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| **10-5 Village sign** | **CLAVERING NEWSLETTER****CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL** **Issue 220 14th August 2025** **Email address: clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk**  **Editor: Stephanie Gill** |

**Parish Council Meeting 11th August 2025**

The Chairman welcomed those attending and detailed the meetings and website compliance and banking webinars he had recently attended. Five members of the public were present in part.

A parishioner read a letter concerning the cutting of Lower Hill Green in relation to retention of propagation of the wildflowers present. A parishioner spoke on wildlife ‘road deaths’ and the drying up of a chalk stream in the village; they asked for clarification of the publication of the draft minutes and their circulation to councillors. A parishioner spoke on the stones at Copt Hall; a parishioner confirmed that Cllr Mark Platt (ECC) had made initial contact about the speeding & road marking issues in Clavering.

**Clerk’s Report –** Asummary of tasks and meetings in the previous month was received.

The Clerk had responded to a Freedom of Information request.

Clerk has forwarded paperwork to the Environment Agency (EA), including that sent by the EA, which evidences that Clavering PC is not the owner of the footbridge at The Bridges: response not received. A letter of thanks had been received from the Cricket Club for the grass cutting grant.

**Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG)** – A verbal report of the work to date was given.

The first Drop-in Session was successful, attended by new residents as well longstanding ones.

**Essex Association of Local Councils** –Agreed that Cllrs Gill and Smither would attend the AGM on Thursday 25th September as voting representatives.

**Allotments –** Another person had been added to the waiting list, some plots may be vacated this Autumn

**Village Assets –** One quote only received on bench repair at Long Lane and Valance Corner -others awaited. One quote only received, which does not indicate an immediate danger present, for felling failing willow at Upper Hill Green– other quotes awaited. Agreement on white stones.

**Lower Hill Green –**Discussion on existing cutting contract – further information from contractors to be sought.

**Rose Clover Place** – Letter from parishioner discussed. Planting scheme is not in accordance with the permissions granted and relating conditions. CPC to make representation to UDC

**Speedwatch** – Parish Council agreed to pay for any venues required for training. Clerk to contact the current six volunteers and the PFCC organiser.

**Defibrillators –** Shop defibrillator ‘rescue ready’ 21st July, Village Hall defibrillator on 11th August.

Clerk to purchase replacement battery for Village Hall as nearing expiration date.

**Training** – Agreed that Clerk enrols to take the Introduction to Local Council Administration qualification , and that Cllr Smither enrols on the ‘Protecting Commons, Greens and Open Spaces’ webinar in November and applies for an EALC bursary

**Website Compliance and IT Policy** – Operating questions to be asked of proposed website provider and CPC’s IT Policy to be agreed at September Meeting

**Cricket Club Request for permissions–** More information and specification requested re. Club’s proposal to resize and replace the cricket net pad at Upper Hill Green

**Finance –**Bank statements received and cheques agreed, including Royal Mail PO Box for the Clerk. Re: Subscription to Society of Local Council Clerks - Clerk to apply for a bursary for the coming year. Agreed Clerk to start set up of on-line banking with Unity Bank.

**Employment–** matters discussed in private and confidential per advice.

**Planning for CPC Comment:**

**UTT/25/2001/CLP: 6 Poppies Crescent** Partial garage conversion to create home office/gym **No Comment**

**Planning Determined by UDC:**

 **UTT/25/1121/FUL: Kings Cottage Starlings Green Road** S73A retrospective application for the

stationing and residential occupation of a mobile home within an existing garden area.

Temporary permission for a three-year period specifically restricted to current occupier **Refused**

**UTT/25/1308/FFUL: Land East of Clatterbury Lane** Proposed erection of 5 no. dwellings with associated parking, landscaping and new vehicular access (revised to scheme previously approved application UTT/23/3135/FUL) **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/25/1369/FUL: Barn adjacent to Startings Starlings Green** Proposed conversion of barn to 1no. self-build dwelling with associated works. **Refused**

**UTT/25/1657/HHF: 3 Stortford Road** Demolition of external conservatory, construction of 2 Storey front and rear extension, internal and external alterations **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/25/1706/FUL & 1707/LB: Brockingbury Stud Langley Road** Section 73A Retrospective application for the sub-division of dwelling into two residential units including a single storey rear extension( boiler room) **Approved**

**Inspectorate Appeal for CPC Comment**

**Appeal Reference: APP/C1570/W/25/3368791 was UTT/23/2952/FUL Robins Hill Deers Green**

1no. Dwelling. **Agreed to advise Planning Inspectorate that original comments were not withdrawn**

**Next Parish Council Meeting Monday 8th September 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: Fabian Bullen Vice Chairman: Stephanie Gill**

 **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 13580 HARLOW CM20 9WU**

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.

**Essex Mobile Library**

**Clements Close CB11 4GU (opposite the village shop) 10.30am – 11am 16th August 6th September 27th September 18th October**

Also scheduled to stop at Long Ley Langley Upper Green CB11 4RX

3.10pm – 3.40pm 4th  September, 25th September & 16th October

**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**

**30th August ~ 27th September ~ 25th October ~ 22nd 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*

**Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Drop-In Sessions**

**See what is happening and help us move forward to the next stage**

**The Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is putting on DROP-IN SESSIONS**

**for ALL Clavering Residents, young and old.**

For the Clavering Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Group is concentrating on the strategy to incorporate the number of new houses required, whilst maintaining the character of our village, and we need your input for the next step.

**We have initial information collated for you to view.**

 **We have products for you to view and questionnaires for you to participate in.**

 All this relates to the design and style of new homes for the next stage of the process.

**We look forward to seeing you on one of these dates:**

Thursday 28th August 4pm -7pm Cricket Pavilion, Hill Green.

 Thursday 18th September 4pm - 7pm Next to Christian Centre.

There will be members of the Steering Group available to chat to you about the project and its process… …and of course plenty of refreshments

**Sewerage Blockages in Clavering**

Unfortunately in the past few months there have been quite a few sewerage blockages in Clavering. These have resulted in waste matter leaking from manhole covers onto gardens, pavements, roads, the Village Hall car park, the Jubilee Field and also entering into Stickling Brook (via the surface water drains).

Thames Water indicated that the additional housing that has now been built in Clavering would not contribute to a lack of capacity for the existing sewerage systems and pipes.

The blockage resulting in the recent problem seen at the Village Hall Car Park, and which did not clear immediately as it was then trapped by a stray (domestic) drainage rod already lost and stuck in the sewer pipes under the road between Bower Cottage and The Bower House, was caused by unsuitable sanitary items being flushed into the sewer pipes.

Some Clavering Households have recently received a leaflet from the *Newport River Group* concerning the River Cam. Although Stickling Brook and The Stort do not flow into the Cam, both are chalk streams and need our protection.

As rainfall has been low this year, natural underground reservoirs are low. Please use existing water supplies in a thoughtful way – such as full loads for laundry and dishwashers plus watering cans rather than hoses and sprinklers.

Avoid cleaning products which are marked as ‘harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects’.

Wet wipes and other sanitary products should never be flushed down a toilet.

**Dog Waste on Footpaths**

Dog owners in Clavering are reminded that Uttlesford District Council allow dog poo bags to be placed in any litter bin provided, not just those which state they are for such a purpose.

There are quite a few litter bins scattered around the village:

* One is sited on the triangle of green opposite the start of Footpath 51 on the Pelham Rd.
* On Stortford Road there is a bin opposite the Christian Centre, one near Iona and one near the shop.
* There are bins at Blacksmiths Corner by the sign, Middle Street by the Ford, and at the Bridges.
* More bins can be found at Upper Hill Green alongside the pavement and there are bins at the Jubilee Field/Village Hall too.
* Some are provided in the parish church grounds also.

The Countryside Code guidance is to ‘bag It and bin it’ and never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later

Of course, rather than using the open litter bins in hot weather, it may be a little more ‘neighbourly’ if the dog waste is taken home. ***Thank you***

**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.

**There are 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:

1. you are registered to vote in Clavering,
2. have occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in Clavering & lived there for at least 12 months
3. your main or only place of work has been in Clavering for twelve months
4. 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**

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.

**Royal British Legion –**

**On the evening of 15th August at 9 pm, RBL members will to gather on Langley Green to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VJ day with an act of thanksgiving and remembrance. There may be the lighting of a beacon. All are welcome.**

**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. For more information contact Revd Paddy Cable 01763 258043 or paddycable@gmail.com

**Annual Poppy Collection –** There is an urgent need for more volunteers to assist with this door-to-door collection, as some collectors have passed on or have stepped back because of age or infirmity. If you are interested in helping with this rewarding and fulfilling work, please contact Revd Paddy Cable or Sarah at The Bull PH , Langley Lower Green..

**Clavering Church – Summer Cheese Tasting Evening with Wine – Pimms and soft drinks also available! Saturday 16th August 6.30 pm in the Churchyard**

**(if wet, will be in the church)** Tickets available £12.50ph from Janet Hosford 01799 550551

**Coffee and Crafting \*NEW\* Starting Wednesday 1st October 10am to 12noon at the Christian Centre** Bring your latest project, knitting, crochet, needlepoint, crossword, your baby or just come for a chat!

**Soup and Sweet** **Starting Wednesday 1st October 12noon – 2pm at the Christian Centre**

**Tea and Chat – At Wicken Church Community Centre Thursdays 21st August,**

**18th September and 16th October 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.

**Clavering Bowls Club-**

**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 01799 550916 or email 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 Landscape History Group –Autumn Lectures**

***The Medieval Lords of Clavering* – Jacqueline Cooper**. **Tuesday 16th September 7.30pm Clavering Christian Centre**

**T*all Tales of Detecting or Partefacts and Bits of Things, Stories from a Detectorist* –**

**Jeremy Curzon. Wednesday 15th October 7.30pm Clavering Christian Centre**

***Clavering Castle 2025 Excavation Project, Interim Report –* Simon Coxall. 7.30pm via Zoom**

For more information contact mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com

**Clavering Friends of St Clare Hospice – Quiz Night**

**Friday 10th October 7pm for 7.30pm. Table of 8 - £12 per person Ploughman’s Supper included. Raffle. Bring your own drinks.**

**Tickets from Carolyn 01799 521965, Andrea 01799 550425, Tina 07584 296784, Jean 01799 550758**

**A message from Angi Greneski, UDC’s Community Safety Officer**

We've seen cases where fraudsters pretend to be police officers over the phone—to trick people into giving away personal information or money.

A Police Officer will **never**:

* Ask for your bank details or PIN
* Ask you to transfer money to another account
* Ask you to withdraw money
* Ask you to hand over cash or cards to a courier
* Demand payment of fines or fees over the phone or online
* Request access to your computer or passwords
* Say you're committing a crime for not complying

If you're unsure whether someone is a genuine officer – **STOP** –

Wait 5 minutes and call **101**or visit Essex Police online to verify their identity.

**Uttlesford Citizens Advice: Cost of Living Help is Here**

With prices rising faster than many incomes, households across Uttlesford are feeling the pressure.

Nearly 1 in 4 UK households are cutting back on essentials like food and heating. Energy bills remain over £1,600 a year, and food prices are still up to 25% higher than two years ago.

(Data from ONS, Ofgem, Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2025))

If you're struggling to keep up, Uttlesford Citizens Advice is here to help, offering free, confidential advice to help with:

* Managing energy bills & applying for energy grants
* Benefits & Universal Credit check
* Debt and budgeting advice
* Housing, rent, and landlord issues
* Employment rights

No judgment. No pressure. Just someone on your side

You can find more information online at [www.uttlesfordca.org.uk.](http://www.uttlesfordca.org.uk)

If you need extra help or can’t easily get online, just call **01799 618840 or** send an email

help@uttlesfordca.org.uk

**Essex County Council DaRT 299 Bus Transport**

**Please note contact email has reverted to** **contact@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 than18.00hrs 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.

**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.

**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

**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

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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**