



April 2011

Chairmans Report

Your Parish Councillors have once again been striving to improve the community you live in. There have been many projects that have come to fruition, but as always there are others that are taking longer to achieve, especially in light of the straitened times in which we currently find ourselves.

The biggest change to the running of the Parish Council is that we now have our own office at the Old Fire Station, South Street which we moved into in December 2010. This move was the culmination of several years work to find suitable accommodation, which initially started in conjunction with the proposed improvements to the Hulton Hall. The decision to opt for the Old Fire Station was made on financial grounds and suitability in that the rental costs would not be much more than those at the Hulton Hall and the fact that we have exclusive use rather than limited hours. Whilst this has meant that the Parish Council has had to increase the Precept this year, not a decision we took lightly, we believe that there is now a focal point for parishioners to contact the Council. If you have not already come to view the building, please do so.

On highways issues, the Parish Council have continued to chase for speed reducing measures in Ford End, but despite meeting with Cllr Hume in June, and Essex Highways in November with plans for improvements, nothing yet has come to pass. We will continue to pursue this as the Speed Indicator Device (SID) continues to indicate that a high percentage of people (60% -70%) are still exceeding the speed limit through the parish. The improvements at Appletrees corner on the B1008, followed by the addition of the islands, had been supported by the Council and should help the traffic flow along that stretch of road. We continue to push at every opportunity to have the speed limit reduced through Minnow End, but I fear that this is a long term project, but one never the less worth continuing to push for.



The allotments are nearly fully allocated, which is something we have not seen for some years and is very encouraging. The Parish Council added 3 plots to the Brookmead allotments by volunteers removing the sucker trees that had grown into the allotments and then by the Community Service Workers digging over the ground. Anyone who requires an allotment should make enquiries at the Parish Office.

Village events that the Council helped to facilitate included the Mini Olympics where there was a huge turn out and which, by all reports, everyone enjoyed. There was also a bicycle event and thanks to all parishioners who kindly donated bikes to raise money and provide transport to people in other less fortunate countries. Play schemes during the Summer and Easter holidays were also organised. The 25th annual clear up has also taken place and thank you to all those who gave up their Saturday morning to help keep our parish tidy. This year, at the suggestion of a Councillor, there will be a second clear up in the Autumn and all support for this would be most welcome.

The Parish picked up several awards this year, the main one being Essex Village of the Year 2010. The presentation to the judges was made by several elements of the community, including some pupils from the

Great Waltham School, the Community Network, the Parish Council, and Betty Croot representing the senior element of the community. Nick Shuttleworth, the Director of the Rural Community Council of Essex summed up what I believe to be the crux of our community "the judges were dazzled by the strong community ethos with all generations being actively involved in village life. He praised the Parish Council as being pro-active, involving the youth of the village in fund raising activities to provide equipment, and listening to the input of the School Councils. He said the competition was all about rewarding

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH WHICH WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 16TH MAY 2011 AT THE GREAT WALTHAM VILLAGE HALL 8PM REPORTS, OPEN FORUM AND PRESENTATION BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR PETER MARTIN LEADER OF ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON 'LOCALISM AND THE BIG SOCIETY' YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY

vibrant, enterprising and caring villages. A description which he felt summed up Great Waltham perfectly. He mentioned that the village had good communications and a sustainability policy, with fully allocated and well cared for allotments and future plans to develop a cycle route from the village to Broomfield Hospital and Chelmer Valley High School with onward links to Chelmsford. He spoke of the works of the Great Waltham Community Network which sought to enhance community life and social activity and referred to the number of activities which went on in the village." Thank you to all those who participated in the presentations. The Democracy and Citizenship award was also picked up again, for the second time, resulting in more outside Christmas lights being won. The Parish Council was also re-accredited with its Quality Parish Council status showing that it applied best practice and has adopted the Power of Wellbeing.

The Parish Council looked at the purchase of the former Cricket Pitch at Ford End, but unfortunately did not achieve grant funding required before it was withdrawn from the market. At the Great Waltham Recreation Ground a new footpath was installed across the car park from South Street to the children's play area. Due to volunteer help, the costs of the project came in £1,350 under budget, which shows the value and benefit of community input. The balance of the costs were split between the Parish Council and the Big Lottery Fund. In the coming financial year it is planned to add to the play equipment at Great Waltham thanks to a 100% grant from Essex County Council's Community Initiatives Fund, as well as make some changes to the equipment at Howe Street. The long talked about cycleway from Broads Green through Partridge Green has now been completed, thanks to David Stacey (the landowner) granting a permissive right and also to Essex County Council for upgrading the surface for the footpath. People are encouraged to make use of this cycleway, but at the same time are asked to respect it, as consent for its use can be taken away as quickly as it was granted.

Your Parish Council is here to represent the parishioners it serves and it does so to the best of its ability. We can only get involved when we know what people require, so please do let us know and get us involved and we will help where we can or point you in the direction of the authority that may be able to assist. Also I would ask that if you have the time and skills to help the council out in some of its projects, then by joining forces our budgets will stretch further and hopefully will be able to benefit more of the community. There is a hardcore of people who already give great assistance, for which we are always grateful and would like to offer or sincere thanks, but this base needs to be widened.

I would like to thank our Borough Councillors, Delmas Ashford, Malcolm Taylor and Brian Patience for all their assistance over the year and also to our County Councillor John Aldridge. I do believe that we are very lucky to have such proactive Councillors who will take up any issue we request and get a response from the relevant department, even if it is not always the response we had hoped for.

I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors for all of their contributions to enhancing our community. Special thanks should go to Bernard Greenwood and Angela Dickinson who retired this year after giving many years service to the community as Parish Councillors.

Lastly I would like to thank the main driver of the Parish Council, namely its Clerk, Peter Bradley. Having worked closely with Peter, I am astonished at the amount of time he gives to the community and in keeping the Parish Council at the heart of our society. Without his drive and organisation the Council would not be able to deliver the services or win the awards it does.

Alexander Micklem
Chairman

Police Contacts

Your local community policing team

PS Neil Marshall PC Rob Bentley

(neighbourhood specialist officer NSO)

Mobile Number: **07817 454525**

PCSO Ian Hilton

The team is based at Melbourne Police Station

Mobile Number: **07866 542447**

Email ian.hilton@essex.pnn.police.uk

For non emergency crime and incidents call

0300 333 4444 ext 485950

In an emergency always dial 999

The Parish Office

The Parish Council has for the past thirty-nine years used the home of the clerk as the Parish Office starting off in 1971 with the dining room table and which then expanded into a spare bedroom. For the past three years the Parish Council has been exploring the possibility of developing premises for use as an office within the Great Waltham Village Hall modification and refurbishment project. The Parish Council has looked at the cost effectiveness of such a move and when the Old Fire Station became available for lease comparisons of cost and effectiveness of use indicated that this was the best option. The full years costs associated with the provision of this facility are estimated to be £10,000 per annum. The Parish Council looked long and hard at next year's budget and has effected savings in many other areas of expenditure resulting in an overall increase in the Parish Council element of the Council Tax of £5760. The effect of this will mean a rise in Council Tax for next year for a Band D property of £6.21 per annum (12p per week). For this parishioners will have a dedicated and accessible office which will be open to the public at certain times, for access to information locally, access to local planning applications and access to councillors/clerk directly.

Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday's between 1pm and 4pm.

And

Thursday mornings between 8.30am and 12.30pm.

The Clerk will be in attendance on the dates above to answer queries or provide information to members of the public.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEEDS SURVEY

Several of the actions required as part of the Parish Plan feature Public Transport. The Parish Council, and our Local Parish Public Transport representative, Clare Lyne, together with members of the Rural Community Council of Essex have been working on a further survey paper particularly aimed at Public Transport. The Survey form is enclosed together with a pre-paid envelope for your response.

You are urged to respond to this survey by 31st May 2011. Escalating fuel costs and sustainability issues have focussed attention on alternative methods of transport. Whilst our main bus service might be described as reasonable it is far from perfect particularly in the areas of the Parish which are 'off route'. If the Parish Council needs to do something about this then they need a clear understanding of the wishes and desires of the local population before making representations to bus companies and local authorities.

YOUR HELP IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT

Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey enclosed with this Annual report and return it to the Parish Council using either the pre-paid envelope provided or (to save postage charges) by handing it to a Parish Councillor (see the contact details in the Annual report) to the Schools, to the Churches, our Public Houses, Walthambury Stores or the Parish Office. **THE PARISH COUNCIL CAN ONLY RESPOND TO YOUR WISHES AND DESIRES IF THEY KNOW WHAT THESE ARE. COMPLETION OF THE SURVEY IS THE FIRST STEP. CLOSING DATE 31st MAY.**

Information

Allotments - There are two allotment sites in the parish at Brookmead, Great Waltham (behind Walthambury Stores) and Bury Lane. Apply to Peter Bradley, Clerk to the Council **01245 362638**.

The following items are available to members of the public from the Parish Council

Dog bags - are available free of charge from Scott Sanders, The Stores, Great Waltham and Tower Upholstery, Howe Street.
Chelmsford Borough Council recycling bags for plastic and replacement recycling sacks are available from The Parish Office **01245 362638**

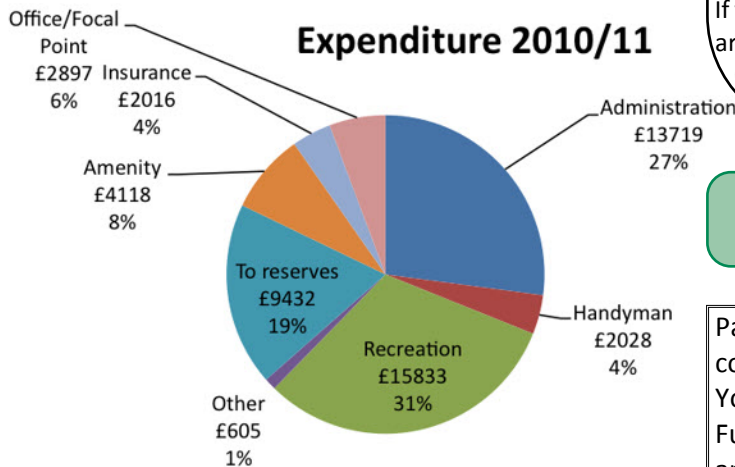
PARISH PLAN

The Great Waltham Parish Plan was published just a year ago and delivered free of charge to every house in the Parish. Part 5 of the Plan set out the Conclusion and a list of actions to be undertaken. Throughout the year the Parish Council has been working on this list of actions and where progress has been made these have usually been reported in the monthly Parish News. The Parish Council has considered it useful that following a year's work a progress report should be given. Please find this progress report as a separate sheet within the Annual Report.

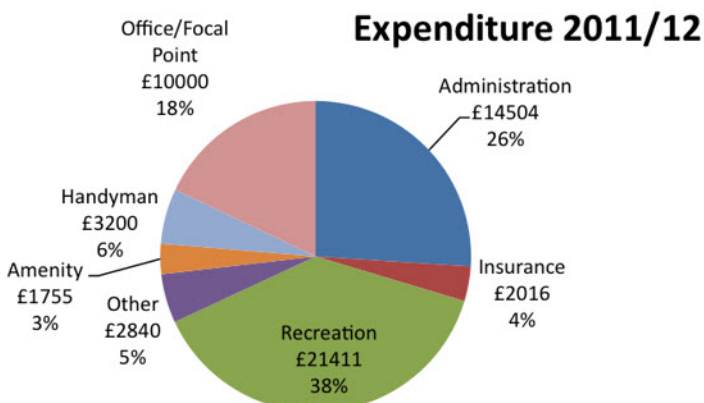
If you have lost or mislaid your copy of the Parish Plan then there are some spare copies which can be obtained from the Parish Office. If you have any queries regarding the plan or the progress report then please contact the Parish

Financial Information

Last year the money was spent as follows:



For the next financial year 1st April 2011 – 31st March 2012 the money is budgeted to be spent as follows:



Parish precept

Parish Councils are reliant on the annual tax demand, collected via the Council Tax.

Your Parish Council receives no direct 'Government Funding', and any additional money needed must be applied for through grant-awarding bodies.

The District and Borough Councils were encouraged by a 5% cash incentive from Central Government not to raise Council Tax this year.

This cash incentive was NOT on offer to the Parish Council.

How is the 'Parish Rate' Calculated?

Total Budget ÷ Council Tax base rate Band D equivalent = Parish Rate

(Band D is average, the rate is proportionately lower for Bands A to C and higher for Bands E to H.)

Precept: £41,437

Band 'D' equivalent: £38.16

Total Parish Council Cost per Week: 86p

Your Parish Council



CHAIRMAN
Alexander Micklem Chatham
Hall, Great Waltham CM3 1BZ
01245 360239



Peter Jackson Gimli Parsonage
Lane Howe Street CM3 1BS
01245 360067



**CHAIRMAN OF RECREATION
COMMITTEE**
Mike Steel Sycamores South
Street Great Waltham CM3 1DF
01245 360918



Sonia Slater Green Oaks Brook
Hill North End CM6 3PQ
01371 821013



Teresa Harper Moorcroft The
Village Great Waltham CM3
1DX
01245 360961



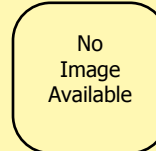
**CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE
AND GENERAL PURPOSES**
Paul Braisby Oak House Littley
Green CM3 1BU
01245 361927



Ian Leyde Ford View House
Church Street Ford End CM3
1LH
01245 237127



John Bell Bridge House Lucks
Lane Howe Street CM3 1BP
01245 362137



No
Image
Available

Janet Patch White Cottage
South Street Great Waltham
CM3 1DG
01245 360130



**VICE CHAIRMAN AND
CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING
COMMITTEE**
Mike Blaber 32 Wolmers Hey
Great Waltham CM3 1DA
01245 360725



Steve Huggins Easter Cottage
Barrack Lane Great Waltham
CM3 1ER
01245 362034



CLERK TO THE COUNCIL
Peter Bradley The Old Fire
Station, South Street Great
Waltham CM3 1DF 01245
362638

Borough Councillors

DELMAS ASHFORD – 41 MAIN ROAD, BROOMFIELD, CM1 7BU 01245 440406

BRIAN PATIENT – 4 ROWLAND CLOSE, BROOMFIELD, CM1 7ED 01245 440707

MALCOLM TAYLOR – HAMILTONS, 64 BERWICK AVE, BROOMFIELD CM1 4AS 01245 440469

County Councillor

JOHN ALDRIDGE – 33 EAST VIEW, WRITTLE, CHELMSFORD CM1 3MM 01245 430017

Parish Council meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7.45pm – (see your notice board for full details). Members of the public are most welcome at every meeting of the Parish Council and are able to address the Parish Council at the Public Open Session. This is generally held at the commencement of the meeting. Planning, Recreation and Finance meetings are also held. The agendas are published on the notice boards

Parish Clubs, Organisations & Activities

Ford End Bell Ringers - Paul Braisby Tel. 01245 361927.

Ford End Carpet Bowls Club - Tina Knight Tel. 01245 237491

Ford End Gardening Club - Alan Adcock, Tel. 01245 237522.

Ford End Senior Ladies Tea Afternoons - Sheila Bearman Tel. 01245 237335

Great Waltham Badminton Club - Mrs Gill Mitchell Tel. 01245 362215.

Great Waltham Bell Ringers - Bill Pepper Tel. 01245 360613

Great Waltham Carpet Bowls Club - Mrs. Jean Terry Tel. 01245 361564.

Great Waltham Community Network - Joanna Steel Tel. 01245 360918

Great Waltham Cricket Club - Philip Burton Tel. 01245 360318.

Great Waltham Friendship Club - Wendy Johnson, Tel. 01245 360362.

Great Waltham Horticultural Society- Ben Wincott
ben@wincottdesign.co.uk

Jubilee Twinning Association - Joanna Steel Tel. 01245 360918.

Players at Waltham - Julie Flint, Tel. 01245 440988

United Chelmsford Churches FC - Mr. Peter Hovell Tel. 01245 421255

Royal British Legion - Legion Hall Tel. 01245 362380.

Waltham Singers - Frances Harrison Tel. 01245 222234

Waltham Wanderers - Maureen or Peter Bradley Tel. 01245 360293,

Walthams Scout Group - John Brogan e-mail jbrogan3@btinternet.com

Walthambury Women's Institute - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Up, Up and Away Pre School - Mrs Ashmore Tel. 01245 237227,

Great Waltham Primary School – Headteacher Diane Wilson Tel. 01245 360395

Friends of Great Waltham School - Helen Mansfield Tel. 01245 361920

Ford End Primary School - Headteacher Hazel Amill Tel. 01245 237209

Ford End Nursery School - Joanna Mardell Tel. 01371 874457

Great Waltham with Ford End PCC - Carla Hampton Tel. 01245 364081

Black Chapel - Pat Hamilton Tel. 01371 820095

Ford End Village Hall Committee - George Hassan Tel. 01245 237397

Great Waltham Architectural Society - Chris Mills Tel. 01245 360115

The Friends of Great Waltham and Ford End Churches - Alexander Micklem Tel. 01245 360239

Great Waltham Village Hall Committee - Philip Burton Tel. 01245 360318

South House Residents Society - Ben Wincott

ben@wincottdesign.co.uk

Great Waltham Parish Care Group - John Lattimore Tel. 01245 363818.

VOICE - Sonia Slater Tel. 01371 821013

Great Waltham Netball Club - Rebecca Clout Tel. 01245 360178

Neighbourhood Watch - Robin Gilbert Tel. 01245 360697

Community Speedwatch - Mike Steel (Great Waltham) Tel. 01245 360918 or Paul Braisby (Ford End and North End) Tel. 01245 361927.

Great Waltham Book Group - Clare Lyne Tel.01245 361996.

Walnut Tree Football Club - Peter Stokes Tel. 01245 360222

Book Club - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Bridge Club - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Great Waltham Cycling Group - Steve Huggins, Tel. 01245 362034

Parish Passenger Transport Representative - Clare Lynes Tel. 01245 361996.

Barnston Youth FC - Bob Jenkins Tel 01371 823008