



Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

February 2021



Noah Hollamby, 3 had fun jumping in puddles on New Years Day's family walk

Snowdrops a sign of spring

and below flooding in the Parish



Help shape the future of local democracy in Chelmsford

A review is underway of the most local level of decision-making in Chelmsford and Chelmsford City Council wants to hear your views, as part of what is called a Community Governance Review.

62% of the population across Chelmsford have a parish or town council, as well as Chelmsford City Council and Essex County Council. The other 38% (within the urban centre of the city) do not have that very local voice.

There are two aspects to the review: (a) should the 38% without local representation have a new tier of local government (e.g. community/parish council), an alternative such as area committees, or remain as they are; and (b) are changes needed to existing parishes.

Boundaries of existing local councils may need to change, especially in areas which have seen a great deal of development. For these reasons, the City Council is carrying out **public consultation from Monday 18 January to Thursday 18 March**. Have your say at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/cgr

An information leaflet and paper survey will also be **was** delivered to every household in January, providing an opportunity for you to complete and return via a freepost address.

Chelmsford City Council will consider the results of the consultation and a report will be put before the Council's Full Council in July 2021, to decide upon the next stage of the review process.

Welcome to 2021 the year of the Ox

In the Chinese Zodiac, the Ox is very hardworking and methodical. 2021 is going to be a year when work will get rewarded.

This year is going to be lucky and also perfect to focus on relationships whether we are talking about friendships or love. A year when we will fully feel the weight of our responsibilities, when it is necessary to double our efforts to accomplish anything at all. When we assess our lives and the way we will be living this year I guess all these things will apply to us. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to tell us that we will need to work hard to recover a more normal life after Covid. At the same time we must hang on to the caring society that has developed over the past twelve months. There is no reason why the support groups at both end of the Parish should disappear or why the retail outlets that have tried very hard to continue serving the community should notice a drop in footfall when we can travel further afield. I have enjoyed my socially distanced encounters with many walkers when out for my daily exercise, a swapped story or a smile, a nod and a good morning.

And what of the Church. It was a very difficult decision to close them over Christmas, New Year and beyond. Many people in this Parish have tested Covid positive since Christmas so it was undoubtedly the correct decision. However did you have a chance to see the Christmas tree and floral decorations in the church porch in Waltham or the nativity scene in the porch at Ford End. The star is still shining above the tower at Waltham for a few more days. Just small signs that we are still operating. Sadly though, like many institutions and businesses, the Chelmsford Diocese has had a major financial disaster. They have received loans and sold off assets just to keep the cashflow stable. The impact of this is that at least for the foreseeable future we are unlikely to have a designated stipendiary priest appointed to our Parish. The Parochial Church Council are working with other priests in the area to ensure that when we are able to recommence services we will, at the very minimum, have a service every Sunday in one of our churches. We will continue to work constructively with the Chelmsford Diocese in seeking a designated priest at the earliest opportunity. At the same time we ask our congregations and the wider community to continue to support us with their time, energy and perhaps finance. Thank you for what you have done in 2020. Our churches can be our light in the darkness.

As I wrote above, the year of the ox is a year we will fully feel the weight of our responsibilities, when it is necessary to double our efforts to accomplish anything at all.

Keep well and stay safe

Roger Bearman

Chair GW & FE Parochial Church Council

Welcome to our New Notice Board.



This is in memory of Diana Stock a past member of our congregation. We enjoyed getting to know her in the later part of her life. Her faith was an important part of her life and her family the Freemans kindly donated this in her memory.

Thank you so much.

Little Waltham United Reformed Church

Contact. Rev Hans Stein. 01371 875654 / 07763 169605
Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245471990

Unfortunately no services are able to take place at this time due to the COVID Pandemic but if you need to speak to a minister for any reason please feel free to call either Minister

We hope & Pray to be able to meet again before too long
Keep Safe

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) for Great Waltham



All being well, by the time of delivery of this Parish News, Great Waltham Parish Council will have installed a new MUGA in the Great Waltham Recreation Ground. Following a public consultation process, the facility is being installed on the current basketball area and making use of the existing base. It adds multiple "all weather" uses including basketball, cricket and football. The facility has been part funded by the Essex County Council Community initiative Fund (CIF), administered by the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC).

Great Waltham Parish Community Care Group

The aim of the group is to provide short term and ongoing help to meet the needs of elderly local residents for whom there is no statutory provision. Predominately this will involve providing transport to doctor or hospital appointments.

**If you require the services of the group,
please call our**

co-ordinators who are:

Gill Mitchell 01245 362215

Wendy Proctor Tel. 01245 360483

John Lattimore, Chairman

Tel. 01245 363818

GREAT WALTHAM FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A year ago the Friendship Club closed, it was thought for a few months, because of the Coronavirus. Here we are, a year later and no sign of the end. By the time we meet again, one member, Josie Gerrish, will have moved to Norfolk and her kind friendship will be missed by everyone who knew her, and she didn't mind washing up after meetings! Some members met in the Summer, socially distanced, for tea in a garden but lets hope it won't be too long before we can gather again and rekindle friendships formed at the Club.

Ford End Senior Ladies Tea.

Here we are with February creeping upon us. Lets hope the weather will be kind to us this month.

We still are unable to hold our tea afternoons but I hope to catch up with you all this month and we can have a chat on the phone.

I wonder how many of you would be able to join a Zoom Tea Party Chat? This may be something that I could organise. Please have a think about it.

Anyway you can be sure that when we eventually meet up there will now be several bottles of Prosecco to get through and a really large cake.

Please look after yourselves. Sheila

WALTHAMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



We held our first zoom WI Meeting in January. Our members enjoyed David Drury a London Blue Badge guide giving a virtual tour and talk about London Parks.

In February we are having a virtual meeting about 'fraud scam awareness' presented by Toni Jean-Baptiste and feel sure that this is relevant to many members at the moment. We look forward to as many members as possible joining us on **Tuesday 9th February at 2.00 PM on zoom.**

READY, STEADY, CENSUS

The decennial census is almost upon us and households across the parish will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. A census has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the survey will help decide how services are planned and funded nationally, regionally and locally. On a practical level this could mean things like new doctors' surgeries, schools, housing projects or bus routes.

Although the survey will be the first run predominantly online, paper questionnaires will be available on request. Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post. **Census day itself is March 21.** For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk).

Remember, making a census return is not optional, all householders are required to make a submission. If you don't complete the questionnaire you could face prosecution, a hefty fine (up to £1,000) and a criminal record.

GREAT WALTHAM CORONAVIRUS VOLUNTEER GROUP

If you are self – isolating, live in Great Waltham, Broads Green or Howe Street, and have no one to do your shopping, fetch prescriptions or do any other errands, or if you would just like a chat, we have a group of reliable and trustworthy volunteers who will be happy to help.

Ring one of the group coordinators –

Joanna Steel 01245 360918 *or*

Wendy Proctor 01245 360483 *or*

Phil Lilley 01245 360615.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

We will abide by all recommended safety precautions.

*Please do **NOT** share this list with anyone outside the area or post it on social media, due to privacy issues.*

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VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR

1. There is a vacancy on Great Waltham Parish Council created by a resignation.
2. The Parish Council will co-opt a councillor to fill the vacancy at the meeting of the New Parish Council to be held on 17th February 2021.
3. Persons wishing to make an expression of interest in applying for the vacancy should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council at The Parish Office, Great Waltham Village Hall (Houlton Hall), South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF before 15th February 2021. The Clerk, W.Adshead-Grant, can be contacted on clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk


GREAT WALTHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Calling all gardeners

Watch this space
The Hut
(behind the village shop) is getting ready to open in March.

Details of how to buy safely to follow



From the County Council -

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic



At the time of writing Essex, like the rest of the UK, has moved into “lockdown” and even the most optimistic forecast suggests that there will be no change in this situation until the end of February at the earliest.

This year and throughout the last, the County Council has sought to manage much of the impact that the pandemic has had on all our residents. This has meant direct involvement from sourcing PPE for care homes and hospitals to the provision of funding for food banks and the provision of meals (vouchers) for vulnerable children and families. County funding has been supplemented by £157million from Central Government to support care homes and care services as well as businesses and bus services, including “home to school” transport. I am circulating weekly data updates to Parish Councils, City Councillors and other community organisations in the broomfield & Writtle Division. However, if you wish to view these please see <https://www.essex.gov.uk/topic/coronavirus> for more information relating to getting tested, support for residents and businesses and what rules apply for “staying at home”.

From early January there were new vaccination centres in our area, at Broomfield Hospital and Melbourne Medical Centre and more will have opened up during January, including selected GP surgeries. However, please wait to be contacted. Remember:

- The NHS will contact you when it's your turn to have the vaccine, so please do not contact the NHS or your surgery beforehand.
- Please act on your invite when it comes, and please do make sure you attend your appointment.

It remains important that every one of us should observe the “lockdown” rules and be safe to yourself and others by maintaining social distancing at all times, wearing a mask when with others whilst shopping or going to work and wash your hands as often as possible.

Laptops for Schools

In my last newsletter, I advised that the Council had introduced a scheme to provide students with laptops for home working online. To date, together with 2,000 funded by Central Government, 5,000 laptops have been delivered to schools across the County and 251 of these were in the Chelmsford area. You can still donate an old or unused laptop, as it could make the world of difference to a young person by giving them access to online resources and learning. All laptops will receive a thorough clean inside and out with all data and programmes removed securely before re-issue. No data on the device will be accessed during this process.

For further information relating to donating please email TSLaptop.Donations@essex.gov.uk

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.



Come join Little Waltham Rainbows! We have spaces available for girls aged 5 to 7 NOW!!!

Through taking part in a range of different activities with girls their own age, Rainbows develop self-confidence and make lots of new friends.

Little Waltham Rainbow unit is part of Girlguiding which is the leading organisation for girls and young women in the UK. All Girlguiding units are staffed by trained volunteers.

When we can meet in person, our meeting place is Little Waltham School on a Monday during term time. For now, we are meeting virtually on a Tuesday and it is just as enjoyable! We are still able to take part in many activities, learn new skills, become creative with arts and crafts, work towards badges, and have lots and lots of fun all without leaving the comfort of our homes!

We have some spaces in our unit available **now** and would like to welcome girls aged 5 – 7 to register to join us. Visit the website www.girlguiding.org.uk to find out more and to register for a place for either now or in the future.

Visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Once registered a member of the team will contact you and provide more details including meeting time and subscription details.

Rainbows is part of a uniformed organisation, while these virtual meetings are taking place, we do not ask Little Waltham Rainbows to wear their uniform but once we meet in person a uniform will need to be worn.



Ford End Support Group

We hope that you are keeping well in this new year.

This a reminder that with all the difficulties at the moment we would like to tell you that In Ford End we still have a very good Village Support Group for anyone who is finding things difficult, needs medication collected or shopping or just a friendly voice.

I hope you still have the flyer with all the details but if not then please contact Sandra Brown on 07736965286 or myself Sheila Bearman on 07977077945.

We will be able to put you in touch with someone to assist you.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

Below are three local businesses supporting the community during lockdown. Please support them .

Walthambury Stores

Walthambury Stores are still open for business as usual during this latest lockdown. We are managing to maintain the reduced hours and are still closing both the Shop and Post Office at 5pm during the week. The Post office is open on Saturday morning until 12.30. Spar and our local suppliers are managing to keep up with demand this time round and as such we are not limiting products.

Please continue to support us and we can continue to provide the service to the local community.

We Thank you for your continued patience and understanding during such trying times.

Galvin Green Man

Galvin Green Man have launched a weekly changing puff pastry pie for two with a side of veg running alongside their Galvin at Home experience. Ready to collect every Saturday between 12pm and 4pm from our team at the Galvin Green Man. Simply pop your pie in the oven and ta-dah perfect pub comfort food to complete your Saturday evening. You can order online by 9pm on a Sunday for collection the following weekend.

<https://galvinrestaurants.com/pie-of-the-week/>

The Hub Farm Shop & Light Bites (Greenman Roundabout)

We have continued to adapt in all lockdowns, this one seems to be the hardest one but we feel THE HUB has become a destination not only for great fresh food & produce along with great unique takeaways, it certainly has become a place the community to head to in their bubbles or even alone, The Hub team will always give their time in showing love and support in these difficult times. The Hub really is a HUB for locals, its a one stop shop and we believe it has that little bit of magic, come try for yourself!

The Hub offers Fresh Fruit, Veg, fresh bread, Egg, quality Meats and so much more, everything you would want from a local Farm shop. If you don't want to go in you can pre-order, we can pack it and even deliver it if vulnerable locally, or if you still don't want to come in we pop it in the back of your car so you don't even have to come in.

Our website www.thehubfarmshop.com has all the takeaways available each week plus amazing great Seafood Platters and Afternoon Teas. Tel: 01245 527109

Extract from the Parish Magazine

Judy Whicker has kindly lent the Editors a book of cuttings taken from the Parish News in the 80's and mostly written by W. Dannatt. Over the coming months, if there is space, we will print a few more. We hope you find them interesting.

The First Appointment of a Village Nurse

In 1895 , in the days long before National or County provision was made for health care: when diseases such as Diphtheria, T.B. (known as consumption), typhoid and scarlett fever were quite common, and the rate of infant mortality was very high, and many people of all ages died through lack of medical care and ignorance, a committee was formed in the Parish to consider appointing a Nurse. The committee consisted of Miss Hulton (sister of the Vicar), Mrs Tufnell (the Squire's wife), Mrs Vickers (who lived at Waltham House), Miss A Tufnell (Wallops) and Miss Joslyn (The Hoppit). At their first meeting they appointed Mrs Jane Perry as Nurse and drew up a rate of payment when the services of the Nurse were sought.

Class 1 to pay 10 shillings per week, 2 shillings a day or 4 pence per hour

Class 2 to pay 5 shillings per week, 1 shilling a day or 2 pence per hour.

Class 3 to pay 2 shillings & 6 pence per week, 6 pence a day or 1 pence per hour.

The class to which a person belonged rested with the committee. Mrs Perry was well known in the Parish and her services were in great demand. They included those of mid-wife and those services required in the case of death, besides to attending to cases of illness and accidents. Any person wishing to engage her had to make application to Miss Hulton, or in her absence to Miss Tufnell.

Mrs Perry lived in Mascalls and was the Parish Nurse until 1902

W Dannatt

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 Meetings of 21st December 2020 & 18th January 2021. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>

21st Dec 20 -

The ECC Cllr gave an update on **weekly Covid-19 meeting**. Essex Cares looking for overflow sites for patients that no longer need acute care but cannot yet go home or to a care home. County Council has individual testing kits. The expectation is that the full roll out of the Vaccinations should be complete by the Early summer. Essex Track and Trace is working well with good contact rates. Additional sites to be confirmed as centres for administering the Vaccination. Pfizer vaccination in pack of over 975 and makes the vaccination a complicated logistics matter.

Park & Ride- a new rate has been created for pensioners and disabled users of the sites

City Cllr reported on **Local Highways Panel** (LHP) local issues - 40 MPH – southern end Ford End – survey shows good compliance with speed limit and proposal will be made to make it permanent. 40 MPH – northern end survey showed 43MPH recorded average. Normally this result in a conclusion that a 40mph limit would not be required. However, the City Cllr will propose 40mph on the basis that 60% are over 40mph and it would discourage the faster vehicles. Average Speed Cameras (ASC) at Ford End – design work is still sanctioned for this year, but subject to progress being made on match funding.

The **South House residents Society** (SHRS) Chairman has contacted City Cllr to look into the potential hazards associated with the redundant Oil Tank, and building, close to their land. This was originally a communal facility for each of the 88 new houses but individual dwellings chose to have their own tanks and it eventually ceased to be used, and has been sold on several times. Previous investigations by ECC Environmental Health and CBC, did not move this forward. The City Cllr has collated all the info and known ownership details and referred it to the Public Health department.

The City Cllr has had several meetings with the Police, City Council ASB and CHP ASB, in regard of the recent levels of **vandalism in the Parish**. Extra police patrols have been arranged and some of the incidents are being progressed. Anyone that witnesses an incident is encouraged to report this on 101 and inform him of the incident number so that he can ensure the police are collating all the incidents.

The removal of the **M11 signs at Sheepcotes roundabout**, originally funded by the LHP, have been challenged but ECC cabinet response was that they now follow standard approach. It was agreed that Cllrs Steel and Martin would meet with Highways Cabinet member to discuss possible remedies. It was also agreed that they would discuss how the FE ASC could be progressed in the absence of match funding as so far, grant organisations have refused on the basis that such traffic projects are for Local Authorities to fund.

It has been brought to the City Cllrs attention that Broomfield Parish Council are disposing of **two seesaw units** (originally installed 2004) to install a new larger unit, and they were offering them free to other councils. It was agreed to take advantage of this offer and fund the installation cost from reserves.

The PC agreed to progress the replacement of the **Ford End Multi Play unit** to be replaced.

The missing bin at the GW bus shelter will be replaced.

18th Jan 21 –

ECC Cllr updated the meeting on Covid test facilities, the scheme to issue refurbished laptops to schools, free school meal vouchers, and availability of grants. A number of flooding issues are being dealt with. Notice for trial of e-Scooters issued.

The City Cllr updated the meeting on the actions taken as a result of a request to ensure that the redundant oil pump building is safe. Looking at the legality of gaining access to inspect. The flooding on the corner of South street has been reported – City Council are responsible for the ditch, but the blockage appears to be underground and has been reported to Anglia Water. As well as the fast Covid test, City Council have arranged for take home test kits to be issued from the Civic Theatre area. The Cllr stated that the recent Planning Application for an extra 100 homes at Broomfield, was not made in consultation with City Council. The Parish Council will register it's objections.

The new **Allotment Agreement** was approved except for one item which reduced the notice period (from 2 years to 6 months) should there be insufficient allotment holders to warrant two sites. GWPC will charge allotment holders a rental charge to recover their rent charge, plus a service charge to cover additional costs. The amount of service charge, and contribution to costs, will be determined at the next meeting.

Agreement was given to share the cost of waste collection from the Village Hall.

The **fence at Ford End**, which is frequently vandalised to gain access to the field behind (which is not a public footpath), will be repaired with a more robust section. Work has started on the Woodland walk, and the next stage was approved, to purchase and install a picnic bench plus sufficient base for 3.

The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) will be installed at Great Waltham Rec Ground on 1st and 2nd Feb.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **7pm Monday 15th February 2021**, details on the agenda, which will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

Thank you for all of the contributions to this edition of Great Waltham Parish News. Please send your contributions for the next issue, together with any enquiries or advertising requests, by e-mail to: gwparishnews@gmail.com.

The last date for inclusion in the March issue is 18th February.

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