

# Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

## November 2021

### Variety show with the 'feel-good' factor



For the enthusiastic audience watching The Great Waltham Village Hall Variety Show, the emphasis was on two words - village and variety. After long, worrying months, this touch of 'normality' had the feel-good factor everyone needed. This was very much a local production, featuring good comedy sketches, talented singers and entertaining dance routines from performers of all ages.

It was obvious that a lot of hard work had gone into each and every act, and behind the scenes - from the costumes to the music. Appealing to all age groups the

Variety Show was a great success. Well done to everyone who played their part.

The Show raised £742 for the Village Hall and £148 for Great Waltham Parish Productions. Keep your eyes open in the New Year for adverts about the Village

Pantomime

'Snow White' which will be coming your way .... " Oh no it won't " ...." Oh yes it will!"  
Sue Hooper



### 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021 Remembrance Sunday Parade

Great Waltham Parish Council announce that this year's Remembrance Parade and Service will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November. The parade will follow the usual route, starting at 10.30am from Duffries Close, led by Parade Marshal, Piper and Standards, with representatives of the armed forces, emergency services and community organisations. The parade will march into Hatchfields and on to the War Memorial via Chelmsford Road, arriving approximately 10.45am. Appropriate road closures orders have been applied for and traffic will be halted until the parade gets to the War memorial and Chelmsford Road will be closed, between South Street and Hatchfields, for the duration of the service, with traffic diverted via Hatchfields and South Street. Members of the public join the parade at their own risk. We welcome members of the public and the parish community to join us for the service at the War Memorial. Last post will be sounded at 11am followed by 2 minutes silence. Following the service, the parade will assemble in the Church grounds and then march past the War Memorial for the salute. Due to Covid concerns, the Legion Club will not put on its usual refreshments, but Legion Members and invited guests may assemble after the event.



## Church Matters

October was another good month for voluntary donations for our churches with several new contributors. If you have not left your details with our donations secretary/gift aid officer ([sheilabearman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheilabearman@hotmail.co.uk)) then please do so in order that we can keep our records up-to-date and send you an appropriate letter of thanks in due course. All details are kept strictly confidential.

On 15th October we joined with the Parishes of Little & Great Leighs/Little Waltham/ and the Chignals for a successful Harvest Supper in Great Waltham Village Hall. Our chosen charity for the profits of the evening was the Chelmsford homeless charity Sanctus. Thanks to all who made this possible.  
Roger Bearman

## Great Waltham Friendship Club

The good weather brought most members out for a very interesting and entertaining talk by John Andrews who enlightened everyone on a policeman's lot. Plans were made for the Christmas meal on December 13th, whilst in November, members will be making Christmas cards with Liz Allen.  
Joan Lee

Well done to Gill Mitchell from Howe Street for her charity fundraising for The Children's Society, collecting over £330.



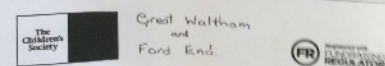
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Thanks to you and other communities across the country, last year house boxes raised over £1.4 million to help children rediscover their hope and happiness.

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Name: Gill Mitchell Tel: 01245 342215

For more information about The Children's Society or our House Box scheme, please call our Supporter Care team on 0300 303 7000.



## Church of England Services November 2021



Subject to Government Guidance



Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Time to Remember Service	Great Waltham
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Remembrance	
	10.15am	Meet at War Memorial	Ford End
	10.45am	Remembrance	Great Waltham
	10.55am	Muster at Duffries Close for march to War Memorial	
		Service begins in church	Great Waltham
		Remembrance	Chignals
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
	11.00am	Communion	Chignals
Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Joint Communion at St Mary's	Broomfield
	6.30pm	Advent service with Jessie Tree	Ford End

Parish administrator: Alison Bates [admin@littleandgreat.org.uk](mailto:admin@littleandgreat.org.uk)  
Tel: 07957 228467 [www.greatwalthamchurch.org.uk](http://www.greatwalthamchurch.org.uk)

## Services at Blackchapel, North End

Services are now held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in each month. There is no need to book your place.

November 7 <sup>th</sup>	3pm
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	3pm

Our Christmas Carol Service will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 3pm this year

Enquiries: contact P Hamilton 01371 820095

## URC Little Waltham

Contact - Rev Hans Stein 01371 875654/07763 169605  
Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Sunday Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Marina Price
Sunday Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev Hans Stein
Sunday Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Remembrance Sunday At St Martin's
Sunday Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Rev Geoffrey Griggs
		Rev Hans Stein HC

## Walthambury Women's Institute

Last month John Wrigley came to talk about his holiday trip to see "Carnival Time in Venice". He had many interesting facts about the Carnival. This month Joan Munden will be our guest speaker and her talk is entitled "Special Operations Executive - Nadine's story". Any member joining us for our Christmas meal, the balance needs to be paid this month. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 in the British Legion Hall.



## Volunteers keeping our parish tidy

### North End Autumn Litter Pick

On Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, the usual group of 'hardy perennials' set forth to rid the village of litter. The beautiful and sunny Autumn morning made for a pleasant walk along the lanes. In most areas, we found the usual section of detritus, mainly thrown from passing cars; however, Mill Road was surprisingly devoid of cans and take-away food containers, so was the river walk. The mystery was solved when we reached Absol Bridge - Uttlesford had installed a large wheelie bin in the layby! It was clearly well-used and contained just the sort of litter that we were accustomed to find in the verges of the nearby hill. Thank you Uttlesford! Afterwards, the group enjoyed a very welcome rest and refreshments provided by Colin and Lezley McRae in their garden (left). Thank you to everyone who took part, we hope to see you in the spring.

### Ford End clear-up

On a sunny August morning a group of enthusiastic volunteers (right) came out to Ford End playing field and its recently added tree plantation. The group worked hard to clear the vegetation around the newly planted trees to give them space to establish and applied a layer of mulch around their base to provide nutrients and help retain the moisture in the soil. The winter tree planting here was a huge success with an extremely high number of the trees prospering. There were also several new saplings which had sprouted from the mature trees surrounding the site, meaning there are now more trees in the paddock than were initially planted 6 months ago. The volunteer session was extremely well attended, and the aftercare provided will help to ensure the area continues to grow and develop into an established and important habitat for a greener Chelmsford. Many thanks volunteers! Gary Dunn



### Future litter pick dates:

**Ford End - Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October** from 10am to midday. The meeting point will be the Ford End Village Hall and all volunteers are welcome. As per usual equipment such as a litter grabber and collection bags will be provided. We look forward to welcoming as many volunteers as possible. Please email [gmdunn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gmdunn@hotmail.co.uk) with any questions.

**Great Waltham - Saturday/Sunday 13th & 14th November.** Meet at Parish office at 9am to collect equipment. Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. To volunteer to pick or choose an area please contact Cllr Palmer [Cllrjop@gmail.com](mailto:Cllrjop@gmail.com). You may wish to choose another day/time at your convenience, just let me know. Together we can make our village a place to be that's litter free!

## Harvest Festival celebrations



Harvest Festival in the GW and FE villages has been a joyful time. Both of the Parish churches were decorated with autumn flowers, fruit and vegetables and there was something really special about being in churches so near to farm land which had been recently harvested, as we joined together in the familiar words of 'We plough the fields and scatter'. Ford End Primary School and Great Waltham School brought their harvest gifts to their village churches and the children's readings, prayers and singing were a delight. They also brought a huge number of gifts of food, both schools are supporting the Trussell Trust Food Bank in Chelmsford. We were reminded by the children that not everyone has enough to eat, even in this country. I hope you can see from this picture the generosity of the families as they came to celebrate the harvest.

As we move into November we come to a season in the Church known as the Kingdom Season. First of all we remember all the Saints and Souls, and hold a service to remember our loved ones who have passed through the veil of death and now rest in God's nearer presence. There will be a 'Time to Remember' service in Great Waltham Church at 11am on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of November. The following week we will be holding the usual Remembrance Sunday parade, followed by a service in the church. Finally in November, the church recalls that Christ is the King on the Sunday before Advent begins and the Church year starts over afresh.

Do feel welcome to come along to any of the services at Great Waltham Church or Ford End Church. Details are listed in this publication. I look forward to meeting you, Rev. Carolyn Tibbott, Associate Priest to Great Waltham and Ford End

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**Fireworks**

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> and Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Nov

Chelmsford City Council are promoting its RocketOClock Campaign to hold firework displays between 7.30 and 8.30pm  
(they are promoting a narrow window to avoid prolonging and fragmenting the disturbance and distress caused to wildlife, livestock, horses and domestic pets)

Better still, why not join one of the public displays.  
See the City Council campaign at <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/environment-and-public-health/fireworks/>

Injury figures support the advice that the safest place to enjoy fireworks is at a large public display - far fewer people are injured there than at smaller family or private parties.

Did you know that it is an offence to let fireworks off between 11pm to 7am, except on Bonfire Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year's Eve, and Chinese New Year (1am).

If you are going to let off fireworks yourself, please consider your neighbours and inform them so they can keep their pets indoors. City Council have a noise nuisance reporting website, including an out of hours phone number:  
<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/environment-and-public-health/noise-and-nuisance/report-a-noise-problem/>

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## Autumn Term at Ford End school



The autumn term is now well under way and it is great to have the pupils back again, but as a whole bubble. The children can now play, eat and be together during the day. They are blessed to have a fantastic outdoor space including children's gym equipment, a football pitch, climbing equipment, a basketball court and a mini football pitch for the younger children.

The children are working hard and enjoying their new topics. The EYFS area is really well resourced but we still have spaces for more children to join, as this is a relatively new class. However, these small numbers mean that the children get a lot of one to one time and have already made excellent progress in their phonics and reading.

We have experimented with a variety of clubs after school including football, gymnastics, Lego and dance and continue to explore other opportunities, so that the children have a great after-school offer.

We are grateful to our very hardworking PTA who have fund raised tirelessly for the school and have purchased Chrome Books for the children. These IT devices will be a great asset to our learning.

Visitors and prospective parents are encouraged to contact the school, as we have a few spaces in some of our classes. Please phone the school at any 01245 237209 for an appointment to see the school in action.

Best wishes, Maire O'Regan, Executive Headteacher

## Ford End Garden Club

Our October meeting was really interesting and informative as it was all about 'Weeds and their Recognition' but sadly, Alan Adcock, who gave the talk, had no magic wand to wave over the weeds.

Sam Squier will be giving a talk entitled 'Wild and Rooted' at the November meeting on Wednesday 17th.

Wednesday 15th December will be our Christmas fun evening so come and join us and be entertained by P and P with their Two Ronnies act.

Meetings held at 7.30 in the village hall at Ford End.

## Ford End Senior Tea afternoons

Dates for your diary. This month we will meet at Woodstock on Monday 22nd November at 2pm for tea cake and a chat. December we will have our Christmas tea on Monday 20th December at 3pm. We will be having a Christmas Celebration tea. If anyone else wishes to know about our tea and chats then please contact me on 07977 077945.

Best wishes and look forward to seeing you all, Sheila

## News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

We break for half-term and can reflect on a busy start to the 2021-22 school year. It has been great to schedule and run so many events again. Two visits to the church, parent consultations, football, rugby and



athletics fixtures against other local schools. We have also seen the return of clubs to keep our pupils engaged and active, before school, at lunchtime and after school.

It was lovely to see so many families at church for our Harvest Service. The children sung hymns brilliantly and shared their understanding of Harvest with the congregation. All the children donated food / other items for the Chelmsford Food Bank. Thanks to the church wardens and Rev. Carolyn for helping organise the service and to Mr Towns for transporting the donations to Galleywood.

Collective Worship themes this term so far have covered Aspiration, Talents, Good to be Me, Reflections, Harvest and the British Values. In KS1, children are enjoying their Footsteps in the past topic, with a focus on 'Toys'. In KS2, the children are immersed in the Victorian era with an exciting trip to the Braintree museum planned for after half-term. Year 6 children have settled into their final year comfortably and are all involved in positions of responsibility: House Captains, Bronze Ambassadors,



Librarians, Eco Warriors, Media Group and Worship Leads. They have enjoyed making connections with their 'buddies' in Year R too, including reading stories to them. In sport, pride of place so far goes to the tag rugby team – earning a bronze

medal at a local tournament with 8 local schools – all of whom were larger in number. We ended the competition with 3 wins, 2 draws and 2 defeats. We were close to 2<sup>nd</sup> place which would have seen us qualify for the county finals. Well played.



It has been good to be able to welcome governors back into school for meetings and for them to complete monitoring visits to support the school's growth. School, like the wider community is still affected by Covid 19 with many children and adults having to miss school if they test positive. We hope the situation improves and everyone in the local community is playing their part and staying safe.

Great Waltham Royal British Legion Club

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

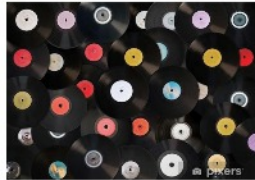
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**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November**  
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Great Waltham Horticultural Society

## Wreath making Workshop

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phone 01774 784724 (a10 deposit to secure a place)

## Blister pack recycling

Blister packs from medication are not easily recyclable and currently millions end up in landfill. Thanks to a joint venture by Superdrug and TerraCycle, these can now be recycled. For every blister packet collected, TerraCycle will donate points to Superdrug pharmacies, to be redeemed into financial donations for Marie Curie. Unfortunately the nearest participating Superdrug is in Southend & Sudbury. For the last few months I have been collecting these at 27 Cherry Garden Road. Another kind member of our community then collects and delivers them to Sudbury. Since liaising with Little Waltham Surgery, we now have a collection bin in situ there as well. Please note these are only for plastic and foil combined packs, all foil ones can be recycled in your kerbside recycling. Cllr Jo Palmer

The Gift of Christmas Music

This wonderfully Christmassy evening of seasonal song will fill you with festive cheer. Enjoy a mince pie and relax as our talented ensemble perform a variety of Christmas songs old and new.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December – 7.30pm**  
**£2 Club Members - £4 Non-members**

Tickets available from the Club during opening hours  
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## The Christmas Tree Festival

We're back!

Now on 2 Saturdays

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> & Sat 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
at Great Waltham church



**Sat 4<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Sat 11<sup>th</sup>**  
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View the beautifully decorated trees

More details on posters and in December's Parish News.

Does your club, group or business want to decorate a tree? Or do you or your family want to decorate a tree? Do you want a stall at the market? If so, email [deborahpoulton@hotmail.com](mailto:deborahpoulton@hotmail.com) now!

## Tea and Talk

Everyone is welcome to join us for our monthly morning of bacon butty and bustle. Plus, each month we will be visited by local craft people selling their homemade goods.

**10am to 12 noon**  
Last Wednesday of every month.



## John Clark Obituary

It is with sadness that I write this obituary in memory of my great friend and colleague John Edward Clark who passed away peacefully on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

John was born on 16<sup>th</sup> May 1928 at Reading. After starting his career with a large local building contractor he eventually became a chartered quantity surveyor and was very much involved in the redevelopment of Cheltenham, Newmarket and Goodwood racecourses which involved him in meeting with the Queen and Queen mother at the opening events.

John was married to Sheila at Reading on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1953, moving to Great Waltham in 1969. John immediately became involved with the community life in Great Waltham and in 1977 he became a Parish Councillor and Vice-Chairman in 1984. He was elected as Chairman of The Parish Council in May 1985, a position which he held for 11 years. During his term of office as Chairman, in addition to the varied complaints and campaigns, he became deeply involved with the Twinning arrangements with Ceyrat, being the official signatory to the twinning agreement at a ceremony held on the lawn fronting Great Waltham Primary School. During his term of office, he successfully saw Great Waltham and Howe Street bypassed by the Essex Regiment Way and the extension of Great Waltham recreation ground. He supported planting of trees in and around the Parish and introduced the scheme to plant trees for newly born children whose parents planted the tree. He supported various early recycling initiatives in the Parish. John served as a Governor of Great Waltham Primary School for 8 years.

John was deeply involved and interested in the wellbeing of the elderly in Great Waltham and was appointed to the Great Waltham Almshouses Trust Charity in 1986 for 33 years, many of which as Treasurer, finally relinquishing his duties in 2019. During that time he will be remembered as the person who raised the quality of the almshouses to the standard enjoyed today. John's monetary skills also involved him in becoming the Treasurer of the Great Waltham Parish Care Group from its formation in 1998, a position he continued to hold until illness prevented him from continuing beyond 2020.

John was Chairman of the local Conservative Association from 1973 and for many years and a member of the Probus Club of Chelmsford since 1971, serving as president for 8 years.

John served on the Parochial Church Council for three periods of four years. John and his family were regular attendees at Great Waltham St Mary and St Lawrence church and the members of congregation will remember his cheerful chatter and smiling face. John is survived by his wife Sheila, daughters Helen and Jane and granddaughters Katie and Sarah. John will be remembered by many as being a true gentleman and a stalwart of community life and Great Waltham.

Peter Bradley



## Great Waltham Christmas Events

Royal British Legion

**Live Music!**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November – 7.30pm  
Free Entry  
Join us for our first live music event post lockdown. "The Searchers" (a band made up of familiar village faces) will be playing a variety of 60's hits! So, get on your dancing shoes and come on down.

**Christmas Shopping Fair**  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November – 11am to 3pm  
Free entry – Father Christmas £3 per child  
With over 20 stalls spread across our club you are sure to find the perfect Christmas gift. Our club ethos is one of family and community, so everyone is invited to join us for a day of shopping and festive cheer – there's no better way to kickstart the season!

**Gift of Christmas Music Concert**  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December – 7.30pm  
Members £2 / Non-members £4  
This wonderfully Christmassy evening of seasonal song will fill you with festive cheer! Enjoy your mince pie and relax as our talented ensemble performs a variety of Christmas songs old and new. Tickets can be purchased from the club during opening times.

**Christmas Prize Draw**  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 7.30pm  
Who doesn't love a raffle? You could win some amazing prizes at our annual Christmas Draw: hampers, smelles, chocolate treats, cards, stationery and more. Before the draw is made why not join us for a festive round of Rock and Roll Bingo.

**Christmas Day Opening**  
Christmas Day 12pm-2pm / Boxing Day 12pm – 5pm  
We would like to wish all our members and their guests a very Merry Christmas. So we will be opening the club for a few hours to do so!

We will be following all government guidelines to ensure everyone's safety. All events and sports fixtures will be advertised on social media and displayed on posters. Please contact us by email or social media for any information or to become a member. Guests are welcome, they will need to be signed in by a member and pay a donation.

 gwroyalbritishlegion@icloud.com
  @GWRoyalBritishLegion
 



## Great Waltham Community Network Christmas Concert

# ESSEX POLICE BAND

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Great Waltham Church  
Doors open - 7pm

Gt Waltham School  
Gt Waltham Village Choir  
Dance Projection

Tickets: Adult - £6, Child - £2  
Please M. Ward on 01245 360149  
or J Steel on 01245 369918 or visit Walthambury Stores (cash only)  
Licensed bar



## Great Waltham Village Christmas Tree Trail

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> & Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Looking for something Christmassy to do?**  
Why not go for a walk round Great Waltham on 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> December to view the beautifully decorated trees, front gardens and houses in the village. Get a map from Walthambury Stores, (open Sat 7-9) Or just wander round the local streets and see what you can spot.

**Would you like to take part too?**  
If you'd like to take part, let me know on the email address below by **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December** and I will put you on the map. The decorations can be anything you like - glitzy, natural, homemade, traditional or modern - whatever! Get your decorations done by 4<sup>th</sup> Dec and switch on the lights by 4pm on both Saturdays to delight the passers-by.

Joanna Steel  
jsteel@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk  
Great Waltham Community Network



# 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 21<sup>st</sup> September 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/>

County Cllr Mike Steel reported on several issues:

- Home to School Transport for entitled children, which had eventually gone to a coach company but there were less spaces for sale to unentitled children. However, most had been accommodated.
- LW PROW 51 – ECC were trying to put a 6 month closure in place for safety reasons to restrict 4X4 use.
- Disruption at Hospital Approach roundabout - 17 to 21 Sept – possible night-time closures, 21 Oct to 5 Nov – restricted access via Hospital approach, 8 to 16 Nov – night-time closures with 2-way traffic lights.
- Locality fund – GWPC had been awarded £1,000 for electrical units for the pavilion
- Following extensive effort to add safety signs to the Bury Lane ford, and including replacements from vandalism, a whole section had been completely removed due to a traffic accident.

City Cllr Mike Steel reported on several issues:

- Ford End Telecoms mast - City Council have ruled that Prior Approval is required and not granted. This means that it cannot be installed as permitted development. Planning permission would now be required.
- The music licence for Wheelers Farm in LW is being reviewed
- A new cycle path, linking up the GW cycle path from Broomfield Hospital, to Goulton Road, is in progress.
- The Governance Review has proposed some parish boundary changes, but GW is not affected.

GWPC received an update on the GW Rec Grnd Pavilion – volunteer work ongoing to decorate and install the wooden flooring.

Concerns raised by a resident of Howe Street, in regard of speeding, were discussed. However, previous measurements have shown average speeds to be 34mph and no collisions have been recorded. It was decided to repeat the measurements with the SID and invite residents to join the Community Speedwatch.

It was noted that the request to extend an extension of double yellow lines in South Street, had been approved by Highways and was awaiting funding.

GWPC reviewed the parish wide tree survey which itemised work into time sections (next 6 months, next 12, next 24 months) and agreed to get quotes for the 6 and 12 months.

It was noted that 18 volunteers attended the Ford End Rec Grnd tree aftercare event. City Council recommends that 1 metre outside the fence be not mown and allowed to grow wildflower, and they would seed this area.

The Recreation Committee recommendation to increase the allotment service charge to £5.50 per plot per year to take effect September 2022, was accepted.

This will mean a subsidy of approximately 50%.

It was agreed that a working party plan would assemble for 9th Oct, to clear the Brook Mead allotment area in preparation for mechanical work to remove vegetation.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **7.30pm Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021**, details on the agenda, which will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

**All Allotment Holders** – It's invoice time for the Sept 2021 – Sept 2022 season. If you have not received an invoice, then your details need to be updated. Please contact the Clerk [clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk) to do so. We have a selection of plots available at both Brook Mead and Bury Lane and these can be reduced in size to suit your requirements. Allotment holders must live within the Parish. The land rent is £3.75 per rod plus £4.40 per plot service charge. The Service Charge increases in September 2022 to £5.50 per plot.

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](mailto:gwparishnews@gmail.com).

**The last date for inclusion in the joint December/January issue is November 18.**