

WEST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2023 Issue 17





WEST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



The Parish Council meet on the second Monday of each month; agendas are available on the website or notice board or by contacting the clerk three days prior to each meeting. Members of the public are very welcome to attend meetings and may address the Council at the start of the meeting during the public session.

	<p>Cllr Karen Jones—Chairman, Planning Officer</p> <p>Karen.jones@whpc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Cllr Paul Galley</p> <p>paul.galley@whpc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Cllr Thelma Alexander</p>
	<p>Cllr Paul Brand—Planning Officer</p> <p>paul.brand@whpc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Cllr Peter Scanes</p> <p>peter.scanes@whpc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Cllr Tina Markham</p> <p>tina.markham@westhanningfield-pc.gov.uk</p>
	<p>VACANCY</p>
	<p>VACANCY</p>
	<p>Miss Lucy White, CiLCA, BA (Hons)</p> <p>Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer</p> <p>clerk@westhanningfield-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>07873 708275</p> <p>Articles not written by the Parish Council are not necessarily the opinion of the Parish Council and they accept no responsibility for their content.</p> <p>The Parish Council acknowledges the use of pictures provided by Freepik www.freepik.com</p>



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT—Cllr Karen Jones

Lucy has provided an update in her report on the current projects the Parish Council is currently working on; however, the Parish Council is always open to explore new projects and activities in order to make our community both safer and a more pleasant place to live and so if anyone has any suggestions that they think might help with this then please do get in touch with Lucy or alternatively, come along to one of our monthly meetings and let us know your ideas - we would love to see you!

Councillors were busy during the summer ensuring that as many residents as possible responded to the Council Tax Precept Survey and have their say in this very important decision for West Hanningfield. The outcome of the Survey was announced and published on the 9th October 2023 and the results have also been published in full in this newsletter.

As stated in the official guidance from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC), if a parish council intends to increase its council tax precept for the purpose of repaying a public works loan, then it must show evidence of public support of this in order to get a loan approved by the DLUHC. The evidence of public support can only come from a council tax precept increase survey and this is very much a mandatory requirement.



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

At the Parish Council meeting on 9th October, Councillors gave careful consideration to the results of the Survey and as a result resolved not to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling-Up Housing & Communities to apply to the Public Works Loan Board for a loan to fund the rebuilding of West Hanningfield Village Hall.

The Parish Council have recently received a report from a resident in Pandan Close concerning issues with out of control dogs in the area. Before we can make a decision as to what we can do to assist, it would be helpful to know if there is anyone else in Pandan Close that have experienced similar issues? If you have, then can you please let Lucy know.



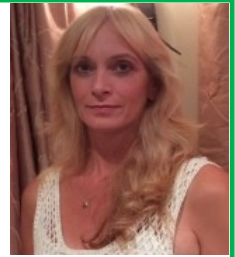
Finally, the Parish Council still have two vacancies that we are very keen to fill, so if you are interested in joining the Parish Council then please contact Lucy for further information. The role offers an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our wonderful community here in West Hanningfield and the chance to bring your own unique experiences or knowledge to the team.

Sending my very best regards to you all.

Cllr Karen Jones
Chairman

Clerk's Report – Lucy White

After a busy summer devoting much of my time to the Village Hall Precept Increase Survey ensuring it was conducted with utmost accuracy and obtaining as many responses as possible, I have now turned my attention to other projects. (The results of the survey are reported below).



Defibrillators

I'm pleased to be working with the Community Heartbeat Trust whose wizardry extends to pinpointing optimum locations for defibrillators so that all Parishioners have access to a defibrillator if the need arises. Currently, a defibrillator is located at St Peter's School, but the Parish Council are seeking funding to install two further defibrillators in the Park Homes (comprising c.43% of the parish) with other locations to be identified, particularly in outlying areas. You may remember my article in the Summer Newsletter showing the demographic of the Parish extending from Southend Road to Bakers Lane, Stock Road, Downham Road and Foxborough Chase and others; it is so important to cover the Parish.

Working Groups

Working Groups may be formed by Parish Councils to use the skills of Councillors and Parishioners who wish to be involved in specific 'task and finish' projects. In this regard, the Parish Council has formed a Playground Development Working Group focussed on renovating the play area beside the Village Hall. Cllr Scanes is currently doing a sterling job applying for grants for the play equipment. A Technology Working Group has also been formed to provide the Parish with CCTV and Digital Notice Boards.

Lucy White—Parish Clerk

VILLAGE HALL PRECEPT INCREASE SURVEY

In accordance with the guidelines set out by the Department of Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities, the Parish Council conducted a simple consultation starting in July with a deadline for responses of the 30th September, which was extended to the 9th October 2023. In total, 293 surveys were returned—a return rate of 54%. Of the respondents, the results are as follows:

Question One

Are you in FAVOUR of the West Hanningfield Village Hall Management Committee going ahead with the project to rebuild the Village Hall?

Yes	161	(55%)
No	132	(45%)

Question Two

Are you in FAVOUR of West Hanningfield Village Hall Management Committee going ahead with the project to rebuild the Village Hall if it includes a Council Tax Precept increase of 404% (equivalent to a rise of £171.79 a year for a band D property) for the purpose of loan repayments?

Yes	84	(29%)
No	209	(71%)

Of the total Parish, this means that:

16% are in favour of a council tax precept increase.

46% are not in of a council tax precept increase.

39% did not respond.

Having given due consideration to these results, at the Parish Council meeting on the 9th October, Members voted not to apply for a Public Works Loan to pay for the rebuild of the Village Hall.



ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL—COUNCILLOR IAN GRUNDY

It is now over a year since the booking system was introduced at our recycling centres. I must admit as not being the greatest enthusiast of the decision, but I must admit that overall it seems to be going well. There have been some adjustments including allowing bookings up to 6 weeks' notice and as short as 15 minutes subject to availability. Interestingly we are receiving around 50k bookings a week around the county.

At a recent Police briefing it was good to hear there has been a downward trend in all crime levels. We now have 3,755 Police Officers including Support Officers and Specials – this is the largest the force has been in its 183 year history! Overall it was a very encouraging report and good to hear they fully recognise the importance of a strong relationship with councils and voluntary groups. Apart from all the traditional issues, stalking and harassment plus drugs remain key issues.

Highway issues continue to abound and fill my mailbox. I will do all I can to help but please use the report it tool on the Highways website and if nothing happens after a period of time send me the reference number that I can chase. The wet summer has created a lot of vegetation growth over signs etc. As many of you will be homeowners along our roads, please do what you can to cut back and help keep our roads safe and tidy.

Devolution is taking up a lot of our time at the moment. We are in discussions with Government to go for what they call Level 2 which will have a combined authority including Southend and Thurrock. All 12 authorities in our County plus business are supporting the move which will give us far greater control on Jobs, Skills and Transport. An announcement we hope will be included in the autumn statement on the 22nd November.

As always, if I can help on an issue please let me know.

Cllr Ian Grundy Email: cllr.ian.grundy@essex.gov.uk Tel: 07920 286384

FINANCE

1st April 2023 to date

Expenditure (Net)		Income	
Staffing Costs (Salary, Tax, NI & Pension)	£5,758.44	Chelmsford City Council (Precept)	£15,237.00
WfH Allowance	£280.00	EALC (Training Bursary)	£315.00
Clerk's Mileage	£54.54	Chelmsford City Council (Precept)	£15,237.00
Grass Cutting	£2,879.00		
General Maintenance	£496.50		
Annual Inspection	£290.50		
Northumbrian Water Rent	£89.00		
Hall Hire	£246.00		
Insurance	£1,284.84		
Audit	£640.00		
Telephone / Internet	£141.90		
Affiliation Fees	£415.88		
Training	£395.00		
Administration	£659.96		
Professional Fees	£650.00		
Newsletters	£800.00		
Payroll	£80.00		
Website Hosting	£590.00		
Security	£3,325.00		
Village Hall Project	£1,092.12		
		Funds are held for the following projects:	
		Reserves	£9,781.48
		Unplanned / Emergency Works	£700.00
		CCTV	£3,529.00
		Children's Play Equipment	£3,529.71
		Community Grant Fund	£400.00
		Community Improvements (Defib / Notice boards)	£3,100.00
		Village Hall Project	£15,229.88
		<i>Lucy White</i> —Responsible Financial Officer	

Lucy White—Responsible Financial Officer



Your Village Hall in West Hanningfield

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

The West Hanningfield Village Hall Trustees hereby give notice of a
PUBLIC MEETING.

DATE: 21ST NOVEMBER 2023

LOCATION: ST MARY and ST EDWARD CHURCH
Church Rd, West Hanningfield, CM2 8UL

TIME: 7.30PM

The results of the Council Tax Precept Increase Survey were
announced on 9th October 2023.

The existing group of Trustees came together in 2017 with a
clear, publicly stated goal of building a new village hall.

The outcome of the Council Tax Precept Increase Survey means
that the only realistic route to funding for a new hall, as
proposed by the Trustees, is closed and the Village Hall
Trustees/ Management Committee have met to discuss the result
and determine next actions.

The hall charity constitution now requires a Public Meeting to be
held, regarding the future of the village hall.

All villagers are welcome to attend the Public Meeting.

Anyone willing to become a village hall Trustee should contact:
hall.chairman@westhanningfield.com

West Hanningfield Village Hall Trustees

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECENTLY CONSIDERED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

Two storey side extension and part two storey, part single storey rear extension. Part demolition of existing two storey front section of building and new front extension. Relocation of entrance door and addition of porch. Alterations to fenestration and associated works including wall and gate.

Farrows Farm Stock Road Stock Ingatestone Essex CM4 9QX

Ref. No: 23/00283/FUL—*NO COMMENT*

Proposed Single Storey Side Extension and partial Loft Conversion consisting of first floor extension.

Lone Farm Cottage Blind Lane West Hanningfield Chelmsford CM2 8UF

Ref. No: 23/00270/FUL—*NO COMMENT*

Demolition of existing dwelling and buildings. Construction of 3 buildings to accommodate 45 x over 55s specialist residential units (use class C3), pavilion building and associated infrastructure. Relocation of existing greenhouse. Landscaping including new ponds. Formation of new access.

Apps Farm Mill Road Stock Ingatestone CM4 9RU

Ref. No: 22/01377/FUL—*NO COMMENT*

Installation of new driveway gates and adjoining pedestrian gate.

The Orchard House Church Lane West Hanningfield Chelmsford Essex CM2 8XD

Ref. No: 23/00383/FUL—*NO COMMENT*

W1 Area- Oak- To lift the canopy up to max of 5m. Reason: To maintain safety; Cherry & sampling Holly trees- Fell. Reason: Have self colonised; Ivy- clear. Reason: Prevent damage to trees.

Temple Wood Estate Stock Road West Hanningfield Chelmsford Essex CM2 8LA

Ref. No: 23/05063/TPO—*SUPPORTED*

Variation of Condition 1 to approved planning application 20/02005/FUL (Retrospective application for construction of replacement dwelling with detached garage) to Alter location of detached garage.

Tarlings Pynnings Farm Lane West Hanningfield Chelmsford Essex CM2 8UU

Ref. No: 20/02005/S73—*NO COMMENT*

T15 Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)- Located in garden of No. 61- Crown reduce by up to 3.5 metres in height and 2.5 metres laterally. Reason for Works: General, cyclical maintenance.

61 Temple Grove Park Bakers Lane West Hanningfield Chelmsford CM2 8LH

Ref. No: 23/05069/TPO—*NO COMMENT*

Certificate of lawfulness to regularise the use of the site as an Interior Design Studio & Showroom (Class E(g))

Tinsley Farm, Blind Lane, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford CM2 8UF

Ref. No: 23/00780/CLEUD—*NO COMMENT*

Divert overhead lines crossing arable fields to the east of Southend Road, East Hanningfield to support the development of solar arrays that consent was granted for under planning reference 21/00555/FUL. The diversion works involve moving the overhead lines from the middle of the arable fields to follow the field boundaries.

Land North-East Of Hanningfield Telephone Exchange West Hanningfield, Road, East Hanningfield, Chelmsford

Ref. No: 23/00821/EB—*NO COMMENT*

Replacement Dwelling with double garage and widening of access.

Applegate House, Church Lane, West Hanningfield.

Ref. No: 23/00831/FUL—*After a considerable debate, it was resolved not to support this application on the grounds of the balcony overlooking other properties.*

Proposed raising of roof. New dormers. Two storey side extension. Part two storey, part single storey rear extension. Front porch and canopy. Alterations to fenestration.

Brick House Farm Lower Stock Road West Hanningfield Chelmsford Essex CM2 8UY

Ref. No: 23/00956/FUL—*SUPPORTED*

The installation of 15m high slim-line monopole, supporting 6 no. antennas, 2 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. electric meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto.

Telecommunications Apparatus Church Road West Hanningfield Chelmsford Essex

Ref. No: 23/01016/TEL56—*NOT SUPPORTED—A full report was submitted appended to the minutes .*

CALLING COMMUNITY HEROES!

Could you be a Councillor?

**There are currently two spaces on the Parish Council.
Would you consider being co-opted?**



Are you interested in local affairs?

Want to know more?

Here is the small print:

As a Parish Councillor, you would become a voice for West Hanningfield. Councillors are the heroes of their community investing time in local projects and resolving issues to the benefit of residents and the environment.

What's Involved?

Local councillors' responsibilities fall into three main categories:

- ◇ Monitoring budgets
- ◇ Taking part in decision making
- ◇ Getting involved locally

To be a member of West Hanningfield Parish Council you need to:

- ◇ Register your interests
- ◇ Adhere to a Code of Conduct
- ◇ Undertake training
- ◇ Have time

To be come a Member of West Hanningfield Parish Council , you must meet certain criteria:

- You must be over 18 years of age.
- You must be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union.
- You must be either an elector for West Hanningfield, or have either owned property, lived or worked in the area or within 4.8kms of the boundary of West Hanningfield.
- You must not work for the Parish Council.
- You must not have been declared bankrupt within the last 5 years.
- You must have not been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 3 months or more (including a suspended sentence) without the option of a fine, during the last 5 years.
- You must not be subject to the notification requirement of Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- You must not hold a politically restricted post for another authority, and you must not have not been disqualified under any legislation relating to corrupt or illegal practices.

If interested, please call the Clerk on 07873 708275 or email clerk@westhanningfield-pc.gov.uk or download the co-option policy and application form: [Co-option-Policy-May-2022-Copy.pdf](#) (westhanningfield-pc.gov.uk)