

No. 206
September
2021



QR Code to report
Highways issues

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY

Chignal News

Community Picnic on the Playing Field



Chignals & Mashbury WI

By kind invitation of Helen and Tony Towns we held our first meeting this year in the garden at Grays Farm. Formalities were kept to a minimum so that members could relax and exchange news. The Committee provided a lovely selection of cakes, scones, and savouries, whilst Helen kept the kettle going so that we could enjoy a steady supply of tea and coffee. Many thanks to Helen and Tony for the use of their pretty garden.

In August we held our Annual General Meeting at the Village Hall. A County Adviser, Mrs. Kay Lodge, took the Chair for this meeting. The Treasurers Report and the President's Address were approved and adopted. Elections were held for a new President but since no clear cut decision was reached we now have two Presidents, me and Mrs. Gloria Nichols.

Our meeting on the 2nd. September promises to be very interesting as we have the Mayor of Chelmsford, Councillor Jude Deakin, coming to talk to us about her year as Mayor.

On the 7th. October we are holding our Annual Lunch, this is open to all members past and present, but places and menu choices must be pre-booked by the 2nd September.

On a sad note, one of our most long-standing members, Mrs. Barbara Diggins has passed away at the age of ninety. No one is exactly sure when Barbara joined our W.I., she served on the Committee for many years and was well known for her willingness to help with whatever tasks needed doing. She will be greatly missed.

Covid permitting, we hope to continue holding our meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 2 for 2-30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome, there is a small entrance charge of £2, which includes a raffle ticket and refreshments.

Wendy Steele, joint President.

Carpets Bowls

Meeting at Chignals and Mashbury Village Hall, Chignal St. James CM1 4TS
MONDAYS 2.00pm to 4.30pm THURSDAYS 7.30pm to 10.00pm

It was great to be able to start playing bowls again in June whilst following all the Covid-19 guidelines. There was much news to catch up on, so a lot of chatting as taken place along with lots of bowls playing as well. We have welcomed being able to make tea and coffee again as this seems to be all part of a bowls session!! Considering the length of time that has passed since we played bowls everyone is still playing very well and we have set up one of our internal competitions to make things little more challenging.

We have held a number of picnics before our Monday sessions, one of which was followed by our AGM, where we elected a committee and talked about various social activities for the future.

At the present time we are unable to arrange friendly matches with other clubs and Essex Carpet Bowls Association are yet to advise competition arrangements for the future. However, we look forward to doing these things again very soon.

We would love to have new members come and join our friendly and welcoming club. Come and give carpet bowls a try. All equipment is provided, and tuition will be given.

For more information contact Gordon on 01245 231406 or Yvonne 01245 440189.

“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.

Chignal Parish Council

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

Tel: 01245 360811 Email: Chignalpc@gmail.com

Clerk: Will Adshead-Grant

Chair: Lynn Ballard

Website: e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish

Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Chignal Parish Council held on Wednesday 28th July 2021 at 7.00pm in the Chignal & Mashbury Village Hall.

2021/297 Chairman's Welcome

Life returning to near normal. Clubs have started to meet again in the Village Hall and in the playing field.

Community Group organising "get-togethers" for younger families on the playing field.

Community picnic on Sunday 5th September – advertised in the Parish News.

Chair Ballard

Cllrs Stainton, Elwick, Towns and Nelson

2021/298 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Lewis.

2021/299 Register of Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation

No declarations

2021/300 Public Open Session for any matters that need to be drawn to the Parish Council's attention. The item does not need to be on the current agenda.

13 Members of the public in attendance.

Chignal Road – Speed and traffic use has increased since end of lockdown. During lockdown there was an increase of walkers and cyclists. Hollow Lane closing will increase traffic. Potential car on pedestrian incidents. Village Entry Gates supported. Can the Parish Council fund the gates from the reserves / CIL?

Chignal Smealey and Chignal St James. Consider reduction to 30 MPH due to changed use and no pavements.

Number of HGV's using the roads. There has been an increase in littering by people passing through the Parish.

Can Cllr Steel discuss cost with LHP?

30 MPH is default for Urban & Villages: 11 houses in 350 metres; number of incidents (2 in 3 years). ECC will need to do a speed survey to Validate. If houses are set back from the road, it less likely to get a 30 MPH.

40 MPH is being extended already as part of the Little Hollows / Persimmon development.

Closing of Hollow Lane: how will this look and when will this be put in place?

Chignal Road – could narrow section, e.g., Langleys Corner to Breeds Road, be designated as single track road with passing places?

Littering of fast-food outlet packaging through the village.

Submitted receipt and photos showing some recent littering to the City Council having understood (from customer services) that receipts from a drive through can be used to trace owners/litterers. Clarification from Public Health and Protection Services below on CCC position below:

Chelmsford City Council does not pursue action via receipts through drive throughs. This is due to previous attempts at working with the local restaurants, and their lack of cooperation on the matter as well as not all of them having cameras, and the probability that should the case go to court there are too many variables surrounding the littering incident that it would allow for reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Other authorities do enforce against littering fast food drive thru receipts, but I believe they have an agreement with the local restaurants that allows them to do this, unfortunately now Chelmsford City Council is not one of them.

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Could the Parish Council ask the City Council to reconsider their position and to work in conjunction with local restaurants to reduce the amount of littering on our roads?

State of roads

Reiterate the danger posed to pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and cars. A pothole, blocked drain and disintegrating edge on a country lane poses significantly more danger to a cyclist travelling at speed, such as the manhole just down from Stevens Farm.

We would like to be able to meet someone from Highways to discuss the problems. To widen the road would encourage traffic to go even faster so we feel that more passing places are needed, the existing ones are in such bad order that it is hard to use them.

Why is there no sign to Chignal Smealy yet at Hollow Lane junction?

Beadles Hall corner, signpost has gone.

I have always said that there will have to be an accident involving serious injury or death before anything is done - and that is borne out in Cllr Steel's responses to the Chignal Highways Issues paper.

Junction boxes on telegraph poles

The lowering of junction boxes on poles along Chignal Road resulted in 2 days of lost phone and broadband connection as the cable was severed by a hedge cutter. Request to Openreach to put the boxes higher up the poles to prevent this happening again.

Cllr Steel to investigate if he has an Openreach contact

2021/301 County and City Councillors' Reports

1. Essex County Councillor Report – Cllr Mike Steel

Flooding of the roads – Essex Highways will inspect in the next few weeks.

Potholes – as long as reported on the highways -report a fault website, they can be followed up

2. Chelmsford City Councillor Report - Cllr Nicolette Chambers

Full Council was planned to take place on 21st July when it was expected 54 members and officers would attend. All safety signage had been removed however, following an increase in the new variant, it was decided to hold the Council meeting on a quorate basis only.

Gyms and leisure centres expected to gradually return to normal. Weddings, including those at Hyland's House will return to normal too and we are taking bookings for swimming pools.

This year the City Council received excessive noise complaints from pubs which is likely to increase as the rules are relaxed. Domestic abuse has increased during the pandemic giving rise to homelessness; these cases receive a priority for housing. We have seen many evictions following non-payment of rents which appears to be a national problem.

Tindal Square Tenders have been sought for the pedestrianizing the square.

Waterside The bridge project received planning permission in June

Beaulieu Station It is hoped the station will be delivered by December 2025

HGV drivers are in extreme shortage, and this is having an impact on refuse services.

Parking fees have been introduced in Hyland's Park.

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3. Some councillors have tested positive this week, so remote meetings are taking place

2021/302 Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM and Bi-Monthly meeting of the Parish Council on 04.05.2021

Resolution *The Minutes were confirmed*

2021/303 Note the Orchard sub-Committee minutes of 25th June 2021.

Resolution *The minutes were noted*

Planning

2021/304 Planning Decisions:

21/00706/FUL	Woodhall House Chignal Road Chignal Smealy Chelmsford Essex CM1 4SU	Application Permitted
21/00526/FUL	The Marins Mashbury Road Chignal St James Chelmsford Essex CM1 4TZ	Application Permitted
21/00417/FUL	Bridleway Cottage Mashbury Road Chignal St James Chelmsford Essex CM1 4TN	Application Permitted

2021/305 Planning Applications:

No additional applications.

2021/306 Update on Barn Conversions, west of Beaumont Otes Cottage

Meeting held with the planning officer over concerns of discharge of conditions placed on renovation of some current buildings. This has been agreed and the Parish Council will continue to monitor the development of the site.

2021/307 Update on the Three Elms Pub.

The building has been sold but there is not a planning application. Owner of Gardening Express has purchased the site and is seeking advice from CCC planners on temporary change of use to an office, meeting rooms and parking.

2021/308 Update on Gardening Express works to provide on-site car and lorry parking.

This is not a planning application. Update provided by GE on efforts to get cars taken off the road and on to the site. The packing shed was permitted development. Lorries and other vehicles access internally without issues. In some seasons the weather impacts on the internal infrastructure. Most of the planned works will be completed and most vehicles will park on site and customer services will be based at the Three Elms public house.

Residents have commented that in the wet season lorries departing the site are putting mud on the road and creating a hazard and that the original proposal presented to the Parish included a concrete apron to support the business.

2021/309 Confirmation of Planning Issued - 19/01522/S73. The Orangery, The Green, Chignal St James, Chelmsford. Variation of condition 2 to approved planning application 19/01522/FUL (single storey rear extension) to include solar panels to roof.

It is noted that Chignal Parish Council's comments on 19/01522/FUL do not appear on the Planning Portal. For the record, this is the approved response to this application submitted in October 2019:

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“The proposed single storey rear extension is to provide a therapy pool. No information is provided in the application on the drainage arrangements for the pool. There are concerns about possible chemical pollution from wastewater draining into the River Can.

Permission was granted earlier this year for an 8m x 5m flat roofed white rendered building to provide storage and a garden room (19/00275/FUL) for The Orangery. It is noted that this proposed building is not shown on the drawings accompanying this planning application. This building is large in relation to the garden area at the rear of the house. The proposed rear extension to the house plus this garden building would together form an almost continuous 16 meters of solid wall immediately adjacent to footpath 24. The proposed rear extension and the outbuilding would also be visible from bridleway 33 which links The Green to Pengy Mill.

The Orangery is close to the water meadows bordering the river Can in an area of local landscape value which has a high sensitivity to development. The Chignal Villages Design Statement, (Page 21) recommends that developments such as extensions should not fill the available space as it is important in a rural community to provide views of the countryside beyond. The cumulative effect of the garden building and the rear extension is overdevelopment of this site.

If the rear extension was to be approved, this should be on condition that the garden building (19/00275/FUL) should not be developed. In addition, the therapy pool should be used only for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the residents of ‘The Orangery’ and as such, shall not be used for any trade, industry, or other use whatsoever. The Parish Council would recommend refusal of this application unless the above conditions are imposed”.

The Parish Council also questioned whether the Environment Agency had commented on the application regarding possible pollution of the River Can as this stretch of the river is tested on a regular basis.

About this current application for a Variation to Condition 2 to include solar panels in the roof of the single extension, the Council would have no objection to the installation of the panels as they would not be visible from the front of the building. However, we would wish to question the method of surface water disposal for the rainwater from the roofs of this extended large property and of the hydro pool water. It has been noted that over the last 8 years during which time these extensions were built, there have been considerable problems with excess water in adjoining paddocks. One drainage solution to managing this excess surface water could be through the construction of a large soak away in the paddock which forms part of The Orangery.

Recommendation: Approval subject to a further condition on the installation of an appropriate means of disposing of the large amounts of surface water from the roofs and the therapy pool water.

2021/310 Confirmation of Planning Issued-Planning Application Number 20/02039/FUL. Woodfall, Chignal Road, Chignal Smealy Chelmsford CM1 4TA. Part single, part two storey rear extension with balcony. The insertion of two first floor side windows and a ground floor side window.

This is an amended planning application which removes the residential annexe, (formerly described as a bungalow) from the previous proposals and the red lines on the site location plans have been amended.

The Parish Council would wish to reiterate its comments in relation the application 20/02039/FUL as now amended.

The property “Woodfall” is situated close to Grade 2* listed St Nicholas Church and a picturesque cricket ground. Twenty-five per cent of the buildings and structures in this small rural hamlet are listed, creating a distinctive period feel with many of the properties owing much to Chignal Smealey’s brick making heritage.

This application is for a rear extension to the property to form a large kitchen area, 7m x 7m, providing an additional 50sqm of accommodation on the ground floor, with a large en-suite master bedroom and a same sized rear roof terrace, (with high brick sides) above.

The Chignal Parish Plan, 2016, includes a Key Task to “support residents to improve their homes and stay in the village” and this is amplified in Objective 20, “to support opportunities for residents to improve their homes or move to other properties in the Parish because of down-sizing, setting up new households or requiring additional care in line with the (VDS)”. However, there is no justification provided by the applicant to support this large extension to the property.

Two storey rear extension with a further single storey extension with balcony above

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The Chignal Villages Design Statement (VDS) gives guidance on house extensions, Page 20, “extensions should be sympathetic to the property and in harmony with the surroundings”. In addition, “extensions should not unduly affect adjoining residents and should not completely fill the available space, as it is important in a rural community to provide views of the countryside beyond and thus avoid the urbanisation of the street scene”.

The property “Woodfall” has already been extended to the front and rear. These extensions and square dormer window have resulted in a lack of harmony in the overall appearance of the house, (particularly the side elevations). This lack of design balance would be exacerbated by the proposed rear extension to the ground floor and the large amount of brickwork that would be added to the side elevation to enclose the sides of the terrace above it. This is to give an element of privacy to both the occupants and neighbours. To lessen the impact of this unrelieved brickwork, alternative and softer materials could be considered, such as boarding or cladding, obscure glass balustrade, or with some relief details included in the brickwork, which would improve the view from the neighbouring properties either side of “Woodfall”.

It is noted that, as would be expected, all materials used for the rear extension would match the existing building. The existing glass block panel in the dining room and on the East elevation of the main house is removed and replaced with a glass window to match the others. As this window is only 1m away from the boundary of the neighbouring property, “Hunters End”, obscure glass should be fitted to prevent overlooking.

Chelmsford Local Plan policies relevant to this application

Policy DM11 Extensions to existing buildings within the green belt, green wedge, and rural area. Within the Rural Area the extensions must not adversely impact on the identified intrinsic character and beauty of the Rural Area. In all designations, the extension or alteration must not be out of keeping with its context and surroundings or result in any other harm.

Policy DM29 Protecting Living & Working Environments. Development proposals must safeguard the amenities of the occupiers of any nearby residential property by ensuring that development is not overbearing and does not result in unacceptable overlooking or overshadowing. Development must also avoid unacceptable levels of polluting emissions unless appropriate mitigation measures can be put in place and permanently maintained.

Recommendations

This amended application should be **REFUSED** on the following grounds:

The impact of the rear extension to Woodfall is out of keeping with its context and surroundings in the hamlet of Chignal Smealey and will impact on the views of the neighbouring properties (as described above), contrary to Policy DM11 and DM29. The application could be resubmitted with more design details included, especially with improvements made to the appearance of the side elevations of the house.

Finance

2021/311	Account Balances:	Cheque Account	£	4,089
		Income		£30 Donation – Orchard
				£50 Donation – Orchard
				£80.25 – VH return of Grant Balance.
		Saving Account	£	43,357
		Orchard Account		£412.01
		Cil Account		£22,800
		Parish Reserve		£20,145

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Total £ 47,446

2021/312 To approve Cheques to be signed and issued:

Date	cheque no	Details	Total	Budget heading
06.05.2021		BANK CHARGES	£2.00	bank
07.06.2021		BANK CHARGES	£2.00	bank
20.06.2021	100978	Business Services at Cas - Insurance	£212.27	Insurance
20.06.2021	100979	Cllr Lewis - Expenses	£79.31	Reserve
20.06.2021	100980	Clerk - May wages	£103.71	Salary
20.06.2021	100981	Clerk - June wages	£121.70	Salary
20.06.2021	100982	HMRC	£26.00	PAYE
20.06.2021	100983	HMRC	£26.00	Paye
20.06.2021	100984	Essex pension fund	£127.67	Pension
20.06.2021	100985	Essex pension fund	£127.67	Pension
28.07.2021	100986	PAYE	£25.80	Paye
28.07.2021	100987	ealc training	£216.00	Training
28.07.2021	100988	CHELMSFORD DBF	£141.44	Newsletter
28.07.2021	100989	JCM Cheque Held	£492.00	CIL
28.07.2021	100990	RCCE	£52.80	RCCE
28.07.2021	100991	Clerk	£103.91	Salary
28.07.2021	100992	Essex pension fund	£127.67	Pension
28.07.2021	100993	Clerk - For New Laptop - Parish Asset	£599.99	Reserve
		Total	£3207.71	

Resolution The Cheques were approved

2021/313 Confirmation that the Clerks appraisal took place and objective setting for the year 2021-2022. The Clerk Achieved a Satisfactory rating and an increase of spinal point from Sp14 - £12.00 to Sp15 - £12.24 per hour is recommended by the Committee backdated to the 1st of April 2021.

Resolution This was confirmed

2021/314 After a review of the workload of the Clerk comparing the initial 2017 demand on time with the last 12 months the Committee recommends an increase of 1 hour per week. This takes the hours from 4 hours a week to 5 hours a week. Backdated to 1st April 2021.

Resolution This was approved

2021/315 Review of the Bi-monthly bank reconciliation

Resolution This was approved at £0

2021/316 Discuss and explore options for a provider of online banking.

Bank	Based	Branches	Pay In Cheques	Online Cost
Trodos	UK - Bristol	No	Post	60p per online payment in. 30p per online payment out
Unity Trust	UK - Birmingham	No	NatWest or	£6 per month

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Bank			Post	
Barclays	UK - London	Yes	Branch	No Cost

Resolution **Recommendation of RFO accepted of no cost Internet banking with Barclays.**

Resolution **RFO to Issue a document to support how to get online with Barclays.**

2021/317 **Review the Internal Auditor report and discuss the recommendations.**

Adjust appropriately the year end bank reconciliation for the unrepresented cheque for £267.20 dated 04/09/2020.

Review the Clerk's contract of employment during 2021/22.

The asset register arrangements are reviewed during 2021/22 with consideration being given to showing assets which are insured and for how much, which is normally replacement cost.

Posting a Copy of the 2020 Notice of "Public Rights..."

Resolution **The cheque has been written back in to the 2021-2022 accounts**

Resolution **Clerks Contract was reviewed during appraisal with no issues raised.**

Resolution **Asset Register was reviewed but will be updated to show insurance / replacement cost**

Resolution **It was noted that the Notice was issued in line with the statutory requirements.**

2021/318 **To Consider the Grant request from the Community Group.**

Resolution **Approved. Invoice for the meetings to be submitted to the Parish Council by the Village Hall.**

2021/319 **Representatives' Reports: to discuss and debate any items.**

A) Little Hollows / Copperfield Place Liaison - Cllr Elwick

Little Hollows completed. Road adoptions and lighting being reviewed by Essex Highways. If Highways approve, they will take over the maintenance of the roads, pavements and lights. The Street lights will then switch off at midnight.

Persimmon – Copperfield Place – Phase 1 (in Chignal Parish)

3 or 4 houses left to be completed. Foundations already established. Roads, footpaths, and lighting will need to be agreed with Persimmon before taking on.

Hollow Lane – To close – just waiting date

40MPH extension – Just waiting date

New residents in Phase 1 have received the Parish Footpath guide and Chignal News and will be embraced by the Parish.

B) Playing Field - Cllrs Elwick, Towns and Nelson

Car Park security post has been damaged. A new post has been secured and will be installed.

The Welcome/Information board will promote responsible use of the various facilities available in the playing field.

Oak Gazebo – this has a slight issue with a thin oak batten at the front of the seat and needs some additional rework. Shire Oak will repair / replace in the next few weeks.

C) Village Hall Liaison - Cllr Towns

Progress report on construction of the storage building

Some restrictions on storage for insurance cover.

Electricity being installed.

Parish Council contents will be under own insurance.

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Lease to be drafted for Parish Council to use on a peppercorn basis.
Hall has been open several weeks for use.

D) Community Engagement - Cllrs Nelson and Stainton

Digital footprint – Website – how do we improve? Facebook page, campaign to get new residents involved.
Surveys and Views for increase community involvement
Link in with the Parish news.

E) Community Safety – Cllr Lewis

Update on installation and policy for collecting and using data from security cameras to deter fly tipping and other crimes. A policy has been drafted and is currently under review with Chelmsford City Council.
Maintenance of the defibrillator at the Village Hall Car Park. Registered with another organisation to ensure organisations are aware.
Annual Litter Pick – Potentially in August

F) Highways (include Hedges) - Cllr Ballard, Towns and Elwick

Update on responses from Essex County Councillor to issues raised on highway drainage, verge and road surface damage, road signs and road names across the parish
Update on permanent extension of 40mph signs on Chignal Road, north of Hollow Lane – confirmation of dates awaited
Update on proposal to restrict vehicle access to Hollow Lane – confirmation of dated awaited.
Discuss actions on the incorrect road names being used in the Parish – ECC use google maps for road closures. Several errors in the data when compared to local knowledge and the Electoral register.

G) Footpaths/Bridleways – Cllr Nelson and Cllr Towns

Consider measures to promote the Countryside Code and support landowners.
Maintenance of Bridleway access to Pengy Mill – recorded thanks to Tarmac site manager and local farmer for carrying out works to improve the surface of this bridleway.
Footpath 30 with some obstructions. Review by Chelmsford City Council due within the 6-month limit.

H) Tree Warden - Cllr Ballard

Approval of Chignal Road tree planting scheme – extension from the current trees at Copperfield Road junction: 25 native trees at a cost of £3750 (+vat) from CIL funds
Resolution The expenditure was approved

I) Countryside conservation and climate change Cllr Ballard, Lewis, Nelson, and Stainton (Inc Friends of Nature Park)

- 2021/320 Consider local actions to mitigate the impact of climate change and improve biodiversity:**
report of meeting with the City Council's Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Ambassador.
- Chignal applauded for the Bird box initiative, the Orchard and tree planting schemes.
- agree agenda for the Community Meeting on Climate Change on Sat 2 October 2021**
- Short term options and some long-term ideas and guidance.

2021/321 Update on the “Friends of Nature Park” scheme to manage access to the restored landfill site, Chignal St James

Managing access to the area. Several people have signed up to the Charter.

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2021/322 Update on renovation and repairs to the Telephone Box in Chignal Smealey by BT.

Confirmation the Phone box has been painted by BT.

The item will now be closed.

2021/323 Items for the next Agenda

Highways Paper

Climate Change

Three Elms

Beaumont Otes Barns

Meeting closed 20:50

Next Monthly Meeting Monday 13th September 2021 @7PM

8th November 2021.

Community Meeting booked for Saturday 2nd October 2021.



World Day of Prayer 2021

20th September 2021

2pm

at Ford End Church CM3 1LH

This year the service has been provided by
Vanuatu and is entitled

“Build on a Strong Foundation”

For more information contact:-

**Sally Stephenson 07962 223023 or Alison Bates
admin@littleandgreat.org.uk**

Chignal Parish - Climate Change

Chignal Community Meeting: Village Hall “Local actions to meet the challenge of climate change” 10.00 - 12.30 Saturday 2nd October 2021

Join us as residents and businesses in Chignal to explore ways of reducing our carbon footprints and help improve the bio-diversity of our countryside and gardens!

Background

Two of the top priorities in the Parish Plan are to “retain the distinct rural identity of The Chignals” and to “support efforts to manage the countryside to retain important landscape features, keep it litter free and accessible”. A key objective is the creation of a “Green Buffer” to separate The Chignals from the urban boundary of Chelmsford.

Since the Parish Plan was published in 2016, the need to tackle the impact of climate change on human communities and the natural world has moved up the political agenda and is on most people’s radar. A Chignal community meeting on climate change in October is timely as there will be a lot of media coverage of this topic in the run-up to the COP26 in Glasgow at the beginning of November. The Essex Climate Action Commission has just launched its report “Net Zero: Making Essex Climate Neutral” and Chelmsford City Council has appointed a Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Ambassador.

With so many different messages coming from government, pressure groups and businesses on what needs to be done to reduce our carbon footprints and restore the ecological balance, we all need help to focus on the most effective means to change the way we behave and make choices so that we can really make a difference today for the sake of future generations.

It is also important to engage with our local farmers and other businesses to understand how they will be adapting their operations to meet the challenge of climate change and how we could work with them to help them in their plans.

Chignal Parish - Climate Change (p2)

What we plan to cover at the Community Meeting

1. Explain key facts of the global impact of climate change and show how these relate to our natural environment and daily lives in Chignal;
2. Demonstrate the value of our local environment and explore how we can play our part in tackling the effects of climate change and ecological damage;
3. Start to develop a long-term strategy and programme of actions that could be carried out locally by individuals and groups;
4. Explore ways of collecting data to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our local climate change and ecological improvement actions;
5. Report the outcomes of this meeting to the Parish Council and in Chignal News.

What we hope will develop from this Meeting

1. Understanding and local consensus that changes in individual behaviour can contribute to mitigating the effects of climate change;
2. Identification of local climate change champions, particularly amongst younger residents;
3. Creation of a working group to develop a parish climate change strategy and action programme;
4. Commitment to developing and evaluating local actions that could contribute to carbon reduction and improving biodiversity.

PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA

10.00 – 10.45: Plenary session

Welcome: purpose, expected outcomes and format of the event

Setting the scene: climate change key facts and how they link to our daily lives. Examples of community projects elsewhere in the region, e.g., switching from oil and gas to ground source heat pumps.

Evaluating the effectiveness of current environmental initiatives in Chignal: community orchard; tree planting; birdboxes and wildlife surveys; guide to footpaths and bridleways; Friends of Nature Park.

Chignal Parish - Climate Change (p3)

Potential actions for individuals and clubs, e.g., changing the way we manage our gardens and community wide environmental projects, e.g., establishing a repair shop

Questions from the floor

Introduction of working group facilitators and reminder of what is expected during the break-out session

10.45: Coffee/Tea (Community Group)

11.00 – 11.45: Working Groups session

Facilitators, (Parish Councillors and Community Group) at tables to introduce suggestions for climate change actions; to invite ideas for any other actions and behaviour changes; and encourage people to indicate which ideas they would support with their time and/or expertise or as a participant.

11.45 – 12.25: Plenary session

Feed-back on the workshop sessions (working group facilitators).

Invite comments from the floor

12.25 – 12.30: Plenary session

Conclusions and Next Steps: outcomes of the event to be reported to Parish Council on 8th November and emailed to participants

To register your interest in participating in this event, please email:
lynn_ballard@btinternet.com

Chignal Cricket Club

CM1 4TA



League Team Div 8,
New players welcome

14+ Mon night 6.00 pm
Adults & experienced players
Friday night after 6.00 pm

Contacts Alastair B-S - 07979 344662

abevittsmith@gmail.com

Club Sec Matt Porter - 07842 116801



VILLAGE SOCIAL EVENING

**Join neighbours & friends for a Community Group
hosted social night at the Village Hall.
Friday 24th September from 6pm**



**Bring the family,
your own refreshments and snacks,**



and join us for an evening out.



£1.00 donation per person to cover cost of hiring the hall



eScooters – Pros and Cons

After potholes, overgrown footpaths and hedges, one of the main things people complain to me about are eScooters. There is much misunderstanding around eScooters, so here are a few facts :

- Small scale trials lasting a year are being done in 6 towns of Essex, one of which is Chelmsford. The trials will be evaluated before any expansion takes place across the county.
- The objective of eScooters is to reduce the number of short car journeys, so reducing congestion and pollution. Chelmsford roads, especially in the City, are operating at full capacity and car usage continues to grow. If someone uses an eScooter rather than a bus or bike, then it's not really achieved the objective. Of course, there are convenience factors associated with eScooters that might encourage people to use them regularly – like getting right to your destination, not worrying about locking it up!
- Only eScooters hired from SPIN (ECC's commercial partner) are legal on Essex roads. These are the bright orange ones. To hire one, you have to be 18 or over, and have at least a provisional license. The hire cost includes insurance. eScooters are classed as motor vehicles – the highway code and rules of the road apply, including penalty points or worse if you break the law (like using a mobile, being over the legal drink limit!) They have lights, reflectors, brakes, a bell. They are regularly sanitised in line with Public Health England guidelines.

- The SPIN eScooters are limited to 12.5mph and have in-built geo-barriers using GPS, so that they don't work outside the designated area (the closest they come to us is Broomfield Hospital). They can be ridden on roads within the trial area, cycle routes and shared use cycleways, but not on pavements – basically, the same places a bicycle can legally be ridden
- The hire process allows for an eScooter to be left at the end of its journey. There are some set areas, but they can be left in other places as long as they do not block the pavement. There are penalties to incentivise the hirer to comply with such good practice. Other riders can then start a journey from there, or the eScooters may get picked up by SPIN
- Cost of hire is 20p per minute or you can buy longer term passes from 1 hour (£5) up to 1 month (£60) with discounts for NHS staff.
- All other eScooters (usually black) are illegal except on private property, even though it is legal for such eScooters to be sold (on the basis of private use!). Enforcement is a police issue, whether illegal eScooter use or misuse of a legal eScooter (like it being used by anyone other than the registered user)

Lots more info on the Chelmsford trial at <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-theatres-and-museums/visiting-chelmsford/chelmsford-e-scooter-trial/>

Croquet on the Playing field



Community Orchard - Fruit Celebration 2021

Sunday October 17th from 12.00 noon – 2.00pm

In the Community Orchard – or Village Hall if wet

We are delighted to be planning for the annual celebration of fruit grown in the Community Orchard – once again being held in conjunction with the Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas Church. We missed very much not being able to hold the event last year so we really hope you will stop by to take fruit and maybe share some of your surplus.

As anyone trying to grow anything out of doors this year knows, it has been a funny old year – but when isn't it? A mini heatwave in early Spring lured us all into a false sense of security before weeks of freezing winds and rain brought all growth to a standstill. Importantly, for fruit growing, it meant an almost complete absence of pollinating insects while the bitterly cold weather lasted. The impact on the Community Orchard trees is very marked – if they flowered before or after the cold weather they have cropped well, with the added bonus of plenty of summer rain to swell fruit. If they tried to flower while the bitter winds were blowing, then we have virtually no fruit. But, of course, for growers and gardeners our cup is always half full. We have enjoyed a big crop of early apple George Cave which, hopefully, lots of you managed to share from the basket-full left on the picnic table at the Orchard.

With other apples like Braintree Seedling and Seabrooks Red ripening ready for us to enjoy we won't mind that this year there are very few Quince on the trees. And we will have a choice of cooking apples for you such as Dr Harvey which cooks to a well-flavoured sweet puree or, more exotically, Queen which makes a bright yellow puree.

We hope that some pears will be available. Improved Fertility was a victim of the cold but we hopefully have our first few Gansels Bergamot which has not cropped before. And for something very different try the old variety Johnny Mount with its miniature but sweet fruit if stored until November or December.

A lot of the old varieties of fruit that we grow in the Community Orchard need to be stored until November, December or even January to be at their best when you eat them. We will again be packing the fruit ready to store but this year it will be in compostable bags which we hope will provide good protection for the fruit. As usual please bring your own (re-usable) bags to carry your fruit home in. If you have some nice surplus fruit that you think others may enjoy, please do bring it along.

We look forward to seeing you at the Fruit Celebration

Moira Tarrant & the Orchard Committee

Photos from the Orchard



Montford Apple



Braintree Apple



Fertility Pear

Chignalls with Mashbury Harvest Festival & Fruit Celebration

Sunday October 17th

11.00am St Nicholas' Church

12.00 noon - 2.00pm

Community Orchard



A collection will be taken for the Chelmsford Foodbank

Monday 13th September, 2 p.m.
8 Dene Court, Chignal Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2JQ

A participator in the NGS, this is a beautifully maintained and designed compact garden. The owner is a well-known RHS gold medal-winning exhibitor (now retired). A circular lawn, long pergola and walls are festooned with roses and climbers, plus a large selection of unusual clematis. Densely-planted colour coordinated perennials add interest from May to September in this immaculate garden. The garden featured in an episode of Gardeners World in 2020. See <https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/11628>. Parking in Chignal Road.

Cost: £3.50 per person (note: no refreshments)

The winter programme will start on **Wednesday 20th October**, back in the Village Hall in Chignal St James. It seems such a long time ago that we all met up there! The gardening club committee have decided this is an opportune time after such a long break to switch the annual AGM to the October meeting (from the April meeting). So the meeting will cover the usual format discussed at the AGM, but will also allow a discussion on the way forward for the club. There will also be a plant and produce swop and sale, plus refreshments at the end of the evening. 7.30pm start.

The final date for your diary in 2021 is **Wednesday 17th November**. Lin Blunt will be returning to deliver a talk on ' Maintenance and development of an established garden'. The talk will give us an inside look at the gardening schedule of a private estate garden to include new planting, vegetables and fruit production, soil improvement and propagation.

For those of you new to the club, the winter programme is held in the Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from October to April, excluding December. Start time is 7.30 pm prompt and each session ends with refreshments. No need to pre-book, just turn up on the night. Plus we offer your first evening free as a taster session. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at gardening.chignalsmashbury@gmail.com.

Chignals & Mashbury Village Hall



SUPPORTING

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VILLAGE HALL

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To
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£25,000 jackpot!

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To start supporting scan the QR code or visit:

www.essexlottery.co.uk

and search for: **Village Hall**



WAITROSE
& PARTNERS

JOHN
LEWIS
& PARTNERS

Enter by 30th October 2021. Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

*See website for Terms and conditions.

St Nicholas Church

Chignal Smealey

'Bats In Churches Project'

Bat Walk

Friday 17th Sept 7pm

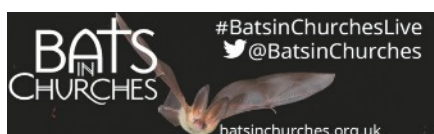
(Weather and covid permitting)

**A guided evening walk for all ages*
along footpaths to view bats in flight**

* Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Please contact Helen Towns for details at
graysfarmessex@gmail.com Tel: 01245 440241

In
conjunction
with



Sorry - All places now taken

What's happening at St Nicholas Church

Dear friends,

It was a joy to be able to attend the first Parish Coffee morning in the Village Hall on September 1st and meet some of you. How good it is to meet face to face again and catch up with friends and family. As the children go back to school and something like normal life returns, we pray that our communities will stay safe and well and that the worst of Covid19 is behind us.

The weather has been kind to us and we have been able to hold our summer services at St Nicholas outside in the churchyard, appreciating the beauty of the trees and greenery around us. We hope to continue this for a couple more months if possible. Our September service will be on the 19th at 11 am and all are very welcome to attend. We look forward to worshipping together and Steve will be with us providing music and microphones again. We are very grateful to him for his cheerful support.

Harvest Festival will be on October 17th at 11 am followed by the Fruit Celebration in the Community Orchard at 12 noon. We will be joined by Canon Janet Nicholls, Diocesan Rural Adviser and Agricultural Chaplain, and I know it will be a very special service. We are asking that people make financial contributions to the Chelmsford Foodbank this year as this gives them freedom to use our support where it is most needed.

<https://chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/> Please do give generously to this very worthy cause. Although we will meet outside if possible it would be nice to see the church full of flowers at harvest. Please get in touch with me or Helen if you can spare some flowers from the garden and bring them in a vase (or jam jar) to church beforehand.

I continue to say Morning Prayer in the church on Wednesday mornings at 9am and would be very pleased to see any of you. Do come just for a chat if you have time and introduce yourself. I am always pleased to hear from parishioners so do get in touch if you need to talk.

Wishing you all every blessing,

Revd Diana, dianagarfield@hotmail.com, 01245 443205

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