



# CLAVERING NEWSLETTER

## CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL

Issue 215

14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Email address: [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Editor: **Stephanie Gill**

### **Parish Council Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Three parishioners and District Cllr Oliver present in part. The Chairman welcomed all, thanking them for attending. She stated that the Clerk would be late to the meeting as held up by an accident on the M11. The Chairman had submitted reports for the meetings she had attended and had been invited to attend the Keep Clavering Rural AGM as a guest. UDC Democratic Services had informed the Clerk that that no election was called upon the resignation of Martina Ryan; notices advising that the Council may co-opt councillors had already been posted. The Police 'Walk and Talk' originally scheduled for March is postponed.

A parishioner spoke on a recent traffic incident at Blacksmith's Corner, which narrowly avoided a pedestrian. It was asked if this could be brought to the attention of ECC Cllr Gooding who is currently investigating the road safety at this spot, at the Council's request, and also if it could be established if the road signage is adequate and sufficient.

A parishioner spoke on the large rubber raised rectangles traffic calming measures used in Cambridgeshire (20mph zones) . The PC observed that previously suggested traffic calming measures in the village were not possible due to farm traffic, but that this suggestion would be taken forward when appropriate.

**Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG)**– A written report was received and it was agreed to pay the submitted interim invoice for the Landscape Character Assessment. An Extraordinary Meeting to be called 27<sup>th</sup> March to settle further invoices due before 31<sup>st</sup> March and covered by the Locality Grant from Government.

**Risk Assessment** – Village Shop & Hall Defibs 'rescue ready' 10<sup>th</sup> March

**Allotments** – The Clerk advised that there was no requirement for a rent review for 2025-26

**Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC)** - The EALC is giving up its offices in Gt Dunmow. Currently it receives grant funding from ECC for its Parish & Town Council work but Devolution indicates that the grant funding will not continue. As the building lease is due for renewal, more suitable premises are being sought, especially as the current office and training room are not accessible to all. Courses will continue in Dunmow until end August, while the September AGM will be online. Provision of training and advice will continue.

**Jubilee Field** – Next committee meeting 9<sup>th</sup> April, Grand Draw now to be in autumn

**Village Green and Parish Assets** – Agreed replacement bench for The Bridges to be ordered in April (budgeted for 2025-26 financial year). Oak on Lower Hill Green to be felled after inspection by tree surgeon noted its split trunk; fallen willow to be removed at same time. Noted that a parishioner contacted the Parish Council concerning the accidental damage caused to Butts Green (beside the main road) by a building supplies truck; the parishioner has confirmed they undertake to make good the damage when the weather is more suitable.

**Essex County Council Devolution Consultation** – agreed to respond

**Stansted Airport Sustainable Group Development Plan Consultation**- a report on a relating workshop was received and it was agreed not to respond

**Litter Pick** - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. UDC are providing more litter bags and will also lend 10 litter pickers and 10 hi viz jackets in addition to those already held by the PC.

**VE Day 80th Anniversary, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May:** - Langley PC will be lighting their beacon in the evening at an event staged with involvement from the Royal British Legion. No groups have yet approached CPC for support.

**Document Retention & FOI Policies** -Reviewed and adoption agreed.

**Meeting dates** - Annual Council Meeting now Wednesday 7th May, Annual Parish Meeting (Meeting of the Electorate) now Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

**Finance** – Clerk’s extra hours, Norton renewal, virements and cheques agreed. Updated Asset Register, ICO Registration, receipt of VAT refund from HMRC and expected date of Internal Auditor review noted.

**Planning for CPC Comment:**

**UTT/25/0295/FUL: Curles Farm Pelham Road** Erection of new B8 storage building and associated yard area. **No Comment** made as Parish Council not quorate for item

**UTT/25/0567/HHF & UTT/25/0509/LB: White Horse Cottage Starlings Green** Installation of a myenergi zappi car charger into cupboard on side of garage where fuse box enters the building. **No comment**

**Planning Determined by UDC:**

**UTT/25/0147/HHF: Hazeldene Langley Road** Section 73A Retrospective Application for proposed extensions and detached carlodge (Revised design to approval reference UTT/22/1751/HHF) **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/25/0408/AG: Clavering Place Farm Stickling Green** A steel portal framed Agricultural Grain Store revised to that approved under (UTT/23/1089/AG) **Deemed Approved**

**Planning at Inspectorate Appeal:**

**APP/C1570/W/25/3360283 (was UTT/24/1499/FUL) West Of Hill House Wicken Road** Proposed erection of 1 no. self-build dwelling and detached cart lodge garage.

**This appeal is by written representation and all representations must be received by 8 April 2025 by the Planning Inspectorate.**

Agreed to comment that CPC does not withdraw its previous comments, and to bring to the Inspector’s attention the findings for recently dismissed Appeal on Wicken Rd

**Next Monthly Parish Council Meeting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 7.30pm  
at Clavering Village Hall.**

**Information including Draft/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: Fabian Bullen  
Ron Couchman Kym Elliston Frances Smither  
Parish Clerk/RFO: Mrs L. Young**

**email: clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk Telephone: 07340 505410**

**Parish Council Address: PO Box No. 13580. Harlow, CM20 9WU**

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

**Essex Mobile Library \*\*\*\* Back to the NEW LOCATION\*\*\*\***

**Clements Close CB11 4GU (opposite the village shop) 10.30am – 11am  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 12<sup>th</sup> April 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

**Village Green Waste Service at Clavering Place Farm, Stickling Green**

This service is available for Clavering and Langley residents only: it is paid for via their parish precepts  
**10.30am - 11.30am**

**15<sup>th</sup> March ~ 12<sup>th</sup> April ~ 10<sup>th</sup> May ~ 7<sup>th</sup> June ~ 5<sup>th</sup> July ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

**30<sup>th</sup> August ~ 27<sup>th</sup> September ~ 25<sup>th</sup> October ~ 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

Users of this service are reminded that it is polite to clear up any mess that they may create  
*The Parish Councils thank the Balaam Family for facilitating this Service at their premises*

**Consultation on Greater Essex Devolution** – Everyone may take part in this consultation which seeks views on the proposal to form a Mayoral Combined County Authority across Essex, Thurrock and Southend-on-Sea. **Latest response date 13th April**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/greater-essex-devolution/greater-essex-devolution-consultation>

## **Clavering Neighbourhood Plan (NP) - Update**

On 25<sup>th</sup> February a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was formally set up, under Terms of Reference from the Parish Council as is required. 12 volunteers are now on the Steering Group as 'subject leads' as needed, while Rachel Tallon has kindly taken on the role of Chair.

Work has been carried out on the Landscape Character & Sensitivity Assessment (LCSA) by a Landscape Architect as contracted, with the final report due before end March.

Thank you to everyone who contributed a 'Village Voice' and who participated in the Community Exercise on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March to help inform the writing of LCSA about which areas of Clavering you regularly visit, have special meaning to you and those views into or away from the village you particularly enjoy. Just shy of 120 people contributed, which was fantastic.

Though there was success in applying for the Locality Grant to cover the LCSA report, the website construction and hall hire for meetings, the Parish Council was advised on 11<sup>th</sup> March that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MCLHG) had reviewed its application for the award of technical and professional support for the writing of a Design Code under the NP. Despite the recommendation of an independent assessor that this be awarded as Clavering has to take a 20% increase on current dwellings, the Design Code support was not awarded this year to Clavering as other qualifying bodies were deemed to be in greater need, due to their stage of plan making or the complexity of their plan. The MCLHG expect to continue to offer grants, but the confirmed details of future grants will not be known until July 2025. In the meantime the work on the NP will obviously continue.

## **Notes of the verbal report given by District Cllr Oliver at the CPC Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Cllr Oliver advised that the UDC budget had been determined and council tax raised by 2.99% (the maximum allowed before referendum). Regarding Devolution, £3mio has been set aside for re-organisation. He advised that the Ward Members Initiative Grant has ceased, though any unspent grant in 2024-25 was allowed to be carried through to the next financial year but only up to £1000. He advised he does not have any carry forward as local ward groups have already applied for the funding.

## **Clavering Village Spring Clean - Saturday 22nd March- All welcome**

Please gather at the Village Hall at **10.15am** for a short Health & Safety briefing (for PC insurance purposes!) and to be allocated an area to litter-pick. Grabbers & Bags & Hi-Viz Jackets are provided. Please bring suitable gloves and wear sturdy footwear.

**NB Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult and please note we do not allocate areas alongside roads/watercourses to children**

## **Clavering Community Speedwatch**

This is repeated as only one person has come forward after the plea in January.

The Parish Council often receives feedback that parishioners are concerned about the speed of vehicles passing through the Village. There is support from the Police to set up a Community Speedwatch Team. Currently in Clavering there is only one person registered and trained under this scheme to use the speed gun – but three people are needed to carry out each Speedwatch Exercise. Volunteers choose how much time to contribute, monitoring speeding weekly, fortnightly, or monthly.

Please contact the Parish Council Clerk or Chairman if you wish to come forward.

There is also the need for a person to be the Speedwatch Coordinator. They are responsible for holding & storing the equipment between exercises and reporting in the findings of each exercise.

Clavering has held onto equipment which has not been used for over two years. If no volunteers come forward the CPC will be obliged to return the equipment to the Essex Police and Fire Service so that it can be passed onto another village Essex village for their use.

The Essex Community Speed Watch Scheme collaborates with the Safer Essex Road Partnership to work towards Vision Zero, which aims for zero deaths and serious injuries on roads by 2040.

## **Clavering Parish Council Allotments – Plots available.**

**Contact the Clerk for more information if you are considering renting one.**

## **ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR?**

Councillors can make a huge difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with. People from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect the communities they serve are needed to put themselves forward.

**Following the resignation of Ms Ryan there remains a total of four vacancies on Clavering Parish Council - Are you interested??**

**These vacancies can be filled by a process called co-option.**

Applications are now invited from local people to join Clavering Parish Council.

In terms of eligibility, you must be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, a qualifying EU Citizen or an EU Citizen with retained rights,

You must be over 18 years old and meet at least one of the following qualifications:

- i) you are registered to vote in Clavering,
- ii) have occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in Clavering & lived there for at least 12 months
- iii) your main or only place of work has been in Clavering for twelve months
- iv) you have lived in Clavering or within three miles of its boundary for at least 12 months

Clavering Parish Council is responsible for looking after the Registered Village Greens and other parish land that it owns, providing and maintaining street furniture such as benches and litter bins, and ensuring the provision of the monthly Green Waste Skip.

To deliver these services to the residents of the parish, the council determines how much money to raise through precept the council. It also works with partner organisations such as UDC.

**To apply, please send a letter of application to the Parish Clerk by post to PO Box 13580, Harlow, CM20 9WU or email [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

You should have an active interest in local issues and things that affect local people and a willingness to represent the views of the community.

You should be able to commit the time and effort to the role and to attend as many monthly Council meetings as possible.

In your letter you may wish to include your connection to the parish, why you want to be a parish councillor and what skills/experience you can bring to the Council.

Applications will be considered by serving Councillors and the co-option process takes place by a voting process at a meeting of the Full Council.

You will be invited to attend and say a few words to the Councillors about your application before the vote takes place.

**Uttlesford Community Policing Team accompanied by Andrea Adams (Essex Tri-Service Rural Community Officer)-**

**'Walk and Talk' - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Starts at 10am at Clavering Village Shop**

**Clavering Horticultural Society-**

**In the Garden with William Morris: Flora as an Art - a talk by Fiona Rose, accredited lecturer with the Arts Society. Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm. Clavering Christian Centre.**

The evening examines Morris' gardening principles and his own gardens' inspiration.

Ticket £5ph includes tea/coffee and entry to raffle for a Morris themed prize. Contact Nigel Wood

**Clavering Landscape History Group -**

**Open Meeting to discuss Clavering Castle Excavation Project 2025 - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm Clavering Christian Centre.** Please come along if you would like to take part in the dig or help in any way or if you are just interested to hear about this unique opportunity. The discussion will be preceded by a brief AGM. All welcome - refreshments available.

For more information email [mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com)

## **Tea and Chat – Thursdays 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm-4pm at Wicken Church Community Centre**

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 Easter Arts and Craft Show – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

**10am-4pm Clavering Village Hall** – Original art work, sculptures and ceramics to browse and purchase, Exclusive crafts and produce from local, independent businesses.

Refreshments available

## **Clavering Bowls Club-**

### **Opening of Bowls Green for the 2025 season 19<sup>th</sup> April 2pm**

New members & anyone who wants to try bowls most welcome, refreshments available

**Open Evenings for training and practice: every Tuesday & Thursday at 5pm, weather permitting, May-September.** Friendly tuition and equipment available- just bring flat shoes.

For more information contact Lee or email [claveringbowls@gmail.com](mailto:claveringbowls@gmail.com) or see [www.claveringbc.org](http://www.claveringbc.org)

*The Clubhouse and Bowling Green are located at the far side of the Jubilee Field next to the Tennis Courts*

## **Clavering Friends of St Clare Hospice Spring Fayre-**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am-2pm Clavering Village Hall.** Plants, Bric-a-brac, toys, nearly new clothes and bags, paperback books, cakes, linens, jewellery, raffle & more Entrance Fee:50p

For more information or to donate items please contact Jean, Andrea or Carolyn

*NB Donations cannot be accepted after 26<sup>th</sup> April*

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day 8<sup>th</sup> May-** Langley Parish Council will be lighting their beacon at 9.30pm. It is understood there will be an evening event involving the Clavering, Newport and District Branch of the Royal British Legion.

The day is not bank holiday, but if any Clavering Group is arranging an event, such as an afternoon tea, do let the Clavering Parish Clerk know in case Clavering PC can give support.

## **Call for Volunteers for Clavering Fete Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

Do come along and help set up the fete and be part of the fun on the day!

Lots of roles available from working on the bar to running a game or even selling the Grand Draw's Raffle Tickets! Contact Donna to offer help or for more information

## **Royal British Legion –**

**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.

## **Friends of Clavering Church-**

**Soup and Sweet Lunch-** there will be a break for a while; the lunches will restart on October.

**Clavering Village Hall Safari Supper:** Postponed to 15<sup>th</sup> November

## **Phone Box by the Cricketers PH**

Uttlesford District Council (UDC) has advised CPC that they are being consulted by BT concerning the removal of the phone system from the telephone box by the Cricketers PH as it has been used only once in the last 12 months.

01799550211	JNC NEWPORT RD PCO1 ARKESDEN ROAD CLAVERING SAFFRON WALDEN
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CB11 4QU
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BT's proposal is to remove the telephony and lock the box.

CPC will discuss this at its meeting on 14th April and must give its comments to UDC by the 16<sup>th</sup> April, so would welcome parishioner comments before then. Please email the Clerk with your comments about the phone being removed, especially as CPC is aware of the limitation of phone mobile signals in Clavering.

## **Uttlesford District Council Democratic Services – Postal Votes**

Advice from UDC has been received that due to changes in the Elections Act 2022, all existing postal voters are being contacted as there is a requirement to reapply via the Government's website before **31<sup>st</sup> January 2026** to avoid their postal vote failing.

In June, the formal stage will start with a letter or email from UDC. Those who are not confident in using, or do not have access to, the internet are asked to seek help of a friend or visit UDC's offices for help.

UDC has asked CPC to make parishioners aware of this process and to encourage anyone who receives a letter to take action and be reassured that this is a legitimate communication.

## **Essex County Council DaRT 299 Bus Transport**

Contact email now [dart@central-connect.co.uk](mailto:dart@central-connect.co.uk)

The phone number remains 0115 777 3187.

Bookings must be made by 18.00hrs the day before you travel – and Monday bookings must be made no later than 18.00hrs on the Saturday and may be made up to 14 days in advance. The contracted buses carry the Flagfinders livery.

N.B. Bookings are only confirmed when advised to be so by Vectare as this is not a taxi service and is reliant upon at least three others making the same journey and there being a bus available.

## **Uttlesford Citizens Advice Support for Young People**

Young people face unique challenges as they navigate education, employment, housing, and financial independence. While digital resources are invaluable, the importance of individual, face-to-face advice cannot be overstated.

Whether it's advising a young tenant on their rights, supporting someone through a mental health or financial crisis, helping a victim of a scam, or standing up for those facing workplace discrimination, we can ensure young people feel seen, heard, and supported.

We can offer support with a range of issues: checking entitlements to benefits, budgeting and money management advice, help to navigate student finance, housing issues such as tenancy rights or poor quality housing, discrimination issues, employment issues - making sure you are paid a fair wage, family issues, access to mental health support

Other local services that support young people can be found at <https://essexfrontline.org.uk/>

We also offer summer internships which provide valuable hands-on experience for those interested in pursuing careers in law, social policy, or advice work. Contact us for more information and an application form. 01799 618840 [help@uttlesfordca.org.uk](mailto:help@uttlesfordca.org.uk)

## **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.

## **CrimeStoppers . Speak up about crime and Stay safe.**

If you are worried about a crime, but do not wish to speak to the police, it is encouraged that you call report the crime anonymously by calling 0800 555111. If you see a crime taking place, call 999 as CrimeStoppers is not an emergency service

## Hare Coursing in and around Clavering:

Sgt Paul Brady of the Essex Police Rural Engagement Team has reiterated: "If you see hare coursing taking place, ring 999 immediately and provide as much information as you can – for example, a What3Words location, a description of the people involved, vehicle registration numbers, vehicle descriptions and the location and direction of travel...."

".....It is very important that you don't confront hare coursers or put yourself at risk. If you are a landowner, you can help prevent hare coursers accessing your land by blocking entrances, locking gates or digging ditches."

## 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.

## ///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.

## 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

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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.

There is also a defibrillator on outside of the Bowls/Tennis Pavilion and you may be directed there. 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

**No special training is required & the Emergency Services will guide you through everything**