

Great Waltham Parish Household Survey - 2025

Introduction

Your Parish Council has certain powers and duties. In this survey we ask you questions which will help us to guide our activities in those areas over which we have direct responsibility or control. Therefore, the questions we ask are primarily about the matters where we can make a difference locally.

To begin, we ask for some general details about you – ones which cannot be used to identify you personally, but which help us understand in which part of the parish you live, your age group, length of residency etc. We then go on to ask you about various Parish Council services and facilities, and also your thoughts and understandings of what we do, what improvements could be made, and how we are funded.

This will help us to manage how we approach our work in the context of the objectives contained in our Strategic Plan, which you can find on the parish website - <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish>.

Please take the time to answer all the questions. The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

About You

1. In which part of the parish do you live?

- ☐ Great Waltham
- ☐ Ford End
- ☐ Howe Street
- ☐ North End
- ☐ Littlely Green
- ☐ Broad's Green
- ☐ Fanner's Green
- ☐ Other

2. How long have you resided in the parish?

- ☐ Less than 12 months
- ☐ 1 – 5 years
- ☐ 6 – 10 years
- ☐ 11 – 25 years
- ☐ Over 25 years

3. What age category are you in?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18 – 30
- ☐ 31 – 45
- ☐ 46 – 60
- ☐ 61 – 75
- ☐ 75+

4. How many people reside permanently in your household?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ More than 6

5. How many motor vehicles are kept at your residence and used on a regular (at least weekly) basis?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ More than 4

Recreation Grounds

6. Do you or members of your household use these facilities? (*Indicate all applicable*):

- ☐ Ford End Recreation Ground
- ☐ Great Waltham Recreation Ground
- ☐ Howe Street Recreation Ground

7. How often do you visit the Ground(s)?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Never

8. Why do you visit the Ground(s)? (*Indicate all applicable*)

- ☐ For exercise
- ☐ For dog walking
- ☐ To supervise children using the play equipment
- ☐ To use the area (seat, benches etc.) to relax or read
- ☐ I never visit the Ground(s)

9. If you do not visit the Ground(s), is it because (*indicate all applicable*):

- ☐ I do not have time
- ☐ I have other interests
- ☐ They are not welcoming
- ☐ They do not have facilities for my needs
- ☐ Other (please state):

Allotments

10. Do you or members of your household hire an allotment plot from the Parish Council (at either of its two sites located in Great Waltham)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

11. If No, what are the reason(s) (*indicate all applicable*)?

- ☐ Have own garden
- ☐ Not interested in gardening
- ☐ Do not have time
- ☐ The locations are not convenient for me
- ☐ Other (please state):

Parish Council Services

12. Do you think you have a good awareness of the services the Parish Council delivers on your behalf?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

13. Which of the following services/facilities delivered to households in the parish do you think Great Waltham Parish Council currently provides? (*Indicate all applicable*)

- ☐ Highway maintenance (including repair of potholes, verge cutting etc.)
- ☐ Recreation grounds
- ☐ Village halls
- ☐ Allotment sites
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Access to health services
- ☐ Planning application approvals
- ☐ Maintenance of green spaces
- ☐ Libraries
- ☐ Defibrillators
- ☐ Noise & nuisance control
- ☐ Traffic management
- ☐ Refuse collection (including public litter bins)

14. Of those amenities/services you believe the Parish Council currently has no responsibility, which would you like to see it to become more involved, and why?

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15. How satisfied are you with the Parish Council's delivery of services for which you believe it is currently responsible?

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Fairly satisfied
- ☐ Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- ☐ Fairly dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied

16. The Parish Council has limited influence in relation to how services provided by higher authorities (currently Chelmsford City Council and Essex County Council) are allocated to and delivered in the parish. Do you think the Parish Council should have:

- ☐ More influence?
- ☐ Less influence?
- ☐ About the same?

Communication

17. When do you consider attending one of the Council's public meetings (typically it holds at least 24 full or committee meetings annually)?

- ☐ When I have a personal interest in an issue to be discussed
- ☐ When there is a high profile or controversial community issue to be discussed
- ☐ I never attend Council meetings

18. If you never attend meetings, please can you tell us why:

19. Do you read Parish Council articles published in Parish News (the magazine delivered to every household in the parish), or access the parish website to read the Council's meeting minutes, policy documents etc.)?

Parish News

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Website

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

20. To provide information and updates on its activities, do you think the Parish Council should have a greater social media presence?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

21. If Yes, on which social media platforms would you like to see posts?

- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ TikTok
- ☐ Instagram
- ☐ X
- ☐ Other (please state)

Council Tax

Your Council Tax includes an amount requested by the Parish Council to carry out its activities in accordance with an agreed budget. This amount is known as the parish precept. Currently the precept for the parish of Great Waltham is 5.0% of the overall Council Tax paid by each household (this equates to £8.95 per calendar month for a Band D property).

22. In future, would you be prepared to pay an increased amount to the Parish Council if this meant enhanced and/or additional services and amenities being provided for the local community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. If Yes, using the current Band D amount of £8.95 per calendar month as a guide, would you support that monthly amount – and all other Bands by a similar ratio – being increased to (*select one option only*):

- ☐ £9.50
- ☐ £10.00
- ☐ £12.50
- ☐ £15.00
- ☐ More than £15.00

24. What would you like any additional precept amount to be spent on? (*Indicate all applicable*)

- ☐ Recreation ground facilities and equipment
- ☐ Allotment site improvements
- ☐ Highway improvements (which the Parish Council may have the opportunity to self-fund)
- ☐ Community and/or commemorative events.
- ☐ Acquisition of green public spaces currently owned/maintained by Chelmsford City Council or Essex County Council.
- ☐ Any high-cost project involving a significant increase for one year only (for example average speed camera systems, purchases of land, recreation equipment replacement projects)
- ☐ Other (please state)

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Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey – your input is valued and appreciated. The results will be collated and published in due course. They will be used to inform the Parish Council's debates, discussions, and budgetary deliberations.

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