



# CLAVERING NEWSLETTER

## CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL

Issue 202.2

21<sup>st</sup> February 2024

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Editor: Stephanie Gill

**The Summons for the Monthly Meeting of Clavering Parish Council called for Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February to start at 7.30pm had summonsed Councillors on 7<sup>th</sup> February but incorrectly stated the venue to be the Clavering Christian Centre instead of the Clavering Village Hall at Hill Green, as had been announced at the previous two meetings.**

**On the evening, it was not possible to hold the meeting in the Clavering Christian Centre as the hall was occupied by other renters.**

After referring to Councillors, the Chairman allowed an informal discussion on the items on the original agenda. Agenda Items requiring determination were moved to a meeting called for 19<sup>th</sup> February.

In attendance were Cllrs Gill (Chairman), Couchman, Bullen and Elliston.

Also present were 4 members of the public and District Councillor Oliver.

The Chairman apologised to those present for the error in the venue on the agenda.

She advised those present that there had been a Sewer blockage at Allotments. She had been told on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> (morning) that a sewer manhole on a property that backs onto the allotments was lifting. It was ascertained that the sewer manhole on the tarmac access was also lifting. (There had been heavy rains.) Thames Water were on site with a tanker at the treatment unit and advised they had reported the overflow on the drive on their arrival. The Chairman reported the incident online on returning home. Thames Water visited the site on Sunday at about 11pm and stated they had cleared the blockage on the driveway and all was running clear; the manhole was not leaking at 3pm and the tarmac had been hosed down. The resident on the Stortford Rd still had a leak from a manhole cover on their property and submitted another incident report to Thames Water 12<sup>th</sup> February. It was attended the same day and Thames Water established that any other blockage had cleared itself.

A member of the public present:

- stated that parishioners had contacted them asking why the Clavering Parish Council was paying £18,000 to Keep Clavering Rural. The Chairman stated this was not true and that perhaps the parishioners had become confused with the Council's decision to write a Neighbourhood Plan (amortised over 2 years at £9,000pa) and the increase in the budget & precept. This had been clearly reported in the CPC Newsletter. It was asked that the parishioners contact the Clerk with their questions.

- mentioned they had reported Footpath 34 to ECC but repairs had not taken place. The CPC Footpath Representative will chase this.

- advised that they were aware of strangers carrying out surveillance in the village

- asked whether the CPC Emergency Plan was to be updated to include nuclear matters. The Chairman advised that there has not been a request from UDC to do this.

- asked for the number of 'pages' relating to paperwork held by the Council regarding the settled legal dispute, informing the Council they had advice from UDC and the ICO on this and wished for this in order that they might carry out a systems audit. The Chairman asked that it be clarified in writing as to which 'pages' they referred.

A Parishioner who is also a member of Keep Clavering Rural (KCR) advised that KCR has never received money from the Parish Council. In 2014, a Planning Consultant had been employed by both KCR and CPC to produce a report regarding Sustainability under the NPPF, which the CPC had used to inform itself on planning matters in Clavering.

**Green Waste** - It was advised that the Balaam family have agreed that the UDC Green Waste collection may be sited at their farm this year and the invoice from UDC for last year's Green Waste Service has yet to be received. Councillors expressed their thanks to the Balaam family.

**Allotments** - One parishioner has taken on a plot and two more people have expressed an interest. Four holders have yet to pay and reminder letters have been sent asking for payment latest 1st March.

**RCCE Affordable Housing Survey** - Distribution of the Survey by volunteers taking place in next few weeks. Responses to be sent to RCCE by 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Risk Assessment** – Both defibrillators were 'rescue ready.' The large potholes on the B1038 at the entrance to Wicken Bonhunt discussed at the previous meeting were repaired, after contact with ECC Highways and Cllr Ray Gooding.

**Transport Representative** – It was advised that the ECC bus consultation's response and analysis was received 15<sup>th</sup> January and there will continue to be no daily public services provided in Clavering.

### **Parish Council Meeting 19th February**

Apologies were received from Cllr Ryan. Three members of the public and ECC Cllr Ray Gooding were in attendance also.

A parishioner advised that a defibrillator has been installed on the outside wall of the bowls/tennis pavilion at the Jubilee Field and it is registered with the Ambulance Service. A representative of Keep Clavering Rural (KCR) advised that it had received unclear correspondence from UDC on the status of the Protected Lane at Lower Way and that KCR were objecting strongly to the revised planning application for UTT/23/3135/FUL as it now included felling an ancient oak tree and also the ownership of the tree was unsure.

A report was received on recent Inspectorate Planning Hearings & Appeals and UDC Planning Committee meetings

**Jubilee Field Committee** - Agreed to make a grant of £950 to the Jubilee Field Committee towards grass cutting costs (per CPC budget 2023/24)

### **Clavering Horticultural Society (CHS) Tree Planting at Dick Ball Meadow -**

The planting plan for the suggested trees was agreed. Thanks were passed to the CHS for their work on this.

**Friends of Clavering School request for a Grant**- Determined to look at this when setting the CPC budget for 2025/6 and a request for further financial information would be made.

**Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Working Party** - The recommendations of the Working Party regarding Public Exhibitions and initial questionnaire and relating costs were agreed by the Council, funds having been agreed to be set aside in December 2023.

See below notice

**Council's Metal Benches** - Quote accepted to refurbish the three benches.

**Various Small Tree works** -Quote accepted for various small tree works on parish land and the allotments.

**Verge at Stickling Green (Registered Village Green)** - Agreed to bring into grass cutting contract re. sight lines. Contractor's opinion to be sought about a tree at the site

**Trees near the Frog Pond** - Two councillors authorised to inspect after email from a parishioner.

**Footpath Representative** - Further to a parishioner's comments, advised that ECC had stated that investigative work was being carried out on Footpath 34

**Finance:** Cheques agreed

**Payroll and Registered Village Green:** Per advice, discussions held in private and confidential as concern Employment and Legal matters/legal advice

### **Planning for PC Comment:**

**UTT/24/0217/FUL: Uphills Wicken Road Wicken Bonhunt S73** application to vary condition 2 (approved drawings) of UTT/22/2214/FUL (New access and erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and garage.) - amendments to improve quality of scheme and living environment. **No comments**

**UTT/24/0312/DFO: Hill House Wicken Road** Details following outline application UTT/21/3648/OP for the erection of 1 no. dwelling - details of appearance, landscaping and layout. **No comments**

**UTT/23/3135/FUL Re-consultation: Land East Of Clatterbury Lane** Proposed erection of 5 no. single storey dwellings with associated cart lodge parking, landscaping and new vehicular access. **Comments made**

### **Planning Determined by UDC:**

**UTT/23/3234/NMA: Uphills Wicken Bonhunt** New access and erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and garage. **Refused**

**UTT/23/1430/DOC: Ashcroft Wicken Road Wicken Bonhunt** Application to discharge condition 3 (hard/soft landscaping), 5 (materials), 12 (Biodiversity method statement), 13 (Biodiversity enhancement strategy), 14 (lighting design scheme) and 15 (covered storage/charging points) attached to UTT/20/2762/FUL (approved under Appeal APP/C1570/W/21/3271280) **Discharge Conditions in Full**

**UTT/23/2538/FUL23: Land To The West Of Stortford Road** S73 application to vary condition 20 (Widening of footway) of UTT/20/2639/OP (Demolition of Poppies and erection of up to 31 no. dwellings) in order to remove reference to widening of existing footway and replace with provision of new internal footpath to school **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/23/2865/HHF: Horseshoes Stickling Green** Proposed stable block **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/24/0137/DOC: Hill House Wicken Road** Application to discharge condition 1 (reserved matters), condition 4 (landscaping), condition 10 (highways/footway), condition 14 (great crested newt method statement), condition 15 (biodiversity enhancement layout), condition 16 (LEMP) and condition 17 (lighting design scheme for biodiversity) of UTT/21/3648/OP. **Withdrawn**

### **Planning at Appeal**

**APP/C1570/W/23/3323337: Brooklands Farmhouse** Installation of solar panels to provide green electricity. Appeal is allowed and planning permission granted.

### **Planning Inspectorate Hearing.**

**S62A/2023/0030: Land to the west of Clatterbury Lane** Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 28 dwellings (class C3) including public open space, sustainable drainage systems, landscaping and associated infrastructure  
Tuesday 5 March 2024, 10am at Uttlesford District Council, London Rd.  
(Anyone wishing to speak must register with the Planning Inspectorate)

**Next Parish Council Monthly Meeting Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm  
at **Clavering Village Hall****

**Information including Approved Council Minutes, Financial Statements, Policies and previous Newsletters will be found on the Parish Council website:**

<https://www.claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

### **YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chairman: Stephanie Gill - 01799 550212**      **Vice Chairman: Martina Ryan**  
**Fabian Bullen    Ron Couchman    Kym Elliston    Frances Smither**  
**Parish Clerk/RFO: Miss Louisa Kwame**

**email: [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk)      Telephone: 07340 505410**

**Parish Council Address: c/o The Bower House High Street Clavering CB11 4QR**

**If you are telephoning the Council please leave a message if your call is not picked up immediately.** Emails will be responded to in accordance with the receipt acknowledgement.

### **Report of Uttlesford District Councillor, Edward Oliver, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Waste Collections**

The main issue at Uttlesford District Council (UDC) this month has been the failure of UDC to empty the bins. This has been described as an "administrative error". What it was, was a failure to transfer the relevant licence to the new manager when the current holder left UDC. UDC was given a period "of grace" of six months to transfer the licence and failed to do so. This took the UDC to 13<sup>th</sup> January and further short time was allowed. Even this did not help. In consequence the licence was withdrawn. Happily this has now been rectified and a new licence has been issued, but at what cost to the ratepayers?

Braintree District Council and a commercial contractor have sent lorries in to help sort out the problem which is much appreciated, but that sort of help has a price attached.

The Leader of UDC is reported to have predicted that there it will be a substantial cost.

### **Budget 2024/25**

This has not yet been finalised, but it is apparent that yet again it will be at the maximum allowed. However to achieve this new savings will have to be achieved such as substantial increase in car parking fees and the possible sale of a property. However it will be more fully reported on next month.

### **Summary of the Verbal Report of Essex County Councillor, Ray Gooding, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Cllr Gooding apologised that, due to other commitments, he had not been able to attend CPC's meetings for some months. He mentioned that current issues in his local division are concentrated on the utility companies digging up roads and the diversions then in place; he advised that the recent fresh water works in Stansted were urgent due to the nitrate levels found in the previous pipe systems. He advised that ECC would be increasing its element of the Council Tax levied in order to achieve a balanced budget. He asked if there were any other schemes to be brought to the Local Highways Panel, acknowledging that speed reduction measures have been requested especially on the Arkesden Rd and these will be under consideration by the LHP in the new financial year. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council were due to discuss at their next meeting some suggested measures to protect a tree sited on that road and perhaps that could also be considered at the same time, depending on the CPC's determination in March.

In response to questions asked by councillors he advised that:

The latest consultation on the need to book to attend Essex's Recycling Centres had come to an end. No details on its analysis have been released and it is expected that a decision on whether to retain the system will be determined in the next few weeks.

There are many highways signs damaged or missing and often they are stolen, even when made of a non-metal product. Reports should still be made, but replacements will be very slow to appear.

He had not been advised when the temporary pothole repairs on the B1038 at the Wicken boundary would be made permanent.

He would chase the ECC Highways re. the outstanding request to replace the railings by Middle Street ford.

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### **"Our Clavering ..... Our Plan"**

In the Uttlesford Draft Local Plan Reg. 18 Consultation, Clavering Parish Council declared its intention to write a **Neighbourhood Plan**.

This will be written by our community for our community.

The first stage is for a public consultation to take place, so that the community can guide the initial works on the Plan.

#### **Please come along to one of the Public Exhibitions**

Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 6pm – 9pm	Clavering Village Hall
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 10am -4pm	Clavering Christian Centre
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 10am - 4pm	Clavering Christian Centre

**There will be Information Boards and copies of the First Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire will be available.**

Complete these on the day – or take away to think on.

**All ages are welcomed to give their opinions**

The questionnaires will also be available after the exhibitions

Cake and refreshments will be provided at the exhibitions.

Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party will be present to help with any questions you may have about our Community's Neighbourhood Plan.

## RCCE Affordable Housing Survey

All Parishioners will be receiving this survey over the next few weeks.

The covering letter enclosed with it explains that the answers submitted remain anonymous and will be collated to help inform what type of Affordable Housing should be constructed in Clavering to benefit existing parishioners and those who have had to move away from the village in order to access an affordable dwelling.

Please complete the survey and return it in the freepost envelope to the RCCE, which is carrying out the survey for the Parish Council.

If any further copies are required, please contact Cllr Gill.

Thank you.

**Essex Mobile Library**  
9<sup>th</sup> March

**Clavering Christian Centre** 10.30 – 11am  
30<sup>th</sup> March

20<sup>th</sup> April

**Clavering Jubilee Field:** A huge THANK YOU to all who supported the recent Quiz Night. The stupendous amount of nearly £2,000 was raised which will help support the maintenance of the Jubilee Field and Simon's Wood in the coming year. An extra thank you to the teams who have already booked their tables for the 2025 Quiz!!

### Can you help Clavering Village Hall's Committee of Management?

Clavering Village Hall is recruiting a Bookings Clerk.

This is a paid position which is flexible and home based.

It will require someone to monitor the online booking system and web page, respond to email queries and assist the Management Committee.

Please contact [aimeebalaam@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aimeebalaam@yahoo.co.uk) to discuss further.

### Clavering Bowls Club -

**Spring Jumble Sale Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2pm Clavering Village Hall**

Re-cycle and de-clutter! Refreshments and homemade cakes for sale and a great raffle

### Tea and Chat -

**Thursdays 21<sup>st</sup> March and 18<sup>th</sup> April at Wicken Church Community Centre 2pm -4pm**

All welcome to come along and have a cup of tea, slice of cake, and a friendly chat with friends old and new.

No charge but donations are welcomed. Contact [viv.mclennan@gmail.com](mailto:viv.mclennan@gmail.com) for more information

### Clavering Landscape History Group -

**Annual General Meeting Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am**

Celebrating the group's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plus a talk on researching Stickling Green families.

Contact [mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com) for more information.

**Spring Meeting Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm Clavering Christian Centre – All welcome**

Talk by Mark Carroll: *DNA, Surnames and Family History*

### Royal British Legion -

**74<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7 for 7.30pm Clavering Village Hall**

Guest Speaker: Dr Bev Morris - author of military history, poetry, plays and fiction

Tickets £25ph available from the Branch Secretary on 01799 550466 or [paddycable@gmail.com](mailto:paddycable@gmail.com)

**Ordinary meetings** are held every Second Tuesday of the month at 8pm in The Bull PH Langley Lower Green. Do come and join in an enjoyable evening – previous military service is not a requirement as the Legion is open to all who support its work.

### Clavering Church Benefice-

**2024 Easter Virtual Balloon Race – starts 30<sup>th</sup> March midday, ends 6<sup>th</sup> April midday**

Raising funds for the churches in the local benefice. £5 per balloon – cash prizes

See <http://www.balloonrace.com/easter2024>

## **Clavering Friends of St Clare's Hospice -**

### **Annual Spring Fayre in aid of St Clare's Hospice Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 11am -2pm**

If you have any items of bric-a-brac, jewellery, toys, paperback books, linens, new or nearly new clothes you would like to donate for our sale, please phone one of the contacts below and we will arrange to collect and store items. Jean: 01799 550758, Andrea: 01799 550425, Carolyn: 01799 521965

## **Cost of Living Support**

Uttlesford District Council, for this current financial year only, has a Cost of Living Support Fund for which any council taxpayer can apply. Further details are available at:

[www.uttlesford.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support-fund](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support-fund).

For quick, easy access to information on 200 health and wellbeing services across the district, go to [Uttlesford Frontline](#) or download the free app 'Frontline Referrals'.

## **Environment Agency**

Many parishioners in Clavering take advantage of the free government service to sign up to get flood warnings, especially as the monitoring station for this is located near the Bridges.

More information can be found on [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)

or you may register by calling 0345 988 1188.

## **Before a power cut or gas emergency .....**

- **Know your free emergency numbers:** In a power cut dial 105 or, for a gas emergency, dial 0800 111999.
- **Prepare your home:** Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- **Register as a vulnerable customer:** Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register. You can find out more about the Priority Services Register in London, the South and East of England by signing up at [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk).

**Keep your eyes open:** If you have a power cut or a gas emergency, check on your neighbours

**Highways Maintenance Problems – Villagers are reminded that it is always quicker to activate an investigation if you report these online, as precious time could be lost if you contact the Parish Council.**

Using this website [www.essexhighways.org/tell-us](http://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us) an audit trail is started as you will be given a reference number. It is then easier for our local Essex County Councillor, Cllr Gooding, to chase outstanding matters when requested to do so either by parishioners or the parish council. Also the website advises a phone number to call if the problem is severe and considered extremely dangerous to road users or pedestrians.

You can report potholes, broken railings, pavement/kerb/drainage defects, blocked culverts, overgrown trees or hedges, blocked/damaged footpaths, and etc.

## **///what3words**

Do you know about this app?

The Emergency Services are asking especially those who live in rural areas to consider downloading this free app.

As the app has given each 3 metre square of the world a unique combination of three words, using this when contacting the emergency services can pinpoint where help is needed and save precious time in finding those in need.

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## **DEFIBRILLATORS AT THE VILLAGE HALL and VILLAGE SHOP**

If you have to make a 999 call, the call handler may decide that the defibrillator is required. You will be asked if you are able to go to the village hall or the village shop to get the defibrillator, but this would usually only happen if someone else is able to stay with the person in need, as phone contact with the emergency service must be maintained at all times.

The call handler will give you the code to open the yellow metal box beside the hall or shop entrance doors. The hall's defibrillator is the small carry case – like a child's play-doctor kit – that is kept in the metal box. Take the 'Ready Kit' (black pouch with green cross) and the carry case.

The shop's defibrillator is in a shoulder bag with the 'Ready Kit' in a small black bag attached to its strap. **ONLY THE SHOP'S DEFIBRILLATOR CAN BE USED WITH PADS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 8 YEARS OF AGE – THESE MUST BE TAKEN FROM THE CABINET ALSO AND ARE CLEARLY MARKED.**

When you are back with the patient, open the defibrillator: you will then hear an automated voice giving instructions. **IF NEEDED, REMOVE THE ADULT PADS AND ATTACH CHILD PADS.**

The call handler will also talk you through all that you must do and when the paramedics arrive they will take over from you.

### **REMEMBER**

**The defibrillator can go to the patient**

**No special training is required**

**The Emergency Services will guide you through everything`**

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