

# Chignal Parish Council

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- a) The Clerk was requested to write to the Highways Department to thank its representative for the quick and efficient way that remedial works to a damaged drain together with resurfacing works at the corner of the Green were carried out.
- b) Concern was expressed at the flooding which has occurred at Langley's Corner because of water coming off the fields causing the pond to overflow. The problems will be reported to the Highways Department.
- c) It was reported that vandalism has occurred to equipment in a field in Chignal St. James on three separate occasions and has been reported to the police who are undertaking house to house enquiries.
- d) Parishioners were asked if they would like to enter the Best Kept Village or Best Kept Churchyard Competitions which will be advertised on the Village Hall notice board.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – the Chairman asked for a volunteer to take his place at the next Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April as he is unable to attend.

## SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

**VILLAGE HALL** – a grant has been obtained from ECC to carry out works to the car park and other sources of funding are being pursued to complete the project.

**NEWSLETTER incl. Website** – Complaints have been received because of the late delivery of the January issue and it was confirmed that additional help is available if needed.

**GRAVEL LIAISON** – the latest liaison meeting confirmed that the importation of materials from Writtle has ceased. The access road to Pengymill Lane has been improved and a blocked ditch excavated to improve the flow of water. Lafarge has confirmed that Pengymill Lane will be resurfaced and repair work carried out to unblock the culvert.

**HIGHWAYS** – Cllr. Aldridge was thanked for his support in arranging a programme of works to carry out repairs to roads throughout the Parish. Repair work has been carried out to the damaged drain at the corner of the Green and problems with flooding at Beadles Hall Corner have been resolved and the culvert cleared.

**VDS** – the latest draft will be submitted to the Borough Council shortly. The AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 8 p.m. on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009.

## COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr. Chambers next surgery will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2009 between 11 a.m. and 12 noon.

## PLANNING

Gravel extraction and formation of a reservoir opposite the Village Hall – the Planning Officer has advised that she hopes the application will be submitted to Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

Blue House Cottage – extensions – the application has been approved

The Old Rectory – extensions – approval has been given.

Brittons Hall Farm Buildings – raising of barn roof – the application has been approved.

Importation of sand for the manufacture of ready made concrete – a request is to be made that this application be submitted to 'full Committee'

Hawthorn Cottage – extensions – the amended drawings will be examined and observation forwarded to the Borough Council.

Parishioners were reminded of the **VILLAGE CLEAN-UP DAY** to be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009 commencing at 9 a.m. with starting points at the Village Hall and Woodhall Farm.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

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# Chignal Annual Parish Council Meeting

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Report of the Chignal Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in the Village Hall. The meeting was well attended by Parish Councillors, a County Councillor, Borough Councillor and 27 parishioners and was chaired by Mr. Chris Philpot.

**MINUTES** - The minutes of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 were read, agreed and signed.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and also thanked his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their continuing support. He also thanked the two local councillors John Aldridge and Nicolette Chambers for their help and guidance and the police for their presence at the majority of Parish Council meetings. Myra Wilkins had been nominated earlier in the year

to attend the Mayor's Annual Presentation, an honour which was greatly deserved.

The Chairman highlighted the two most important projects for the Parish in the last twelve months:

- a) The progress made with the VDS which had resulted in many hours of work and discussions with the Borough Council which it is hoped will result in a satisfactory completion in the near future.
- b) Improvements to the village hall which have greatly enhanced the inside appearance of the hall with the next project already planned to improve the car park.

# Chignal Annual Parish Council Meeting (Continued)

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The Chairman reminded the meeting of the Clean-Up Day on 21<sup>st</sup> March starting at either the Village Hall or Woodhall Farm and asked for as much help as possible to improve the appearance of the Parish.

## CLUB REPORTS -

**CHIGNAL & MASHBURY GARDENING CLUB** – it was reported that the Club is alive and well, membership has increased and meetings well attended. Talks have been given on a variety of subjects and summer visits have been most enjoyable. New members are always welcome and future events are displayed on the Parish notice boards.

**BOWLS CLUB** – the Club was founded 20 years ago last year and the event was celebrated with a competition and supper including a special photo cake of all the members. There have also been other enjoyable social events including a pudding evening and club supper at the Three Elms. Ten friendly matches were played and members also entered external competitions, with good results.

**WOMENS INSTITUTE** – Myra Wilkins, the President, reported on another interesting and successful year. There has been a good variety of speakers and many members helped with the Village Fete. The Art Group continues to thrive and meets on the fourth Thursday each month and is open to everyone not just W.I. members.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** – Tony Wilkins, the area co-ordinator, thanked the local volunteers for regularly distributing the yellow bulletins throughout the year. He warned parishioners to be vigilant of anyone acting suspiciously.

**CRICKET CLUB** – There were mixed results for the two teams last season and this year the Club has joined the Warsop Stebbing Sunday League and will also play some friendly games and 20/20 evening matches. Practice nights are on Wednesdays and new players are always welcome. Contact Linda Bird on 01245 262279 for further information.

**WINE DISCOVERY GROUP** – The Group meets on the second Friday of each month (except August) at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall and membership continues to rise. A few 'special' evenings are planned for the coming year and anyone interested in joining should contact Norman Smith or Dave Thomas.

## Pandemic Flu

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If you have any worries about your health or do not know what to do if you think you may have "swine" flu. You can call the helpline on 0800 1 513 513 or call NHS Direct on 0845 4647, or go to [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) or [www.direct.gov.uk/swineflu](http://www.direct.gov.uk/swineflu) for more information. It is important that everyone helps to reduce the risk of infection by using tissues when sneezing and washing their hands regularly. We all need to

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH** – Weekly services are held every Sunday with a small regular congregation but the Christmas, Easter services and the Harvest Festival are well attended. The churchyard is well maintained and the ladies of the parish were thanked for cleaning the Church. Thanks was also given to St. Mary's Church at Broomfield for its continuing support.

**CHIGNAL CHAPEL** The Chapel continues to hold weekly Sunday services as well as special services for Easter, Christmas and Harvest. There is a small Sunday School and coffee mornings are held on the third Wednesday each month from 10.30 – 12 noon. Recently, the Women's World Day of Prayer was held at the Chapel when churches joined together to celebrate the event.

**VILLAGE HALL** – The biggest event of the year was the Official Opening of the extensions by the then Mayor of Chelmsford, Councillor Nicolette Chambers when over 100 residents attended.

Other improvements included new windows, curtains and a new patio area. A grant has just been received from ECC towards the cost of re-laying the car park, the next area for improvement. The Village Fete will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> June at Woodhall Farm.

**VDS** – Work started on the VDS in 2005 and approval from the Borough Council has still not been finalised in spite of many meetings and discussions. Good progress is being made and it hoped another version will be forwarded to the Borough shortly, to finalise the general layout. The AGM will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April and members of the Committee were thanked for all their work and commitment in spite of the many changes which have been necessary.

**FINANCE** – the accounts for 2008/09 were available for inspection

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) A Whist Drive will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

b) A quiz has been arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall in aid of the Women's Institute and Village Hall funds.

**DATE OFF NEXT MEETING** - The next Annual Parish meeting was arranged for 8 p.m. on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in the Village Hall.

help each other by agreeing "care buddies", so if we become ill, we will get help from our buddies to collect anti-viral medicines and food. I have no doubt that our community will help each other if the need arises, which hopefully it will not!

Linda Nelson, Editor

# North Melbourne Library

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who attended our 'Horrible' Day in the Library during the Easter Holidays. We had over 50 children involved in making Astec masks and taking part in our horrible hunt around the Library!

With summer just around the corner, do you need ideas on where to go on holiday? Or menu suggestions for your summer barbeque? Why not come in and look at our large selection of travel guides and cookery books.

Our next 'Daddy Cool' sessions will be on Sat 13<sup>th</sup> June and Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July, 11.00-11.30 so dads why not come along and make some noise with your baby or toddler!.

During the Whitsun Holiday we will be having a 'Bedtime Stories' session on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 6.00-6.30- bring your pillow and a soft toy and listen to some bedtime stories! For 7 year olds and under, accompanied by a parent/guardian. Are you a fan of Charlie and his little sister, Lola? Do their delightful adventures make you laugh

out loud? Children 5 to 11 years are invited to a **Charlie and Lola celebration** where they can share some fun stories about this lovable pair at **North Melbourne Library Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May 10:30 – 11:30.**

Looking forward to the future we would like to remind all young people of the Summer Reading Challenge which starts on 18<sup>th</sup> July. This year's theme is Quest Seekers and we will have lots of fun things to do in the library. We are pleased to offer the opportunity of joining one week earlier at North Melbourne Library on Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July.

Mandy Simioni – Library Supervisor  
North Melbourne Library  
(Attached to Newland Spring School)  
Dickens Place  
Cooperfield Road  
Chelmsford  
Tel: 01245 442292

## Mobile Library

The Mobile Library stops at the Green, Chignal St. James on alternate Tuesdays at 9.35 a.m. Dates are Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

The next stop is at Chignal Smealey, St Nicholas Church at 10 a.m.. The service will not continue without support, so please give it a try. You can take out up to 14 books and if the library does

not have the book you can order them from the mobile library or do this on-line and then pick them up from the mobile library. There is no charge to do this!

You can also rent DVDs from the mobile library and it is worth a visit to view a variety of community notices.

## Dates for your Diary

### Gardening Club

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> - Visit to Glen Chantry in Wickham Bishops. Meet there 2 p.m. (Garden open 2 p.m. Onwards)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Visit to June Spencers Garden at Great Yeldham. Meet there at 7 p.m.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Visit to Saling Hall. Meet there at 7 p.m.

### Chignal & Mashbury Village Hall's Annual Garden Fete & Vintage Rally on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Woodhall, Chignal Rd, Chignal Smealey from 1 to 5pm Free admission

Vintage cars and working steam machinery, Cream teas, Cakes, Raffles, Plants, Tombola, Books, White Elephant, Bowling for the pig, Books, Coconut Shy, Art exhibition, Barrel Organ and much more. A fun day out for all the family All proceeds to village hall funds

# St. Nicholas' Church

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Greetings from St. Nicholas Church, since the last newsletter we have continued to hold a weekly service. Mothering Sunday also known as Refreshment Sunday was celebrated with a family service, conducted by Diana Garfield. The children enthusiastically joined in the singing; accompanied by Julia Smart on the organ, story telling and giving thanks to God for their families. One child in particular was greatly pleased to have juice and a biscuit at the end of the service. It was very refreshing to see in these material times. It was a very poignant reminder to us adults to remember to enjoy the simple things in life and to demonstrate enthusiasm and zeal in all we do. Jesus during his ministry blessed little children. It is said in the New Testament we must develop a simple child like faith, to become like little children to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.



On a sadder note St. Nicholas was the venue of the funeral service of Mrs. Queenie Bird. The church was full to capacity, for this well respected local lady, loyal to all she supported. A few days later, Nora Hoy (94) formerly of Chignal St. James was laid to rest in the church yard following her service at the United Reformed Church. She had suffered many years of ill health and had spent a long period of time in a nursing home. Our thoughts and prayers are with both families. Thank you to all those who helped with the organisation of their services.

We are aware of several people in the parish who are unwell. We wish them a speedy recovery. Our prayers are with them and their families.

The holiday season is fast approaching, summer is on its way. We hope you all have an enjoyable time at home abroad. Please feel free to contact us if you feel we may be of help to you.

Tony Towns (440241)  
Church Warden

## Would You Care for a Cuppa?

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Come to a Tea Party for  
Diabetes UK  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May  
10 a.m. To 1 p.m.  
Ingatstone Hall, CM4  
Parking on field

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**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS &  
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Items for next Newsletter to editor by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009

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