

No. 203  
September  
2020



# Chignal News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY

## Parish Playing Field Update



Our community requested that there should be some improvements made to the playing field to encourage more parishioners, especially the younger residents, to use the playing field as a sporting facility.

To date we have built and completed the new entrance and car park area which is used by visitors to both the playing field and the Orchard.

A height restriction has been installed to protect the parking area and new entrance gates and fencing have been installed around the perimeter of the car park which will comfortably take 4 to 6 cars.

The croquet lawn area has been marked out by the installation of oak posts to protect the area and to allow the grass to be regularly cut which will hopefully improve in this area.

The new goal post position has been agreed with those that will use it most and the post is on order with delivery expected in August, ready for our team of volunteers to install it.

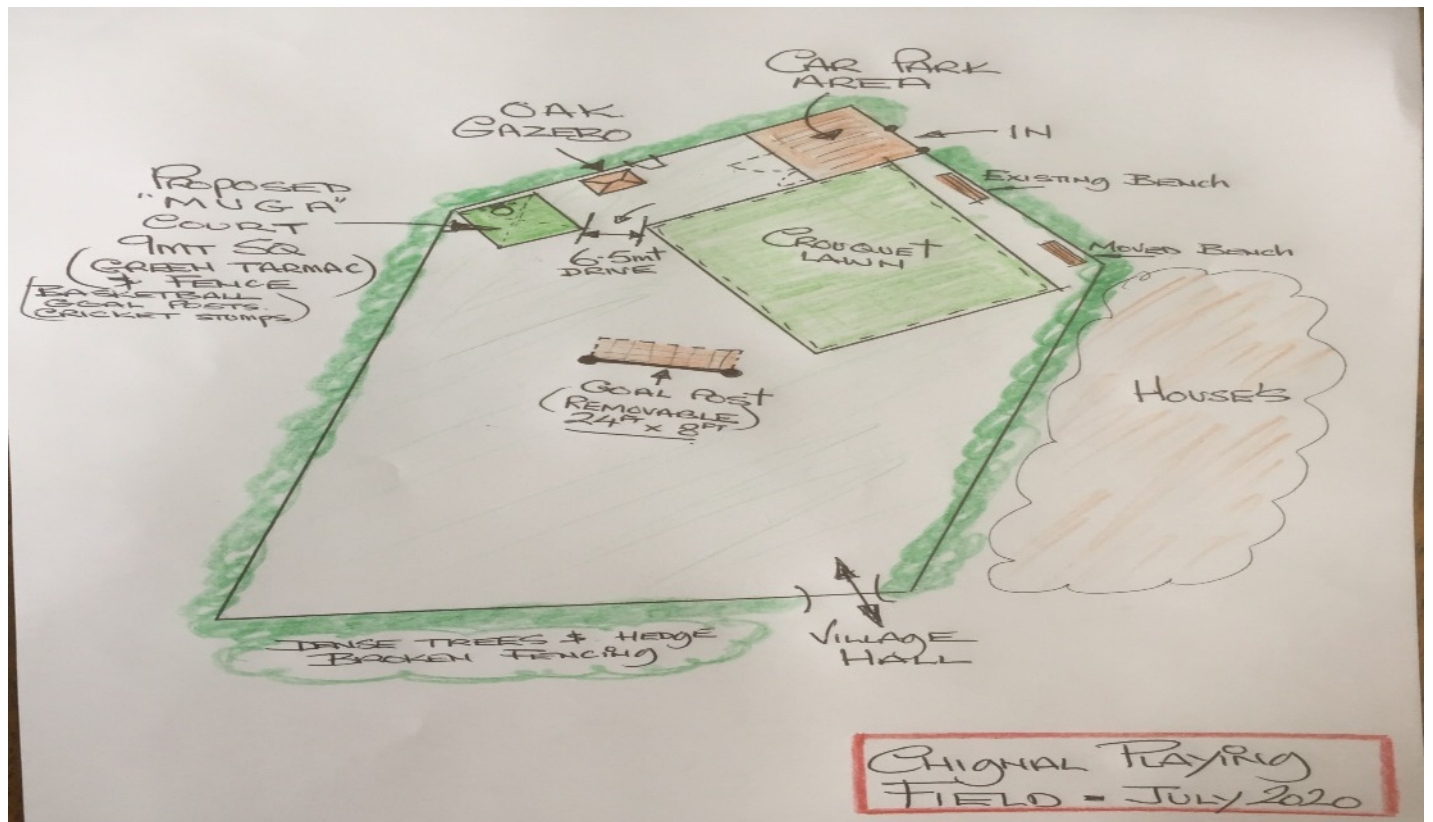
A small "Playing field" working group has been established and a meeting held to discuss and obtain a quotation for a "MUGA" court which if agreed will be installed in the corner of the field as shown on the sketch drawing.

This will include Basketball, Cricket Stumps and a Small Goal all to be incorporated into the one green structure with a hard playing surface to suit which is approximately 8 metres square.

Finally, the Gazebo structure is currently being constructed with the main Oak frame and timber shingle roof already in position. We are awaiting the installation of the paving and then the side boarding and bench seats will be installed to complete the Gazebo.

When all these works are completed the field will then be a true "playing field" with seating etc for the use of the Parish. (Photo above: Playing field community group deciding location of goal post)

# Playing Field Photos







**Kemi Badenoch MP**

holds regular advice surgeries offering help and support for local residents.

If you would like to contact Kemi, you can email [kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk) or call 0207 219 1943



**HELLO EVERYONE, WE NOW HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE CHIGNALS & MASHBURY VILLAGES**

Thanks to the Chignals & Mashbury Community Group we now have a facebook page up and running for the villages. We have some wonderful organisations and charities in the villages so let's spread the word and use the **Chignals & Mashbury Community Page** as a safe area to share any relevant information such as local events, fundraisers, concerns or items of interest.

Residents can access the community page by visiting [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) then entering **Chignals & Mashbury Community Page** in the search box.

*Please note this is a private group.*

# **Chignal Parish Council**

C/O 45 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1DH

Tel: 01245 360811 Email: [Chignalpc@gmail.com](mailto:Chignalpc@gmail.com)

Clerk: Will Adshead-Grant

Chair: Lynn Ballard

Website: [e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish](http://e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish)

Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council held on Monday 13th July 2020 at 7.30pm online.

2020/156 Chairman's Welcome  
Chairperson Ballard  
Councillors Feltwell, Towns, Lewis, Elwick and Nelson

2020/157 Apologies for Absence  
None Required

2020/158 Register of Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation  
None Requested

2020/159 Public Open Session for any matters that need to be drawn to the Parish Council's attention  
3 Members of the public in 'virtual attendance'.

Request for additional speed restrictions on Mashbury road. More evidence of speed issues is required. Essex County Council and Essex Police need to approve any changes to speed limits. The Process normally takes 2 years to from start to finish.

Why have Oak Posts been installed around the croquet court? This has been discussed in the Parish Council Meetings and was approved in principle in January 2020. The Grass will be cut twice a month by croquet club members.

Goal Post requirements? What is the future demand and the best site – This is covered under item 2020/166

The Bench against the roadside hedge in the playing field, Is there an alternative position? It is felt that this is an ideal position where it is. Can the hedge cut be made without damaging the bench?

Gardening express. Concerns raised about the on-road parking. Suggested this is in breach of the agreement for the business.

When is the Croquet playing season -? Confirmed as April through to October.

How often is the hedge in the playing field cut – Once a year.

2020/160 Planning

1. Revised Warren Farm Master Plan Consultation and approval of the Council Response  
The Parish response was issued on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Resolution Clerk to follow up with Planning department.**

2. Update on the Persimmon Homes development  
The housebuilding is ongoing with phase 3 of 4 being worked on. Concern that the Haul Road has become the main access road. The Ducting work to change the old road has started and the roadworks will continue until about October 2020. The Planting season for the landscaping will roll straight on once the road works are complete.
3. **Ref:** 20/00725/FUL. **Address:** 1 Boundary Bungalows Mashbury Road Chignal St James Chelmsford. **Description of works:** To supply and install a small package sewage treatment plant.

The Chignal Parish Plan, Objective 20, supports opportunities for residents to improve their homes in line with the Chignal Villages Design Statement. It is considered that this development would not affect adjoining residents unduly and nor would it impact on its rural



# Chignal Parish Council July Minutes continued

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setting. However, the sewage treatment plant is located at the front of the house, and from the detailed drawings, there appears to be an outlet, but no information provided on where effluent will be discharged.

**Resolution** **Recommended for approval subject to appropriate measures being taken to ensure the proper discharge of sewage from the outlet at the front of the house.**

- 4 . **Ref:** 20/00825/FUL **Address:** Barn South Hillcroft, Chignal Road, Chignal Smealy, Chelmsford. **Description of works:** Removal of identified buildings on site and re-use and conversion of existing buildings on site to a residential dwelling.

Status of the site and buildings the 'barn' which is proposed for conversion to a residential dwelling appears to be a dilapidated shed on a former smallholding rather than an agricultural barn. We consider that there is insufficient evidence that the building was used as part of an agricultural trade or business. The applicant mentions the presence of a farm shop on the site of the neighbouring property "Hillcroft" in the past. Several long-standing Chignal Smealey residents have reported that they visited the shop sited in the garden of "Hillcroft" which sold eggs, imported fruit such as oranges, bananas and grapes, potatoes, vegetables, and children's sweets. Of these goods, it appears that only the eggs were produced on the site; all the other products sold in the shop were bought in. On this evidence, it is disputed that the building that is the subject of this application formed part of an agricultural holding and thus cannot be regarded as an "agricultural building". Neither is it considered to be of sufficient historical or architectural merit to justify its conversion and conservation as a residential dwelling. The Structural Engineer's report on this building seems to indicate that it needs demolition and rebuilding to comply with current building regulations for insulation, ventilation, and daylight openings. It comments that the roof, external boarding, the timber stud walls, and the unreinforced concrete floor slab need substantial repair or replacement so there would not be a lot left of the original structure. There are also no services to the plot so Electricity, Water and drainage would have to be installed. The photographs show rotten timbers, cracked concrete floor slab and years of decay in the structure. Access the Parish Council also has concerns regarding access to this site as it has limited sightlines on a blind bend, on to the Chignal Road. Several aspects of the Design and Access Statement are not accurate. The Existing Location Plan on page 8 shows the road access as "Manor Road". There is no Manor Road in Chignal: this should be Chignal Road. The site is not well served by public transport: The Lodges bus which is the only one that serves Chignal Smealey runs to Chelmsford town centre once a day on a Friday and Saturday. To access the bus stops for regular services to Chelmsford would be difficult: there is no pedestrian path on Woodhall Hill/Chignal Road and no direct public right of way across the fields to access the bus stops, shops, school and other community services on Copperfield Road. Furthermore, it is also suggested that cycling to Chelmsford would be possible using local footpaths. Under current legislation this would not be permitted. Future use of the site In the Chignal Villages Design Statement, (page 18) reference is made to "the trees and hedges in and around the good sized housing plots in the Woodhall area of Chignal Smealey helping to maintain the rural feel and the gaps between the properties emphasise the rural location by showing that there are no buildings behind". We would prefer this site to remain open and used as a small holding or as allotments. The need for any additional housing in this part of Chignal is being met more than adequately by the extensive new residential development in the parish north of Copperfield Road and by the recent permission granted nearby for the conversion of a complex of largely 19<sup>th</sup> century agricultural barns to 8 residential units, to the west of Beaumont Otes.

**Resolution** **It is recommended that this planning application is refused.**

2020/161 County and City Councillors' Reports

- i. **Essex County Councillor Report** the Essex Welfare Service has been very well received. ECC want to roll this service in to the Essex Wellbeing Service and keep it open. Park & Rides reopening. Some thought being given to Park & Cycle service. Local Raves – Essex Police is very aware and has proactively placed an Order on areas they expect problems. So that they are empowered to move potential party goers away. Tindall square is potentially being pedestrianised. Other parts of the area being reviewed.

# Chignal Parish Council July Minutes continued

ii. **Chelmsford City Councillor Report** Apologies were received

2020/162 Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Resolution: The Minutes were confirmed**

2020/163 Finance:  
Account Balances: 05-07-2020:

Cheque Account	£ 11,134.07
Saving Account	£ 56,108.95

**Total** **£67,243.02**

Breakdown:

Precept	£ 3,345.08 (£240.65 cheques to be cashed)
Orchard Account	£ 696.17
Cil Account	£ 48,863.41 (£1878 cheque to be cashed)
Parish reserve	£ 14,338.36

Income:

Interest	£9.95
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**Resolution the Accounts were noted**

To approve Cheques to be signed and issued:

Cheque nr	Item	Cheque Value	Budget Classification
100961	Tamlyn and Son	£1878	CIL
100962	Essex Pension Fund- June	£123.72	Salary
100963	Clerks Wages - June	£93.53	Salary
100964	HMRC- PAYE - June	£23.40	Salary
100965	Essex Pension Fund- July	£123.72	Salary
100966	HMRC – PAYE - July	£23.40	Salary
100967	Clerks Wages - July	£93.53	Salary

**Total Payments** **£2359.30**

**Resolution: The Payments were approved**

2020/164 **Representatives' Reports: to note**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A) <u>Playing Field</u>                | Grass has been cut. Two Key Holders.   |
| B) <u>Village Hall Liaison</u>         | Closed for the foreseeable future.   |
| C) <u>Newsletter Including Website</u> | August Newsletter to be online version only.   |
| D) <u>Gravel Liaison</u>               | Area Z work complete. Handed over for Farmland.  |
| E) <u>Community Safety</u>             | Defer to community meeting   |
| F) <u>Highways (to include Hedges)</u> | Concerns on road edges collapsing into ditches.<br>Road closure detours raised concerns. |

# Chignal Parish Council July Minutes continued

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G) Footpaths/Bridleways

Landowners have been very responsive.

H) Tree Warden

Some Trees in the Parish are 500 years old.

2020/165 Update on meeting with the CCTV company based at Boyton Hall

**Resolution** **Defer until the requirement and specification is established**

2020/166 Discussion and approval on the playing field goal post consultation and update on the Gazebo. Shire Oak will start installation on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. The Consultation was sent out and a chaser e-mail was sent. The Parish Response was low. Chignal ST James were the biggest users of the facility. The Young people value the facility and requested a full-size goal. The Field is used as a rugby training area, picnic area, an 800m running track and a football kickabout. Suggestions that the boundary fence and trees be cut back to maximise the useable area. Suggested uses includes Archery, Drone Flying and a child play area.

**Resolution** **Support the purchase of a full-size goal for the playground (that is removeable)**

**Resolution** **Suspend Financial regulations and accept the single quote.**

**Resolution** **Clerk to Order Goal Post (include installation) and advise delivery date.**

**Resolution** **Create a Recreation committee with membership of 3 Parish Councillors and three members of the public. Cllr Elwick, Towns and Nelson.**

**Resolution** **Terms of reference to be drawn up and agreed at full council**

**Resolution** **Recreation Committee to agree location of the Goal Post.**

**Resolution** **Investigate a basketball hoop or a Muga.**

2020/167 Cll Applications:  
1. Village Hall replacement Shed.  
Proposal to install a new wooden building on a concrete base. Expecting to be 100% Cll funding.  
Defer to the next meeting.

2020/168 Discussion on action taken on the Three Elms pub site.  
No response from the owners of the site.

2020/169 Review and approve Bi-Monthly Bank Reconciliation.  
Noted the accounts and cash book balanced.

2020/170 Report on the Scramble bikes on the old Pit and bridleways since May.  
Noted this has not happened recently.

2020/171 Discussion on Fly Tipping activity since May.  
Noted that Chelmsford City Council is very responsive to Fly Tipping.

2020/172 Review Accounts 2020-2021.  
The accounts were viewed with the slight enhancement on the spreadsheet to show the Cll, Orchard and Reserves.

**Resolution** **Ensure that the Vat expenditure on the Orchard Account is added to the Orchard account**

**Resolution** **No Issues raised**

2020/173 Items for next Agenda  
Clerks Annual Review Meeting to be arranged with Cllr Towns, Ballard, and Nelson  
Cricket Field – Can this be registered as an asset of community Value? – Cllr Nelson



# Chignal Parish Council July Minutes continued

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Playing field update from Recreation Committee – Cllr Elwick  
Cil Applications -m Village Hall Storage Shed – Cllr Towns

Meeting Closed: 21.18  
Will Adshead-Grant  
Clerk to the Council

**Next Meeting**                      **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September @ 7.30pm**      - It may be online.

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## **“FRIENDS OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY”**

**Do you have an occasion when you need a helping hand?**

**If so, we can offer for example:**

**Assistance with Light Shopping**

**Help With Attending Appointments (Doctor, Dentist, Vets etc.)**

**Prescription Collection / Library Book Returns etc.**

**Help With Seeking Advice or Filling In Forms etc.**

**Companionship / Someone to Talk to**

**Light Domestic Duties etc., etc.**

**We realise that you may already have a kindly relative, friend or neighbour helping you in some way. However, on the odd occasion, there may be times that they are unable to be there for you. If so, please contact us between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on one of the following telephone numbers:**

**01245 440241 - (Helen), 01245 443497 – (Sarah),**

**07798 922219 - (Julia), 07856 951245 – (Maggie),**

**01245 440880 – Lynn),**

**01245 440339 – (Joan), 01245 440528 – (Barbara)**

**We will call you back as soon as possible to discuss your individual needs. Please leave your name and telephone number if we do not answer your call immediately.**

**Note: Please keep this notice handy as it might be useful one day.**

# Gardening Club

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Sadly, the AGM in April and all the pre-arranged summer garden visits had to be cancelled due to Coronavirus. All visits have been moved to the same month next year, so dates will be advised once finalised early in the new year.

The plant sale on the last weekend in May was a great success. It was fantastic that all plants grown for the annual fete found new homes and we raised £284 for club funds. Thanks to all that donated plants (especially Janet Campen who always contributes numerous plants!) and to those who kindly donated at the sale. We hope your new plants are now thriving in your gardens.

As we do not yet have a confirmed date for reopening of the Village Hall, the winter programme of meetings is also on hold. We will update members once we have confirmation of the reopening of the Hall.

In the meantime, we hope you all enjoy your own gardens this summer.

If you are interested in joining the club once it restarts, please email Elaine at [gardening.chignalsmashbury@gmail.com](mailto:gardening.chignalsmashbury@gmail.com) for further details.





St Nicholas Church

# HARVEST FESTIVAL

St Nicholas church yard , October 11th, 11am



**A service for Harvest Thanksgiving to be taken by Canon Rev'd Janet Nicholls, Rural and Agricultural Chaplin for the Diocese.**

Please bring your own garden chair.

*If people would like to give items for The Chelmsford Food Bank they would be much appreciated.*



**Steve Middleditch ringing the bell in St Nicholas' church on VE day - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Grenville Tower fire**



# St Nicholas' Church



**Photos top and above:**  
War memorial protective coverings funded by the Bats in Churches Project, installed the week before lockdown.  
Photo left (taken before lockdown) - Helen organising the coverings for the war memorials before lockdown.





# The Chignals & Mashbury Jubilee Community Orchard

We hope that some of you have visited the orchard as part of your daily exercise during the COVID-19 lock-down and enjoyed strolling amongst the fruit trees and the wildflowers.

Despite life changing in March, our committee members have continued to make sure that the orchard is well looked after: grass paths have been mown; trees pruned, fed and mulched and fruit thinned. We have just scythed the entire site and were delighted to be joined by some energetic volunteers who made short work of raking up the hay.

The George Cave and Braintree Seedling dessert apples and some of the pears have fruited well this year and we have had some plums for the first time. Sadly, due to recent changes to the COVID-19 regulations, we have had to cancel our planned **Autumn Fruit Celebration** on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Instead, we shall put out apples and quinces on the orchard picnic table for you to collect from the middle of October. Fruit will also be displayed at a **Harvest Thanksgiving** service, at St Nicholas Church, outside in the churchyard, on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October** at 11.00 led by Rev. Janet Nicholls, Rural Adviser & Agricultural Chaplain.



The wildflowers around the trees and in the semi-circular meadow have been spectacular this year. Early on we were treated to a sea of white Ox-eye Daisies and yellow Cowslips, followed by Yellow Rattle and Vetches and now Ladies Bedstraw, Hedge Bedstraw, Scabious, Geranium, Betony and purple flowered Knapweed.

# Chignals & Mashbury Jubilee Community Orchard continued

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These attract clouds of butterflies, moths and other pollinating insects. The Bug Hotel is well used by a variety of insects, including Leaf-cutter Bees and our wildlife cameras have revealed that badgers and foxes also visit the orchard.

The most exciting discovery made by Moira and Simon this year was a Pyramidal Orchid in the long grass!



Thank you for continuing to enjoy and support your community orchard. Just a reminder, that if you come by car, you can now park opposite the orchard gate in the new playing field car park.

If you would like to be added to the Orchard Friends mailing list to receive orchard updates, please email:

[chignal.mashburyjubileeorchard@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chignal.mashburyjubileeorchard@hotmail.co.uk)

Best wishes

Lynn and the Orchard Committee



## **ODD JOBS WANTED !**

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I am raising funds for my World Challenge trip to Borneo and Malaysia in 2021, organised through my school. To help raise some money I am looking for some jobs around the garden for example log stacking, weeding, clearing and painting etc. All money raised will go to helping local communities and wildlife in the two countries.

Contact [annamcd@mail.com](mailto:annamcd@mail.com) for more details. Thank you, William Nuttall



## **Women's Institute**

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At our last meeting in March we had a very entertaining speaker, Martin Lockwood, who told us a little bit of the history of sending postcards and showed us a number of humorous seaside postcards.

We were amazed to learn that every seaside town had its own board of censors who decided which postcards were suitable to be sold in their town and that censorship ended in 1968, perhaps the 1960's were not as permissive as we'd thought!

Unfortunately the current situation has led to all future W.I. meetings being suspended but we hope to resume meetings later in the year, covid restrictions permitting.

Wishing you and your loved ones continued good health,

Wendy Steele.

# Lockdown in Little Hollows

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We came back from holiday at the beginning of March to a different world. Food shortages, panic buying (especially loo rolls!) fear and uncertainty.

As the weeks went by we gradually adapted to this different way of life. Home schooling our grandchildren on Zoom every morning for 16 weeks has been such fun and a major feature of lockdown. There has been so much brilliant material on the BBC and from so many other sources. KS2 English grammar has been interesting! How many of us learnt about fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases etc. at school? We're now up to speed thanks to our eight year-old grand daughter! Family quiz nights on Zoom have been fun. (Bella's quiz questions below!)

Some other snapshot moments for us have been the amazing spring weather with clear blue aircraft-free skies, birdsong like we've never heard it before, flower filled lanes and uncut verges. We've noticed more visiting wildlife too. Traffic free roads for cycling and walking, non of the usual litter thrown from cars, families out walking, reclaiming Hollow Lane as a litter free pleasant space for walkers, cyclists and little children learning to ride a bike have been great. We've been clapping for our NHS workers and there's been much joke sharing on our neighbourhood WhatsApp group.

Tony's weekly Little Hollows egg delivery has been a hit. We've enjoyed some long walks, exploring more of our lovely footpaths, with some foraging when the nettle tips were young and the woods at Hartford End were full of wild garlic. We've reared many baby frogs from hundreds of tadpoles in our small pond. We've visited our beautiful community orchard a number of times to check on the fruit and wildflowers. We've watched the baby wrens, robins and blue tits in the garden rear their young.

Now things are getting back to normal and we can go further on our bikes. It's great that a few cafés are opening so that there's now a destination to aim for. We can also ride with up to six friends again.

Socially distanced tea and cake in the garden is how we've been seeing friends for the moment, but it was great to sample that first pint at the newly reopened Compasses at Little Green.

Pilates under the oak tree and Boot Camp on the green have been wonderful as we gradually ease out of lockdown.

Maggie

# NATURE ROUND

1. What birds have no eyeballs?
2. Who does 90% of the hunting – the male or the female lion?
3. Trees can warn each other of danger – true or false?
4. What baby animal uses its bottom as a pillow?
5. For how many hours each day does a koala sleep?
6. What do puffins use to scratch themselves?
7. Cows have best friends – true or false?
8. What do prairie dogs do to show affection?

### Apologies to Wordsworth

I wondered lonely as a cloud  
Two metres from the madding crowd  
When all at once my name was called  
To enter Waitrose hallowed hall

This was the pensioners' special hour  
I'd gone to get a bag of flour  
But I forgot, when through the door  
What I had gone to Waitrose for

The Waitrose staff were extra kind  
I told them it had slipped my mind  
They asked what else I had forgot  
They clearly thought I'd lost the plot.

I phoned my wife again to ask  
She reminded me of this special task  
I need some flour to bake a cake  
With all that cream you made me take!

' Ah yes I recall' I had to lie  
I dared not ask what flower to buy  
But then I saw them next the till  
A bunch of golden daffodils!



## **Article from Cllr. David Finch, Leader of Essex County Council, for EALC/Parish newsletters, Sep 2020:**

The future shape of local councils in Essex is being discussed, writes Cllr David Finch, the Leader of Essex County Council, with the opportunity to simplify the current system coming soon.

This month (September), The Government is expected to bring forward a white paper, which will begin the process of reforming local councils in 'two-tier' County Council areas.

From our discussions with the Government, it is clear that it sees the current two-tier system of county and district councils, or county and city or borough councils as imperfect, and that unitary authorities, which are responsible for all council services in a defined area, are seen as a better option for delivering services. In Essex, for example, this might lead to between two and four new unitary councils.

In a recent speech, the Minister for Local Government, Simon Clarke MP, also pointed to the importance of the future role of town and parish councils, as the Government looks at the potential to devolve more decision making to local level.

In Essex work has begun on what the new 'map' of Essex Councils might look like, with initial discussions having taken place over the summer. Across Essex, we have one of the most complex local government structures in the UK – one county council, 12 district/borough/city councils and two unitary councils in Southend and Thurrock.

There is a real commitment and ambition to consider how much more can be achieved with a simplified system.

Alongside this, and providing new unitary councils are agreed, the Government will also allow us to submit proposals for a 'Combined Authority', led by a directly elected Mayor. A combined authority would be represented by the leaders of the new unitary councils, and would be able to secure funding for investment in our economy and infrastructure. The ambition in Essex is to have proposals ready to submit following the publication of the White Paper.

I would stress that alongside this work, we will keep a focus on working with our partners and delivering for our residents and businesses throughout this period.

We have made a positive start on this work. Keeping residents and businesses at the heart of our thinking, and ensuring we get the best possible deal and structures to support them in the future, is what will guide our thinking.

Cllr David Finch  
Leader, Essex County Council



# Cricket Club

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This season has been widely disrupted but we have arranged several friendlies. We would like to invite new members to have a game.

Those aged 9+ can practice on a Monday after 6pm. Adults and experienced players or over 16 should come on Friday after 6pm.

If interested please let me know 07979 344662. On behalf of Chignal Cricket club Alastair Bevitt-Smith.

## Community Orchard Scything 24/08/2020



I'm pleased to report that we managed to complete the annual scything of the orchard grass in a record 3 hours, on Monday, using an Austrian scythe, a motor scythe and strimmers.

Many thanks to the following volunteers who turned out this morning to help rake up the sweet smelling hay: Maggie; Sandra and Lee; Joan and Norman; Steve and Jon. It was lovely to be able to catch up with each other whilst raking in the sunshine after being isolated for so long during the months of lock-down.



## NEWSFLASH

September 10th 2020

info@chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk 07512 574 542

Emergency food for people in crisis

Thank you for your encouragement and generosity though the past 5 months:

### Items in order of need

#### Food items

Tinned Potatoes  
Jam/preserves/spreads  
Instant Mash sachets  
Instant custard sachets  
Tinned custard  
Tinned rice pudding

#### Toiletries

Ladies deodorants  
Ladies shampoo  
Washing powder/liquid/gel

Please bring to the Foodbank Warehouse in Beehive Lane if your usual donation place is still not available. Thank you.

[www.chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk)  
Follow us on Facebook as well



# St Nicholas Church in Lockdown

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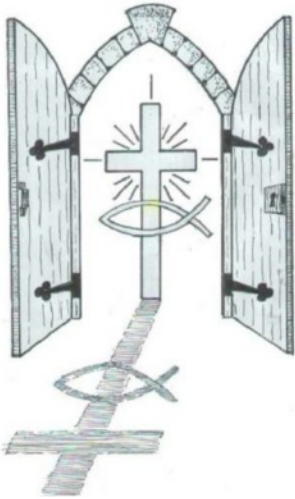
In March as a result of Covid 19 the doors of St Nicholas Church were temporarily bolted. We were very sad to do so, other than when building work has taken place it is believed to be the first time in the history of our village church. During this time Rev'd Sandra has led virtual Sunday weekly services plus Wednesday weekly night prayers. They can be accessed by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/Little-GreatChurches-at-Home-11099396389881>.

Alison, our administrator, has sent out a weekly pew sheet enabling us to keep in contact with what is going on across the benefice. With Alison's support numerous phone calls were made, letters, emails and cards sent to parishioners. Permission was obtained from the acting Bishop of Chelmsford for Steve Middleditch to ring the bell to commemorate VE Day. The roadside was decorated with tubs filled with red, white and blue plants. The Grenfell Tower third anniversary was marked with the ringing of the bell, an initiative organised by the Bishop of London.

The PCC has worked hard making St Nicholas Church, a Covid 19 safe environment. We were delighted to hold our first service following the gradual lifting of lockdown in July. It was a happy informal service. We have hosted two services for the benefice, taken by Rev'd Sandra and Rev'd Neil on Sunday 16th and 30th August, respectively. Both services were held in the church yard. The church is open every Sunday 10am-6pm, we hope to be able to open more often in the near future and will advise you accordingly. Please do feel free to visit St Nicholas Church. You are very welcomed to any of our services. We would love to see you. The last few months have presented community and personal challenges to us all. Please remember the church community is there for you, whether you attend St Nicholas Church or not, Rev'd Sandra, 07795 373832 and Alison our administrator 07957 228467 [admin@littleandgreat.org.uk](mailto:admin@littleandgreat.org.uk) are available for you to contact should you wish to do so.

## Bat project

The protective coverings for the war memorials are now completed. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the bat walk which was planned to take place in September will not now take place until next year, more details to follow.



## Church of England Services in September 2020

### Our Churches are Open for Services and Private Prayer

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	Service at Ford End
	10am – 6pm	Open for Prayer Chignals
	11.30 – 1pm	Open for prayer at Great Waltham
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00am	Service at Great Waltham
	11.00am	Outdoor Service at Chignals, please bring own chair
	2pm – 5pm	Open for prayer at Ford End
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30 am	Service at Ford End
	10am – 6pm	Open for Prayer Chignals
	11.30 – 1pm	Open for prayer at Great Waltham

In addition to the above Ford End Church will also be open for private prayer every Thursday 10am to midday. Where possible, please phone Sheila Bearman **07977077945** in advance of attending Ford End Church Sunday services, to help with social distancing planning.

Given the on-going uncertainties about how COVID19 will progress during the coming months the above may be subject to change or restrictions, following national and Church of England guidance. Our primary concern is that worshippers are kept safe so anyone entering Church **MUST** follow the guidelines and the directions given to them by the Stewards and facemasks must be worn.

## Facebook

Our online Sunday Services at 10.30am are available to be viewed on our Facebook Page  
**Little & Great Churches at Home**

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator  
Tel: 07957 228467  
[admin@littleandgreat.org.uk](mailto:admin@littleandgreat.org.uk)

# **Why Does St. Nicholas Need You?**

Our Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM) is planned for Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7pm, in the village hall. Subject to covid restriction this may or may not go ahead, but if it does, we hope that you will come along, especially if you can offer some help to support St Nicholas' Church.

Currently, we have four members of the PCC: Nigel Bevitt-Smith; who is treasurer, Linda Nelson; secretary, Tony Towns; acting chairman and Cherry Scott. Nigel is intending to stand down from the PCC but is prepared to continue as treasurer. Tony and his wife Helen do much of the preparation for services and host the visiting clergy, Cherry is a great source of local knowledge and provides advice and guidance.

We have a group of ladies that regularly help clean the church and arrange flowers, volunteers also help with the churchyard clearances.

The legal administration, bookings of weddings, baptism, funerals and visiting clergy is done by the benefice administrator, Alison Bates, which is a great help, as we are now without an incumbent vicar.

All services need to be organised, this work is mainly done by Tony and Helen, who helped keep St. Nicholas running, when there was no vicar, for over 11 years until, Revd Caroline Brown, became the new incumbent, but they cannot carry on doing this forever, they would like to be able to take more of a back seat!

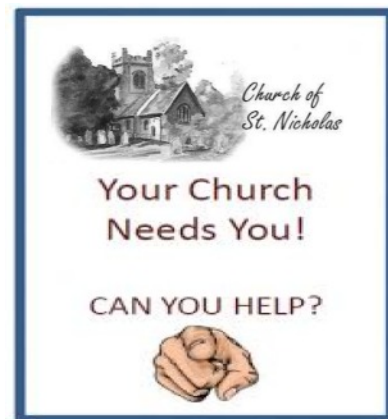
Revd Caroline has now moved to another parish and the PCC are in the process of working with the other parishes to select a new incumbent. Although due to Covid 19 this is unlikely to happen any time soon and the lack of a church warden is also a restrictive issue, but it is important, that St Nicholas' voice is heard when this process resumes and for this we need some "new blood" to come forward and take up the mantle of helping St Nicholas keep going for the benefit of us all.

I am, by a good few years, the youngest of the PCC members and some of the other members would love to be able to hand over to a "safe pair of hands". Ideally, we are looking for a church warden, but we would be extremely grateful, if you would be prepared to become a member of the PCC and help spread the responsibility of running St Nicholas.

We know that the residents off the Chignals and Mashbury hold a great affection for St. Nicholas church. We have a healthy (for the size of the village) regular congregation at our monthly services and at special services the church is often full.

Our village assets, such as: the church, the chapel, the cricket ground, the "pub", the village hall, the green, and the orchard are precious assets that need to be supported or we risk losing them, as has already happened with the Three Elms. Volunteering has health benefits to the volunteer, so if you could help us and would be willing to join St Nicholas' PCC, please let me know or come along to the APCM

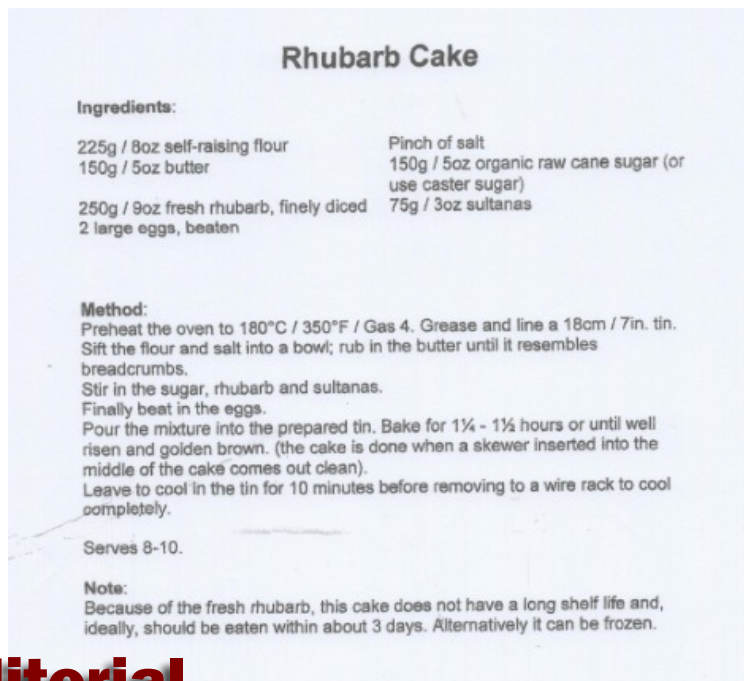
Linda Nelson Telephone 01245 442625  
e-mail: [linda.nelson@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.nelson@btinternet.com)





# Rhubarb Cake Recipe

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## Editorial

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I hope you enjoy the first edition of the Chignal news since lockdown. As I compiled this edition, it struck me once again, how lucky we are to live where we do. I am also so impressed with everything our community has been doing during lockdown to take care of each other and to try to keep the functions of the community going, which includes the parish council, St Nicholas' church and the chapel. Meetings of the parish council have been held via zoom and the church CPS meetings after one zoom meeting have been hosted in Tony and Helen's gardens. Church services have been held once again, even though they are outside, the good weather has helped make them even more memorable and meaningful.

Online deliveries seem to be more available now, I well remember my excitement at finally getting an online slot from Morrisons and Waitrose. In the early days of lockdown, I did not want to go to the shops and spent hours trying to get a slot to no avail, luckily I had lots of frozen food and "just in case" cans, which have been depleted (no more out of date cans!), but eggs, flour, loo rolls and cat food! were in short supply. The Mashbury liveries rallied round and we got supplies for each other, baked cakes and other produce, which we shared round. We were also grateful to Chris from Beadles when he started supplying us with eggs, that is until Mr Fox, killed some of his hens. Luckily, Sue Fincham was able to help us out with some eggs which saw us through until supplies improved.

With new restrictions coming in on Monday, we have to make more adjustments just as we were starting to feel life could start to return to "normal". I think we are a long way

off from that and we need to take the best of our experiences of lockdown, to improve our lives going forward. I think the reduction in traffic, because more people were working from home, was a good thing. Talking to friends and family via zoom, facetime or WhatsApp helped everyone from being lonely when we could not meet up and makes us all realise how important it is to keep in touch with one another.

Teaching during lockdown was an interesting experience, luckily, I teach computer science so it was easier for me than in some other subjects. We are now back at school but that is a steep learning curve for everyone, as the Covid situation fluctuates.

The availability of food may or may not become an issue again so please note that there is a fruit and veg man delivering to Mashbury and Chignal every Friday. He is called Darren Cox and usually trades on Chelmsford high street on a Friday and Saturday. Email: [Coxythevegman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Coxythevegman@hotmail.co.uk)

Email him a list on Wednesday. He delivers Friday. He includes a till receipt and bank details for payment. You can pay by bank transfer if you prefer no contact or give cash on delivery.

June McLean is also selling homemade produce (cakes, pies and puddings from her home (1 Israel Bungalows, Fox Road) on Fridays from 10 am to 4 pm. Gluten free and vegan products are available. Call June on 07784 937264, to order in advance. Delivery is free to local addresses.



# **Chignal Parish Council**

C/O 45 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1DH

Tel: 01245 360811 Email: [Chignalpc@gmail.com](mailto:Chignalpc@gmail.com)

Clerk: Will Adshead-Grant

Chair: Lynn Ballard

Website: [e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish](http://e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish)

Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

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Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7.30pm

2020/174 Chairman's Welcome

Community Group meeting this evening. Litter Pick in October over a week – collecting around their own house due to the Covid restrictions. Proposal for a book exchange in the phone box. New entrants to the parish – potential to manage this for the parish council.

Chairperson Ballard

Councillors Towns, Lewis, Elwick and Nelson

2020/175 Apologies for Absence  
Cllr Feltwell

2020/176 Register of Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation  
None requested

2020/177 Public Open Session for any matters that need to be drawn to the Parish Council's attention.

4 members of the public

Speeding traffic concerns in Mashbury Road – driving too fast for the road condition – possibly from Mashbury Hall. Cllr Towns to discuss.

E-mail –

received about the community governance review – Land available around Chignal Road and Mashbury Road – these be picked up in the next Chelmsford Plan.

Is there another Census due – the last one was in 2011?

- Post Meeting this is planned for March 2021 but an alternative is being investigated by the [UK Statistics Authority](#) in a research programme, called Beyond 2011.

2020/178 Planning Decisions

18/00001/MAS Land North of Warren Farm – Pending Consideration

20/00825/FUL Barn South of Hillcroft – Pending Consideration

2020/179 Planning Applications

1. Update on the Persimmon Homes development, Roads Works, Landscaping and Housing completions.

BT poles removed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The Road is closed until Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Meeting planned with Persimmon to understand the timetable of road closures. Revised Drawing number 17 – for landscaping. The House building is progressing – most of the ground works are started. All roads and Landscaping will be maintained between highways and Persimmon (Copperfield Management company). 48 new trees and 200m of native hedging.

2. Reference: 20/01340/FUL

Address: 3 Ash Rise Chignal Road Chignal Smealey Chelmsford



# Chignal Parish Council September Minutes continued

Description of works: To install a small package sewage treatment plant.

**Resolution: No Comment on this application.**

3. Warren Farm Master Plan – Report to Chelmsford City Council's Policy Board 1<sup>st</sup> October.  
A Meeting was held online with the City Council planning department, A landscaping buffer was requested between the Parish and the development. Concerns were raised about the changes to the bus link. A Special meeting of the policy board to be held to discuss.

2020/180 County and City Councillors' Reports

i. Essex County Councillor Report

Local Government review by Central Government (white paper) due at the end of September or early October. Suggestion that Essex could be split in to 3 or 4 Unitary Councils with a Combined authority across Essex. Devolution requires an elected mayor. Essex has asked to join the first wave of change.

Central Government review of planning – This consultation is active.

E-Scooters in Essex - A One-year pilot has been proposed, rented units in the main urban areas – may be able to use the cycleways and roads. Park & Pedal from the Essex Park and Ride sites. New Road measures are an 18 month trial.

ii. Chelmsford City Councillor Report .

Creation of a Navigable waterway into the centre of Chelmsford by removing the sluice gates. Focus on affordable housing. The Covid-19 financing of Councils continue.

2020/181 Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Resolution Confirmation of the minutes.**

2020/182 Note the Orchard Sub Committee minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020

**Resolution Noted**

2020/183 Orchard Sub Committee Membership – Nomination of a Councillor  
With Cllr Feltwell' s likely departure and the terms of reference a minimum of one Parish Councillor needed to be appointed.

**Resolution Cllr Elwick and Lewis Volunteered to be Nominated.**

2020/184 Finance:  
Account Balances: 06-09-2020:

	Cheque Account	£ 6,328.12
	Saving Account	£ 56,116.71
Income	Interest	£7.76 (included above)
<b>Total</b>		<b>£62,444.83</b>

**Resolution The Accounts were received.**

To approve Cheques to be signed and issued:

Cheque nr	Item	Cheque Value	Budget Classification
DD	Bank Charges	£2.00	Bank Charges

# Chignal Parish Council September Minutes continued

100967	Clerk's Salary July	£93.53	Salary
100968	Shire Oak – Part Payment	£1602	Cil
100969	MH Goals	£600	Cil
100970	HMRC	£23.40	Salary
100971	Essex Pension Fund	£123.72	Salary
100972	Clerk's Salary August	£93.53	Salary
100918	Tamlyn & Sons	Cancelled	Cancelled
100924	D.Tamlyn	£2,148.00	CIL
100919	Orchard - Fast Sign – Cllr Middleditch	£267.20	Cil
100920	Orchard- Cllr Feltwell	£138.67	Orchard
100921	Clerks Salary - September	£154.79	Salary
100922	Essex Pension Fund	£147.43	Salary
100923	HMRC	£38.80	Salary
100925	Internal Audit fee – 2018-2019	£150.00	Internal Audit
100926	DM Payroll PAYE	£54.00	Salary

**Total Payments £5637.07**

**Resolution *The Cheques were approved for payment.***

Account Breakdown from Cash Book:

Precept	£ 2,240.57 (£3,800 due October)
Orchard Account	£ 557.50
Cil Account	£ 42,368.21
Parish reserve	£ 14,338.36

**Total £59,504.64**

2020/185

**Representatives' Reports: to note**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| A) Playing Field             | - A Hedge cut later in the year to be planned.   |
| B) Village Hall Liaison      | - Potential to open to Parish Clubs.   |
| C) Newsletter                | - Parish News (25 pages) being distributed electronically.                               |
| D) Website                   | - discuss with the community group to find authors to update club pages via Cllr Nelson. |
| E) Gravel Liaison            | - Area Z is restored, and the footpath has re-opened.                                    |
| F) Community Safety          | - Emergency Planning or Parish Safety Meeting.   |
| G) Highways (include Hedges) | - potholes filled in near Langley's and towards the Church.                              |
| H) Footpaths /Bridleways     | - Landowner plans to reseed two of the bridleways.                                       |
| I) Tree Warden               | - Poplar between Langley's and the Church. Landowner contacted for action.               |

# Chignal Parish Council September Minutes continued

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- 2020/186 Discuss and approve the terms of reference for the Recreation Committee  
**Resolution Clerk to Draft.**  
**Resolution Cllr Ballard to send out for consultation and appeal for members to join.**
- 2020/187 Cll Applications:  
1. Village Hall replacement Shed  
**Resolution Defer to the next meeting**
- 2020/188 Cricket Field – Can this be registered as an asset of community Value.  
**Resolution Agree in principle to start the process subject a positive response from the owner.**
- 2020/189 Community Safety – ANPR cameras  
Discuss with a local landowner around system he has installed.  
Guideline costs to be sought and a proposal written. Potential for a consultation via Parish News.  
Location of cameras to be agreed with potential householders.  
**Resolution Proposal to be e-mailed out for review.**
- 2020/190 Discuss Parish Footpaths and bridleways – a new guide to walking routes.  
Can be printed out as a booklet. Thanks to Cllr Lewis for the work put into the routes.
- 2020/191 Discuss and approve costs for assembly and installation of the new Goal Post on the playing field.  
**Resolution Approval In principle to spend £500 to install and assemble the new Goal Post**  
**Resolution Clerk to contact City Council and other contractors as available.**
- 2020/192 Playing field update from Recreation Committee.  
Shire Oak – Starts 15/09/2020 – 3 days works to complete.  
Tamlyn to finish off the soil and make level.  
Remove the bench  
Quote from MUGA - £11,600 +VAT.  
**Resolution: Consultation with the Parish to understand the future needs of the Parish.**
- 2020/193 Mashbury road request for Speed Limit reduction, Hedge Cutting and Roadside Mirrors.  
Three elms to Britton Farm.  
**Resolution Borrow the Great Waltham speed camera and set up run for a week.**  
  
Note speed limit is 60 MPH
- 2020/194 Community Governance – Informal Review by Chelmsford City Council – Discuss and approve the Consultation Response.  
**Resolution Cllr Ballard to prepare a copy of the questionnaire and issue to the Council.**
- 2020/195 Central Government - Local Government review white paper.  
**Resolution Defer as this consultation has not been issued yet.**



# Chignal Parish Council September Minutes continued

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2020/196 Planning Consultations by Central Government  
Planning 1<sup>st</sup> October – noted.

**Resolution The Parish Council has No response.**

Future Planning 29<sup>th</sup> October – Meeting to discuss.

**Resolution Propose an online meeting to discuss in October  
Cllrs Towns, Elwick and Ballard.**

2020/197 Agree a date for the Budget Meeting for 2021/2022 and precept.  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – 10am

**Resolution Clerk to set up a meeting via zoom**

2020/198 Discuss the Internal Audit report for 2019-2020  
The Audit was reviewed and discussed.

**Resolution The recommendations to be discussed at the next meeting.**

2020/199 Confirmation that the Clerk achieved a Satisfactory rating and has moved to Spinal point 14

**Resolution Noted.**

2020/200 Review and approve Bi-Monthly Bank Reconciliation

**Resolution The Accounts were approved**

2020/201 Items for next Agenda  
Review Standing Orders  
Review Financial Regulations  
Review Clerks Contract  
Review Annual Risk Assessment  
Review Asset Register and replacements costs.  
Review the Parish Plan Actions.  
Approve the Precept for 2021-2022

**Next Meeting – Budget Meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> October 10am**

**Next Monthly Meeting Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Meeting closed 21.45  
Will Adshead-Grant  
Clerk to the Council**

As you may be aware, the Parish Council has carried out a number of recent improvements to the Playing Field, including a car park, gazebo, new goal post and demarcation of the croquet courts. At our council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September, we agreed to set up a Recreation Committee to take responsibility for the management of the Playing Field, including the regular inspections of equipment and provision of additional sports facilities.

To carry out this important work, the Recreation Committee needs the support of residents, as existing and potential users of the Playing Field, to join our very small band of parish councillors.

One of the first tasks of this new Committee is to advise the council on whether to invest in the installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) which would provide facilities such as a basketball hoop, small goal, cricket wicket and a surface to practice tennis shots. It is expected that the MUGA would cost around £12,000 to install and there would be additional on-going costs to ensure that this equipment is inspected weekly by a specially trained person and the surfaces are maintained periodically. The annual inspection and maintenance costs could be up to £1,000, (currently, training for an equipment inspector costs £500 every 3 years) which equates to about 25% of our total annual precept.

The initial purchase and installation cost of the MUGA could be funded from a combination of the Parish Council's Community Infrastructure Levy monies, (from developer contributions to the new Persimmon Homes development) and grants from sports funders. The on-going costs would need to be met from an increase in the parish precept collected annually through the Council Tax from each householder in Chignal.

**We should like to hear your views on the following:**

Engaging with existing and potential users of the Playing Field to support the work of the Recreation Committee;

**Question 1: would you be interested in being co-opted to join the Recreation Committee?**

Likely usage of the MUGA to practice basketball, football, cricket and tennis;

**Question 2: would you or any other members of your household use the MUGA to practice any of the sports mentioned above?**

Increasing the annual parish precept to cover the annual maintenance and inspection costs for the MUGA;

**Question 3: would you be willing to pay an additional amount each year as part of the parish council share of the annual Council Tax to fund the annual running costs of the MUGA?**

Please email your answers to these three questions to the Parish Clerk on [chignalpc@gmail.com](mailto:chignalpc@gmail.com) or in a letter to: Mr W Adshead-Grant, 35 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford CM3 1DH by **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**.

Brendan Curran and Justin Mullender have made the Pig & Whistle in Chignal Smealey their home for well over 7 years and over that time they've transformed the use of the beautiful 16th century building from a quiet public house into an award-winning busy restaurant.

If you've not ventured inside, the candles, the white linen tablecloths and boutique decoration provide the ideal backdrop for serving the most delicious seasonal fresh food a la carte menu to thousands of customers from far and wide.

The restaurant was voted the last two years as the most romantic restaurant in Essex so earlier this year the team secured a wedding and civil ceremony license. Couples choose the restaurant for first dates and anniversaries, so the building is the ideal location to host cosy and intimate celebrations of love.

The restaurant caters for foodies from all around Essex as well as visitors from as far as East Anglia and from the London outskirts looking for something unique. Visitors often travel for miles into the village, there's a big following of guests from South Essex who just don't have equivalent restaurants in the Southend, Rochford, Castle Point or Thurrock boroughs.

Brendan and Justin love their social history and it's easy to see with so many touches from the past scattered around the restaurant interior including antique furniture from the family as well as photos of previous owners including a big photo of the Pitts family in the early 1900s proudly standing outside their Pig & Whistle business. Brendan said, "We're so proud to have met many ancestors of previous owners and we often take a walk to the Chignal Smealey churchyard to ensure the Pitts family graves are cleared of ivy."

Like the rest of the world, in March the restaurant team of chefs and serving team were furloughed but the team kept in touch via weekly zoom quizzes. Meanwhile Brendan, Justin and members of their family used the time productively to decorate the outside by themselves, a job they were due to hire contractors to complete this Spring. Justin said, "Operating the building as a successful restaurant customer were very confused by the exterior so a new restaurant sign and bold exterior colour helps us bring the colour of the interior decoration from the inside to the outside.

The business opened up again from early July so that guests can enjoy good food and drink from midday to midnight. Justin said, "With Chelmsford being a commuter town we're seeing a lot of younger people at lunchtime who want to get away from the computer while they're working from home. So many more are also exploring Essex restaurants while they stay away from the metropolis."

Brendan's natural wit and Irish charm ensures that guests are put at ease as he's welcoming guests into their own home. As well as ensuring social distancing, spaced out tables, Brendan is keen to ensure guests use the hand sanitiser and said, "I ask our guest to have a spritz of d'holy water before they come in" which sets the tone for a comfortable yet safe dining experience.

The boys are keen to ensure the restaurant continues to follow guidelines, keeping guests safe while serving delicious food and drink with expert customer service for which the Pig & Whistle Restaurant is renowned.



# The Pig and Whistle Restaurant Continued







Some lovely fruit is now ready for collection from the table in the orchard. Take a look at the attached photo to see how inviting it looks. Please take your own bags to collect it.

On the tray at the front is some Pearl apples. Described as handsome, lightly aromatic, Sweet and crisp, can be chewy, it is a cross between Worcester Pearmain and Rival. Introduced in 1938. One of a series named after semi-precious stones. Ours are quite small and can be eaten in the next few weeks.

In the basket are a lovely crop of Braintree Seedling which have very little insect damage this year. Intense sweet rich aromatic flavour with a hint of pineapple. Quite firm, cream flesh. If you can manage it, try storing some in a plastic bag with a couple of holes punched in and keep in the fridge as these are best eaten in December or January.

At the back are two trays of quinces. Leave them in a warm room for a couple of weeks to ripen before you use them. You should become aware of a wonderful scent when they are ready. Attached are some recipes including a new one we haven't shared before all the way from Herzegovina for you to try.

Best regards Moira and the Orchard Committee



Please be very careful when preparing the quinces. They are very hard compared with pears and the area around the core is like rock

### **Quince Jam Recipe**

Peel, core and slice the quinces and then weigh them - you will need 2lb of prepared fruit. Put them in a pan with 1½ pints of water and simmer very gently until the fruit is really soft and mashed. Add 3lb sugar, stir until it is dissolved and boil the mixture rapidly until setting point is reached. Pot and cover the jam in the usual way.

Note - if the quinces are really ripe, add the juice of 1 lemon with the sugar.  
This should make about 5lb of jam.

### **Spiced Quince Recipe**

Peel and core the quinces and cut each into about eight pieces (you can cut them smaller later if you wish but leaving them large at this stage should dissuade them from breaking up). Cover them with cold water and add a small scoop of coarse salt. Bring to the boil quickly and allow to boil for a minute. Strain and gently set aside the fruit. To each 600ml/1 pint of this juice add 1lb/450g of white sugar, 150ml/¼ pint of white wine vinegar and a teaspoon of whole coriander seeds. Bring to the boil, return the fruit to the pan and simmer until the slices are tender. Leave to cool overnight.

Next day, drain off the syrup and pack the quince slices into preserving jars. Bring the syrup back to the boil and pour it over the quinces. Screw or clip down the covers while still warm. Spiced quinces keep a long time.

*Excellent with ham or gammon, either cold or hot, and with other cold meats including turkey.*

### **Quince Jelly Recipe**

Please note that Quinces have very low natural pectin so for successful jelly you will need to add some pectin or use pectin sugar.

Wash and roughly chop the quinces (skin and cores as well) and put them in a saucepan. Just cover with water and add 6 allspice berries, bruised. Bring the fruit to the boil and simmer until the fruit is pulpy; probably 40 to 50 mins. Pour the pulp into a jelly bag and allow to drain through for at least 12 hours. Discard the pulp.

Measure the juice and return it to a clean pan and add 1lb (450g) of sugar to every pint of liquid. Bring the mixture to the boil and boil briskly, without stirring, until setting point is reached. Skim the foam off with a metal spoon and ladle the jelly into hot jars.

A 3lb bag of fruit should make approx 2½ lb of jelly.

*Excellent with cold meats, particularly pork and game pies.*



### **Membrello (or Quince Cheese) Recipe**

**Peel, core and grate 1 Kg of quinces. Place 1 Kg of preserving sugar and 700ml water in a saucepan set over a gentle heat. Add the grated quince and bring to a boil, then turn down to a simmer and cook, uncovered, for 2 hours, stirring occasionally until the liquid has thickened and comes away from the sides of the pan when stirred.**

**Remove from the heat, allow to cool slightly, then pour into a tin or mould lined with clingfilm.**

**Refrigerate for at least 2 hours before unwrapping and serving.**

**Membrello will keep for a few months.**

***This Spanish version of Quince Cheese is a set jelly. It can be served on its own, in an apple tart or pie or with some cheese.***

### **Tamara's Quince Recipe**

**Wash the quinces and peel and core. Cut the flesh into little pieces. In a large saucepan heat 200ml water and 1kg sugar and heat to dissolve the sugar.**

**Simmer until you have a good light caramel coloured syrup. Add 1kg Quince pieces and cook until soft and sweet.**

**Ladle it into jars and decorate around the quince pieces with circles of lemon or orange. Seal.**

**Once opened these don't store for very long so keep in the fridge.**

***Tamara is Herzegovinian and her family sells these beautiful jars of quinces in their farm shop. Used as a topping for ice cream they are delicious, and a jar makes a really great Christmas present.***

## The Chignals and Mashbury Community Group Litter Pick

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Dear neighbours,

In the past few years, the Community group has organised a litter pick in the village where not only do we tidy up the village but have a chat at the same time! This year we feel that would not be appropriate to organise an event due to the Covid situation.

Many of you already do a fantastic job of clearing rubbish near your homes. We still plan to have a concerted effort the week commencing 12th October in the hope that the village looks great, even for a little while! if you could perhaps go a bit further than you normally would/liaise with neighbours etc, we could still cover most of the village. there are a couple of less populated areas in the villages, so if you would be willing to do even more then please contact us on

[chigandmashcommunitygroup@hotmail.com](mailto:chigandmashcommunitygroup@hotmail.com) so we can co-ordinate.

If you require litter pickers, tabards and gloves please contact Julia Emberton on 07798922219 for you to collect. We ask that you place rubbish collected in your own bins. Large items found can be reported to the flytipping team at Chelmsford City Council on 01245 606606 or online: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk)

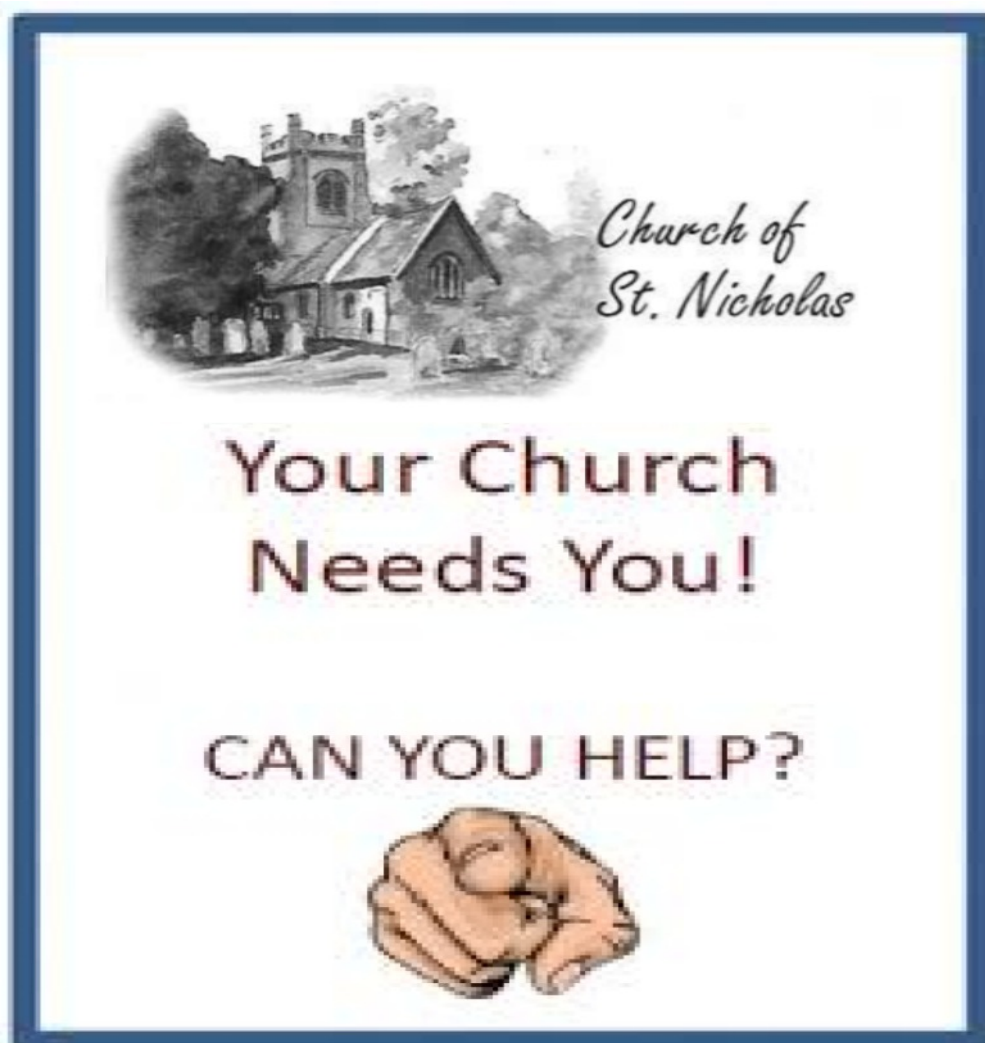
Let's hope it's not too long before we can meet once again for a village social occasion.

## Are you called to join the PCC?

Another year has passed, which means we have come to that time again when members of the church have the opportunity to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Chignals and Mashbury. The PCC is the church leadership team and holds the legal responsibility for the financial affairs of the church and the maintenance of its assets (including the church building), as well as promoting the mission of the church.

In general, the PCC meets in the evening once every 2 months to discuss various matters, enabling members of the PCC to be a real voice in the life, activities, and mission of the church. To become a member of the PCC you will need to be over 16 years old, be an actual communicant, and have been on the Electoral Roll of the church for at least six months. Though with some of these criteria you could be co-opted. With some PCC experience you may consider the role of churchwarden.

We would love for the whole congregation of the Church to be represented within the PCC, so we would like to encourage anyone who feels a calling to become a vital part of the life and mission of the church to come forward to be nominated to join the PCC at our APCM on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm at St Nicholas' Church (subject to Covid 19 restrictions). If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Tony Towns on 01245 440241



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