

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

Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council held at the Chignal & Mashbury Village Hall, on Monday 13th January 2020.

2019/092 Chairman's Welcome

VE Celebrations on Sat 9th May – Event at 2pm in the Orchard (Blessing of a tree). 3pm to Village Hall (Hand bell ringing and Street party). Friday 8th May – Event at St Nicholas Church at 7pm with Bell Ringing and Community Singing. Sunday 10th May, potentially an event at Chignal Chapel.

Tarmac – Area Z – restoration delayed to end of March due to the weather.

Chairperson Cllr Ballard

Councillors Nelson, Feltwell, Towns. Elwick, and Lewis

2019/093 Apologies for Absence

None.

2019/094 Register of Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation

Cllr Feltwell and Cllr Ballard item 2019/101– Croquet Club.

Cllr Towns 2019/101 - Village Hall

2019/095 Public Open Session

6 Members of the public present

Additional Plastic Recycling Bags will no longer be available from the Village Hall and Dog waste bags will no longer be issued by the City Council.

Three Elms Public House - The fabric of the building is already starting to deteriorate.

Good Friday 11am – Chelmsford 10k through the Chignals.

2019/096 Planning Applications

1. Current applications

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Status</u>
18/00001/MAS	Land North of Warren House Roxwell Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex	Pending Consideration
19/00659/S73	Riceen Chignal Road Chignal Smealy Chelmsford Essex CM1 4SY	Application Permitted
19/01934/REM	Land South West Of 213 Chignal Road Chelmsford	Pending Consideration

2. Persimmon Homes development updates

Several dwellings are now occupied (6 or 7). The Haul road is being used as access because the new road is not available due to the BT poles that need to be removed.

40 Chignal Welcome/Information booklets have been given to Persimmon Sales office to hand out to the new homeowners.

91 New properties in Chignal Parish once the development is complete.

Landscaping may be delayed this year due to the new road not being completed.

Footpath link to Copperfield Road is in place but may not cover all dwellings.

3. Essex Highways Consultation TRAF/7178 - The Essex County Council (Various Roads, Broomfield/Chignal) (Combined Speed Limit) Order 20**. The Essex County Council (Woodhall Hill & Hollow Lane, Broomfield/Chignal) (Prohibition of Motor Vehicles) Order 20**

Resolution:

Background

The Chignal Villages Design Statement (VDS), 2009 takes account of the planned residential development North of Copperfield Road in the North Chelmsford Area Action Plan. This new housing area, comprising Little Hollows and Copperfield Place, is served by Hollow Lane and the new access road which links to Chignal Road. The VDS provides guidance on highways issues which are relevant to the proposed new speed limits and plans to prohibit motor vehicles on sections of Hollow Lane.

Combined Speed Limit

The VDS, page 6 noted that on Chignal Road, Chignal Smealey, "speeding traffic remains a problem, but any measures taken should be appropriate for the rural context". The Chignal Parish Plan, 2016 also registered residents' concerns about speeding traffic, particularly along Chignal Road. The Plan includes a priority to "retain the character of our rural lanes and ensure that they are used appropriately and maintained in a safe condition".

Based on evidence from annual traffic counts carried out by Essex Highways, the Parish Council has on several occasions raised concerns about the detrimental environmental and social impact of increased numbers of vehicles at peak times using Chignal Road, specifically in our opposition to proposals for growth in north and west Chelmsford in the Local Plan and in comments on the change of priority at the proposed new Hollow Lane junction with Chignal Road/Woodhall Hill.

There are several highways issues that have been reported over the years by parishioners living along the section of Chignal Road from the junctions with Breeds Road and Copperfield Road:

*large year on year increases in volume of traffic especially at peak times, leading to problems for residents when pulling out of their drives, maintaining their roadside hedges and walking along the road because of the narrow, damaged or non-existent verges;

*perceived speeding by vehicles within the 40mph section;

*calls from residents in the 40mph area to have the speed reduced to 30mph which has not been supported by Highways and the Police as there is not continuous housing either side of the road.

In response to these problems experienced by residents living along Chignal Road/Woodhall Hill, the Parish Council made an application to the Local Highways Panel in 2018 for village entrance gates and speed recording devices.

The Parish Council has no objections to the other proposed speed limit changes affecting Hollow Lane and the new housing estate roads on a related matter, the VDS wishes to avoid clutter of road signs and encourages the removal of unnecessary or redundant signs and their poles. Any signs should be harmonious to the rural character. Specifically, the VDS, page 19 recommends that, "the Highways Authority is encouraged to give consideration to reducing the number and visual impact of road signs at the junction of Hollow Lane and Chignal Road".

Prohibition of Motor Vehicles

The Parish Council supports the proposed prohibition orders in Schedule 1: Woodhall Hill (Western Section), Chignal, from its junction with Chignal Road/Hollow Lane north east for approximately 20 metres; and, Hollow Lane (Existing), Chignal, from its junction with Chignal Road/Hollow Lane, south east then north east for a total distance of approximately 20 metres and from a point approximately 90.3 metres east of its junction with the eastern kerb-line of The Larthings, east to its junction with Clover Drive.

With regard to Schedule 2, the Parish Council agrees that an increase in traffic from the new housing developments on Hollow Lane to its northern section which joins School Lane/Patching Hall Lane would cause further grass verge damage, increased maintenance requirements and a potential increased risk of collisions. Residents of Little Hollows have reported that since the temporary closure over the last few months, this rural section of Hollow Lane has attracted many more walkers and cyclists and for this reason would wish to support permanent closure to motor vehicles.

Closing Hollow Lane to through traffic will increase pressure on Copperfield Road as this is the alternate route. It is also likely that this will add to the increasingly amount of traffic that uses Chignal Road through to Little Waltham. It is accepted that there is no easy solution to this problem as Broomfield has congestion problems which will get worse when the proposed new housing developments are completed.

As mentioned above, the Parish Council continues to voice its residents' concerns about the volume of peak traffic using Chignal Road and Breeds Road and has sought the support of the Local Highways Panel to reduce speed.

If Hollow Lane is to be closed to through traffic, priority should be given to these works and other appropriate traffic calming measures along the rural section of Chignal Road.

2019/097 County and City Councillors' Reports

- a. Essex County Councillor Report Army & Navy replacement still to be agreed. Hollow Lane closure. Chelmsford Plan. Website Planned before March Closure of Essex Net the Essex Record office is a great facility and has several events planned.
- b. Chelmsford City Councillor Report Apologies. Request for meeting with Head of Planning Policy about Chelmsford Local Plan and new Development Management still pending. Local Plan Modifications – expecting Inspector's decision shortly. Plastic bag issues to be reduced. Shortage of 3 and 4 bed houses.

Confirmation of the Monthly Minutes of 11th November 2019

Resolution: Minutes confirmed

2019/098 Representatives' Reports: to note

- A) Playing Field Hedge has been cut.
- B) Village Hall Liaison Fete 1st Saturday in June. Steady Bookings. New Clock.
- C) Newsletter Including Website Redesign of the Newsletter with templates.
Request software up to £50
Resolution Software expenditure up to £100.
- D) Community Safety Burglary in the last two weeks.
Agenda for the Community Meeting.
- E) Highways (to include Hedges) Nothing to report.
Water running down the road rather than the gully's or drains.
- F) Footpaths/Bridleways Nothing to report
- G) Tree Warden Registered our Interest in planting more trees at Copperfield road. Gardening Express donated Daffodils and Tulips that the Parish Council - planted around the Village Hall, The Orchard and the Green at Little Hollows.

2019/099 Finance:

Account Balances:			
	Cheque Account	£	4,485.22
	Saving Account	£	48,111.46
Income (in figures above)			
	Cheque Account	£	23.98 Interest
Total		£	52,596.68
Breakdown within the Bank Account:			
	Orchard Account	£	896.17

To approve Cheques to be signed and issued:

Cheque nr	Item	Cheque Value	Budget Classification
100880	Chignal Village Hall	£90.00	Council Meeting Hall Hire
100881	Essex Pension Fund	£120.61	Clerks Salary
100882	HMRC	£23.40	Clerks Salary
100883	Clerk wages & expenses	£128.11	Clerks Salary
100884	Grant to Chignal Village Hall	£1733.00	CIL
100885	Transcape	£8112.00	CIL
100886	Chelmsford DBF	£186.07	Newsletter
100887	Essex Pension Fund	£120.61	Clerks Salary
100888	Taylors Agricultural	£180.00	Playing Field
100889	HMRC	£23.40	Clerks Salary
100890	Clerk wages & expenses	£102.98	Clerks Salary
100891	RCCE	£52.80	EALC/RCCE
100892	Chignal Village Hall	£346.67	CIL
100893	S. Middleditch - Hardfile	£99.99	IT & WEB

Total Payments £11,319.64

2019/100 Playing Field Improvements: final recommendations on work to improve the croquet playing surface, purchase of a mower to maintain the courts, installation of a gazebo and new football goal posts.

Concerns on the ongoing maintenance of the surface. The Constitution of the club. Set of accounts. Management plan. Croquet club should cut around the edges of the court that will be hard for the Parish Council contractor to cut. Ongoing maintenance of a mower to facilitate the cutting of the new surface. The Gazebo would remain the responsibility of the Parish Council along with the Goal Post.

Resolution: Agree in Principle for the Improvements.

2019/101 Requests for Cil expenditure:

1. Shed for the Village Hall.

'Storage Building' to replace the current wooden shed. Parish Council may need some storage. With CIL money available a more permanent unit would be required.

3m x 3.5m. What Size would the Parish Council need?

How much of a grant can be made available?

Resolution: Working Group – Cllr Elwick and Towns

2. Playing Field

- a. Gazebo for the Playing Field £10,519 + VAT

Resolution: Approved to proceed

- b. Football Goal Posts £500.00

Resolution: Approved in Principle

3. Croquet Club

- a. Croquet Court Improvements £5,161.85

Oak posts in lieu of softwood £60.00

Providing a longer height barrier £100.00

Resolution: A formal Club must be constituted. A grounds maintenance programme must be enforced.

Resolution: In principle the funding is approved.

- b. Sit on Mower for Croquet Courts £4,000

Resolution: Decline this request for funding

Resolution Alternative Unit should be sought

4. Conservation - Wildlife Audit £400.00

Resolution: Approved up to £400

5. Village Hall Cil Request – Oversight – Vat to be agreed and paid at £346.67

Resolution: Approved

2019/102 Request for Grant Funding:

1. Community Committee Meetings – Hall / Committee room hire. £120.00

Budget £350

Spent £0

Resolution: Approved

2019/103 Update on VE Celebrations.

2019/104 Review and sign the bank reconciliation – The Clerk

2019/105 Update on the Options for a new Parish website to replace the Essex.Net website

Look at the e-voice .org site and pass information from Great Waltham to Cllr Nelson.

2019/106 Publication of an updated Chignal Information Booklet

This has been issued.

2019/107 Update on the Additional Cheque signatories.

Bank mandate to be presented to Barclays.

2019/108 Update on Online payments – standing orders for Pension, Salary and Paye

Defer until item above closed.

2019/109 Discuss the date and theme for the community event: Improving Community Security

25th April 2020.

2019/110 EALC Training for Cllr Lewis at Great Dunmow

Next Dates Wed 18th March 2020 and Tuesday 10th March 2020 – cost £190 plus VAT
Training Budget £200 not used this Financial Year

Resolution: **Clerk to book Cllr Lewis on to the courses.**

2019/111 Should the Parish Council draft a policy for all overhead wires to be put underground.

Resolution **Approved – Clerk to Draft and issue**

2019/112 Should the Parish Council renew its membership of RCCE at the cost of £52.80 per annum –
overdue renewal (1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020).

Resolution **Approved for payment**

2019/113 ANPR Cameras

Project brief on community safety and ANPR cameras circulated previously to members. Use as basis for article in
Feb edition of Chignal News on community safety and the Community Meeting on 25th April.

2019/114 Items for next Agenda, 9th March at 7pm

- Litter Pick 14th March 2020
- Community Meeting Agenda
- Update on VE Events
- Annual Parish Meeting 9th March, 8pm
- Discuss the status of the Three Elms

Meeting close 22.07

Will Adshead-Grant

Clerk to the Council