

**District Councillor's Report to Parish Councils May 2024**  
**Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward**

**Scheduled Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders & Roadworks**

Intended closure of Wiggins Green, Helions Bumpstead on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 for one day. The closure is required whilst Openreach undertakes pole testing. <https://one.network/?tm=137394156>

Intended closure of Finchingfield Road, Steeple Bumpstead 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May and 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May. Road Surface works. <https://one.network>

The closure of Ains Ford Road, Sturmer, which commenced on 10th April 2024 and is in force for up to 21 days (It is estimated to be completed on 26th April 2024. Closure is required whilst Essex County Council undertakes flood damage. These works are being undertaken as an emergency, please check <https://one.network/?tm=138414452>.

Intended closure of the B1057 Haverhill Rd, Steeple Bumpstead from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 13<sup>th</sup> September whilst Anglian Water undertakes works. <https://one.network> – “permit granted and works about to start”.

**PFCC Election**

Elections are taking place this **Thursday 2 May 2024** where residents can have their say on who the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Essex will be. Photo ID continues to be required to vote at a polling station (original versions and not a photocopy). Accepted ID includes a passport, driving licence, blue badge, a proof of age card, travel concessionary cards, Biometric Immigration document, Defence Identity Card or National Identity Card. A full list of accepted ID is available on the Electoral Commission website: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

**New Chairman of Braintree District Council**

Braintree District Council has announced Cllr Lyn Walters as its new Chairman for 2024-25 at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday, 22 April 2024. Cllr Lyn Walters is the ward member for Bocking Blackwater, has been a councillor since 2011. Any organisations, community groups or businesses that would like to invite the Chairman to attend an event should visit [www.braintree.gov.uk/invitethechairman](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/invitethechairman).

My new role is Deputy Cabinet Member to the Deputy Leader of BDC & Cabinet Member Cllr. Tom Cunningham; the Cabinet Member for Transformation, the Environment & Customer Services. I will also be the lead member for climate change and sustainability.

**Analogue Phone Lines Switching to Digital**

The UK's telephone network is changing. By 2025, traditional phone lines will be replaced by a digital landline service. This means that calls will be made over a broadband line. More information at: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/2024/your-home-phone-ready-go-digital>  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-transition-from-analogue-to-digital-landlines>

**Essex Police Talk Road Safety with Motorcyclists at Finchingfield**

On Sunday 14 April, the Stanway-based Roads Policing officers were joined by colleagues from the Road Crime Team as they travelled the Braintree and Uttlesford districts' motorcycle routes, focussing on four specific offences known as the Fatal Four and used this opportunity to advise riders how they can keep themselves safe. Head of Essex Police's Roads Policing said *“Finchingfield's a community that sees a great deal of traffic through their village because of the picturesque views, so we wanted to reassure them that we were proactively patrolling the district to tackle road safety in general, and the safety of vulnerable road users in particular. I'd encourage everyone to play a part in keeping all our roads safe for everyone so we can share them safely”*.

**BDC Adopts LGA Model Code of Conduct**

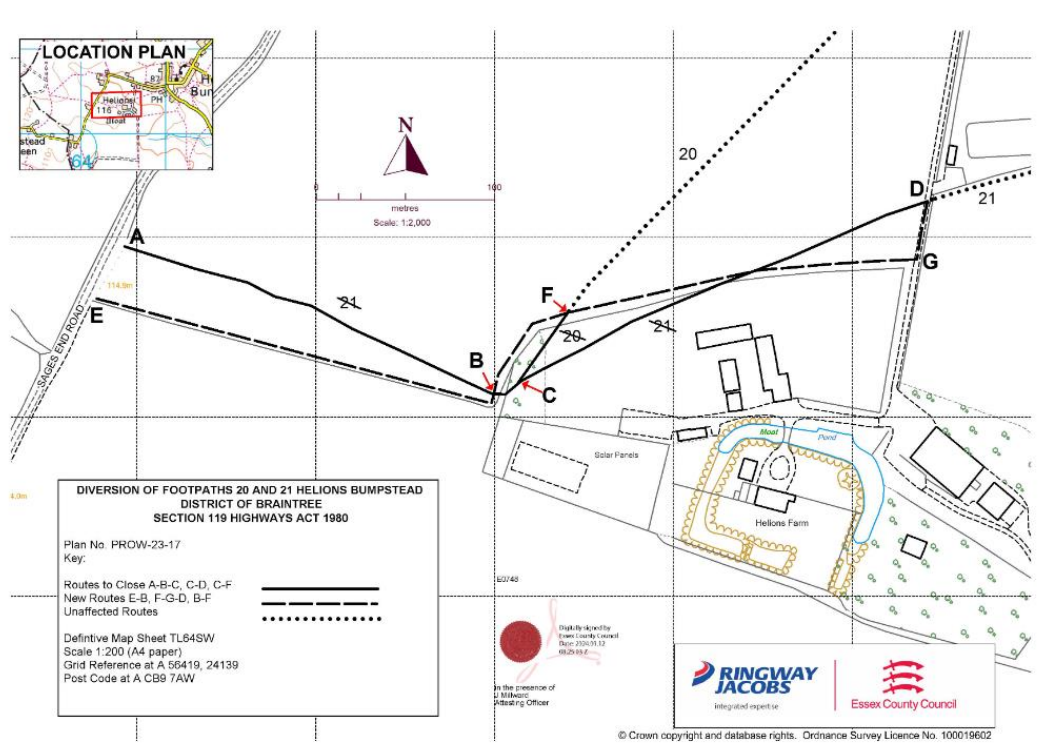
At the AGM held 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024, BDC adopted the LGA Model Code of Conduct with immediate effect. The Committee on Standards in Public Life carried out a review on Local Government Ethical Standards and published a series of recommendations to Government, the Local Government Association and to local authorities. In response to one of those recommendations, the LGA published a model Code of Conduct for Councillors. This was originally published in 2020 but has been subject to updates by the LGA since that time.

Essex County Council, together with the majority of other Essex authorities have now adopted the new model Code over the past 18 months, and it is understood that the few remaining Councils in Essex plan to do so in the near future. The Model Code

is a document which authorities are, nationally, being asked to adopt, however, it should be noted that there is no statutory obligation to do so.

### Public Path Diversion Order Helions Bumpstead (Essex County Council)

Footpaths 20 and 21 - Helions Bumpstead



### Dedham Vale National Landscape and Stour Valley

The Wilder Together in the Stour Valley partnership, are running their fourth event at RSPB Flatford Wildlife Garden, for parish and town councillors who want to work with their community for wildlife and people. Taking place on Tuesday 21st May, the event runs from 6-8pm and will include tea and biscuits. It will focus on what community projects parish and town councils can do in their local area to improve wildlife habitat with the help of their community. For more detailed information and how you can become involved visit <https://dedhamvale-nl.org.uk/wildertogether>. For any questions, please contact Countryside Projects Officer, Emma Black, at [emma.black@suffolkandessex-NL.org.uk](mailto:emma.black@suffolkandessex-NL.org.uk).

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