ECC and CCC report for the meeting.

I have a clash with a City Council Meeting, so may not be able to make the GWPC meeting:

**ECC Report:**

**Barrack Lane: pot holes**

Having reported that Highways did not accept ownership of the “passing place” on Barrack Lane, I pursued this with them citing that there are utilities located on the verge, and the utility companies are unlikely to want to incur charges from private land owners. Subsequently, Highways have now said that the land in question is considered to form part of the maintainable highway. They have also stated this defect is P3 priority on a local road so is out of scope in the Maintenance Matrix/Strategy document. However, I can now add this to my October submission of Member Led pothole reduction scheme.

**Member Led Pothole Scheme:**

I understand that all the potholes I submitted in the first tranche have now been filled – as follows.

I will be submitting the next tranche in October 2022

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| **site\_name** | **enquiry\_number** | **enquiry\_desc** |
| **BURY LANE** | **2785822** | Title=A series of potholes,A number of holes at the edge of the carriageway - the road is narrow and one of the residents parks on the road outside his house, so vehicles (and some trucks) get round by going to the edge of the road, where it has worn away and created some big holes. |
| Existing defect ref 2780985 |
| **CHIGNAL ROAD** | **2785884** | Title=A single pothole,Hole at edge of road |
| **CHIGNAL ROAD** | **2785887** | Title=A single pothole,Large pothole - fills half of carriageway |
| **CHIGNAL ROAD** | **2786409** | Title=A single pothole,Single large pothole in wheel tracks. |
| Possibly already reported as Track It ref 3538456 or 2755088 |
| **CHURCH LANE** | **2785816** | Title=A single pothole,A short strip where the surface has lifted then cracked. |
| **ESSEX REGIMENT WAY** | **2785939** | Title=A single pothole,Essex Regiment Way -  as you approach the park and ride from the North - pothole on the  on the left hand side of the carriageway.  Due to its position in the fast moving road it has not been possible for a photo to be taken |
| **LITTLEY GREEN ROAD** | **2785942** | Title=A single pothole,In middle of south bound carriageway - quite a wide pothole on the narrow bit of Littley Green Road |
| **MASHBURY ROAD** | **2785891** | Title=A single pothole,Edge of road crumbled away leaving hole |
| **MAYFIELD ROAD** | **2785799** | Title=A single pothole,Near kerb and in wheeltracks. |
| Already reported as defect ref 3638405 |
| **MAYFIELD ROAD** | **2785801** | Title=A single pothole,Pothole near kerb |
| Already reported as defect ref 3325020 |
| **MORAN AVENUE** | **2786411** | Title=A series of potholes,Looks like 2 potholes but appears to actually be a single hole previously repaired, but both ends of the repair has deteriorated |
| **PENDEN HILL** | **2785795** | Title=A series of potholes,Pleshey Road opposite the concrete road entrance - these are the most severe - a series of 3 potholes |
| **PLESHEY ROAD** | **2785789** | Title=A single pothole,This is a growing pothole on the inside of the corner |
| **PLESHEY ROAD** | **2785792** | Title=A single pothole,Already reported as carriageway defect 2780987 |
| **RECTORY CLOSE** | **2785934** | Title=A single pothole,This is a strip across the road where the concrete has deteriorated and there is a foot wide gap across the full length of the road. This can be filled with tarmac, judging by similar repairs in the same road. |
| **ST JOHNS GREEN** | **2785944** | Title=A single pothole,Pothole in middle of part where 2 roads join |
| **VICTORIA ROAD** | **2785803** | Title=A single pothole,Already reported as defect ref 2779211 |
| **WHEELERS HILL** | **2785936** | Title=A series of potholes,2 defects: |
| - drain surround has sunk - this is on Wheelers Hill at the junction with Back lane |
| - pothole on Back Lane at same junction |

**Broomfield School Crossing Patrol**

In early July I managed to get a School Crossing Patrol sanctioned for School Lane, Broomfield. We advertised for the role, but so far no one has been appointed, so I am broadcasting the advert again. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact us at schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk  or gillian.palmer@essex.gov.uk, stating Broomfield (or contact me). The role generally suits people with a positive and friendly attitude with good communication skills who are active and reliable.

**DIGIGO merges the two regions**

DigiGo is a transport service piloted by ECC for 2 years. The service comprises 6 electric mini-buses operating from the Braintree GRIDSERVE electric forecourt. Using the TravelEssex app, passengers select their pick up (a short walk from your location) and drop off points. (If you can’t cope with Apps, there is a phone call alternative). The service now covers a wide rural area. The charges are similar to public transport but the service approaches that of a taxi! And concessionary fares and conditions apply. They operate 7 days a week, 7am until 10pm. All the mini-buses have wheelchair access. I see this as an answer to public transport in low demand areas where bus companies find it uneconomic to operate. Whether you are a pupil living in a rural area who can’t get a school bus, someone who needs to get to a medical appointment, or a shopper, please make use of the facility and make the pilot a success. Residents can visit [www.digigo.uk](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.digigo.uk%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cae219eee17374b29304708da86af65c6%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637970385138311596%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=D3IKH3qx3SPWdFL4UtyfTuQLyuKcPjmvWRFzeEyltas%3D&reserved=0) to learn more.

**A120 Upgrade -**

On 22nd Sept I attended a presentation from National highways, along with GWPC, about the A120 maintenance work over the next few months, which will close the A120 overnight from 5th Oct to 9th March – with the diversion being the B1008 and A131 – through Ford End. (There is more info at [https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalhighways.co.uk%2Four-roads%2Feast%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C1bdc46e496f449438aad08da9d5b1b76%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637995311870751407%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pBN5IR54%2BvKYzoxg%2FP0Zb5mQ1U0eTw9c3ec4LDqbNOY%3D&reserved=0) )

GWPC and myself (County Cllr Steel) have sent a joint letter of complaint to National Highways with other diversion suggestions. This can be found on the GW website  [https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/noticeboard/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fe-voice.org.uk%2Fgreatwalthamparish%2Fnoticeboard%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C1bdc46e496f449438aad08da9d5b1b76%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637995311870751407%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=etROnp5Ob1S5Y7GA56bdQGi9Qz0j9m%2BZFWt5hg2Mpj0%3D&reserved=0)

Below is a list of the closures and diversions:

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| **A120 Great Dunmow – Landscape Improvements**  |
| **Direction**  | **Closure points**  | **Dates and timings**  | **Diversion**  |
| Eastbound | Great Dunmow eastbound exit slip closure | Monday 3 October to Wednesday 12 October Weeknights only (8pm to 6am) | Traffic will be diverted to continue the A120 and take the exit slip onto Great Dunmow South Interchange and return westbound before taking the exit slip at Great Dunmow West Interchange.  |
| Westbound    | Great Dunmow (B1256) westbound exit slip closure  | Wednesday 26 October to Wednesday 9 November  Weeknights only (8pm to 6am)   | Traffic will be diverted to continue the A120 and take the exit for Stansted Airport to return eastbound on the A120 before taking the exit slip at Dunmow West Interchange. |

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| **A120 Stansted to Braintree** |
| **Phase**  | **Direction**  | **Closure points**  | **Dates and timings**  | **Diversion**  |
| 1         | Westbound  | A120 Galleys Corner to Little Canfield  | Monday 3 October to Wednesday 5 October(8pm to 6am)  | Traffic will be diverted onto the A120 / Coggeshall Road, to the A12, junction 25, A130, B1008 and B1256 before joining the A120 at Dunmow West Interchange  |
| 2 | Westbound  | A120 Panners Interchange to Dunmow West Interchange  | Wednesday 5 October to Saturday 21 January  Weeknights only (8pm to 6am)  | Westbound traffic will be diverted at Panners Interchange via the A131, B1008 and the B1256 before re-joining the A120 at Dunmow West Interchange. |
| 3 | Westbound  | A120 Dunmow West Interchange to Little Canfield | Monday 23 January to Thursday 26 January 2023 Weeknights only ​(8pm to 6am)  | Traffic will be diverted off the A120 at the Dunmow South Interchange exit slip road onto the B1256 to re-join the A120 / M11 at Birchanger Green Roundabout. |
| 4 | Eastbound  | A120 Little Canfield to Dunmow West Interchange  | Thursday 26 January to Tuesday 7 February Weeknights only ​(8pm to 6am)   | Traffic will be diverted onto the B1256 via Birchanger Green Roundabout to re-join the A120 at Dunmow South Interchange.  |
| 5 | Eastbound | A120 Dunmow West Interchange to Panners Interchange  | Tuesday 7 February to Thursday 9 March  Weeknights only ​(8pm to 6am)    | Eastbound traffic will be diverted via Dunmow West Interchange, B1256, B1008 before re-joining the A120 at Panners Interchange. |

 I have also forwarded the joint letter to the ECC Highways Cabinet Member, and the officer who deals with DfT (who responded previously that DfT would not remove the B1008 as the A120 back-up until the NE Bypass was built) – pointing out that he consequence of this decision is more disruption to the residents of Ford End.

**City Council Report:**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

**NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Location: | **Land East Of Essex Regiment Way Hyde Hall Lane Great Waltham Chelmsford Essex**  |
| PROPOSAL: | **Agricultural storage building providing secure lockable store for machinery and equipment used on the holding and open bays for hay storage and for keeping equipment under cover** |
| APPN Reference: | **21/01800/AG** |
| APPEAL REF: | **APP/W1525/W/21/3286621** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

The appeal was dismissed y City Council (the decision notice can be viewed at [https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk](https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk/).)

However, the landowners are asserting use of the land for horses for over 20 years and therefore the location of portable structures and moveable implements used in connection with the keeping of horses and limited agricultural use does not require planning permission.

If GWPC want to make further representations, I think they will need to disprove the continuous use for equine purposes for the last 20 years!

*“As you will be aware, the landowners appeal against the Council’s decision to refuse an agricultural storage building has been dismissed – decision date 22 July 2022.*

*As you may have read, the Inspector is of the opinion that there is very limited agricultural use, given there is no evidence of the land being cropped for hay nor any meaningful rearing of poultry for the production of eggs. As such, the Inspector suggests the lands primary use is equine.*

*With this in mind, when considering whether it is now necessary to pursue formal enforcement action, the Council must have regard for the lawful use of the land.*

*Whilst the lands planning record is limited, the landowners have asserted within their Planning Contravention Notice that they have used the land for the keeping or horses for over 20 years. Aerial photographs and the information available to the Council appear to support this declaration. The Council is not in possession of any information to the contrary.*

*As such, it appears the lands lawful use is equine.*

*With this in mind, and now having had the opportunity to review the current status of the land with colleagues, I must advise the location of portable structures and moveable implements used in connection with the keeping of horses and limited agricultural use does not require planning permission. This is because such items are not considered development in planning terms.*

*Having made observations on site, I understand the touring caravan is used to dry rugs, the shipping container is used as a portable chicken shed, the lorry back is used to store hay, and the horse box is used as a field shelter.*

*With the above in mind, it does not appear that a breach of planning control is occurring at this time.*

*Under these circumstances no further action will be taken by the enforcement team and the case will be closed”.*

**Vehicle crossing the grass in CGR**

I understand that vehicles are ignoring the signs on CGR, and the signs may have been removed?

As I have stated previously, I do not agree with the City Council approach to this. They have adopted an open space policy which wants to protect such places as the greens of CGR. I pushed back on this at the Planning Committee which considered the planning application for a driveway across the green further down the road. The controlling administration is against such applications, which I disagree with – my view is that the residents’ views should be considered (and some access roads should be permitted – if that is what the residents want – there were no objections on this one). I pointed out to the Planning Committee that they were creating a problem – i.e., if they refuse such driveways, the residents would just ignore it and drive on the grass.

I think you (GWPC)) need to write to the Planning lead and the Corporate Property lead, stating that they have created this problem and ask them what they intend to do to enforce the notices they have put up.

**Chelmsford City Council is consulting a review of its adopted Local Plan.**

The consultation is called the Issues and Options Consultation, and the formal stage is called Regulation 18.  The consultation is open for comments from **10am on Thursday 11 August to 4pm on Thursday 6 October 2022.**  This is the first opportunity for residents, businesses, developers, and other interested parties to get involved in the review.

We adopted our current Local Plan in May 2020.  We need to review the plan at least every five years, to see if we need to update it.  We want to make sure that we are planning for new housing, jobs, and infrastructure to meet local needs until 2041.

We are consulting on the following two documents:

* Issues and Options Consultation Document
* Issues and Options Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) Consultation Document

**More information**

* [Visit our website](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/lp-review) for further information
* [Read our newsletter](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/_resources/assets/attachment/full/0/6527508.pdf) which summaries the consultation
* [Visit our online exhibition](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/lp-exhibition), which covers the key consultation topics
* Meet with planning staff face-to-face at a public drop-in exhibition (see the [consultation statement](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/_resources/assets/attachment/full/0/6527510.pdf) for details)

If you have any queries please contact us: planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk or call 01245 606330.

**SEPP – Road closures for remembrance Sunday**

For the past few years, I have requested the road closures as the GWPC Chair – submitting maps, risk assessment, bus company notification, police notification, marshal training, etc. These go to South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) who are part of City Council, who then liaise with ECC Highways.

It seems that this year, the process has not been straightforward, and due to a significant increase in requests at Jubilee time, SEPP have re-looked at the process and are now asking for Traffic Management plans that include advance diversion notifications. This may incur a cost. However, I have arranged a Walk-the-route meeting with the SEPP manager 26th Sept, with the aim of coming up with a compromise package that avoids costs.