

GREAT WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Petitions Policy

Version 3

This policy document should be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Version	Review Date	Reviewed By	Summary of Changes
1			Existing document.
2	December 2021	S. Gilbert	Format changes.
3	March 2022	J. Jenkins	No changes.

Petitions

We welcome petitions, as they are an important way for residents to let us know about their concerns and participate in the democratic process.

Starting a petition

Before you start a petition, you should consider if it is the best way to resolve your issue or make your views known.

You could also:

- contact your Parish Councillor, contact details available on the GWPC website
- attend a Parish Council meeting, dates available on the GWPC website
- respond to consultations

If you are starting a petition, you should:

- identify who is organising the petition
- indicate which of our functions the petition relates to
- say what you want us to do

When asking people to sign your petition, they can be of any age. They need to provide their name, and an address or postcode that shows that they live, work or study in the Great Waltham parish. We will not count any signatures that don't provide this information.

We do not have an online petitions system. If you have created a petition online, you need to notify the GWPC clerk of its existence. You can run an online petition at the same time as a paper petition, combining the two before sending them to the Council. You should send the paper petition to the Council at the same time as the closing date of the online petition so that all of the signatures will be counted at the same time.

Submitting a petition:

You can send us a petition by post to:

The Clerk,
Great Waltham Parish Council,
Parish Office ,
Great Waltham Hulton Hall,
South Street,
Great
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 1DF

Waltham

We can't accept your petition if:

- there is no clear petition organiser
- it relates to something we are not directly responsible for (such as roads or schools)
- it relates to a planning decision
- it relates to a licensing application
- it is vexatious, abusive or otherwise inappropriate

After receiving your petition:

We will send an acknowledgement to the petition organiser within 10 working days of receiving it.

This will include details of how we will deal with the petition under our Petitions Policy.

Depending on what the petition asked for and how many people signed it, we can:

- consider the petition at a parish council meeting if the petitions receives 50 signatures or 25% of the residents in the area the petition applies to
- hold an inquiry into the matter
- carry out research into the matter
- hold a public meeting

Great Waltham Parish Council website can be found at:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/copy-of-parish-directory/>