

# Cllr Harris Report/Action Plan – September 2021

## Communications

### 1. Website/Facebook

#### ❖ Report:

- The website's **WEA** page now has information about its planned Autumn Course: **Popular Music Culture 1945-1989**.
- The **News** page has been updated with the latest **BDC** bottle re-cycling and **ECC** Library Consultation information

#### ❖ Action Plan:

- Regular updating of the website will continue in 2021.
- The Council's Facebook page will continue to carry links to the website when more in-depth information than can sensibly be carried on Facebook needs to be communicated, in order to bring it to the widest possible audience.

### 2. E-newsletter (Maplestead Magna Carta) [Agenda Item 12]

#### ❖ Action Plan:

- **Issue 40** is scheduled for publication **w/c 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021** (tbc).
- Editorial content for this issue is suggested to include:
  - Playing Field Fun(d) Day report
  - PF Development Project update
  - Any interesting County/District news
  - Footpath update
  - Planning news
  - Forthcoming events

## Footpaths

#### ❖ Report:

- A second round of maintenance by the contractors is scheduled imminently.

#### ❖ Action Plan:

- Interim checks and problem rectification will continue on an *ad hoc* basis.
- Publication of a Parish Footpath Map and Guide is to be investigated.

## Playing Field Development Project [Agenda Item 8.1]

#### ❖ Report:

- The first part of the Project was completed at the beginning of August with the installation of new picnic benches and construction of the Boules Court – the latter also contributed to providing an earth bund, a long-promised additional security measure around the car park.
- The '**Playing Field Fun(d) Day**' on the afternoon of 14<sup>th</sup> August, held to mark the Project's official launch, was judged a great success. It attracted a large number of visitors, many from the wider reaches of Essex and Suffolk.
- As well as being a fundraiser, the **fête** was also intended to be a way of generating greater awareness of the proposals for the playing field's re-development; there was a display where residents were able to study the plans and discuss fund-raising ideas.
- The **Fun(d) Day** contributed **over £1400** towards the Project, which will help boost match-funding for other grants, which are now being actively sought.
- A '**Totaliser Tree**' is now on display on the field to chart fundraising progress.

#### ❖ Action Plan:

- A CIF grant for **£10,000** is being prepared for submission to **Essex CC** and a request has been made to our County Councillor for his support.
- A number of other approaches to grant providers are being actively pursued.
- Tenders for submitting to manufacturers of natural playground-style equipment are also at the preparation stage.
- A request is being made to Stewart Landscapes for a disabled access path cost estimate to see what effect that additional item will have of the Project's budget.