with their evidence gathering and thus support the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review.

Any Corporate implications in relation to the following should be explained in detail.

Financial:	No matters arising out of this report.
Legal:	No matters arising out of this report.
Safeguarding:	No matters arising out of this report.
Equalities/Diversity:	The Clerks of all Parish and Town Councils were invited to respond to the scrutiny enquiry.
Customer Impact:	No matters arising out of this report.
Environment and Climate Change:	No matters arising out of this report.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Parish Clerks were invited to respond to the enquiry on behalf of Parish and Town Councils by 24 th January 2020.
Risks:	No matters arising out of this report.
Officer Contact:	Jessica Mann
Designation:	Governance and Members Officer
Ext. No:	2607
E-mail:	Jessica.mann@braintree.gov.uk

Scrutiny Enquiry with Parish and Town Councils

From: Governance [<mailto:governance@braintree.gov.uk>]

Sent: 07 January 2020 14:21

Subject: Braintree District Council - Partnership Development Group: Review into Leisure Provision (Scrutiny Enquiry)

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you on behalf of Councillor Mrs M Cunningham, Chairman of the Partnership Development Group at Braintree District Council. The Group are currently conducting a Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport across the District; the Terms of Reference for the Group are attached with this e-mail.

Members have identified a number of potential areas for further exploration within the scope of the Scrutiny Review, which includes formal and informal leisure provision within the District, and are keen to extend their research to the remit of Parish and Town Councils in the District in order to ascertain what level of provision there is at more localised levels.

We are inviting comments from Town and Parish Clerks to help inform the outcome of the Review. Primarily, we are looking to establish what level of provision there is within Town and Parish Council areas, what level of resources are available for the provision of leisure facilities and how accessible these facilities are for local residents to enable the Group to develop a more comprehensive analysis of what is available for residents across the District.

There are a number of key areas that we would be seeking to obtain information on:-

- What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?
- What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?
- Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?
- What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?
- Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?
- What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of

leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?

Rather than adding this request to your agendas, I would be grateful if the Parish Clerks could provide a response on behalf of the Councils. We would be grateful to receive your reply by **Friday, 24th January 2020**.

Can you please submit your comments either by post to the address below, or via e-mail to:-

governance@braintree.gov.uk

Could you kindly include the wording "Partnership Development Group – Review into Leisure Provision" in the subject heading.

If you require any further information or clarification regarding the above request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Jessica

PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL	RESPONSES (As of 28 th January 2020)
<i>Mr Adrian Corder-Birch (Clerk to Little Yeldham, Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington)</i>	<p>Your enquiries appear to partly overlap those from Alex Evans of Braintree District Council (BDC) in connection with the BDC Open Spaces Action Plan, which contains some of the information you are seeking.</p> <p>However I shall briefly answer your queries. There is no provision for leisure facilities in Tilbury Juxta Clare or Ovington as these villages are too small. With regard to Little Yeldham there is a Playing Field, extending to about 2 (two) acres, which is available FOC for informal use such as football, cricket and the like. However there are no organised clubs and any use is informal only. There is also some children's play equipment such as swings and a slide. The freehold is owned by the Parish Council, which is therefore responsible for managing it. It is located in School Road opposite the Village Hall. The use, largely by local children, is not great owing to a small population. It is understood that no funding is so far available for any improvements to public open spaces in Little Yeldham under S106 Agreements and therefore funding for maintenance is from the Parish Council.</p>
<i>Ms Diane Jacob (Wickham St Pauls)</i>	<p>The only provision for Wickham St Pauls' residents is the village hall - which operate local clubs and organisations. The nearest leisure facilities available would be in Halstead Town, which is okay if you have your own transport to get to it. The nearest Leisure facilities are in Halstead or Braintree.</p>
<i>Mr Keith Taylor (Rivenhall)</i>	<p>Rivenhall Parish covers both Rivenhall main village and Rivenhall End.</p> <p>Within the main village there's a playing field owned by BDC and a small play area for children located on the main housing estate which is also owned by BDC.</p> <p>Within Rivenhall End there's no provision for leisure or sport.</p> <p>The playing field in Rivenhall village includes a children's play equipment area and a tennis/basketball court (hard surface). The remainder of the playing field can be used informally for all other sports although there are no changing rooms. The playing field and the Village Hall are both owned by BDC, although managed by the Rivenhall Playing Field Association.</p>

	<p>There's provision within the Village Hall for regular popular activities such as indoor bowls, dancing and table tennis.</p> <p>A request was submitted by the Parish Council to BDC some while ago for the provision of outdoor adult gym equipment, but this never materialised.</p>
<i>Cllr Mrs Iona Parker (on behalf of Little Yeldham, Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington)</i>	<p>I refer to the email from the Clerk to Little Yeldham Parish Council. He (Mr Corder-Birch) does not mention this but there are also a number of clubs operating from the village hall, one of which is a karate club. There has been a recent review by BDC into loneliness and social isolation and members were asked to provide details as to what activities took place in their ward. I submitted information about the villages in my ward and as part of my investigation discovered that there were a large number of sport/health related activities which took place in village halls e.g. pilates and yoga classes, table tennis clubs etc. Moira Groborz was involved in this.</p> <p>You might like to extend your enquiries to include village and other community halls as well as playing fields. Moira might have some information which would help you.</p>
<i>Mr Colin Golding (Shalford)</i>	<p>In response to your request for information the following applies to Shalford:</p> <p>The main leisure facilities are at Shalford Village Hall and recreation ground. The hall hosts various leisure activities such as indoor bowls, dance class, art group and other groups and associations. It is also available for hire for private functions. The recreation ground has a football pitch, cricket pitch, tennis court and children's play area. The facility is owned by a charitable trust and managed by the Shalford Village Hall Management Committee. Football and indoor bowls are the most popular sports although the tennis court is well used in summer.</p> <p>The main challenge is obtaining funding to maintain and improve the facilities hire charges just about balance running costs and improvements are made through fund raising and grant applications (including from the PC) there being no other support for the provision of leisure facilities</p> <p>The other open space in the Parish is Stonely Park which is owned and maintained by ECC as it is a reclaimed land fill site. It is mainly used by walkers as there are no facilities there.</p> <p>I trust this helps.</p>

<p>Ms Ann Crisp (Great Maplestead)</p>	<p>In response to your recent consultation on leisure provision in local town and parishes, I provide the following input on behalf of Great Maplestead Parish Council:-</p> <p>Great Maplestead is a small rural parish and has one village playing field which is held in trust by the parish council on behalf of parishioners. The village primary school, whilst owning its own school playing field, prefer to make use of the village playing field for the majority of school activities due to its location and slightly safer accessibility.</p> <p>The parish demographic is predominantly older with few children living within the village, but the children's play area is frequented by families collecting children from the school or visiting relatives within the village. The playing field is predominantly used by the school during break times and for after school sports activities. Parishioners are most likely to use the field for exercising dogs, and organised village events such as Boules competitions, rounders matches or car shows, Summer Fetes etc.</p> <p>The village playing field has limited facilities, but it does contain a children's playground area complete with play equipment and fenced off from other field users. The playing field has two full sized goal posts, but no goal nets at present. These are used on a casual basis by residents or visitors to the village but there are currently no formal arrangements in place as there is no pitch marked out and no other facilities on site. There is a small car parking area at the village playing field which also houses village recycling facilities.</p> <p>For specific events such as a boules competition then pitches are marked but there is no demand for maintaining regular pitches. Participation in these type of village events usually attracts around 30-40 participants across all ages.</p> <p>The village playing field is enjoyed as a casual recreation area, village car park or for use of the recycling facilities. There is some resistance from neighbouring residents for any formalised, regular activities to be held here. It is a highly sensitive area which may restrict future wider use of the space.</p>
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	<p>The parish has limited resources and any new play equipment, picnic tables etc will need to be funded by fundraising and grant funding. Some small ad-hoc maintenance work is undertaken by village volunteers as is the marking of pitches.</p> <p>For residents who seek the use of a gym or sports pitches then the facilities at Halstead Fitness Centre (approx. 4 miles away) are generally favoured. Outdoor gymnasiums do not appear to be a destination of choice or a facility requested by parishioners.</p> <p>I trust this information is of help within your consultation.</p>
<p><i>Mrs Jean Dilworth (Panfield)</i></p>	<p>Leisure Provision within Parish area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football team – managed by Graham Bedford, licensee of The Bell pub, Panfield • Rounders team – as above. • Boxing fitness club – held in the village hall; private teacher. • Walking club – once per month; organised by Danny Canning, Chairman of Panfield Community Association. <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Parish area?</p> <p>No idea. And no idea how to find out.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision?</p> <p>Large proportion of residents elderly/disabled – village hall not yet fully disabled-access-compliant so even a chair-based Pilates class would be inaccessible. This problem is in the process of being addressed, but until ECC agree to sell the hall to the Community Association at a reasonable price, current fundraising goes towards maintenance, upkeep and rent. Doesn't seem to be much for younger residents; nearest is BMX track on Deanery Hill.</p>

	<p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use; what is level of uptake?</p> <p>Football pitch behind The Bell; 5-a-side pitch and Trim Trail in John Barr Playing Field; activity wall in Thistledown Playing Field.</p> <p>Have no figures to supply knowledge of uptake. Not sure how these figures could be accessed. Village Hall used for Boxercise, but internal wall makes it unsuitable for groups larger than about 12 (this problem will be solved when the Community Association can purchase the hall from ECC).</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area; are these mainly used for formal or informal activities?</p> <p>As you will see from looking at the <u>Public Open Spaces plans</u> held by <u>Braintree District Council</u>, and which we have to update every year, we have two playing fields, a football field, an allotment area and a village green. The football field and 5-a-side pitch are used by the Panfield Football Club. Apart from that, the open spaces are for social use.</p> <p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p> <p>Panfield Parish Council administers, funds and maintains the two playing fields; the football pitch and changing rooms is funded by fundraising. The Parish Council seeks the advice of qualified playground installation and equipment provision organisations when maintaining, checking or adding to the existing equipment. Fundraising is a joint effort – the annual village fete is organised between Graham Bedford, licensee of The Bell and the Panfield Community Association, and is supported financially by Panfield Parish Council.</p>
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	<p>The Parish Council is in the process of constructing a woodland walk at the perimeter of the allotment and John Barr Playing Field; this has been funded by the Parish Council, but it is hoped that some grant-funding, which has been applied for, will be granted to cover part of the cost.</p>
<p>Mr David Williams (White Colne)</p>	<p>The responses are:-</p> <p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?</p> <p>Open spaces at White Colne Meadows and the rear of White Colne Village Hall are managed by White Colne Parish Council. They have play areas, basket ball ring and football goal.</p> <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?</p> <p>Football.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>Rural location of our village.</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>None, only a football goal and basket ball ring.</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p> <p>Both off Bures Road, White Colne, and used for informal activities.</p>

	<p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p> <p>Funding provided through Braintree District Council S 106 monies. No partnerships involved. No ongoing advice sought.</p>
<p><i>Ms Helen Waterfield (Black Notley)</i></p>	<p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?</p> <p>Playing fields open spaces owned by either the Parish or BDC.</p> <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?</p> <p>Don't know.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>Don't know</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>The Village Hall and the Black Notley Community Association hire out facilities for example for carpet bowls table tennis you will need to contact them directly for the detail.</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p>

	<p>Open spaces for walking for general public and also used by the scouting organisation.</p> <p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p> <p>Don't know.</p>
<i>Ms Debbie Hilliard (Birdbrook and Stambourne)</i>	<p>I respond for 2 Parish Councils:-</p> <p><u>Birdbrook</u></p> <p>Birdbrook has 2 small play areas which are now under review with a view to refurbishment. The village has a thriving Bowls Club.</p> <p><u>Stambourne</u></p> <p>Stambourne has a large playing field. It also has a village hall which is well used by groups - Ladies' Group, Silver Link, Dog training and recently introduced Bingo. The playing field is not used by formal groups but is well used by individuals both local and from the wider community.</p> <p>I hope this helps.</p>
<i>Ms Suzanne Walker (Great Notley)</i>	<p>Further to the email of 7th January 2020 I can respond to the questions on leisure provision in Great Notley Parish as follows -</p> <p>Leisure provision in the Parish - 4 children's play areas - two managed by the Parish Council and two managed by BDC, The green managed by BDC, all weather pitches at Country Park managed by Essex County Council, Community Centre managed by Notley Green Community Association (an independent charity).</p>

	<p>Most popular sports and activities - There is a very active and well supported youth football club, there are numerous activities in the community centre from yoga to carpet bowls which are all well supported.</p> <p>Outdoor sports facilities - all weather pitches at Country Park, play areas and green. Not able to comment on precise level of uptake.</p> <p>Public open spaces - as well as the main green there are other green areas throughout the Parish. Many running and bootcamp groups use those facilities. The Football club uses the green most frequently</p> <p>Support for facilities - the Parish Council is currently involved in an upgrade of the Recreational Area for Teenagers (RAFT) and has managed to obtain grant funding having started the process with substantial consultation with both young people in the community as well as residents generally. Allowance is made in the Parish Council budget for the maintenance of the play areas for which it is responsible.</p> <p>Hope this information is of assistance.</p>
<p><i>Ms Ann Harris & Councillor Peter Schwier (Little Maplestead)</i></p>	<p>Ms Ann Harris (initial response):- I think that you may have heard from District Councillor Schwier on this matter. I would just add that I have a great deal of Council matters to deal with just at the moment, including budget and precept setting, plus requests for reports from BDC and other bodies. As clerk I am contracted for only 4 hours work a week and am having to prioritise my work load. I hope you understand.</p> <p><u>28/01/2020</u> – Councillor P Schwier gave a verbal response:-</p> <p>It was explained that Little Maplestead has no indoor facilities, but it does have one informal playing field within the local area. Residents will often travel to nearby Great Maplestead or Halstead for the use of leisure/sport facilities and more formal activities. Mention was made of the St John the Baptist Church, the grounds at which are used two or three times a year for events such as plant sales. The Church itself occasionally hosts the local WI group, who otherwise meet at Great Maplestead Village</p>

	<p>Hall. There is no village hall within the area, but it was highlighted that the Parish Council had recently been granted planning permission by BDC for the development of a 'Parish Room;' once built, this room will generate the potential opportunity for leisure activities to be held there.</p> <p>Although not formally listed, Councillor Schwier emphasised that there was nonetheless much taking place in the Parish area in the way of informal leisure and sports activities, especially with the use of the local playing field and a number of public footpaths.</p>
<i>Mrs Jenny Wright (Bures Hamlet)</i>	<p>I refer to your email dated the 7th January regarding the above.</p> <p>Bures Hamlet PC (Essex) and Bures St Mary PC (Suffolk) make up the one village of Bures. Our leisure provision is mainly on the Suffolk side of the village but is managed jointly by both parish councils. Therefore, I will answer your questions on behalf of Bures as a joint Parish.</p> <p>Leisure Provision is managed jointly by Bures Hamlet Parish Council and Bures St Mary Parish Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Most popular sports in the village are - Football, Cricket and Tennis. However 'Pickle ball' is becoming increasingly popular and we have provided 2 courts on the tennis courts for this game. We have no access to swim in the village and need to go into the towns to access that. However we encourage Wild Swimming as we have a river area with barbecue facilities. 2) We do not have a lack of interest to sport in the village. We are unable to offer much Indoor sports only indoor bowls owing to the lack of facilities. However, for outdoor we offer with a very good uptake: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Football - 2 adult pitches and 1 junior plus football pavilion - Cricket - 1 pitch plus cricket pavilion for adult and junior teams - Tennis courts - for Bures Tennis Club - approximately 12 young adult members - Pickle ball as mentioned for about 25 plus residents - Adult outdoor gym equipment - Indoor Bowls - small team of 12

	<p>3) Public Open Spaces - Bures Sportsground, Nayland Road - this provides outdoor facilities as above for Official Clubs but also for fishing at riverbank and informal recreational use.</p> <p>4) Funding is via Braintree and Babergh District Councils precepts. Also grants are obtained through both District Councils as well. Football and Cricket gain via their own organisations.</p> <p>We have a good mix of leisure and sports facilities for a village. However, we are always looking to improve our facilities.</p>
<p>Ms Diane Smith (Belchamp St Paul and Belchamp Otten)</p>	<p>Please find below information on Sports and Leisure facilities in the villages of Belchamp St Paul and Belchamp Otten, as requested.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most popular sports and leisure activities are: Football and Tennis 2. The football team has to encompass a much larger catchment area than previously to find enough younger people to play because our population has an ageing demographic. 3. Football pitch - BSP Football Team in local league and play weekly (home and away) Tennis courts (2) - Flourishing Tennis Club welcome non members Retro Fit - Held weekly in The Community House Boxercise - " " " " " " Tai Chi - " " " " " " Morris Men - Meet weekly in The Community House and give displays in Summer St Paul's Painting Group - Meet weekly in The Community House. <p>Most of these groups involve 10-15 people each but I do not have exact numbers. The football and tennis clubs have more people involved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. We have a large village green (Cole Green, BSP) which is used for occasional events in the summer (annual car show). We also have a Playing Field in BSP which has a selection of

	<p>Children's Play equipment, one football pitch and pavilion. The football club are the only formal club that use it. The Playing Field is run by the Playing Field Management Committee.</p> <p>5. There are very limited resources to fund the PPMC. They receive a donation each year from the Village Fete and fees from the football club. They are currently looking to spend just over £5000 in Section 106 funds (via BDC) on additional play equipment. Much of the maintenance work and improvements are undertaken by unpaid volunteers. There are no partnerships in place and no formal expertise /advice is available apart from companies providing equipment.</p> <p>I trust that this information is of use. If you need any additional details please let me know.</p>
Ms Kate Fox (Great Bardfield)	<p>I write in response to your recent e mail concerning the Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport across the District.</p> <p>My Council are approaching this response with reference to the key questions to which your Members are seeking answers.</p> <p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within Great Bardfield Parish? Who is responsible for managing this?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Playing fields 2. A Playground 3. Town Hall (voluntary management committee). Managed and supported by the Parish Council <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Parish area?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of the Playground Facilities 2. Football

	<p>3. Town Hall building: Indoor: Carpet Bowls / Pilates / Yoga This is the only indoor space available and is oversubscribed now that the existing pavilion is not suitable.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>The population Great Bardfield includes many young families but we have limited facilities to attract participation. Though we have an adult male football team most of those wanting to participate in sports and leisure activities have to travel out of the village to do so. Limited public transport means this is not easy for those who do not drive.</p> <p>Indoor bowls club at the Town Hall is used by a number of residents, mostly senior citizens but to play matches elsewhere a car is the only option.</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>Large playingfield with marked football pitches – Men’s football team. We have recently lost the youth football team because of a combination of poor facilities and leaders/coaches. Pavilion building could be used by a variety of users but no longer ‘attractive’ or fit for purpose. The men’s football team use it but it does not meet FA requirements and limits the leagues they can play in. (See photograph below)</p> <p>Recently refurbished playground – at a cost to the parish of £49,000 (raised over many years of fundraising. This is a lot of money to us being almost twice our annual Parish Council budget).</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p> <p>1. Playingfields with marked pitches - formal activities that can be booked but rarely are. Playground is popular with families with young children and also provides for younger teenagers.</p>
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	<p>2. Pipers Meadow nature area – open to all residents and local school children</p> <p>3. Quiet Space – created from small area overgrown land for quiet reflection and provide a place for older less active people (informal).</p> <p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p> <p>Facilities: Great Bardfield has a large playingfield which is well maintained and over the years much enjoyed and as part of the Parish Council's desire to encourage more outdoor activities, Stage 1 of their ongoing plan was to refurbish the village playground which they did in 2018 at a cost of £49,000 and you can imagine the amount of fund raising involved in that project (together with 106 monies). The local community have had to fund raise and apply for grants themselves with little or no support found. No funding has been provided by BDC.</p> <p>Most sports and leisure activities in the village are dependent on volunteers organising them, with little or no support despite us reaching out to the County Council Youth Services for help to retain our youth club. A few activities such as yoga and fitness classes are organised and provided by trained instructors for a fee.</p> <p>Fund Raising: Stage 2 is to replace our 'sports pavilion' which is unfit for purpose and understandably not attracting as many users as it once did – although there is demand. Until recent times we had a Youth Club and two football teams (adult and junior) but the lack of facilities has reduced this to just one adult football team. There are a very few sources of funding for large capital projects – the lottery are no longer a source nor are the FA as they once were. However it is possible to achieve small pockets of funding for fitting outbuildings and purchasing sports equipment.</p> <p>We have been working on this project for over 10 years and also wish to include an outside gym to encourage exercise for all ages without having to drive to towns in the District. The District Council</p>
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does not provide funding for village leisure facilities preferring to focus on towns such as Braintree, Witham and Halstead where there are leisure centres, swimming pools and skate parks. These are not easily accessible to people living in Great Bardfield. Our nearest town is Great Dunmow but there is no public transport despite it being the location of our catchment secondary school. Children wishing to stay for after school or weekend sporting activities have to rely on car transport (parents). We would be grateful for any assistance in finding towards our village facilities. Local consultation proves there is a demand and the waiting list for Town Hall sessions shows there is a need for more indoor leisure space which would be provided by a replacement pavilion.

Has the District Council ever considered funding such projects as that currently underway in Great Bardfield on, say, a low interest loan basis? This is available via the Public Works Loan Board but how much better if it could be contained within the District.



<p>Ms Claire Waters (Castle Hedingham)</p>	<p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Parish? Who is responsible for managing this?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Hedingham Tennis Club. Privately owned, membership organisation • Castle Hedingham Bowls Club. Membership organisation • Castle Hedingham Cricket Club. Membership organisation. Cricket pitch owned by Hedingham Castle • No Children's play area or community open space exists in the parish since being given notice to quit the old Recreation Field at New Park in 2018 by the landlord, Hedingham Castle estate, and removal of equipment under the terms of the lease • We were refused by BDC the use of land owned by them at New Park for a children's play area. Informal recreation designation of this land was removed, despite objections, in 2017 • The Parish Council is currently hoping to sign a new 25-year lease on land next to the Memorial Hall, owned by Hedingham Castle Estate. This will be used for a Village Park. The project has been the subject of extensive public consultation and it is hoped it will be in use by May 2020, subject to the completion of the lease, grant funding and project installation deadlines being successfully met. NB: For further information, please refer to Councillor Graham Butland, Leader of BDC and the Asset Management team as they are well aware of the critical lack of play and community open space in the parish of Castle Hedingham. <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?</p> <p>See answer to Q1 for sports clubs. Parents and carers drive their children out of the parish to access play equipment or leisure activities. For children the Tennis Club is the most popular sporting activity in the parish because it is the only one available for younger children.</p>
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	<p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>No publicly owned land for open space. All land and property in the parish is privately owned. We would refer you to the BDC Open Spaces Study 2016-2033 which identifies a significant deficit of public open space for informal recreation in Castle Hedingham.</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>The Village Hall is leased from Hedingham Castle Estate. It is well used for fitness classes, indoor bowls and other leisure activities. For outdoor facilities please see answer to Q1. No other outdoor sports pitches or gyms in the parish, with the exception of the primary school playground.</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p> <p>As for Q1, please refer to Councillor Graham Butland, Leader of BDC and the Asset Management team as they are well aware of the critical lack of play and community open space in the parish of Castle Hedingham. The new Village Park is being designed as an inclusive community space for ages 0 to 100. It will mainly be used for informal recreation including a Children's play area and a community garden/allotment. An all-weather path and surfacing is planned to make it accessible for wheelchair and pushchair access and encourage year-round use. It is intended for users of the Village Hall and Social Club to be able to use the space informally for their activities if they wish, as well as providing a much-needed location for village fetes and other outdoor events.</p> <p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p>
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	<p>For the creation of the Village Park, the Parish Council appointed the previous Head of Country Parks at Essex County Council in a consultancy role to support with the project planning and preparing invitations to tender. The Parish Council has been rejected for grant funding for the Village Park by the National Lottery Community Fund and Essex County Council CIF fund. Other smaller grant funding is urgently being sought to enable the park to be available to the public by our target date in May 2020. The Parish Council has approached Braintree District Council for financial support in delivering the project but has not yet received a response. Funding of the Children's play area will come from Parish Council reserves which have been saved for over 20 years while attempts were being made to secure long-term arrangements for a public open space in the village. £2,000 towards an item of play equipment was granted from our Braintree District Councillors' Community Grant. Without further funding the project can only be partially completed. Any further installation and all ongoing maintenance will be paid by the Parish Council from the precept. The community garden/allotment is planned as an inclusive community project working in partnership with local residents. Donations of tree planting and picnic benches/seating from local residents will be encouraged.</p>
<p>Ms Sarah Gaeta (Hatfield Peverel)</p>	<p>Here is some information from Hatfield Peverel Parish Council:</p> <p>Leisure provision: Football Club (managed independently - ground leased from PC), Bowling Club (managed independently - ground leased from PC), Cricket Club (managed independently).</p> <p>Challenges: The FC and BC operate from PC owned land out towards the boundary of the parish only accessible by car. Membership is also required as premises not free for use by anyone.</p> <p>Open spaces: two recreation grounds owned and maintained by PC - social and recreational use - primarily dog walkers and families as there are children's play areas owned and maintained by the PC. One recreation area also has goal posts for use by residents.</p> <p>MUGA pitch - open to all - basketball hoops etc. Owned and maintained by the PC.</p> <p>Open Spaces Action Plan identifies need for multi-purpose courts, outdoor gym, tennis facilities etc. S106 monies expected which will be used towards these projects.</p>

<p><i>Mrs Amanda Degnan (Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural)</i></p>	<p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?</p> <p>Residents go to Halstead Leisure Centre. BDC. Playing field in Greenstead Green owned by the Parish Council</p> <p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?</p> <p>Cycling, Walking, Shooting, Horse riding, Line dancing, Boules.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>Predominantly elderly. Lack of public transport. Lack of pitches for cricket and football.</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>We have a playing field with children's play equipment, some goal posts and a boules pitch. Unknown about level of uptake.</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p> <p>Playing field in centre of Greenstead Green village. Informal.</p> <p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p>
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	Precept. RoSPA report on the children's' play equipment. Precept and reserves. We also apply for grants from BDC, ECC and Big Lotto fund.
Ms Debbie Morgan (Coggeshall Parish Council)	<p>What, if any, leisure provision is there within your Town/Parish area? Who is responsible for managing this?:-</p> <p>Small swimming Pool Located at Honywood School. This is primarily used by the school which some public sessions. The pool is small and has limited use by adults. A group of residents help to run the pool.</p> <p>Cricket Club Situated on the Kelvedon Road, the cricket club is run as a not-for-profit organisation and offers its facilities to children as well as adults. They also run a successful cricket week each summer which is open to non-members. The club is managed by local residents</p> <p>Football Club The Coggeshall Football Club is situated in West Street and is run for profit. Many of the players are from outside Coggeshall. The club does offer facilities for children</p> <p>Village Hall Activities There are a number of activities which take place on a regular basis in the Coggeshall Village Hall and these include Keep Fit, Yoga, Carpet Bowls, Pilates and karate and dance classes for the children.</p> <p>Rambling and cycling group Coggeshall also has a local walking group which is organised by local residents and a cycling group meet on a regular basis in Coggeshall.</p> <p>Badminton Club This is run by local residents using the sports hall at Honywood School.</p>

	<p>What are the most popular sports or leisure activities in the Town/Parish area?</p> <p>Nothing could be identified as being most popular. A lot of activities are organised by like-minded residents due to the absence of more formal provision.</p> <p>Are there particular challenges encountered in terms of sports or leisure provision (e.g. such as a lack of participation in sports? Demographics)?</p> <p>Keep fit classes for the less mobile would be beneficial considering the higher than average demographic of older persons. Residents have to travel to either Earls Colne or Kelvedon to access gym and swimming facilities. Many Coggeshall residents are members of either Earls Colne or Prested Hall.</p> <p>The school does not have an all-weather 3G pitch for football and hockey which restricts accessibility for these sports.</p> <p>What indoor and outdoor sports facilities can be accessed for public use in the Town/Parish area (e.g. outdoor gyms, pitches, etc)? If known, what is the level of uptake by local residents?</p> <p>The football pitches at Honywood are used by Youth teams. The swimming pool at Honywood school can be used by the public at certain times, but is not really designed for adult use. There is a single goal at the recreation ground. Very little is available in Coggeshall either indoor or outdoor sport.</p> <p>Where are public open spaces located in the Parish area? Are these mainly used for formal or informal activities (i.e. for use by official clubs through bookings or for social use)?</p> <p>Public open space is available at the Recreation ground in East Street. Coggeshall currently has three children's' play areas. One in Stoneham Street near the Doctor's surgery, one at the Recreation Ground and the third is off Fabians Close. The cricket club is available through bookings. The Coggeshall Football club is only available to Members.</p>
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	<p>What resources are there to support the provision of leisure and/or sports facilities? Where is advice and expertise sought from on the provision of leisure facilities? How is funding provided for the installation/maintenance of such facilities? What, if any, partnerships are involved?</p> <p>We are hoping that S106 money from two developments can be used to provide more sport facilities such as a bowling green and perhaps outdoor gym equipment. There is a well-attended carpet bowls group which meeting weekly in the village hall which would benefit from an outdoor bowling green.</p> <p>Indoor facilities such as a gym and a larger swimming pool should be classed as a necessity for a community the size of Coggeshall, especially considering the new housing being provided over the next five years in Coggeshall and surrounding villages. These would be well supported as many residents are forced to travel out of Coggeshall for these services.</p> <p>Honywood School is lacking an all-weather 3G pitch for football and hockey.</p>
<p><i>Ms Sarah Greateorex (Halstead Town Council)</i></p>	<p>There is considerable provision for sport and leisure within Halstead:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Halstead Leisure centre, run by Fusion, provides a swimming pool and a range of classes for adults 2. The Football club, run by a voluntary committee, runs Halstead Town Football club, for both adults and children, at the Football stadium at Broton Estate. 3. Halstead Town council manages the Courtaulds Sports ground facilities, which provide use of an outdoor gym, and host the bowls club, the Rugby club, junior football and the Road runners running club – the facilities are bookable through our groundsman. 4. A range of adult and child dance classes. 5. Several playgrounds with equipment.

	<p>Most popular sports in Halstead:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Football 2. Rugby <p>No particular challenges – Halstead is well catered for.</p> <p>The playgrounds at Ramsey Recreation ground, Mill Chase playing field and King George V playing field are available for children to use on an informal basis. The Ramsey road one is in the process of being renovated, by BDC. There are 106 monies allocated for this.</p> <p>All playgrounds listed are open to the public.</p>
Ms Sarah Cocks (Rayne)	<p>I have been away so unable to follow this up until today. We were awaiting some information from the Village Hall Committee on the outdoor gym equipment which has now been provided (please see attached*) and regular village hall bookings (also attached*). I will have to do this over a few emails due to size limitations.</p> <p><i>*Attachments containing supportive evidence (sent by Ms Sarah Cocks) have been circulated to the Members of the Committee.</i></p>