

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

JULY/AUGUST 2020

Blossom Way Affordable Homes in Great Waltham

After a pause in construction, the 10 Chelmsford Housing Partnership (CHP) dwellings in Blossom Way are complete and the new residents have moved in. I am sure you will join with me in welcoming our new neighbours. Half of the dwellings were designated for those on the Housing Register who also had a local connection to Great Waltham (i.e., live in the parish, have relatives or work there). The plan was to have an opening ceremony in April with an invitation for anyone from the local area to come and have a tour of the site, but that plan got waylaid by Covid-19. The opening ceremony would have included 8 year old Zoe Hunter (pictured) from Cherry Garden Road, who suggested the name "Blossom Way".

The site originally belonged to City Council and was sold to CHP. CHP have generously built a car park of 14 spaces and are handing them over to the Parish Council. These will be operated as a public car park for anyone to use, but a condition of the sale was that four of the spaces must be reserved for use by the Scout Group (the 4 nearest the hut). It is a legal requirement that cars are taxed and roadworthy (and does not include commercial vehicles). It would be appreciated if people could stay off the newly seeded areas until the grass is well established.

CHP would like to thank the local community for their understanding for any disruption and continued support throughout the development. Mike Steel. City Cllr



Zoe Hunter who suggested the name Blossom Way

Barry Teader remembers-

' Not only was this the childhood play area, but many remember spending time with 'Dad' while he cleaned or tinkered with his car. The swings were fondly remembered as many played in this area and it was great fun having a swing when you had just been let off school, I can't forget the swings as I jumped off one and broke my collar bone ! Older residents will also remember that just behind the swings every November we had a 'community' bonfire. Any old furniture or wood you wanted rid of pile it on and have a huge Bonfire on Guy Fawkes night.'



Photograph by Barry Teader



Photograph by Barry Teader

Great Waltham Parish Council Annual Report 2019-2020 inside - pages 6 and 7

From the Vicarage July 2020

After many weeks of Lockdown we are slowly being given more freedom; we're not out of the woods yet but thankfully there are positive signs that enable us to step out into a 'new normal'. As we begin this journey, able to do some of the things we took for granted before, I think each one of us will discover that the Covid-19 Virus has changed us in some way. Some have tragically lost loved ones through this time, some have lost jobs and incomes, some have been furloughed whilst others have been working harder than ever. Some have lost precious milestone events, celebrations, baptisms and weddings have had to be re-scheduled. End of year proms, exams, holidays and a whole host of other things precious to us have been lost too like hugging our loved ones... and that will have taken its toll on us all. But in the midst of Lockdown some may have found some positives too. Many of us have gained a new appreciation for the countryside around us; spent more time in the home; noticed nature and wildlife in a way we'd not noticed before. There's been a wonderful sense of community neighbours looking out for each other and generosity of food for the food banks. And for some, life has slowed down a little allowing time to reset patterns of being. As we take our first tentative steps forward I feel the need to pause and take stock... to mourn the people, events and time I've lost... and also to be thankful for those things that have been positive... also to take time to reflect, "Where has God been in it all?" Of course, I believe He/She has been there... But sometimes I/we just need to look a little harder to see that...and sometimes we just need to slow down in order to be able to see and recognise God's hand at work. I wonder where you have seen God in these times? Even when we've not felt his presence, even when it seems like he's not been there I believe he will have been...because he promised he would be. In Deuteronomy 31:6 it says,



"...the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

So as we begin to look forward and dare to plan and consider what the future will look like, let us try and find ways of taking some of the things we've learned and experienced through Lockdown forward with us. And I'd like to encourage you to look with me to another promise God has for each one of us in Jeremiah 29:11:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

The picture (above) is of a stone left at the Rectory gate for me to find. It raised a smile a sense of hope welled up inside me at this kindness. We have been blessing each other in many ways over this Time. We have been through an incredibly tough time... and we don't know what the future may hold but we are hopeful. If you would like a place to pause and reflect, to perhaps mourn or to be thankful, then Gt Waltham, Ford End, Chignal Smealey and Lt Leighs churches are now open at certain times for personal prayer. We can't meet for services yet, but individually we're allowed in to reflect and pray... so you're very welcome to just come and be in that sacred space. But remember too that God is in your home and wherever you may find yourself, and will listen to you at anytime, anywhere. And if you'd like to talk through any of this stuff with me then please get in touch, I'd love to hear from you.

God Bless and Stay Safe Rev Sandra

The details of churches opening times are in the magazine Do visit Little & Great Churches At Home Facebook page, where Sunday and Wednesday worship can be found.

Churches Opening for Personal Prayer



At the beginning of lockdown our churches had to close their doors due to safety restrictions. We are still not allowed to have gathered worship or services in the churches. But thankfully 4 of our 6 churches are now able to open for personal prayers. Our primary concern has always been your safety during these difficult times. With that in mind we have been working hard behind the scenes towards this day. Please respect the guidelines in place during the following opening hours:

St Mary & St Lawrence Gt Waltham on Sundays 11.30am-1pm

St John the Evangelist Ford End 2-5pm on Sundays and 10-midday on Thursdays

St Nicholas Chignal Smealey 10-6pm on Sundays

St John the Evangelist Lt Leighs 8-2pm on Saturdays and 2-8pm on Tuesdays

From the County Council - July/August 2020



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In the few weeks since I last wrote for parish magazines there continue to be enormous changes to the way we lead our lives. Covid-19 has changed the world and will sadly carry on doing so. Many of us though, have so many others to be grateful to from the NHS, to the carers in all our homes, the postmen and women, the refuse collectors, the supermarket staff and all volunteers; indeed, the list is almost endless. Closer to home we also owe so much to those in our respective communities who have given of their time and at some risk to themselves to help others live from day to day.

To all I would like to say thank you and well done! But if you or someone you know still needs help do go to the **Essex Welfare Service** <https://www.essexwelfareservice.org.uk/support-request?> However, if the internet is not available to you, it is also possible to call 0300 303 9988

Changes to Essex County Council Services in response to easing of lockdown

1. The County Council has been allocated £57 million funding for track and trace support which will develop outbreak control plans, working with local hospital trusts and other partners. This provision is additional to the national activity and is specifically to respond to identifying and containing potential outbreaks in, for example, workplaces, housing complexes, care homes and schools. <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/essex-county-council-underlines-importance-of-social-distancing-and-regular>
2. The County's Parks are back to normal opening hours. However, the children's play equipment, visitor centres and cafes will remain closed, for now in line with government guidance. See more on <https://www.explore-essex.com/covid-19-updates-may-2020>
3. A phased approach to re-open libraries, in line with government guidelines, starts from Monday 6th July with sixteen libraries and then rolling out to all libraries in the County. See further on <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/phased-approach-to-reopening-essex-libraries?>
4. The new "Family Innovation Support Fund-Xtra" offers a range of early support services. These are available to help children and young people aged between 0 and 19 years (up to 25 years for young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities) and families during the pandemic. They are aimed at those who are not already receiving specialist or statutory support. See <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/new-support-services-launched-for-children-and-families?>
5. Work is taking place in Chelmsford and other towns in Essex to provide bigger, safer spaces in key locations for city centre shoppers, residents, workers and visitors to social distance. Current cycle lanes and pavements have been enhanced as well as new lanes and pavements created. See further on <https://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/safer-greener-healthier.aspx>
6. Recycling Centres are open for restricted use - but there are still long queues as I have seen for myself. See more at <https://www.lovesessex.org/news-and-ideas/recycling-centre-temporary-restrictions/>
7. Registration services have resumed see <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/essex-registration-services-resume>

Meanwhile, if you have any problems about these and any other County Council matters please let me know on 01245 421524 or email cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk.

Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church

Due to Corona Virus all church activities are on hold until further notice

Contact: Rev Hans Stein 01371 875654 / 07763 169605

Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Please feel free to contact either of these Ministers with any concerns or questions during these strange times.

While the Church is out of use renovation work is being carried out to the interior of our Sanctuary with the hope that this will all be completed before the reopening for Church services

We would like to let everyone who has been joining with us over the past 12 years for Gossip & Guzzle that unfortunately all good things eventually come to an end.

However the good news is that we are planning to organise a new venture for the first Thursday of each month and that will be an afternoon tea Time4Tea. This can hopefully be held in the newly renovated main part of the church where we can be more socially distanced if it is still needed. Obviously this is still in the pipeline so watch this spot for further information

Keep safe & well until we can be together again

Ford End Senior Tea

The next tea will be held at 3pm on Monday, 15th July at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End. Anyone interested or who has not been before, please ring Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945

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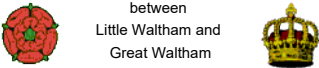

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Great Waltham Parish Council

Annual Report - 2019/2020

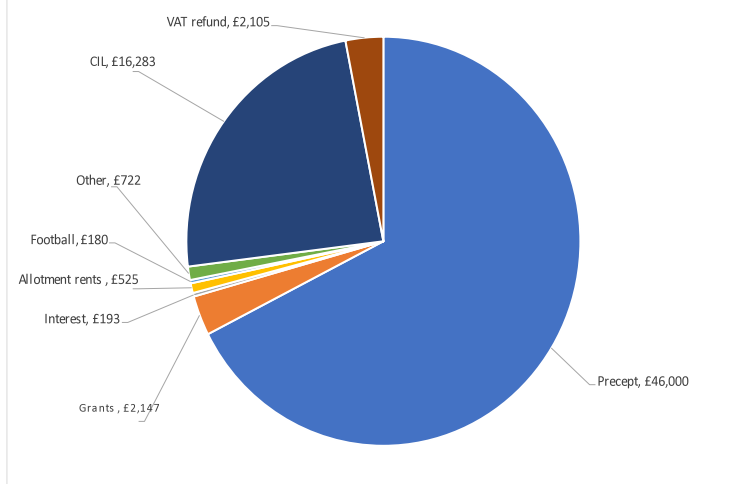
The 2019/2020 Parish Annual Assembly was planned for 1st June 2020. However, it has been suspended under the Coronavirus Act 2020 regulation 3. Normally, we produce a 4 page report which goes to every household in the Parish. This year we have decided to produce a short report and include it in the Parish News. - **Chairman of the Parish Council, Mike Steel**

Financial Information

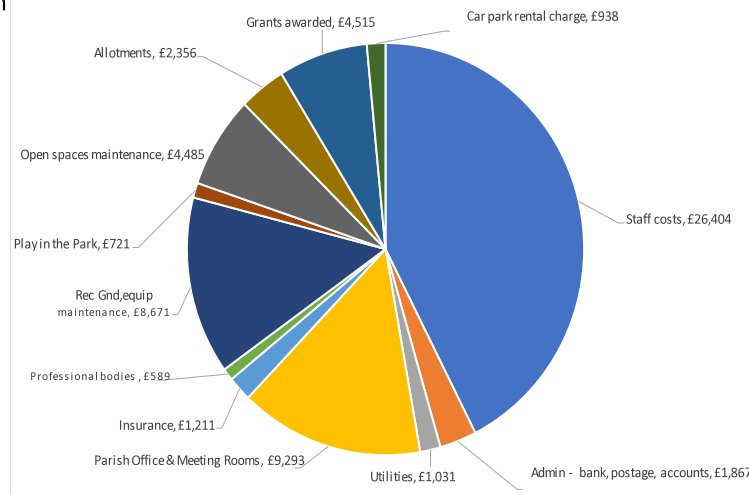
GWPC gets income from several sources, with the main one being the precept. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge on new dwellings for which GWPC gets 15%, but it must be spent on capital projects. In 2019/20, GWPC spent less than its total income which meant it was able to carry forward a larger amount for reserves and future capital projects. However, we increased our services to the community, including making 9 public car parking spaces available in GW, by renting them from GWVH. (note – we are also negotiating, with CHP, to take over the newly built car park in Blossom Way, which will provide a further 14). We also moved office from the Old Fire Station to the Village Hall. Whilst it incurred some one-off expenses, in the actual move (exit fees and new decorations), the ongoing saving will be over £5,000 pa. In addition, GWVH will get the benefit of additional income. We awarded over £4,500 in grants to the British Legion and Ford End Village Hall for improvements to their premises..

£51,586 was carried forward into 2020/21 which comprised £17, 214 of general reserve and £34,372 of CIL/Capital Works, allocated to projects which include the refurbishment of GW Changing Rooms, new playground facilities, and a contribution to speed cameras in Ford End (the latter subject to grant funding from other sources)

2019/20 GWPC Income £68,155



2019/20 GWPC Expenditure £62,081



Great Waltham Parish Council – The Parish Office, Great Waltham Village Hall (Hulton Hall), South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF, Clerk Will Adshead-Grant 07880717329 clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

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Gary Dunn, Chair F&GP gmdunn@hotmail.co.uk

Alan Martin, Chair Recreation Committee 07917037570, alanmartinpc@gmail.com

Alex McDevitt, Chair Planning Committee 01371 820139

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Wendy Daden

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County Cllr

John Aldridge

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Ford End Recreation Ground Consultation

Earlier this year Great Waltham Parish Council asked Ford End residents what changes or improvements they would like to see at the village recreation ground. The feedback received provided valuable information that will help the Parish Council plan improvements.

Subject to funding and Parish Council approval the intention is to make the facility more usable and accessible over the coming years.

A diagram highlighting the suggested improvements is available to view on the village notice board situated in front of the village hall.

Alternatively it can be viewed on the Great Waltham Parish Council website along with a summary of the comments received <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/noticeboard/>

If you would like to comment on the proposals please contact either of your Ford End councillors – Gary Dunn gmdunn@hotmail.co.uk 07525 594081 or Alan Martin alanmartinpc@gmail.com 07917037570



The Great Waltham Parish website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>

As well as the Parish Council, the website covers many aspects of the parish including contact details for local organisations, the Parish News and useful links. Contact webmasters Mike Steel and GWPC Clerk, if you want to add anything

Great Waltham Parish Council Meetings of 19th May and 15th June 2020

Clerk Will Adshead-Grant Gateshead, The Parish Office, Great Waltham Village Hall (Hulton Hall), South Street , Great Waltham, CM3 1DF, Tel 07880 717329, clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk . The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair). The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>

19th May: Update on City Council services (previously reported that all services are being delivered, some with modifications) - Hylands House Car Park is now open, but play areas are still closed. City Council have handed out 95% of £31m business grants (leisure, hospitality, retail). City Council continues to work with CVS to manage the Chelmsford Hub distributing food parcels, etc to Cat A, Cat B shielded people and other direct enquiries and referrals from EWS. With local groups, Hub (CVS + CCC), EWS and Goodsamapp, the volunteer numbers significantly outweigh the requirements. Recycling centres across Essex are opening. Queues are likely, and use is limited. Country Parks are open with limited parking due to distancing restriction. Sheepcotes roundabout works complete.

The Parish Council considered a request from a resident for a weight restriction through Broads Green. Such applications have failed previously and the PC considered whether an “unsuitable for large vehicles” might have more chance of success. 2 Cllrs agreed to carry out a volume survey to gauge the actual usage by HGVs.

The results of a consultation with Ford End residents (12 attended) resulted in a conclusion that a more modest project for a woodland at the lower end of the Recreation ground would be preferred. To be followed up with a new design.

The VE committee reported that they had cancelled all events but promoted self-isolation own garden parties. The nationwide celebrations will be moved to August (VJ Day and end of WW2). It was agreed to transfer the approved £150 PC contribution to VJ day.

Normally the May meeting is the Annual Meeting when the Chair and other roles are elected. These were suspended under the Coronavirus Act 2020 Regulation 4, and the current members will continue until next May.

15th June: The City Cllr reported that the Chelmsford Local Plan was adopted on Wednesday 27 May. Public consultation on Warren Farm, will go on until Friday 3 July 2020.

The Parish Council considered complaints about Blossom Way lighting. Meeting to be arranged on site with CHP and also discussed with City Council light pollution team. It was agreed to request that the Local Highways Panel consider options for improving the steep slope at the end of Cherry garden Road.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held Monday 17th August 2020. Likely that this will be an online meeting. The Public and Press are welcome to attend. The agenda will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting and will include joining instructions (or contact the Clerk).

Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W Adshead-Grant, Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF

Tel 07880 717329 clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Council Meeting of 19th May 2020 held on-line. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>

The City Cllr reported that there is a special meeting of City Council on the 27th May with the main item being the adoption of the Chelmsford Local Plan. Update on City Council services (previously reported that all services are being delivered, some with modifications) - Hylands House Car Park is now open, but play areas are still closed. City Council have handed out 95% of £31m business grants (leisure, hospitality, retail). City Council continues to work with CVS to manage the Chelmsford Hub distributing food parcels, etc to Cat A, Cat B shielded people and other direct enquiries and referrals from EWS. With local groups, Hub (CVS + CCC), EWS and Goodsamapp, the volunteer numbers significantly outweigh the requirements.

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The Parish Council considered a request from a resident for a weight restriction through Broads Green. Such applications have failed previously and the PC considered whether an "unsuitable for large vehicles" might have more chance of success. 2 Cllrs agreed to carry out a volume survey to gauge the actual usage by HGVs.

The results of a consultation with Ford End residents (12 attended) resulted in a conclusion that a more modest project for a woodland at the lower end of the Recreation ground would be preferred. To be followed up with a new design.

The VE committee reported that they had cancelled all events but promoted self-isolation own garden parties. The nationwide celebrations will be moved to August (VJ Day and end of WW2). It was agreed to transfer the approved £150 PC contribution to VJ day.

Normally the May meeting is the Annual Meeting when the Chair and other roles are elected. These were suspended under the Coronavirus Act 2020 Regulation 4, and the current members will continue until next May.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held Monday 20th July 2020. Likely that this will be an online meeting. The Public and Press are welcome to attend. The agenda will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting and will include joining instructions (or contact the Clerk).

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Can you help deliver the Parish News ?

If you have an hour to spare at the end of each month we would value your help. Copies are delivered to you for distribution on a specific round.

If you are interested please contact:
either

Alison Bridge 01245 360851 or email
alison@bridgeboys.co.uk

Or Alison Dewar 078012342610 or
Email: alison@straightpr.co.uk

Great Waltham Horticultural Society

ANNUAL SHOW with a difference

The 2020 show has had to be canceled due to COVID-19 however it is not forgotten.

**There are 5 classes to make or do at home.
and send in a photo of each to be judged.**

1. Small arrangement in a pot of flowers and/or foliage from the garden.
2. Vegetable or fruit on a plate.
3. A sumptuous looking Victoria Sandwich Cake
4. Children- decorated cupcakes - most imaginative
5. Children- create a robot out of recyclables

Please send your photos with your name, address and the class you are entering to: Helen Willis, 3 Chapel Row,

Howe Street CM3 1BG or email to hwillis@hotmail.co.uk

by **September 19th 2020**

All winners will be in the October GW Parish News.



Thank you for all of the contributions to this edition of 'Parish News'. Please send your contributions for the next issue by email to: gwparrishnews@gmail.com Enquiries and advertising requests should be sent by e-mail to: gwparrishnews@gmail.com **The last date for inclusion in the September issue is August 13th**

gwparrishnews@gmail.com