

WEST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

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WEST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is in recess in August.

The Parish Council meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the village hall. Members of the public are very welcome to attend meetings and they may address the Council at the start of the meeting during the public session.



Chairman
(Planning Officer)

Cllr Karen Jones

Tel: 07484 274676

Email: karen.jones@ehpb.org.uk



Vice Chairman
(Planning Officer)

Cllr Steve Tatum

Tel: 07990 564615

Email: steve.tatum@whpc.org.uk



Councillor

Cllr James Sims

Tel: 01245 403437

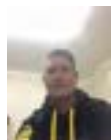
Email: jim.sims@whpc.org.uk



Councillor

Cllr Thelma Alexander

Tel: 01277 840529



Councillor

Cllr Paul Mitchell

Tel: 01245 400201

Email: paul.mitchell@whpc.org.uk



Councillor

Cllr Paul Galley

Email: paul.galley@whpc.org.uk



Councillor

Cllr David Myers

Tel: 01277 630183 or 07887 633227

Email: david.myers@whpc.org.uk



Councillor
(Planning Officer)

Cllr Paul Brand

Email: paul.brand@whpc.org.uk



Clerk

Miss Lucy White

Tel: 07703 170512

Email: clerk@whpc.org.uk





CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2021

I'm sure that everyone will agree that it has been a very difficult year for all of us due to the Coronavirus pandemic and, as I write this, the last restrictions on our movements are likely to be fully lifted on 19 July. I hope everyone has remained safe and well during this time, and will continue to be so once we begin to resume a more normal life.

It has largely been business as usual for the Parish Council this past year; the Government issued Regulations in April 2020 that gave local authorities greater flexibility in the conduct of meetings, including allowing members to attend remotely, and for the public and press access to those meetings and, as a result, the Parish Council began holding meetings using the Zoom online platform since then.

This arrangement worked very well, not only did it protect vulnerable councillors, it also meant that our residents, who had perhaps never been able to attend a face-to-face meeting before were able to do so.

However, on 28 April 2021 a judgement in the High Court on holding remote meetings stated that all councils must, from 7 May 2021, return to face-to-face meetings and be open to attendance in person from the public. As face-to-face meetings had been held in line with restrictions and public health advice in place at that time, the Parish Council took the view that in order to comply with the Government's Covid restrictions and hold a safe meeting, it would meet outdoors in the Village Hall Car Park - at least until restrictions are fully lifted. And so our meetings in June and July have been outdoors!

This year we bid farewell to Karen Kuderovitch, who had been our Parish Clerk for almost five years. Following a successful recruitment exercise, we found a replacement for Karen, but unfortunately this did not work out. As the Parish Council were fortunate to have had high quality candidates applying for Karen's post, we asked Lucy White to join us - Lucy said yes and was appointed as our new Parish Clerk on 1 May 2021. And I'm glad to say she is still with us! I'm sure you will want to join me and my fellow councillors in welcoming Lucy, albeit belatedly, to the Parish Council; we are enjoying working with her.

The Chairman's Report is never complete without any reference or update on the issues in Middlemead, and this one is no exception. The Parish Council has always been of the opinion that the best, and perhaps the only way, to find a solution to the problems in Middlemead was to have the various agencies - so, Essex Police, Essex Highways, Chelmsford City Council, Essex & Suffolk Water - to work collaboratively with the Parish Council to find a way to bring about a resolution to the problems we experience in our village in this area. And I'm delighted to report that we have made some meaningful progress towards this as for the first time, these agencies have come together around the virtual table to form a partnership group to discuss the issues in Middlemead to find a solution to the long standing issues in Middlemead. Although these discussions are currently at an early stage, it is pleasing to report that we seem at last beginning to make some meaningful progress.

Finally, I would like to give residents a short update on the three solar farm applications in our area.

Continued...

Chairman's Report - Continued...

At the West Hanningfield Parish Council meeting in March 2021, it was resolved to form a working party, with the aim of providing documents to support the Parish Council's strong opposition to the proposed West and East Hanningfield Solar Farm developments.

Mr John Dunton, a resident of West Hanningfield and an experienced Commercial M&E (Mechanical & Electrical) Consultant, and who has much experience in these matters, kindly offered his help and support to the Parish Council Working Party. Mr Dunton, who had previously written a report to inform residents on solar farms, which was published in the Parish Council's last quarterly newsletter, was instrumental in putting together the reports opposing the three solar farms applications, which were submitted to Chelmsford City Council in May and can be viewed on the City Council's website. We are, as I write, still awaiting the decisions.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to place on record its very grateful thanks to Mr Dunton. His knowledge, expertise and experience in this field has greatly helped us, and our residents, better understand these applications, he worked incredibly hard and with much diligence to ensure that the view of the Parish Council to oppose all three solar farm applications was upheld.

That's all for now. Except to wish all residents a lovely summer and send my best wishes.

Cllr Karen Jones. - Chairman



ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL—COUNCILLOR IAN GRUNDY

ANNUAL REVIEW



Writing an Annual Review at this time is not easy after the year we have had and the continuing changing Covid situation. At Essex CC following the election we are committing ourselves to help get the local economy moving again and helping business wherever possible and working closely with partners to raise skills and training opportunities. It is already clear the economy of the present is going to be very different to what is going to emerge going forward. We see this every day with working at home, online shopping and the changing High Street.

At County we have to review our ways of working and work better with our partners. This will include looking at our property estate, releasing those we no longer need and reinvesting into our infrastructure and developing brown sites - it's going to be a very challenging 3/4 years but full of opportunity.

I should think some 80% of my mail is on Highway issues. We must find ways of improving road maintenance, improving defects and use modern technologies and at the same time encourage alternative means of transport. We are beginning to see this with the trial going on in Chelmsford with E-Scooters and I am told successfully.

We are expecting the final report and recommendations from the Climate Change Commission this summer. To support their proposals we have appointed a Climate Change Czar whose responsibilities will be to ensure every area of ECCs work is tied in with climate change. One big area that needs action is in Waste and Recycling: we must reduce landfill and work closely with the districts to achieve this.

You will be hearing a lot more on initiatives to boost the economy and reduce carbon over the months ahead and how we as individuals can help.

Keep well.

Ian Grundy

FINANCE

2020-2021

Unity Trust Bank Reconciliation 1st April 2020—31th March 2021

Opening Balance:	£15,993.79
Less Debits:	£23,494.39
Plus Credits:	£28,972.48
Closing Balance:	£21,471.88

Expenditure

How did we spend £23,494?

Running Costs:	(Staff / Stationary / Expenses)	£13,608
Maintenance:	(General Village / Grass Cutting)	£4,085
Community Projects:	(VE Day / Defibrillator / CCTV)	£2,574
Publications:		£1,190
Professional Services:	(Audit / IT Support)	£935
Grants:	(Parochial Church Council)	£400
VAT:	(To be reclaimed)	£702

Income

Where did £28,972 come from?

Precept:		£26,828
Chelmsford City Council:	(Community Infrastructure Levy)	£873
VAT Refund:		£721
Essex Association for Local Councils:	(Covid Grant)	£500
Donation for Tree Bench:		£50

Councillor Profile—Cllr. Paul Brand

I have been fortunate to have spent almost my entire working life as a self employed businessman. My companies include Chartered Surveying, Estate agency, Property Lettings, wildlife landscaping and property investment. In almost 40 years I have accrued a vast amount of knowledge mostly connected to property during which time I have thoroughly enjoyed almost every day.



I have 3 children and 6 years ago Sally and I decided to head out of the boisterous life of Leigh-on-Sea and find some space. We currently live in West Hanningfield having built our own home and enjoy a peaceful existence surrounded by our dogs and horses.

I was approached to join the Parish Council about two years ago and have enjoyed being able to pass on my knowledge and experience to try and help our village. The work the Parish Council does is often invisible but I can assure you we are better off for having it. The Parish Council Members have the village interests at heart and work diligently, without pay, to maintain West Hanningfield.



**Note
Change of
date**

Friday 30th July from 6.30pm



Village BBQ and Morris Men* At The 3 Compasses West Hanningfield



Tickets from:

The 3 Compasses

Simon & Ann 01245 400532

Adult £10

Child £5 (Under 12)

Family (up to 2 adults, 3 children) £25

Buy tickets early to avoid disappointment

New Parish Clerk – Lucy White

I am so lucky to have been offered the opportunity to work for West Hanningfield Parish Council. 'My' councillors have been very welcoming and I know we will all have so much enjoyment working together along with lots of hard work!

I hail originally from near East Hanningfield and now live just a short hop away in Woodham Ferrers with my children and assorted pets. In terms of the experience I bring to my new role, I also clerk for Good Easter Parish Council and am Vice-Chairman for Woodham Ferrers & Bicknacre Parish Council, so I sit on both sides of the fence! In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with the retired family pony, genealogy and playing with various orchestras throughout Essex.



WALK INTO SUMMER

Walk Into Summer is a virtual charity walking event supporting the Mayors chosen charities for this year which are MIND, Helping Hands Essex and Sanctu. We are encouraging you to get out into the fresh air and walk as far as you can. We suggest walking between 5-10km. You can either chose your own route or follow our route that has already been mapped for you. Once registered we will send all the details including route, map and how to donate.

MONDAY 2ND-SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST 2021

To register email heartandsole@chelmsford.gov.uk or go to www.chelmsford.gov.uk/heartandsole for more information

A SUGGESTED DONATION OF £5 PER PERSON

West Hanningfield Village Hall Annual Report 2020/2021

It's been a year of ups and downs at the hall.

On the down side we of course, like the rest of the country, were unable to open up to our hirers, which impacted greatly on our income as every penny we have comes from money we raise. Luckily we had some local authority grants which has kept us going and paid for the housekeeping bills that still come in, pandemic or not.

We have had so far two highlights which brought our village and community together, The Father Christmas drive through was an amazing success and we thank Father Christmas for finding time in his busy schedule to bring some Christmas cheer to what was probably one of the least festive Christmas's many of us have encountered. We also raised in excess of £1000, towards our plans for the future of the hall.



Our second, and more recent event was our accompanied walk around our beautiful village, many thanks to Kaz and Charlie. Everyone enjoyed the walk and seeing aspects of the village they hadn't before.

This took place at the same time as we put on our first plant sale - and my oh my what a brilliant success that was! The plants were amazing, and we thank Brian Carline for his organising of this event and his contacts which donated such beautiful plants to us. This is not forgetting the many plants, vegetables and herbs that the villagers kindly nurtured and donated.



It was truly wonderful to see everyone in the sunshine, buying plants and enjoying a drink and brunch under the gazebo - it was lovely to see villagers and visitors from Billericay, Stock and further enjoying our village and reinforced for us as a trustees the importance of building the new hall to replace the steadily declining present one (even with its kitchen makeover). We also raised approximately £1,100 - another top up to the future hall funds. A regular event for future years we think!

Please look out for posters, banners, social media and leaflets which will be on show and distributed prior to each of our events.

We have a great band of helpers, but we are few in numbers which puts a lot of work on each of our shoulders. We need residents to volunteer just a small amount of time to help out at our fund raising events in the next vital couple of years—many hands make light work has never been more true.

If you are able to help could you please contact Paula Davies on M 07837 789763 or daviesat15@yahoo.co.uk.

As we are now slowly, but hopefully, returning to a nearly normal life again, our plan is to keep this momentum of community built around our hall, which will in turn help to build a new hall for future generations to enjoy.

Lesley Masterson Social Secretary

Mobile: 07777 637363 mail: Lesleymasterson@btinternet.com

Village Hall Working Group Annual Report

This time last year the Working Group was completing much needed roofing repairs and continuing to push ahead with the appointment of an architectural practice to carry out the feasibility study for us, much work and effort has been put in since then to get you some results.

Even though COVID played havoc with our meetings and everything had to be done on Zoom electronically we soldiered on and appointed Munday & Cramer, the architects. We have since appointed a Quantity Surveyor to price the notional design in preparation for our presentation of the design, operational thoughts and prices for a new Hall to you, the residents, to start a formal consultation process. Nothing can move forward until we are able bring all the facts to you in a physical form in the Village Hall. This will provide you all with the opportunity of looking at the proposals in detail and ask questions about the outcomes and future processes. We hope to be commencing this work in September which is again delayed due to Government decisions on the Pandemic and uncertainty.

The architects produced a number of design options for consideration and we reduced that down to three preferred versions with one becoming the main focus of our attention. Initial pricing took place and enabled us to review our decisions further. We will bring all of these options and pricing to the public consultation in order for you to understand the paths and challenges we have gone through to get to the position of supplying full information in time for the consultation process.

You will remember we recently delivered to every house a flyer showing an artist's impression of a new hall together with information about what we are doing.

During a year of complete closure we experienced anti-social behaviour which caused us to close our gates and even recently when we reopened them we still had malicious damage done in ripping down one of our courtesy lights provided to enable hirers move safely to their cars in the dark!

Please do remember to register your account with www.smile.amazon.co.uk to give us the benefit of the Amazon donation on all your purchases at no cost to yourself and please let us have a Gift Aid form stating that you are happy for us to collect the extra contribution from the Government on your donations.



The better news is we did redecorate the kitchen, bar, foyer and toilets and also refurbished the kitchen including installation of new lighting using some of the money from the grants.

We look forward to seeing you at a Public Consultation in the near future.

West Hanningfield Village Hall Working Group



Side by Side Essex

**Support a person living with dementia
in your community**

Join our team and become a Side by Side
Telephone Volunteer today!

Help support people living with dementia in
your community.

Initially via telephone & then face to face.

Empowering people in the community & back
doing the things they love.

Contact Toni Wilson

Here for everyone
affected by dementia
alzheimers.org.uk

Get in touch today

[sidebysideneessex@
alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:sidebysideneessex@alzheimers.org.uk)

077 12 692454





Did you know Chelmsford City Council run jam-packed Summer courses are the perfect holiday fun for kids aged 0 to 16.

Get the most out of their holiday activities with this link:
<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/kids-holiday-activities/>

AND

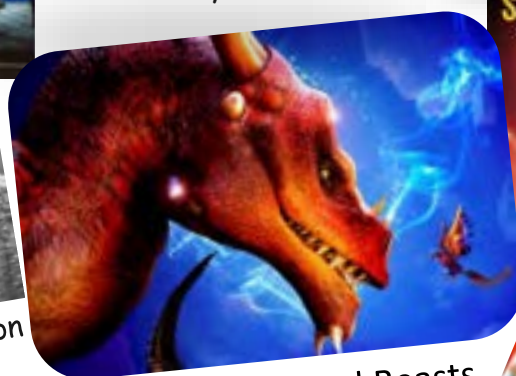
Chelmsford's theatres are reopening with shows and events such as:



Lunchtime Concerts most Wednesday lunchtimes



Mrs Churchill—My life with Winston



Dragons & Mythical Beasts



Just visit their website at:

<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres/whats-on/>

Essex Lights

Electrical and Lighting Solutions



Friendly local service (Woodham Ferrers)

30 years experience

Free estimates/no obligation/low call out fees

All types of electrical installations undertaken, including

Electrical Installation Certificate Reports

Free design service for garden lighting

All work guaranteed

Paul Kuderovitch

Mobile 07790—278778

e-mail: pjkuderovitch@gmail.com

Customers in West Hanningfield

Recent garden installations

