

Great Waltham Parish Council

The Parish Office, The Pavilion, South Street, Great Waltham.

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Minutes of the meeting of the Highways and Transport Committee of Great Waltham Parish Council held in the Pavilion, South Street, Great Waltham on Monday 27th July 2026 at 7.30pm.

1. Elect a Chair.
Cllr Gilbert was elected.
2. Chair's Welcome:
Chair: Gilbert.
Councillors: Stephenson, McDevitt, Bradley and Martin.
3. Apologies for Absence.
All members present.
4. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to items on the agenda and requests for dispensation.
There were no declarations of interest.
5. Public Participation session - items do not need to on the agenda.
1 member of the public to observe the meeting.
6. To receive updates on all open Action Tracker items (based on the Tracker document circulated with the agenda).
Several items were reviewed and where actions have completed, they were closed.
7. To note the progress on highways and transport matters being considered and tracked by the full Council.
Several items were reviewed and the current positions noted. However, because the policy positions of the new ECC administration on a number of issues are unclear, it was agreed to suggest to the Chelmsford Association of Local Councils (CALC) that it would be beneficial to invite the relevant cabinet member to its next meeting so that CALC members can obtain insights on matters affecting their parishes.

Resolution: **Cllr. Gilbert to contact CALC to suggest the ECC highways and infrastructure cabinet member is invited to the next CALC meeting to provide insights on the administration's current policies and Essex Highways activities.**
8. To receive an update on the current position in relation to parish Speed Watch groups and to consider any future direct involvement by the Council.
 - Ford End Speed Watch is currently not running however Trucam is in use in Ford End – they can issue speeding tickets through the Police. 144 vehicles were noted for speeding in July through Ford End.
 - Great Waltham Speed Watch is currently not running.

Speed Watch members take an online course for about 1 hour before an accreditation test. 3 Speed Watch members work together to run the event – one on camera and two checking the registrations.

Resolution: **The Committee recommends that the Parish Council should undertake a coordination role to reintroduce Speed Watch teams operating in the parish if there is sufficient local interest and a pool of volunteers can be established.**

Resolution: **The Committee recommends an article is sent to the Parish News outlining the role of Speed Watch and the need for volunteers. Cllrs. Gilbert & Martin to prepare an article and submit it to ensure consideration for inclusion in next edition of Parish News.**
9. To consider the data obtained from the latest ECC Highways Ford End Automatic Traffic Count and Felsted turn-off permanent site traffic count (from 1st to 7th June 2026 inclusive).
 - The Ford End Automatic Traffic count was commissioned and funded by the Parish Council.
 - The Felsted count was provided by Essex Highways at no cost.
 - GWPC has analysed these and previous datasets, but is unsure how the trends they show are also considered by Essex Highways to inform traffic management strategies.

Resolution: **The use of these data by Highways will be raised at the next CALC meeting if the ECC cabinet member for highways and infrastructure is asked to attend.**

10. To receive an update on SID deployments and use of reports to inform traffic management change requests.

The SID is currently deployed every 10 days (subject to battery life) at locations around the parish. The latest SID results data are still to be supplied to the members.

11. To prioritise the Council's further requests to take advantage of the new Chelmsford City Council highway rangers initiative.

- The Council put through two requests initially – both were approved by the Rangers.
- An additional 3 works areas were identified at the meeting and will be submitted accordingly.
- Additional areas of work to be shared with the Clerk.

Resolution: **Additional areas of work to be shared with the Clerk for notification to the Highways Rangers.**

Resolution: **Clerk to make the work area requests to the Highways Rangers in groups of three.**

Resolution: **Clerk to add the Highways Rangers work and actions to the Action Tracker.**

12. Discuss whether to recommend a policy position in relation to funding repairs and replacements of roadside furniture (including road/village signs) in the parish when not a parish council asset.

The Clerk has been working through the Village Gateways signs to photograph, plot, measure and request licences for the Gateways from Essex Highways.

Resolution: **The Committee recommends a position of looking at each individual location's issue as it is raised, rather than introducing a fixed policy position.**

Members: – Cllr Gilbert, Cllr Martin, Cllr McDevitt, Cllr Bradley and Cllr Stephenson.

Meeting closed at 20:58